



# The Courier

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## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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April 2019

Court Street United Methodist Church

### A REFLECTION FOR THE SEASON OF EASTER

I suspect there is no scriptural character more misunderstood than the Apostle Thomas. “Doubting Thomas” we’ve called him down through the ages because Thomas lived by the adage “seeing is believing” and because he looked for certain tangible signs to shore up his belief. As you consider the story of Thomas after the Lord’s resurrection, have you ever realized that Thomas never doubts the Risen Lord? Thomas doubts the word and the witness of the Lord’s community. When the Risen One turns up a week later, Thomas is filled with faith. “*My Lord and my God,*” he confesses. Thomas simply did not find his friends a credible community. What do we know about Thomas? Actually, little from the synoptic writers except that Thomas was chosen by Jesus to be numbered among the twelve. Only the Gospel of John includes a few words about Thomas. The first mention of Thomas is in the 11th chapter of John. Lazarus has died. Jesus has been summoned and though he delays his journey back into Judean territory, it’s clear to his disciples that Jesus intends to go to Bethany, to the tomb where Lazarus has been buried. Some of the disciples think travel is really dangerous under the circumstances, the Jewish leaders were at that very moment seeking an opportunity to put Jesus to death. It is Thomas who realizes Jesus has made up his mind to go to his friends. It is Thomas who says to the others: “*Let us go to die with him!*” Thomas is willing to stand by Jesus, even to the point of death. He urges the others to set their faces, too, to Jerusalem. A few chapters later John records Jesus’ prayer at the last supper. Jesus is preparing his disciples for his Passover through suffering to glory, but only in a veiled way. It is almost possible to see Thomas, brows furrowed, trying to follow the implications of everything Jesus is saying, and finally blurting out: “*We don’t know where you are going. How can we possibly know the way?*” Thomas wasn’t alone. The others must have been just as perplexed, but perhaps they were afraid to show their ignorance, perhaps even afraid to call attention to themselves. Yet Thomas is not silenced by fear. He didn’t understand and he wanted to! He can’t follow Jesus unless he knows where and how. It’s as simple as that. These two stories serve us well as background for the story of the appearance of the Risen One in the midst of the disciples. The Lord arrives when Thomas is out. The disciples are gathered in fear behind locked doors. Jesus appears and fills them with joy. He confers on them a mission and gives them his own Spirit to continue his saving work. Jesus makes his presence and power known to his closest friends and offers them the spirit-gift for the sake of the kingdom. At least that’s what the Scriptures tell us. But Thomas isn’t present. He’d just stepped out briefly. Thomas returns and they tell him they have seen the Lord — but for Thomas, something doesn’t ring true. If they have seen the Lord why are they still locked up tight in that room? If they are filled with such joy, why couldn’t he read it on their faces? So Thomas says to them, in so many words, “I don’t find you believable.” Thomas, simple, loyal, loving, straightforward, down to earth, who didn’t understand but wanted to, who longed to follow Jesus but who needed to know the way. Thomas didn’t doubt the Lord, he doubted the word of his friends! Thomas found it highly unlikely that the Lord was risen because he was surrounded by a group of witnesses whom he simply did not find credible. Thomas could not read the presence of the Risen One on the faces of his friends. What would he read on our faces? What do we read on one another’s face? This question has everything to do with the ultimate success of our witness. We need to look like a credible community, a community that has seen the Lord and been transformed.

~ Pastor Bill Burleigh



# Musical Musings

## Anthems for April



April 7<sup>TH</sup> ~ Fifth Sunday in Lent

**“Jesu, Priceless Treasure”,** by J.S. Bach

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) made this tune and text famous by creating a composition based on “Jesu, meine Freude.” The German hymn “Jesu, meine Freude” which literally means “Jesus, my joy,” by Johann Franck. The translation by Winkworth, the most famous translator of German hymns into English, was first published in her *Chorale Book for England* (1863), with five of the original six stanzas. The *UM Hymnal* includes only three of the stanzas. The hymn tells us, Jesus Christ is on our side and those who believe in God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit do not have to be afraid of anything. Jesus is our hope and will rescue us.

