



The Courier

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

March 2020

Court Street United Methodist Church

Reflections on Lent

The season of Lent has not been well observed in much of evangelical Christianity, largely because it was associated with "high church" liturgical worship that some churches were eager to reject. However, much of the background of evangelical Christianity, for example the heritage of John Wesley, was very "high church." Many of the churches that had originally rejected more formal and deliberate liturgy are now recovering aspects of a larger Christian tradition as a means to refocus on spirituality in a culture that is increasingly secular. Originating in the fourth century of the church the season of Lent spans 40 weekdays beginning on Ash Wednesday and climaxing during Holy Week. Originally, Lent was the time of preparation for those who were to be baptized, a time of concentrated study and prayer before their baptism at the Easter Vigil, the celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord early on Easter Sunday. But since these new members were to be received into a living community of Faith, the entire community was called to preparation. Also, this was the time when those who had been separated from the Church would prepare to rejoin the community. Today, Lent is marked by a time of prayer and preparation to celebrate Easter. Since Sundays celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, the six Sundays that occur during Lent are not counted as part of the 40 days of Lent and are referred to as the Sundays in Lent. The number 40 is connected with many biblical events, but especially with the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness preparing for his ministry by facing the temptations that could lead him to abandon his mission and calling. Christians today use this period of time for introspection, self-examination, and repentance. This season of the year is equal only to the Season of Advent in importance in the Christian year, and is part of the second major grouping of Christian festivals and sacred time that includes Holy Week, Easter, and Pentecost. Lent has traditionally been marked by penitential prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Some churches today still observe a rigid schedule of fasting on certain days during Lent, especially the giving up of meat, alcohol, sweets, and other types of food. Other traditions do not place as great an emphasis on fasting, but focus on charitable deeds, especially helping those in physical need with food and clothing, or simply the giving of money to charities. Most Christian churches that observe Lent at all focus on it as a time of prayer, especially penance, repenting for failures and sin as a way to focus on the need for God's grace. It is really a preparation to celebrate God's marvelous redemption at Easter, and the resurrected life that we live, and hope for, as Christians. Ash Wednesday, the seventh Wednesday before Easter Sunday, is the first day of the Season of Lent. Its name comes from the ancient practice of placing ashes on worshippers' heads or foreheads as a sign of humility before God, a symbol of mourning and sorrow at the death that sin brings into the world. Ash Wednesday is a somber day of reflection on what needs to change in our lives if we are to be fully Christian. Perhaps during the Lenten season, we should stop praying for others as if we were virtuous enough to do so. Perhaps we should take off our righteous robes just long enough during these 40 days to put ashes on our own heads, to come before God with a new humility that is willing to confess, "*Lord, be merciful to me, a sinner.*" Maybe we should be willing to prostrate ourselves before God and plead, "*Lord, in my hand no price I bring; simply to the cross I cling.*" That might put us in a position to hear God in ways that we have not heard him in a long time. And it may be the beginning of that healing for which we have so longed.

~ Pastor Bill Burleigh

LENT: PREPARATION FOR THE SONRISE!



Musical Musings

Anthems for March



March 1ST ~ First Sunday in Lent

“Begone, Satan!” by Jan Bender (1909-1994)

Holland-born church musician Jan Bender was influential in establishing liturgical trends in Germany after World War II. His setting of “Begone, Satan!” is quite clever. Bender depicts Satan by emphasizing a dissonance which in Medieval times had been outlawed by the Church – the tritone, once known as “the Devil’s interval.” In contrast, Bender removes all such tension when he employs a tune and text by Martin Luther in earnest supplication to Jesus Christ for protection against “the devil’s wiles and cunning.”

March 8TH ~ Second Sunday in Lent

“He, Watching Over Israel,” from *Elijah*, by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

This beautiful chorus from Mendelssohn’s acclaimed oratorio *Elijah* assures us of God’s watchfulness, and his willingness to strengthen us in time of need.

