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I ♥ MY
CHURCH

COME FIND
OUT WHY

I honestly must say that celebrating Earth Stewardship Sunday was very good for me. It has helped me to be more aware again of the beauty of God's natural world and to be more conscientious about what I do as it relates to Earth Care. Just this morning as I was having my morning coffee and prayer time, I looked out my window and saw a rabbit, several cardinals, and a bluejay. Thank you, God!!! As I headed out to the grocery store on Monday, I forgot to bring my own bags with me. I decided to go ahead and buy a new one to use. Now I have several. Just like many things in my life, I get gung-ho about something and then, eventually, as life gets busy, as my attention turns to other things I forget my intentions of Earth Care. So Earth Stewardship Sunday and Earth Day has helped me to reset on my love for and care for God's amazing world.

Here is the story I shared at the end of the sermon on Sunday about the hummingbird told by the Quechuan tribe of South America:

One day a terrible fire broke out in a forest - a huge woodlands was suddenly engulfed by a raging wildfire.

Frightened, all of the animals fled their homes and ran out of the forest. As they came to the edge of a stream, they stopped and looked back to watch the fire.

They were feeling very discouraged and powerless, as they all bemoaned the destruction of their homes. Each of them thought there was nothing they could do about the fire...except for one little hummingbird.

This particular hummingbird decided it would do something. It swooped into the stream and picked up a few drops of water and went into the forest and put them on the fire.

Then it went back to the stream and did it again; it kept going back, again and again and again.

All of the other animals watched in disbelief; some tried to discourage the hummingbird with comments like:

"Don't bother, it is too much; you are too little, your wings will burn; your beak is too tiny; it's only a drop; you can't put out this fire."

And, as the animals stood around disparaging the little bird's efforts, the hummingbird noticed how hopeless and forlorn they all looked.

Then one of the animals shouted out and called out to the hummingbird in a mocking voice, "What do you think you are doing?"

And the hummingbird, without wasting time or losing a beat, looked back and said, "I am doing what I can."

Let's all do what we can to care of God's beautiful world.

*Peace and Love,
Wendy*

APRIL 28, 2024

**Blessing of the Squishmallows
Children's Blessing**

Welcome/Announcements

Lighting of Peace Candle

Peace Prayer

Music Meditation

***Call to Worship**

L: O God, you are our God; earnestly we seek you; our souls thirst for you; our flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

P: So we have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

L: Because your steadfast love is better than life, our lips will praise you.

P: So we will bless you as long as we live; in your name we will lift up our hands.

***Praise Song** "Step By Step"

***Opening Prayer**

Special Music

Scripture Reading Hebrews 5:11-6:3

Good News "Training Vs. Trying"

A Prayer for the People/Lord's Prayer

Moment of Gratitude

Music for Offering

Prayer for Offering

Invitation to the Table

Prayer for Bread and Cup

Words of Institution

Share in Communion

Response after Communion

Invitation to Discipleship

***Hymn of Invitation** no. 352 (1,2)
"Spirit Song"

***Closing Prayer**

***Postlude**

*denotes standing if able

Serving in Worship

Rev. Wendy Wilson Elder: Mary Lee Gill

Media: Wes Wilson, Jesse Shepherd

Worship Leader: Kelly Evans

Deacons: Penny Burgett, Cody Evans, Nick Gill, Emma Whitt

Worship Music: Angela and David Thompson

Praise Team (JC Hamilton, Kelly Evans)

BIBLE READINGS

4/29: 1 CHRONICLES 1-2

4/30: 1 CHRONICLES 3-5

5/1: 1 CHRONICLES 6

5/2: 1 CHRONICLES 7-8

5/3: 1 CHRONICLES 9-11

5/4: 1 CHRONICLES 12-14

5/5: 1 CHRONICLES 15-17



CHURCH SPRING CLEAN/PROJECT DAY

1pm

MAY 11

Jobs for all ages and
abilities will be
needed



**Be on the lookout for a
signup!**

Upcoming Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation Training
Friday, May 3rd, 9am - 3pm Craig Springs Campsite
Friday, May 31st, 9:30am - 3pm Virginia Regional Assembly at
Univ. of Lynchburg

To register, email: ccinva_sg@hotmail.com

**Information on future training sessions will be shared at a
later date.**

*175th Regional Assembly for the Christian
Church (Disciples of Christ) in Virginia*

We Are Stronger



Acts 2: 46-47
Day by day, as they spent much time together in the
temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with
glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the
goodwill of all the people.

May 31 - June 1, 2024
Friday Pre-Assembly
Saturday 10 - 3
The University of Lynchburg
Total Cost \$15 and includes box lunch

We are a **MOVEMENT** for **WHOLENESS** in a **FRAGMENTED** World

**Register at -
<https://www.ccinva.org/ministries>**



- 4/27** Community Table 4:30, Grove Team
- 4/28** Children's Choir 10:15am; Worship 11am;
Dinner Church and Worship 5:30pm
- 4/29** God & My Girlfriends 6:30pm at UCC
- 5/3** Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciliation Training
at Craig Springs 9am - 3pm
- 5/4** RU Grad Parking Fundraiser; Community
Table 4:30, Cheverton Team