



# The Courier

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

May 2023

Court Street United Methodist Church

### REFLECTION FOR MAY

A story is told about a pilot who always looked down intently on a certain valley when the plane passed overhead. One day his co-pilot asked, “What’s so interesting about that spot?” The pilot replied: “See that stream? Well, when I was a kid, I used to sit down there on a log and fish. Every time an airplane flew over, I would look up and wish I were flying, now I look down and wish I were fishing.” There is a deep craving for satisfaction and fulfilment inside every creature. One is restless till this thirst is fulfilled. One is impatient till this craving is satisfied. This ‘longing’ is innate in every human being. This ‘longing’ compels humans to search, to seek the source of satisfaction, for the fountain of fulfilment. But how wonderful it would be to be knowing and to be convinced that this “thirst” can find its fulfilment only in God. The Gospel presents Jesus promising this fulfilment and contentment to all those who come to Him and believe in Him, The Bread of Life. Jesus declares, *“I am the Bread of Life; He who comes to me shall not hunger and he who believes in me shall never thirst”* (Jn 6: 35) The crowds who had been fed by Jesus, by the miracle of the multiplication of loaves, came in search of Jesus, probably expecting more. They wanted more, and they express this to Jesus, *“Sir, give us this bread always”* (Jn 6:34) In John Chapter 4, we read the story of the Samaritan woman, by the well of Jacob, who had also expressed a similar desire. She said to Jesus *“Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water”* (Jn 4: 15) Each of us are ‘longing’ to drink water and eat food that will quench the longing, forever. In this search people go out and seek various sources of satisfaction. Some feel to have found this fulfilment through worldly pleasures and bad habits which only leads to short-lived thrill. Some feel to have found this fulfilment in the various philosophies which may have traces of truth but fail to provide fullness of life. The Book of the Acts of the Apostles records one such notable example. Saul, who is called Paul, failed to understand, and persecuted all those who followed “The Way!” *“But Saul was ravaging the church by entering house after house; dragging off both men and women, he committed them to prison.”* (Acts 8:3) But Jesus, boldly declares that it’s only in Him that true and complete fulfilment of life can be found: *“He who comes to me shall not hunger and he who believes in me shall never thirst”* (Jn 6: 35) Are we convinced of this fact, that it’s only in Jesus, that I can achieve true and complete happiness? The Lord, today, calls us back to Him, to experience Him fully. To those who have strayed the call of the Gospel, is to come back to the paths of truth. To those who are holding on to Him, the call of the Gospel, is to deepen the conviction, that in Him alone, can the hunger of my soul and the thirst of my heart be fulfilled. To those who have strayed the Lord invites them to build the virtues of patience, firm trust, and a passionate longing. May Jesus, the Bread of Life, always be the source and strength of our Christian living!

~ Pastor Bill Burleigh

**LIFE BRINGS CHANGE. GOD BRINGS PEACE.**

## MAY'S ADULT BIBLE STUDY CLASS

May 7: "Collective Work, Collective Rest"

May 14: "Sabbath as a Palace in Time"

May 21: "The Redemption of Creation"

May 28: "Celebrating Sabbath"

**Join us every Sunday after worship service in the Wesley Guild.**

**WORSHIP NIGHT** will be **Thursday, May 4th at 7 pm**. This service will have a relaxed, casual atmosphere and will feature guests helping to lead worship. It would be wonderful to have you (& friends) join us for Worship Night.

**LU HONORS STRING QUARTET** will perform at Court Street UMC on Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm in the Sanctuary. The concert is free, and all are welcome to attend. Please spread the word to friends and family to show our support to these young talented artists!

**CELEBRATE PASTOR BILL'S RETIREMENT** by donating to Valor Farm in honor of Bill Burleigh's retirement. Pastor Bill has requested money be given to Valor Farm in lieu of holding a retirement party in his honor. Please make checks payable to CSUMC with Valor Farm on the memo line.

**LIYA MUSIC CAMP RETURNS** for its second year at Court Street! We are excited to once again host this weeklong summer camp for young musicians July 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>. Registration is open on the camp website [www.liyacamp.org](http://www.liyacamp.org). Help us get the word out to our community about this wonderful and affordable camp.

Scholarships are available for those who need assistance.



**JULY 24<sup>TH</sup> – 28<sup>TH</sup>**

**9 AM - 3 PM**

**Performance: July 28 @ 7 pm**

Liya Music Camp 2023 is open to all instruments, including voice.

Campers will be immersed in two genres of music:

Traditional Classical & Contemporary Worship.

**The camp is open to students through High School age.**

## COURT STREET WELCOMES REV. STEVEN PROPST

Rev. Propst has been appointed as pastor starting in July. We are excited to Welcome pastor Steve and his wife April.