March 15TH ~ Third Sunday in Lent

“God Is a Spirit,” by Alexander Kopylov (1854-1911)

A student of Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov, Alexander Kopylov was a respected symphonist and composer of songs. His chorus, “God Is a Spirit” is a moving example of his writing for the Russian Orthodox church.

March 22ND ~ Fourth Sunday in Lent

“The Lord Is My Shepherd,” by Henry Smart (1813-1879)

An example of the richness of the Court Street United Methodist choral library, this gem by English organist and composer Henry Smart is reminiscent of works by Schubert. Sadly, and although Smart was widely respected in Britain as a composer, his work is now largely forgotten.

March 29TH ~ Fifth Sunday in Lent

“Psalm 130,” by Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Best known for his choral anthem “E’en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come,” mid-west composer and organist Paul Manz was twice named one of the “Ten Most Influential Lutherans.” His setting of the psalm is compelling and beautiful.

MARCH’S ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASS ~ SUNDAYS ~ 9:45AM

March 1: **“Because of Sin”**, Richard Chaffin

March 8: **“Jesus in Gethsemane”**, Lewis Johnson

March 15: **“The Israelites in the Wilderness”**, Richard Chaffin

March 22: **“Jesus in the Wilderness”**, Richard Chaffin

GUEST SPEAKER

March 29: **“Science in Genesis 1: 1, 2”**, Dr. Monroe Baldwin Jr

DR. MONROE BALDWIN, JR. will give his presentation “Science in Genesis 1: 1, 2” to the Adult Sunday School class on Sunday March 29th at 9:45. Please plan to attend even if you don’t usually and invite a friend to come hear this speaker and stay for worship service.

Lunch at Westminster

Every 2nd Thursday is
Lunch with members living at
Westminster-Canterbury

Join us on March 12TH
Fauber 2 - 11:30am





PARKVIEW DINNER WITH NEIGHBORS Members of Court Street will be preparing and serving dinner to approximately 100 neighbors at Park View Community Mission on Wednesday, April 8th. Please let Mary Tyree know if you can make a dessert. Please contact Anne Langley at (434) 660-2700 if you can help serve and/or clean up.

Support our partner organizations:

Lynchburg Symphony ~ A Festival of BACH
March 7th @ 7:30 pm
Heritage United Methodist Church
582 Leesville Rd, Lynchburg, VA 24502



A vertical poster for a Spring Concert. At the top, it reads "LYNCHBURG SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRA & JUNIOR STRINGS PRESENT THE". The main title "Spring CONCERT" is enclosed in a decorative pink frame, with "Spring" in a cursive font and "CONCERT" in a bold, green, sans-serif font. Below this, it says "FEATURING CONCERTO COMPETITION WINNER - WILL DUIS - BASSOONIST". The event details are "HERITAGE HIGH SCHOOL SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2020 3 PM". Ticket information is listed as "TICKETS: ADULTS- \$12 STUDENTS- \$6". At the bottom, it states "TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT HTTPS://LYNCHBURGYOUTHORCHESTRA.COM/". The logo "LSYO" is at the bottom left, and "DIRECTOR: MS. GINA DICARLO WWW.LYNCHBURGYOUTHORCHESTRA.COM" is at the bottom right. The background is white with faint musical notes and pink flowers.

