

DECEMBER 2017/JANUARY 2018

Corinth United Methodist Church

23 West Williamsburg Road, Sandston, Virginia 23150 (phone: 737-4837)

The Rev. W. Joseph Winfree, 1720 Elmart Lane, Richmond, VA, 23235 (cell: 513-3291)

Church office open Monday—Thursday from 8:00 a.m.— 2:30 p.m. & Friday 8:00 a.m.—Noon

Email: office@corinthumchurch.org

Web site: www.corinthumchurch.org

UPCOMING EVENTS!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

Community Cookie Walk at 9:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

Children sharing in Worship at 11:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

The Chancel Choir Cantata at 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 24

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

4:00 p.m. Children & Families

7:00 p.m. Traditional Christmas Eve Communion Service

11:00 p.m. Celebrate the ushering in of Christmas Day

with a Candlelight Communion Service



DO YOU LIKE TO BAKE?

If so, would you help us out by bringing a batch or two of your own cookie creations for our **Community Cookie Walk**? Please deliver them to the church office on **Friday, December 8** between the hours of **8:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.** *Thank you!*

Inside this issue:

Worship Committee News	2
From the Pastor	3
Missions	4
Music Ministries	5
Serving in Ministry	6
Living with a Grateful Heart	7



RICHMOND AREA BISHOP

The Bishop Sharma D. Lewis

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

The Rev. Dr. Peter Moon

PASTOR

The Rev. W. Joseph Winfree
Email: pastor@corinthumchurch.org

LAY LEADER

Katherine Poarch

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL CHAIR

Frances LaTouche

OUTREACH MINISTRIES CHAIR

J.B. Byers

CHURCH STAFF

Administrative Assistant

Sue Buck

Parish Nurse

Pat Davis

Director of Music Ministries

Diana Covington Greer

Nursery Attendant

Beverly Guidt

Director of Children and Family Ministries

Charlotte Strom

Website: corinthumchurch.org

WORSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

The Worship Committee met in early November and discussed the plans for the Chapel Repurposing Service, the library, Advent, Ushers and Acolyte duties. So many special services have been held in the Chapel and the committee discussed how fitting it was to recognize what changing this space will mean to everyone in our congregation. We hope many of you were able to be present for the service which was held on November 19th.

The committee is recommending to the Trustees that the cross in the chapel be kept in the new space and attached to the back wall once construction is completed. The Trustees will make the final decisions on all current furnishings in the existing chapel. We have been assured by Chase Construction that once construction begins in early January, there should be minimal impact on current worship services.

Don't forget to come out and help **decorate the church for Advent on December 2nd at 9:00 a.m.** There will be hot coffee and juice with plenty of donut holes to keep everyone going until we finish. It usually takes about 2 to 3 hours and when we are done the church looks very festive and we have had a morning of Christian fellowship. Everyone is invited, there is no "in" crowd. We all just pitch in and unwrap the Chrismons, hang wreaths and laugh about how to "fluff" wreaths.

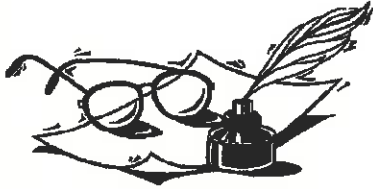
Christmas Eve services will include the regular 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Services as well as the 4:00 p.m. Children's Service, the 7:00 p.m. Traditional Christmas Eve Communion Service and the 11:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service.

The **Free Book event, December 1-10**, is sponsored by the Worship Committee and supports the required changes to the space. Storage for worship banners and sanctuary Paraments will be obtained when Pastor Joe moves to his new office in the current library.

Ushers are usually the first faces newcomers to our Worship Services encounter. It is with this thought that we want them to be at each entrance focusing on those entering the sanctuary from the outside and offering assistance with directions and making them feel welcome. We also plan to have a team of ushers for all events held at Corinth i.e. funerals, weddings, church wide gatherings. If you would like to join in this popular welcoming "team" please leave your name with the church office or contact the chair of Worship. The usher role for the **11:00 a.m. Worship Service** will be expanded in January 2018, to include lighting the altar candles before the beginning of service. This is standard practice for the 8:30 a.m. service.