April 14<sup>TH</sup> ~ Palm Sunday

**“Come, Faithful People”** by Darst

**Benedictus, from *Missa Brevis “Organ Solo Mass”*** by Mozart

Soloists - Kris Blackthorn, Karen Speer, Gabriel Kirby, Benjamin Stogner

The **Missa brevis** is a mass composed by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and completed on 8 August 1774. This *missa brevis* is thought to have been composed for ordinary liturgical use in the Salzburg Cathedral, under the directive of Archbishop Colloredo. Mozart tried to satisfy Colloredo's demands for brevity and concision in the composition of this mass – none of the movements have an orchestral prelude, the orchestra itself is highly reduced. It was the first of Mozart's works to appear in print.

April 21<sup>ST</sup> ~ Easter Sunday

**“Magdalen, Cease from Sobs and Sighs”** by Hurford

**Peter Hurford** was a British organist and composer. Hurford was appointed organist of Holy Trinity Church, Leamington from 1956 to 1957. He was then organist and choirmaster of St Albans Cathedral Choir in 1958, serving in this post for twenty years. He conceived the idea of an organ competition in 1963, partly to celebrate the new Harrison & Harrison organ designed by Ralph Downes and himself. This has grown into the St Albans International Organ Festival, a world-renowned festival of organ music.

**“O God, Beyond All Praising”** by Holst

April 28<sup>TH</sup> ~ Second Sunday in Easter

**“The Psalm That Swings”** by Lovelace

Austin C. Lovelace (1919-2010) was called by many the Dean of American Church music. Over many years he worked at a number of Methodist and Presbyterian churches. He also worked at Union Theological Seminary in N.Y.C. and Garrett Theological Seminary in Evanston, Ill. He was a prolific writer and composer with over 700 compositions for church in print, as well as numerous articles and books on church hymnody.



## Lunch at Westminster

**Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday is  
Lunch with members living at  
Westminster-Canterbury**

Join us on April 11<sup>TH</sup>  
Fauber 2 - 11:30am





## ESA Art Show and Open House

Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup>

1:00pm – 4:00pm



### LYNCHBURG COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES 2019

Court Street United Methodist Church  
621 Court Street, Lynchburg, VA 24504

#### COMMUNITY MIDWEEK SERVICE

Wednesdays at 12:00 noon  
Organ Prelude ~ 11:45am

#### GUEST SPEAKERS:

**APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup>**

**REV. MARTHA KEARSE**  
PEAKLAND BAPTIST

**APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup>**

**REV. AMY BETH COLEMAN**  
BOONSBORO UMC

#### **Lunch: 12:30 ~ Refectory**

*Prepared and Served by the United Methodist Women*  
\$6 suggested donation

#### **APRIL'S ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASS ~ SUNDAYS ~ 9:45AM**

April 7: **"Call and Mission"**, Richard Chaffin

April 14: **"Called to Remember"**, Lewis Johnson

April 21: **"Called to Proclaim the Resurrection"**, Richard Chaffin

April 28: **"Call and Commissioning"**, Richard Chaffin

## \*Birthdays and Anniversaries\*

April Birthdays	April Anniversaries	May Birthdays
Eleanor Pillow      April 01		Brad Diuguid      May 01
Mickenly Kreuziger   April 04		John McDaniel      May 04
Harriette Cash      April 05		Flo Traywick      May 09
Emilia Dimitrova      April 10		Bill Phillips      May 14
William Draper      April 12		Dottie Scales      May 14
Stuart Jackson      April 14		Matthew Turner      May 26
Aaron McGlothlin      April 20		Ann Ripley      May 30
Marcia Thom-Kaley      April 23		Jason Brooks      May 31
Drew Leazer      April 25		
Emma Grace Thom      April 25		
Jennifer Draper      April 26		
Lewis James      April 28		

### PRAYER CONCERNS

#### All Men and Women serving in the Military

Travis Dean Burleigh – 5271 Avenue Unit 373, Shepherd AFB, TX 76311  
 husband of Harley Burleigh, son of Shelley and Rev. Bill Burleigh  
 Robert Shober – Fort Bragg, NC, son of \*Eva Lee and \*Reiman Shober