April Paint Night with Ecclesia ~ Friday, April 17th ~ 6:30pm-8:30pm
\$10 pre-registered; \$12 at the door ~ All ages
(children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult)
Sign up at: <https://ecclesiaarts.com/paint-night/>

Birthdays and Anniversaries

March Birthdays	March Anniversaries	April Birthdays
Sharon Brooks March 04	Amy & Rick Pillow Mar 15	Eleanor Pillow April 01
Tom Coleman March 04	Karen & David Hudnall Mar 20	Mickenly Kreuziger April 04
Randy Speer March 05	Eva & Reiman Shober Mar 30	Harriette Cash April 05
Lori Letchford March 12		Emilia Dimitrova April 10
Susan Angus March 14	April Anniversaries	William Draper April 12
Amy Pillow March 15	Anne & Bruton Langley April 21	Stuart Jackson April 14
Rick Pillow March 18	Laura & Brent McCraw April 23	Aaron McGlothlin April 20
David Petty March 19	Susan & Sam Angus April 24	Marcia Thom-Kaley April 23
Bill Puckett March 22		Drew Leazer April 25
Marty Diuguid March 27		Emma Grace Thom April 25
Shanda Horner March 31		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
son of Shelley and Rev. Bill Burleigh

SICK (Church members*)

- *Patsy Cundiff – 1559 Lexington Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24503
- *Noel Draper - 501 VES Road Drinkard 619, Lynchburg, VA 24503
- Susan Dwyer – sister of Rev. Bill Burleigh
- *Christopher Lilley - 408 Blackford Street #2, Lynchburg, VA 24504
- *Eleanor Pillow – 1201 Langhorne Road, Lynchburg, VA 24503
- *Phil Ripley – 60 Jill Alison Circle, Ormond Beach, FL 32176
- Sylvia Shuff - Mother-in-Law of Rev. Bill Burleigh
- Noah Slocum – 698 Don Pablo Drive, Santa Maria, CA 93455
Great Nephew of *Karen and Randall Speer
- *Alicia Speer – 1815 Rivermont Ave #68, Lynchburg, VA 24503
- Elaine St. Vincent – 501 VES Road Room 415, Lynchburg, VA 24503
- * *Church members*

“

Heavenly Father,
We lift up all those who are
facing various illnesses.
Give them the hope and
courage they need today and
every day. Comfort their pain,
calm their fears, and surround
them with Your peace.
In Jesus' name, Amen.”

CIRCLE OF PRAYER

Gifts to the church

To the General Fund in Memory of:

Senator Carter Glass by:
Walter Tiree Hudson

Randolph Hudson, Sr. by:
Walter Tiree Hudson

Frances Anderson Tyree by:
Walter Tiree Hudson

Update on Capital Campaign:

Campaign Goal	\$300,000
Promised as of 2/23/20	\$248,981
Balance needed to reach goal	\$51,019
Received to Date	\$208,966
Received since last update	\$850.00
Elevator fund	\$10.328

MARCH 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Adult Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11am	2	3 LSYO rehearsal 3pm – 7pm	4 AGLOW 9AM Bible Study 7pm	5	6	7 Unity in Our Community 9AM ~ Refectory All Peoples Worship Service 6pm
8 Adult Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11am	9	10 LSYO rehearsal 3pm – 7pm APC Ladies Fellowship 7pm – 9pm Wesley Guild	11 Bible Study 7pm	12 Lunch at Westminster 11:30am Fauber 2	13	14 LSYO Spring Concert Heritage High ~ 3pm All Peoples Worship Service 6pm
15 Adult Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11am	16	17	18 Finance Committee / Trustee meeting 2pm ~ Wesley Guild Bible Study 7pm	19	20	21 All Peoples Worship Service 6pm
22 Adult Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11am Church Council After worship LSO Rehearsals 4:00pm-6:30pm	23 ACC Board Meeting 11AM Wesley Guild	24	25 Bible Study 7pm	26	27	28 All Peoples Worship Service 6pm
29 Adult Sunday School 9:45am Worship 11am	30 LSO Rehearsals 7:00pm-10:00pm	31 LSO Rehearsals 7:00pm-10:00pm	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">COMING IN APRIL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dinner at Parkview Mission ~ April 8th Good Friday Service ~ April 10th @ 12 noon Easter Sunday ~ April 12th ~ Sunrise Service at Marsh Memorial 7:00 AM</p> </div>			

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

EMAIL: 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.