I was born on July 14, 1960, in Rockingham County, Virginia. I was the middle child of Five Children- one older brother, one older sister (deceased), and two younger sisters. My parents (deceased) never owned a home of their own but paid rent all their lives. The last house we lived was a farmhouse on a dairy Farm in which I worked until I was 21. I graduated from Broadway High school in 1978. I received my undergraduate's degree from Bridgewater College in 1983. I received my Master of Divinity Degree from Eastern Mennonite Seminary in Harrisonburg Virginia in 1993. Between College and seminary, I got married, worked as a carpenter under a private contractor who built custom homes in the Harrisonburg Area while serving as a Youth Pastor at Dayton UMC in Dayton Virginia.

I am married to a lovely wife named April. We have been married for 38 years. We have two grown children. The oldest is a daughter and the youngest is a son. Katie, our daughter, teaches English at Jefferson Forest High School. She is married with two small children (Willow-4 years old and Ember-2 years of age). Josh, our son, is a Drama and Art teacher at Rustburg High school.

We began our ministry in 1990. In 1994 I became on Elder in Full connection in Virginia. April and I have been in the pastoral ministry for 33 years. I have served 4 churches in my 33 years. Stanley UMC (served 4 years) in the Harrisonburg District, Pleasant Grove (served 8 years) in the Danville District, Mint Spring (served 8 years) in the Staunton District, and Mountain View (served 13 years) in the Lynchburg District. I am currently serving at Salem UMC near Bedford as a part time pastor (preach on Sunday morning).

My hobbies include hunting, gardening, cutting firewood, carpentry/building, and small engine repair.

I am a genuinely friendly person who is down to earth. My leadership strengths are around relationships and relationship building/strengthening.

I love being involved in diverse kinds of mission from serving at a food kitchen to creating missions' team that embark on mission trips to offer the love of Christ with those that are the "least" among us. I am enthusiastic about preaching the word of God and helping individuals to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ. I like to teach Bible Studies but not as a lecturer rather as a facilitator. I believe that it is vital to our Spiritual growth to be intentional in prayer and Bible Study.

Finally, it is vital that a pastor join hands with the congregation they are called to serve by working side by side with them. You will find that I am an energetic person who loves doing "hands on" activities with others. So, I feel it is important for me to stay involved in the activities of the Church. I am looking forward to sharing in ministry with the congregation at Court Street.

## \*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
		Abigale Jackson         June 21
		Nancy Lane                June 28
		Samantha Turner         June 29



Anniversaries  
and Birthdays

### 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
- Matthew Diuguid – 3501 A Ave. 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon, Bravo Company 266 Qm Bn; Fort Lee, VA 23801
- Robert Allen Tyree – stationed at Fort Bragg, 1404 Brookville Ln., Lynchburg, VA 24502  
Grandson of \*Mary Tyree

#### In Need of Prayer

- Dee Brown ~ aunt of Christopher Lilley.
- Phillip Burleigh ~ brother of Rev. Bill Burleigh
- \*Noel Draper - 501 VES Road Drinkard 619, Lynchburg, VA 24503
- Joanne Johnson ~ C/O Charlie Johnson @ Forest UMC 1150 Burnbridge Road, Forest, VA 24551
- \*Christopher Lilley – 1705 Rivermont Ave. Apt 8, Lynchburg, VA 24503  
Toby Lilley ~ Buena Vista, VA ~ uncle of Christopher Lilley.
- \*Phil Ripley – C/O Julie Strong 1356 John Anderson Dr., Ormond Beach, FL 32176
- \*Alicia Speer – 1815 Rivermont Ave #68, Lynchburg, VA 24503
- \*GiGi Sweeney ~ 1487 Jennings Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24503
- \*John Sweeney - 1487 Jennings Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24503
- \*Nada Sweeney ~ 501 VES Road, Drinkard 621, 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

#### MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT

April Offerings through 4/23/2023:	3,772.00
April Expenses:	17,926.63
Shortfall:	14,154.63

Loving Father,  
touch me now with your  
healing hands,  
for I believe that your will  
is for me to be well in mind,  
body, soul and spirit.  
Cover me with the most  
precious blood of your Son,  
our Lord, Jesus Christ  
from the top of my head  
to the soles of my feet. ✠

ST. PADRE PIO





## **Marsh Memorial Early Learning Center 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament**

**9-hole Tournament  
Captains Choice/Shot Gun Start  
Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> - Poplar Forest Golf Course**

**Lunch:** after tournament •• **Registration:** 8:00 am •• **Tee-Off:** 8:30 am  
**Cost:** \$50 per person or \$200-4-man team or **Poplar Forest Members** \$30 per person  
(doesn't include cart)

Includes entry into 9-holes of golf, riding cart, lunch, and a chance  
to win various prizes!

Buy Mulligans \$5 each and 50/50 tickets

### ***Awards***

**First Place Team \$200, Second Place Team \$100, Third Place  
Team \$60, Prizes for Closest to the Pin and Longest Drive**

**Thank you!**

**To sign-up call Shelley Burleigh or Marsh Memorial ELC at 509-2239,  
239-2546 or email [shelleyburleigh3@gmail.com](mailto:shelleyburleigh3@gmail.com)**

**Registration deadline is May 1<sup>st</sup>**

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](http://www.courtstreetmethodist.com)

EMAIL: [621courtstumc@gmail.com](mailto: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.