The **role of the acolyte** will be evaluated to determine appropriate age and training requirements as well as commitment expected of all acolytes. No acolytes will be scheduled to serve in 2018 until this evaluation has been completed.

*Thank you all for a great year,
Roberta Gunn, 2017 Worship Chair
Jane Winter, 2018 Worship Chair*

FROM THE PASTOR –

"And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints."

1 Thessalonians 3:12-13

A woman was doing her last-minute Christmas shopping at a crowded mall. She was tired of fighting the crowds. She was tired of standing in lines. She was tired of fighting her way down long aisles looking for a gift that had sold out days before.

Her arms were full of bulky packages when the elevator door opened. It was full.

The occupants of the elevator grudgingly tightened ranks to allow a small space for her and her load. As the doors closed she blurted out, *"Whoever is responsible for this whole Christmas thing ought to be arrested, strung up, and shot!"* A few others nodded their heads or grunted in agreement.

Then, from somewhere in the back of the elevator came a single voice that said, *"Don't worry. They already crucified him."*

As we enter this season of Advent and Christmastide, what message are we sharing with others? It is so easy for us to become preoccupied with the busyness of the season that we neglect the holiness of the season. If we, the church, aren't careful, we will fall prey to a cultural effect of a hyper-commercialism that can give us a lot of warm fuzzies about Christmas, but little else. The truth is that there are a lot of folks who experience the tinsel and tapestries of Christmas without ever being inspired to actually change anything about their lives. All one can be left with after Christmas is an emptiness.

The spiritually sound thing the church can do is to reach out this Advent and Christmas to the lost, lonely, forgotten, abused and oppressed people with whom we live each and every day. Wherever believers go this season, they are the living greeting cards God sends to all people. Jesus was God's ultimate, consummate greeting to the world of God's love and grace. Be God's living greeting card this season.

Yours In Christ,

Merry Christmas and a blessed new year from the staff of Corinth Church!

*Sue Buck, Pat Davis, Diana Greer, Beverly Guidt, Charlotte Strom, &
Rev. W. Joseph Winfree*



MISSIONS

Thanks to everyone who helped with or participated in the Soup Sunday for SHOW bags. We had a great turnout with 10 soups to choose from and raised over \$650.00. Please take a moment to check out the poster the Fair Oaks students made to express their thanks located on our Mission bulletin board in the Social Hall. Additionally, a number of handmade items are for sale on the Missions table. Do some Christmas shopping and support the SHOW project!

Great job! At last count, we put together 70 Christmas shoeboxes. Thank you!

Thanks to everyone, we raised \$1500.00 for **Wreaths Across America**. The ceremony will be on **Saturday, December 16 at Noon at the Seven Pines Cemetery** located at 400 E. Williamsburg Road. Everyone is encouraged to attend and stay to assist with the placing of wreaths on the veterans' graves.

We will host our second **Christmas party** in conjunction with **The Way on Wednesday December 13** at Corinth. If you can help to prepare the meal for our local families or assist by providing gifts for a child, please call Charlotte Sheppard (795-9589).

The **Missions Committee** will meet on **Sunday, December 10, at Noon** in the Christian Fellowship Classroom.

Look for information about assisting Sandston Baptist with a **CARITAS** meal in upcoming bulletins. The tentative date is **Saturday, January 20, 2018**.

Again, thanks so much for all you do and may each of you enjoy a blessed Christmas season as you bless others!

