

The Courier

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

March 2022

Court Street United Methodist Church

Lenten Reflection, Spring Cleaning

Each household has its own set of routine chores that needs to get done. Vacuuming, sweeping, making the beds, doing the laundry, and so on. However, many families will set aside a time for a deeper and more thorough cleaning of the home. Spring cleaning. Spring cleaning is a time to undertake the chores that we don't make time for on a day-to-day basis. Lent is the spring cleaning of our interior lives. In its eternal wisdom, the Church calendar gives us a yearly preparatory time to take a richer and more holistic examination of the entire universe that is within us. Each of us has wounds that stretch down deep inside of us; painful experiences, insecurities, fears, jealousies, and many other things that keep us from the eternal joy of God's Kingdom. These things can debilitate us, rendering us unable to be as joyful, as loving, and as compassionate as the Lord calls us to be. We make poor decisions, we find it harder to love those that hate us, we stress out and have anxiety, and we miss out on the glory of the Kingdom. How much time do we spend worrying about the external world? How much do we care about nurturing social images and external appearances? Unfortunately, our obsession never strikes us as being abnormal because all around us people are doing the exact same thing. While we keep busy trying to manipulate everything going on around us and spend so much energy on our "outer garments", we completely neglect the temple made in God's image, that is divinely placed within us. "The Kingdom of God is within," the Lord tells us in Luke 17:21. Ask almost any Christian what the goal of the Christian life is, and they will almost certainly say, "heaven." If Christ, our Lord, and our God, says that the Kingdom is within us, why don't we go there? We are scared. There are thoughts we don't understand, feelings we cannot articulate, and an entire universe that we do not know how to navigate. When those things are brought to the surface, we mistakenly think that our problems are outside of us. We blame other people and lash out at them, we spread gossip, and we try to change everything outside of us without ever considering that maybe the problem lies within. Lent is our time to reorient ourselves and to remember that there is quite possibly more work to be done inside of us than there is to be done outside of us. Without the internal work of Lent, we will be unable to love perfectly. If we are unable to love perfectly, then nothing else matters. So, we must dig deep, and begin the journey within. How do we do this? 2,000 years of spiritual literature covers this topic. Read and study your Bible. Make time for silent prayer and reflection as an integral part of our spiritual practice. Turn off the TV, close Snapchat, and Instagram, and simply take time to be still. The Psalms tell us to "be still and know that I am God." Just as a family takes the time to clean their home more thoroughly, we as Christians take Lent as a time to be more intentional in our spiritual practice, so that we might find deeper healing for our infirmities. May this Lent be our spiritual enlightenment. May we answer the Church's call to dig deeper within ourselves. May we seek the everlasting Kingdom of God within ourselves.

~ Pastor Bill Burleigh

LENT ~ A SEASON OF FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE

Court Street History

Appreciation for Music in Sunday School



Did you know that using a piano for singing hymns in Sunday School at Court Street was not always a reality? In the *Court Street Courier*, May 2006, church historian Lewis Averett wrote,

In 1890, there was a minor crisis in the church with the question of whether to use a piano for accompaniment in Sunday school. Nearly all in attendance at a meeting called to answer this question were reportedly in favor of using both piano and organ, but if they could not get both, preferred the piano. This question was referred to the Board of Stewards, who on April 6, 1890, reported that they had “no objection to using the piano in school but were not willing to do away with the organ and could not furnish means from the church to purchase a piano.” At that point, advocates of the piano began a fundraising campaign, and on October 26, this committee had raised \$425.00 for the purchase of a piano.

Today the Adult Sunday School Class is especially grateful for the privilege of piano accompaniment; for the piano, given by Dee and Ray Booth; to Kristian Jackson and others who play; and to Richard Chaffin, teacher, who carefully selects hymns to enhance the Bible study.

-The History Committee

MARCH'S ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASS

March 6: **“Titles Matter”**

March 13: **“An Authentic Faith”**

March 20: **“A Topsy-Turvy Kingdom”**

March 27: **“Faith to Move Mountains”**

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



LIYA MUSIC CAMP AT COURT STREET
 we are proud to announce that Court Street will be the new home of Liya music camp! The camp will be a weeklong all day camp June 6 – 10 with a performance June 10th at 7pm. For more information go to: <https://www.liyacamp.org/>

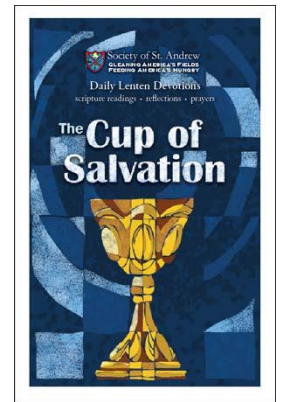
~ Dr. Yevgeniy Dovgalyuk



FLOWER FUND IN NEED OF DONATIONS for upcoming events at Court Street. The flower fund is used for Palm Sunday, Easter, and the summer events that have receptions. Please consider donating to the fund. Thank you ~ *Worship Committee*

LENTEN DEVOTIONS FROM SOCIETY OF ST. ANDREW are available in the Bishop Early Hall. These daily devotionals start with Ash Wednesday, so you have extra time to take a few to friends and neighbors. If you would rather get the devotion emailed to you daily; go to SoSA's website to sign up. <https://endhunger.org/lent/>

Call the church office if you would like a copy mailed to you ☺




COURT STREET IS NOW ACCEPTING ONLINE DONATIONS through the church's website. Our hope is not to have members switch to giving online, but to give our virtual viewers the opportunity to give a gift to the church in response to watching a service and to grow their connection to the church in the hopes that they visit in person.



DONATE ONLINE

Birthdays and Anniversaries

March Birthdays	March Anniversaries	April Birthdays
Sharon Brooks March 04	Amy & Rick Pillow Mar 15	Harriette Cash April 05
Randy Speer March 05	Karen & David Hudnall Mar 20	Emilia Dimitrova April 10
Janice Jackson March 09		William Draper April 12
Lori Letchford March 12		Stuart Jackson April 14
Susan Angus March 14		Emmerson Johnson April 17
Amy Pillow March 15		Aaron McGlothlin April 20
Rick Pillow March 18		Marcia Thom-Kaley April 23
David Petty March 19		Drew Leazer April 25
Bill Puckett March 22		Emma Grace Thom April 25
Marty Diuguid March 27		Jennifer Draper April 26
Shanda Horner March 31		Lewis James April 28
	April Anniversaries Laura & Brent McCraw April 23 Susan & Sam Angus April 24	
	 <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 2/27/21	\$278,981
Balance needed to reach goal	\$21,019
Received to Date	\$241,616
Received since last update	\$0.00
Elevator fund	\$10,328

Gifts to the church

To the General Fund in Memory of:

Randolph Hudson by Walter Tiree Hudson

Dottie Diuguid by:

Kathy Mason, Anne Langley, Walter Wright and
Sharon Brooks & family

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.

