



The Courier

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

February 2022

Court Street United Methodist Church

Valentine's Day Reflection

Hearts! Hearts everywhere! Hearts on sweaters and hearts on earrings. Hearts on cards and hearts on candy. Hearts on billboards and hearts on store windows. Hearts on Facebook and hearts on text messages. Chances are you'll see literally hundreds of hearts because, after all, February 14 is Valentine's Day, a day of love, a day of romance, a day of candy and flowers, a day of hearts. In our culture, the heart, or a stylized heart shape, is the sign of romantic love. 1 Peter 1:22 makes a strong connection between love and the heart, but it's not the kind of connection that sells cards and candy on Valentine's Day. The verse reads, "Love one another deeply, from the heart." This almost sounds like what you'd read in a Valentine's Day card. But, in fact, the meaning is much different from the romantic norm of most cards. For one thing, the verb translated here as "love" is, in Greek, *agape*. This is not the Greek word for romantic or erotic love (*eros*). Rather, it refers to choiceful, self-giving, sacrificial action for the sake of another person. *Agape* is what you need in a relationship precisely when romance is at its low ebb because it flows from commitment, not emotion. But doesn't "Love one another deeply" imply emotion? Not in the original Greek. Peter uses the word *ectenos*, which might better be translated as "*eagerly, constantly, or persistently.*" This adverb is used to convey the quality of Jesus' prayer in Gethsemane, a prayer of painful persistence. We love people *ectenos* when we hang in there with them, in bad times as well as good times, on Valentine's Day, yes, but also on the day when we'd like to shove them off a metaphorical cliff. Peter says we're to love each other "from the heart." Isn't this about emotion, if not romance? Not really. English speakers locate emotions in the heart. Speakers of New Testament Greek, however, put them in the bowels or gut. The heart, in the language of 1 Peter, was the seat of thinking, willing, choosing, and feeling. The emotional dimension of the inner life isn't absent from the heart, but it isn't the main part either. So, is love a matter of the heart? Yes, in the sense that love is something we choose to do, being motivated as much by conviction as by emotion. Is love something romantic? Yes, in a way. But the love we find in 1 Peter 1:22 is a different sort of love, a love that transcends feelings and romance, a love that flows from commitment and conscience, a love that perseveres in good times and in bad. So, on Valentines Day, send hearts and flowers to the one you love but, today and tomorrow and the next day and every day, love one another deeply, from the heart. Act out of self-giving commitment to what is best for others. Be persistent in loving, even when it's hard. Choose to love because you know it's right..

~ *Pastor Bill Burleigh*

FEBRUARY'S ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASS

February 6: "The Greatest Commandments"

February 13: "Making God's Light Visible"

February 20: "Informing, Transforming Faith"

February 27: "The Great Commission"

Join us every Sunday after worship service in the Refectory.

Children's Sunday School meets on the main floor off the Bishop Early Hall.

Court Street History

Thank you, Bill Phillips



The peaceful watercolor landscape paintings hanging in the Refectory were painted by long-time member of Court Street United Methodist Church, William T. "Bill" Phillips. Bill tackled and mastered the difficult medium of watercolor after his retirement from Lynchburg Foundry.



Bill Phillips, age 102, died Sunday, January 23, 2022,
but his memory lives on through his paintings, adorning the walls of the Refectory.

~The History Committee



CALLING ALL SINGERS! Are you interested in being a part of a choir? Come join the music worship team. All voices are welcome. We would love to have you. Our rehearsals are on Tuesdays at 6:30 pm (Sanctuary).

~ Dr. Yevgeniy Dovgalyuk

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT Thank you for letting me give you updates on the missions of Liberty Christian Foundation International. I enjoyed attending Sunday School last week and having fellowship with you. ~ Yomi Adamson



Pictures from Yomi's last trip.

Liberty Christian Foundation International was founded in 2011. They are a Christian humanitarian organization serving children and families in Nigeria.

They extend assistance to all children, regardless of their religious beliefs, gender, or ethnic background thereby exhibiting the love of Christ.

Imagine children receiving basic necessities of life such; as food, clothing, shoes, school material and The Bible and hearing the life-changing message of the Gospel. And imagine all of these being done in the name of Christ, all for the Glory of God.

This is the ministry of Liberty Christian Foundation International.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

February Birthdays	February Anniversaries	March Birthdays
Susanna Jackson February 01	Kathy & Robert Draper Feb 09	Sharon Brooks March 04
Lauren Hudnall Knapp February 02	Robin & Irby Hudson Feb 12	Randy Speer March 05
Mary Tyree February 02	GiGi and John Sweeney Feb 21	Janice Jackson March 09
Kenneth Bagshaw February 13		Lori Letchford March 12
Lewis Averett February 15		Susan Angus March 14
Dottie Diuguid February 17		Amy Pillow March 15
Sarah Leazer Johnson February 18		Rick Pillow March 18
Reiman Shober February 22		David Petty March 19
Brenda Whitehead February 22		Bill Puckett March 22
James Blankenship February 23		Marty Diuguid March 27
Bill Burleigh February 24		Shanda Horner March 31
Bobbi Hurst February 24		
John Spencer February 24		
	March Anniversaries Amy & Rick Pillow Mar 15 Karen & David Hudnall Mar 20  <i>Anniversaries and Birthdays</i>	

PRAYER CONCERNS

All Men and Women serving in the Military

Travis Dean Burleigh – 7425 Snowy Owl St. Unit 102, N. Las Vegas, NV 89084
son of Shelley and Rev. Bill Burleigh

Robert Allen Tyree – stationed at Fort Bragg, 1404 Brookville Ln., Lynchburg, VA 24502
Grandson of *Mary Tyree

SICK (Church members*)

Anne Burleigh ~ 2608 Plum Branch Road, Concord, VA 24538
mother of Rev. Bill Burleigh

Phillip Burleigh ~ brother of Rev. Bill Burleigh

*Noel Draper - 501 VES Road Drinkard 619, Lynchburg, VA 24503

Susan Dwyer – sister of Rev. Bill Burleigh

*Christopher Lilly – 1705 Rivermont Ave. Apt 8, Lynchburg, VA 24503

*Phil Ripley – 1356 John Anderson Dr., Ormond Beach, FL 32176

*Alicia Speer – 1815 Rivermont Ave #68, Lynchburg, VA 24503

*Cornell Thompson ~ 2029 Grace Street, Lynchburg, VA 24504

*Robert Tyree – 1404 Brookville Lane, Lynchburg, VA 24502

son of *Mary Tyree, brother of *Debbie Chaffin

* *Church members*

Update on Capital Campaign:

Campaign Goal	\$300,000
Promised as of 1/30/21	\$278,981
Balance needed to reach goal	\$21,019
Received to Date	\$241,616
Received since last update	\$0.00
Elevator fund	\$10,328

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.