*Charlotte Sheppard,
Missions Chair*




<https://www.facebook.com/CorinthUMC>

**BISHOP LEWIS CHALLENGE -
A CHRISTIAN APPROACH**

Bishop Lewis is challenging the Virginia Conference to read the Bible with her in 2017. Share this challenge with your families and invite others to join you. Here is the website for the readings: <http://backtothebible.org/reading-guide/15/1>

December 1	1 Corinthians 9-11
December 2	1 Corinthians 12-14
December 3	1 Corinthians 15-16
December 4	2 Corinthians 1-4
December 5	2 Corinthians 5-9
December 6	2 Corinthians 10-13
December 7	Galatians 1-3
December 8	Galatians 4-6
December 9	Ephesians 1-3
December 10	Ephesians 4-6
December 11	Philippians 1-4
December 12	Colossians 1-4
December 13	1 Thessalonians 1-5
December 14	2 Thessalonians 1-3
December 15	1 Timothy 1-6
December 16	2 Timothy 1-4
December 17	Titus-Philemon
December 18	Hebrews 1-6
December 19	Hebrews 7-10
December 20	Hebrews 11-13
December 21	James 1-5
December 22	1 Peter 1-5
December 23	2 Peter 1-3
December 24	1 John 1-5
December 25	2 John-Jude
December 26	Revelation 1-3
December 27	Revelation 4-8
December 28	Revelation 9-12
December 29	Revelation 13-16
December 30	Revelation 17-19
December 31	Revelation 20-22

EASTERN HENRICO FISH, INC
COLLECTIONS



DECEMBER
Instant Potatoes

JANUARY
Shampoo



Come on in ...
See anything you want?
Make your selection ...
December 1st to 10th
The books are free!

The next phase of Corinth's new renovation will begin in January 2018. We will soon be seeing construction and to comply with the plans, it requires some changes within the walls of our church. What we now call the Library will be repurposed and will become the office for Pastor Joe. There are a number of books that will be available for distribution to those who are interested beginning December 1st and ending on December 10th. All books will be free and will be available on a "first come ... first serve basis" ... don't miss this opportunity!



CORINTH UMC ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL – 2018

Chairperson	Mike Wright
Vice-Chair	Jennifer Warren
Recording Secretary	Frances LaTouche
Annual Conference Representative	Katherine Poarch
Trustee Chair	Lisa Bennett
Lay Leader	Katherine Poarch
Staff Parish Relations Chairperson	Jonathan Keenan
Finance Chairperson	Mike Gump
Treasurer	Beverly Ellis, Lori Johnson
Stewardship Chairperson	Brent Williams
Education Chairperson	Emily Whittemore
UMM	TBA
Youth Representative	Brendan Williams
Worship/Music Chairperson	Jane Winter
FLOW	Frances LaTouche
Communications	Carla Keenan
Fellowship	Neva Trimble
Missions	Charlotte Sheppard
Evangelism	Amy Morris
Outreach/Outside Groups	JB Byers
Young Adult Representative	Rachael Buck
2nd Trustee	Bill Mawyer
Building & Grounds Chairperson	Bill LaTouche
At Large Member	Diana Campbell
At Large Member	Dick Messenger
At Large Member	Linda Nicely
Pastor of Corinth UMC	Rev. W. Joseph Winfree

Work Area Chairpersons

Blood Drive Chair	Pat Crawford
Delegate to District Conference	Katherine Poarch
Endowment Chairperson	Charlotte Sheppard
Green Team Chairperson	Gwendolyn Anderson
Hermitage Representative	Dorris New
History Chairperson	Nancy Tabor
Kitchen Co-Chairperson	Sue Buck & Neva Trimble
Representatives to Boy Scouts & Cub Scouts	Pastor Joe & Mike Wright
Representatives to Eastern Henrico FISH	Steve Hassmer & Bob Winter
Representative to Sandston Recreation Center	Bill Mawyer
Representative to UMFS	Charlotte Strom
Scrapbooking Chairperson	Donna Milleker
Visitation Co-Chairpersons	Betty Mawyer & Nancy Tabor
Webmaster	Denny Wagner
Chapman Scholarship Fund Committee	Elaine Daniel & Emily Whittemore
Hiatt-Verelle Scholarship Committee	Marion Tuckwiller
Memorial Fund Co-Chairs	Nancy Tabor & Brent Williams

MUSIC MINISTRIES AT CORINTH

Nowell! Its meaning is **Now All Is Well!** It is a wonderful, well meaning way to greet people in the Christmas season.

