



The Courier

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

July 2022

Court Street United Methodist Church

Astounding Freedom: A Reflection for Independence Day

Ephesians 3:12 - *In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.* July 4 is Independence Day in the United States. On this day, commonly called The Fourth of July, we Americans celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence. On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress approved the final wording of the Declaration, thus affirming the independence of the United States from Great Britain. For over two hundred years, citizens of the U.S. have celebrated our independence on The Fourth of July. We fly the flag; put up red, white, and blue decorations; march in parades; and enjoy picnics. Throughout all our celebrations, we are reminded of the gift of our freedom as a nation. Indeed, we are blessed in the United States with exceptional liberty, for which we ought to thank the Lord. Other countries around the world have similar national celebrations of freedom. July 1 is Canada Day. January 26 is Australia Day. September 16 is *Independence Day* in Mexico. Ephesians 3:12 celebrates another kind of freedom, a freedom that is even more amazing than the freedoms guaranteed by the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. This verse reads: "*In Christ and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.*" The Greek word translated here as freedom refers specifically to freedom of speech. The word rendered as approach suggests one's authorization to draw near to a king. The Greek original of Ephesians 3:12 says that we can be confident in our freedom of speech and authorization to approach God. Let me put this plainly. In Christ, you have the freedom to draw near to God, to tell God anything you wish, without holding back. You can express to God not only your joys but also your sorrows, not only your assurance but also your doubt, not only your pleasure but also your anger. This is an amazing freedom. Of course, it's a freedom that we Christians can easily take for granted, even as citizens of various countries can hold their political freedom too lightly. When we're used to praying to God at any time, in any place, with any words, we can forget the stunning nature of our access to God. Think about it. The God who created the universe, the King of kings and Lord of lords, this God invites you to speak your mind, to share with him your thoughts, your feelings, your fears, and your dreams. The more you reflect on this invitation, the more you'll come to realize just how amazing it is. So, if, like me, you're an American, take time today to thank God for the freedom we have in this country. But whether you live in the U.S. or not, I encourage you to step back and consider the freedom Christ has given you to approach God with deep confidence. Let's thank God together for this amazing freedom he has given us.

~ *Pastor Bill Burleigh*

THANK GOD FOR OUR FREEDOM

ADDRESS CHANGES:

Sharon Brooks ~1203 South Grand Ave. #4~Lynchburg, Virginia 24501

Jay Kelly~Email: njaykelly12@gmail.com



LIYA MUSIC CAMP AT COURT STREET

Was a great success! We had 17 campers. 8 teachers/staff, and 3 wonderful ladies preparing food! A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped bring the camp together. The week's Bible themes were Hope, Joy, Faith, Love, and Peace. We look forward to Music Camp again next year for the Glory of God! Here are some pictures from camp week. You can also watch a video made by the LU student intern and listen to the original song produced by the campers on our youtube channel: <https://youtu.be/wQm3NbcNyii> and <https://youtu.be/sJH-HbgFvaA> have you subscribed to our channel? https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCE6eHrcKPdXxX3Mue1dr_vg



JULY'S ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASS

July 3: "A New Community of Believers"

July 10: "Faith Transcends Culture"

July 17: "The Quest for Inclusive Fellowship"

July 24: "The Jerusalem Council's Mandate"

July 31: "Mission Without Walls"

Join us every Sunday after worship service in the Refectory.
Children's Sunday School meets on the main floor off the Bishop Early Hall.

Please Join Us in Congratulating:

Ashleigh Cobbs graduated from Liberty Christian Academy. She is the granddaughter of Susan Cobbs and will be attending Paul Mitchell Cosmetology School in Tampa, FL.

Chloe Huffman graduated from Liberty Christian Academy. She is the granddaughter of Susan Cobbs and will be attending Liberty University in the fall.

Caroline Kincaide graduated from Duke University. She the daughter of Kenny Kincaid and the granddaughter of Bobbi and Randy Hurst. Caroline will start her graduate studies in the fall at UVA School of Law.

Julia Page Langley graduated from Liberty Christian Academy. She is the granddaughter of Anne Langley and will be attending James Madison University in the fall.

McKenzie Larkin graduated from Liberty Christian Academy kindergarten. She is the granddaughter of Susan Cobbs and will continue her pursuit of knowledge at LCA.

Jenny Burleigh Lloyd graduated from Shenandoah University with a doctorate in pharmaceutical medicine. She is the daughter of pastor Bill Burleigh.



THE VIRGINIA WHITEHOUSE MUSIC EMPHASIS FUND ORGAN CONCERT SERIES

presents

PETER DUBOIS

In Concert

Sunday, 24th July, 2022
Four O'Clock in the afternoon

Birthdays and Anniversaries

July Birthdays	July Anniversaries	August Birthdays
Samuel Jackson July 01	Lori & Eddie Letchford July 12	Christopher Lilly August 01
Sam Franklin July 06	Sarah & Eric Johnson July 18	Walter Wright August 08
Karen Speer July 11	August Anniversaries	Charlotte Larkin August 09
Kathy Mason July 14	Sarah & Aaron McGlothlin August 02	John Sweeney August 09
Benjamin Jackson July 14	Debbie & Richard Chaffin August 23	Martha Moorman August 10
Christine Speer July 17		Susan Hall August 11
Madeline White July 18	<i>Anniversaries and Birthdays</i>	Josh Larkin August 13
Keith Leazer July 20		Jay Kelly August 18
Jo Woods July 20		Ann McDaniel August 20
George Clark July 23		Cheryl West August 20
Kathy Draper July 23		Matthew Diuguid August 22
Brent McCraw July 24		Debbie Chaffin August 26
Sarah Haley McGlothlin July 24		Robert Allen Tyree August 31
Laura McCraw July 26		
Sherwood Newton July 28		
Noel Draper July 31		

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

*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

*Walter Wright - 474 Amelon Road, Madison Heights, VA 24572

* Church members

Gifts to the church

To the Sound System in Honor of:

Graduates Chloe Huffman & Ashleigh Cobbs by:
Harriette Cash

Renewal of Jennifer & Kenneth Cobbs wedding vows by:
Harriette Cash

Update on Capital Campaign:

Campaign Goal	\$300,000
Promised as of 6/26/21	\$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.

