

Weekly Newsletter

UNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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For the last couple of months I've been focusing on imagination, dreaming, and visions. All of these things come from God and are so much bigger than we can accomplish by ourselves. Knowing what God is up to, what God is capable of, and how God will eventually work all things to good is freeing.

When we know what God is capable of we can focus on what we can do. We are no longer bound by a need to fix everything. We do not need to have infinite power. We do not need infinite resources. We don't have to have everything figured out. Instead, we can live fully as the human beings that we are, just as Christ did.

Doing the important things in our own lives is one of the things Jesus came to show us. He did not come and fix all the ills of the world. He lived within the limits of his own humanity. While Jesus performed many signs and miracles he was always clear that it was God working through him. Because he was willing to live within the limits of humanity the work of God could fill the gaps.

Over the next few weeks we will be studying three of Jesus' agricultural parables. Jesus used seeds and soil for his parables because they were a known quantity at the time.

He also used them because they can seem too small for the work of God. They were a reminder to his listeners that God is present and a work in ordinary small things, like seeds and dirt. If we are willing to work in those same small things we are joining God in that work.

In our times it is easier than ever to believe that we need to know and respond to everything that is happening in the world. Access to the world through 24/7 news, to the opinions of others and to sharing our opinions with others any time and any place, and to seemingly greater and greater power through technology tempts us to move beyond being human. But it doesn't seem to be getting us any closer to a just world.

Jesus invites us to a different way. We are called to tend the soil right in front of us. To care for the neighbor right in front of us. To nurture the seeds right in front of us. To join the kingdom that knows that if the dirt isn't healthy, eventually nothing will be. And we can take care of our small plots of dirt and community, knowing that the God who can do so much more than we can think or imagine is doing just that.

Thankful to be tending alongside each of you!

Pastor Ben

Upcoming...

6/27 Community Table 4-4:30pm Moore Team
6/27 VBS Kickoff Party 8-10pm
6/28 Worship 11am
6/28-6/29 VBS 6:15-8:15pm
6/29 Brown Bag Bible Study 12-1pm at UCC
7/4 Community Table 4-4:30pm Cheverton Team
7/5 Worship 11am
7/5-10 Triple I Camp
7/6 Brown Bag Bible Study 12-1pm at UCC
7/11 Community Table 4-4:30pm St. Jude Team
7/12 Worship 11am
7/12-16 New Covenant Camp

The CWF is once again sponsoring the August Kids Project through The Clothing Bank.

This program provides new clothes and shoes to Radford children before the new school year. **Donations will be accepted through UCC this Sunday.** Last year, the program purchased for 292 children from Radford. Make your check to UCC and note "August Kids" in memo section (or though Givelify please note August Kids).



Church Members:

New Concerns:

Ken Bratton, Sharon Dodson, Alice Gallimore, **Family of Cheryl Hinkley**, Ruth Hinkley, **Family of Mike Hopkins**, Betty Jones, Joe Marshall, Sandy Pascoe, Alban and Phyllis Shumate, Brittney Stike, David and Angela Thompson, Ronnie Wheeler

Long-Term: Frances Carter, Johnny and K.C. Cole, Glenn and Karen Johnson, Jessica Jonas, Tenny Jones, Max Mottesheard, Richard Sandoe, Aubrey Scaletta and family, Danielle Shelton, Phyllis and Alban Shumate, Keith Whitt

Community Friends: Hope Aidam, Teddy Altizer, Pamela Bartle, Matt Byrd, Becki and Addy Calfee, Douglas Chapman, Carly Sandoe Cole and family in Dubai, Lucy Coleman, Mike Crews, Kem Darden, Lt. Ken Forbes and all military in the Middle East, Catherine Fox, Jerry Gill, Phillis Grubb, Toby Hedge, Ricky Jackson, Rosemary Kesling, Jeff Lovvorn, Jeff McConnell, Dori Meginle, **Family of Robert Morris**, Joey Murphy, Renie Price, Wayne Queen, Harold Rhodes, **Family of John Shelton**, Kay Snider, Mary Ann Tate, Pam Thomas, **Family of Kate Vicars-Soloway**, Amanda and Alex Wilkens and family

Shut-ins:

Delilah McConnell - Commonwealth, Christiansburg
Betty Wilson - Kroontje Health Care Center
Doyle Barton - Kroontje Health Care Center
Annie Akers - Heritage Hall

If you need specific prayer, send an email to:
prayers@unitychristianchurchradford.org

WORSHIP JUNE 28

Announcements/Greeting
Children's Blessing
Music Meditation

***Call to Worship** – Hildegard of Bingen (adapted)
Leader: Composer of all things, light of all the risen
People: Key of salvation, release from the dark prison
Leader: Goal of charity, lights of clarity
People: Joy in the glory, be with us and hear us!

***Opening Hymn** no. 61 (all)
"All Things Bright and Beautiful"
***Opening Prayer**

Special Music

Scripture **Psalms 19:1-4**
Good News
"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Prayer for the People/Lord's Prayer

Moment of Gratitude
Music During Offering
Prayer for Offering

Invitation to Communion

Communion Hymn no. 56 (1,2,5)
"For the Beauty of the Earth"

Prayer for Bread and Cup
Words of Institution
Share in Communion
Prayer After Communion

Invitation to Discipleship

***Hymn of Invitation** no. 33 (all)
"How Great Thou Art"

***Closing Prayer**

***Going Forth** "Weave" no. 495
*Weave, weave, weave us together,
Weave us together in unity and love.
Weave, weave, weave us together,
Weave us together, together in love.*

*denotes standing, if able

Serving in Worship this Sunday

Rev. Ben Moore
Elder: Jackie Lemmon
Media: Nicole Altizer
Worship Leader: Kelly Evans
Deacons: Dwayne Dickerson, Gary Davis, Katie
Lemmon, Trenea Stike
Music: Praise Team
Accompanist: Gina Rhea

BIBLE READINGS THIS WEEK

28. Psalms 100-102
29. Psalms 103-105
30. Psalms 106-108

July

1. Psalms 109-111
2. Psalms 112-114
3. Psalms 115-118
4. Psalms 119