I believe that the cantata **Night of the Father's Love** will speak to each of our hearts as we pause to listen and reflect on the mystery of the birth of God's son and our Savior. It is a compelling and fresh story told through music. The titles of the songs are "*The Coming of the Lord,*" "*Waiting,*" "*Angels Are Making Their Rounds,*" and "*Christ Is Born, Nowell!*" You will hear Christmas favorites, "**Silent Night,**" and references to "**O Holy Night.**" Let the nativity theme with narration and music wash over you anew as you hear the voices of the choir tell the most important story to come out of the tiny town of Bethlehem of old. It's Christmas again!

Night of the Father's Love by Pepper Choplin will be part of the Worship Service on **Sunday, December 17, at the 11:00 a.m.** The children will be sharing during the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service on Sunday, December 10.

Come join the carolers for a **Christmas Caroling** event at the **Masonic Home** on **Thursday, December 21, at 5:00 p.m.** in the dining area. Song sheets will be provided. Dress in bright reds and green and share the joy of God's love with others through caroling and gift giving. Come one and all!

The **Chancel Choir** will not rehearse on **Thursday, December 28,** but rehearsals will begin in the new year on **Thursday, January 4, 2018.** A **Ukulele Session** will be held on **Sunday, January 21,** in the **Choir Room** after the **11:00 a.m. Worship Service.**

Nowell! Nowell! Nowell!
Diana Greer,
Director of Music Ministries



STAFF CHRISTMAS LOVE OFFERING

To show our love and appreciation for the dedication and hard work that our church staff does throughout the year, we invite you to participate in a special love offering at Christmas. If you would like to contribute a monetary gift, which will be distributed among the staff, please make your check out to Corinth UMC, mark it "*Christmas Love Offering*" and place it in the offering plate or drop it by the Church Office before **Sunday, December 10.** We will share this with the staff on **Sunday, December 17.**

Jonathan Keenan,
SPRC Chair



FROM YOUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

All 2017 giving must be in the offering plate by **December 31.** Giving after this date will be credited in 2018. If you need an update on the amounts to fulfill your General Fund or Building Fund pledge, please contact me either by phone/text (804-363-1239) or email VTHokieTom@Comcast.net.

Tom Stecher,
Financial Secretary

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL WEDNESDAYS AT 7:00 P.M.

January 10, 2018
March 14, 2018
April 11, 2018
May 9, 2018
June 13, 2018
August 8, 2018
September 12, 2018
October 10, 2018
November 14, 2018

*All of the congregation is welcome to attend
any or all of these meetings!*

SERVING IN MINISTRY

December 2017 / January 2018

Ushers—Captains

December 3 Tom Phipps
 December 10 Richard Shockley
 December 17 Youth
 December 24 Bill Davis
 December 31 Youth

January 7 Jennifer Warren
 January 14 Richard Shockley
 January 21 Jane Howell
 January 28 Jim Buck

Open/Lock Up

<i>December</i>	<i>January</i>
Stanford Greer	Stanford Greer
Doug Sheppard	JB Byers

Acolytes

December 3 Sarah McLaughlin
 December 10 Justine Vasquez
 December 17 Ellie Winter
 December 24 Meri Madson
 December 31 Josh Vasquez

Communion Stewards

<i>December</i>	<i>January</i>
Sue Buck &	Debbie & Zane Huffines
Frances LaTouche	

Nursery

December 3 Jennifer Warren
 December 10 Jane Winter
 December 17 Charlotte Sheppard
 December 24 Charlotte Strom
 December 31 Emma Godwin-Jones

January 7 Debbie Huffines
 January 14 Diane Samuels
 January 21 Youth
 January 28 Emma Godwin-Jones

Evangelism Visitation Team

1st Sunday

Pat & Bill Davis

2nd Sunday

Lori & Lin Johnson

3rd Sunday

Janet Christopher
Diane Samuels

4th Sunday

Jane & Rick Howell

5th Sunday

Diana & Phil Campbell

Pew Steward

Sheila Cooperstein



Children's Church

December 3 Communion
 December 10 Charlotte Strom
 December 17 None
 December 24 None
 December 31 None

January 7 Communion
 January 14 Charlotte Strom
 January 21 None
 January 28 Charlotte Strom

Beverly Guidt, present each week.