#### SICK (Church members\*)

\*Dolly Clingempeel – 2231 Woodcrest Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24503  
 \*Patsy Cundiff – 1559 Lexington Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24503  
 Susan Dwyer – sister of Rev. Bill Burleigh  
 \*Christopher Lilley - 408 Blackford Street #2, Lynchburg, VA 24504  
 \*Warren Martin – 174 Salisbury Circle, Lynchburg, VA 24502  
 \*Eleanor Pillow - 2926 Ravenwood Drive, Lynchburg, Virginia 24503  
 \*Ann & Phil Ripley – 60 Jill Alison Circle, Ormond Beach, FL 32176  
 \*Eva Shober - 172 Shober Lane, Monroe, VA 24574  
 Sylvia Shuff - Mother-in-Law of \*Pastor Bill Burleigh  
 \*Alicia Speer – 1815 Rivermont Ave #68, Lynchburg, VA 24503  
 \* Church members



### *We send our love and sympathy to:*

~ Karen Speer and family in the passing of her brother in-law, Mike Spence on Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup>.  
 ~ Flo Traywick and family in the passing of her brother, Clarence Richard "Dick" Neher on Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup>.  
 ~ Eleanor Pillow and family in the passing of her husband, Rev. C. Douglas Pillow on Monday March 25<sup>th</sup>

#### **Update on Capital Campaign for church repairs:**

Campaign Goal	\$300,000
Promised as of 3/24/18	\$247,281
Balance needed to reach goal	\$52,719
Received to Date	\$201,916
Received since last update	\$450.00
<b>Elevator fund</b>	<b>\$10,328</b>

# APRIL 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> All People's Ascend 6pm	<b>2</b> LSO Practice 7:30pm	<b>3</b> AGLOW ~ 9AM Wesley Guild Lenten Service ~ 12pm Lunch ~ 12:30 Bible Study ~ 6pm <b>Potluck</b>	<b>4</b> LSO Practice 7:00pm Sanctuary	<b>5</b> LSO dress rehearsal 7:30PM Sanctuary	<b>6</b> Unity in Our Community 9am LSO Concert 7:00PM Sanctuary
<b>7</b> Adult Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11am Breakthrough Worship Service ~ 7:00pm	<b>8</b> ACC Bocce Ball Tournament with Heritage Green 1PM All People's Ascend 6pm	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Lenten Service ~ 12pm Lunch ~ 12:30pm Bible Study 7pm	<b>11</b> Lunch at Westminster 11:30am Faubert 2	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> All Peoples Worship Service 6pm
<b>14</b> Adult Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11am Breakthrough Worship Service ~ 7:00pm	<b>15</b> All People's Ascend - 6pm	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Lenten Service ~ 12pm Lunch ~ 12:30pm Bible Study 7pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> ACC Devotions with Pastor Bill	<b>20</b> All Peoples Worship Service 6pm
<b>EASTER 21</b> Adult Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11am Breakthrough Worship Service ~ 7:00pm	<b>22</b> ACC CLOSED Staff Workday All People's Ascend ~ 6pm LSO Board 6pm – Wesley Guild	<b>23</b> LSO Practice 7:30pm	<b>24</b> Lenten Service ~ 12pm Lunch ~ 12:30pm Bible Study 7pm	<b>25</b> LSO Practice 7:30pm	<b>26</b> ESA Paint Night 6pm <a href="http://ecclesiastics.com/paint-night/">http://ecclesiastics.com/paint-night/</a>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Adult Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11am Breakthrough Worship Service ~ 7:00pm	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> LSO Practice 7:30pm	<b>BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES ON WEDNESDAYS @ 7pm.</b> <b>1<sup>ST</sup> WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH ~ FELLOWSHIP WILL START WITH A COVERED DISH (POTLUCK) AT 6PM FOLLOWED BY BIBLE STUDY.</b>			

Court Street UMC  
621 Court Street  
Lynchburg Va. 24504



In worship, praise and ministry, we respond to God's call by reaching out to all people with light, hope, and a vision of God's love.

COURT STREET UMC WEBSITE: [www.courtstreetmethodist.com](http://www.courtstreetmethodist.com)

EMAIL: [621courtstumc@gmail.com](mailto:621courtstumc@gmail.com)

PHONE: 434-845-3427

Please contact the church office at:

621courtstumc@gmail.com or (434) 845-3427 on or before Wednesdays to have events and notices posted on the church website.

