



The Courier

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

May 2022

Court Street United Methodist Church

AN AFTER EASTER REFLECTION: FAITH IS MORE THAN A FEELING

Cars aren't sold on facts. Salespeople don't talk customers into smaller monthly payments. They don't suggest a buyer forgo the new purchase and fix up the old car. Cars are sold on feeling. Cars are sold on feeling because we tend to make worst decisions when choosing based on feelings. We have the extra piece of cake, rush into the bad relationship, and spend more money on a car than we should when making decisions based on feelings. Car dealers know this, so many of them sell cars based on feelings instead of facts. As a Christian it is tempting to do the same. It is tempting to focus on feeling and not facts. Yet faith is more than a feeling. The Christian faith is built on facts. God acted in history. He sent Jesus at a specific time and place. Jesus lived, died, and rose again as part of an historical record. Faith is dependent on facts. Christian faith is not just a feeling; it's an historical understanding. Because faith is grounded in history and facts, Jesus doesn't have to be sold based on emotion. We don't have to trick people into a foolish decision like a quick Vegas wedding or luxury sedan. Loving God with our minds is just as commanded as loving him with our hearts. While emotion plays a role in every decision, faith is just as much about human reason as emotional desire. Because faith is more than a feeling, we present the gospel in a different way than selling a car. To ignore the head is to create a false faith. While no theology test is given as a prerequisite of faith, a person must understand the basic premise of the gospel to truly become a Christian. Faith requires us to understand what we see within the context of an orderly and powerful Creator. If faith were a feeling, we might be willing to twist some facts or downplay some commands to swindle people into a conversion. Since faith is more than a feeling, we strive for complete honesty in every communication. Truth trumps emotion so facts must permeate our presentation. We need not rush people into faith. We desire for people to truly "count the cost." Questions need to be answered. Issues need to be thought through. Since faith is more than a feeling, we desire a person make an honest decision and not simply an emotional response. But if we aren't careful, we can work harder to get them to pray a prayer than we do to make sure they are making a conscious commitment of their life to God. As a preacher who regularly presents the gospel to a large group of people, I often struggle with knowing exactly how I should end a sermon. Two Biblical accounts intrigue me. The first is the general response of Jesus when talking to a crowd. He never really gave an invitation, he simply said "follow me." All the expectation was left to the person who desired to follow. The second is the story of Pentecost when several thousand people became Christians. On that day people seemingly responded to some invitation and decided to follow Jesus. Rarely do I know exactly which is right.

~ Pastor Bill Burleigh

FOLLOW ME, AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN



WLNI INTERVIEW WITH ASSOCIATE PASTOR JESSE JACKSON

Mari White at WLNI interviewed Jesse on Good Friday about Court Street and to talk about the holy days and our Easter celebration! The interview lasted about 15 minutes and Jesse was able to give a short history of the church and give an update on how the church is doing after having to suspend services due to Covid. He shared our hope to bring people back into the church and to revive our church. To hear the full interview go to:

<https://soundcloud.com/user-669730088-975615924/pastor-jesse-jackson-with?in=user-669730088-975615924/sets/the-best-of-burg-41522>

COURT STREET STARTS UPGRADES TO SANCTUARY SOUND SYSTEM with the approval of Church Council; a new sound board, speakers and microphones have been purchased and are being installed.

A series of fundraisers is currently being planned for the purpose of assisting with the purchase and installation of the new sound system. (Shown here) Additionally, funds raised will benefit a refurbishment project underway for the Wesley Guild Room and other areas of our Church which are in need of some repair and sprucing up.

We will kick off our fundraising campaign with a Dinner and a Movie evening on Friday, June 17. Tickets as well as more information on this event and other fundraising events will soon be available.



IN LIEU OF EASTER LILLIES was a great success! Donations were made to the flower fund and Meals on Wheels totaling 1,350.00.

IRBY HUDSON LIVED UP TO HIS PROMISE of donating 1,016.64 to the sound system for upgrades as discussed in the Church Council meeting. Church Council authorized sound system upgrades in the amount of 11,016.64 to be taken from the parsonage fund. We thank him for his contribution and invite others to do the same. ~ *Finance Committee*

PASTOR BILL ALSO LIVED UP TO HIS PROMISE of donating 500.00 to the sound system for a new camera as discussed in the Church Council meeting. Upgrades to the sound system are underway! The original list totaling 11,016.64 was ordered and thanks to some negotiating; the total decreased to 10,049.00! Thank you, pastor Bill, for your contribution. Let's keep that generosity going! ~ *Finance Committee*

MAY'S ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASS

May 1: "A Sabbath Jubilee"

May 8: "Faithful Stewardship"

May 15: "In Awesome Wonder"

May 22: "The Redemption of Creation"

May 29: "Acts of Generosity"

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

Coming Events



Dinner and A Movie Night Fundraiser Friday, June 17, 2022 5:00 pm

Where: CSUMC Refectory and Sanctuary (free movie)

Price for Dinner: \$12.00 (takeouts available while supplies last)

Delicious Baked Spaghetti, Tossed Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert and Beverage

Tickets: Advance tickets will soon be available

Details: All proceeds from this event will be donated to the Church

Refurbishment and Sound System fund



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

Esther
FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

MAY 14, 2022
12:30 P.M. & 4:30 P.M.


\$15.00

ACADEMY CENTER
OF THE ARTS
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Ecclesia
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Birthdays and Anniversaries

May Birthdays	June Anniversaries	June Birthdays
Brad Diuguid May 01	Karen & Randy Speer June 01	Cameron Jackson June 03
John McDaniel May 04	Susan & Keith Leazer June 12	McKenzie Lynn Larkin June 07
Matthew Turner May 26	Samantha & Matthew Turner June 17	Rob McDaniel June 09
Jason Brooks May 31	Elizabeth & Josh Larkin June 23	Andy Whitehead June 16
	Barbara & Bobby Brown June 26	Rick Kinne June 17
	Ellen & David Petty June 30	Katie Thaxton June 18
		Ellen Petty June 20
	<p style="font-family: cursive;">Anniversaries and Birthdays</p>	Abigale Jackson June 21
		Nancy Lane June 28
		Samantha Turner June 29

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 General Fund in Memory of:

Leslie the custodian by:
Walter Tiree Hudson

Update on Capital Campaign:

Campaign Goal	\$300,000
Promised as of 4/24/21	\$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.