***RICHMOND DISTRICT CONFERENCE
AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING EVENT***

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2018

1:30-5:00 P.M.

REVELLE UMC

4200 CARY STREET ROAD, RICHMOND

KEYNOTE SPEAKER, REV. BEN CAMPBELL

Breakout Sessions and Workshops

1. Trustees
2. Finance Presenter
3. Pastor/Staff-Parish Relations
4. It All Starts Here: The Role of the Nomination and Leadership Development Committee
5. Food Justice
6. Next Stop Social Media Highway
7. Mission Shift: From Temporary Relief to Lasting Community Transformation
8. Cross Racial/Cross Cultural Ministry
9. Local Church Partnerships
10. Who is my Neighbor? 6 Ways to Reach Them
11. What if Youth Designed the Church?
12. Your Community is Your Church

Please call the church office (804-737-4837) if you want to attend. Deadline to register is Friday, December 8, 2017.

BIBLE QUIZ

After Mary learned she was pregnant with God's Son, what relative — also miraculously pregnant — did she go visit?

- A. Esther
- B. Elizabeth
- C. Anne
- D. Anna

Answer: B (See Luke 1:39-40.)



***LIVING WITH A GRATEFUL HEART
STARTS WITH SIMPLE PRACTICES***

Giacomo Bono is a psychology professor at California State University and director of the Youth Gratitude Project.

"Our non-verbal behavior is usually more important than what we say," he said. "Modeling is definitely important because it shows what you value. If you're not practicing gratitude yourself, there's no point in trying to encourage it in kids."

Bono, who co-authored the book **Making Grateful Kids**, said he thinks modeling gratitude applies beyond the family setting. He encourages church leaders to be specific in saying thank you and demonstrating grateful thinking by sharing about the blessings they appreciate.

"Making your gratitude visible to the whole community is important, whether you do that at home or at church," Bono said. Bono encouraged churches to combine gratitude practices with service opportunities to make the activities "truly transformative."

"It's possible that one way to have lasting effects with service opportunities is to process it a little bit more after you've done it," he said. *"You just helped someone. How do you think they appreciate what you've done?"*

For teens especially, this conversation regarding service and gratitude helps them *"see the meaning in the behavior and hopefully find more joy in doing it,"* Bono said.

Bono's research shows that *"practicing gratitude helps children become more purposeful."* He views gratitude as "an intentional skill" we can develop to improve the quality of our lives.

"Gratitude is strongly related with self-discipline and personal responsibility," he said, noting the importance of awareness in both hard and good times.

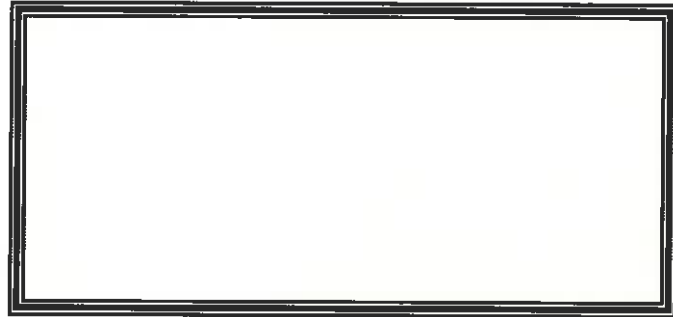
"A lot of times when we're happy, we're sort of mindless," he explained. *"It's worth practicing gratitude to notice what makes you happy and try to plan more of that in your life. It's about becoming a more intentional person in the world."*

From the Sunday Advocate (November 26, 2017)

CORINTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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SANDSTON, VA 23150

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**Corinth United
Methodist Church**

THE CORINTHIAN LETTER

December 2017/January 2018

CORINTH'S MISSION

TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST.