

The Virginia Christian

October 2022



Post Pandemic Wisdom from BSD:

Many of the individuals who have not come back to our sanctuaries are families with young children and I have a suggestion based on feedback from some of those families. Try offering once a month a service that is more than just the standard one-hour worship service and follow it with a meal and some fun intergenerational games and fellowship. Families are saying that they are wanting more, not less, time together. If they are going to wrestle their family together on a Sunday morning, they would like it to be for more than just one hour. Believe it or not there was a time when churches only met once a month, but when they gathered it was a half day affair.

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Clergy Standing Form:

We are releasing the Clergy Standing Form early this year. However, remember that it is not due until January 31, 2023. The form has been shortened this year and as Bill tries not to ask ministers to do extra things during Advent, please remember it is not due until the end of January. So, please fill it out before Advent or after the first of the year. Go here to fill out the form: <https://www.ccinva.org/standing>
If you have any questions, please contact the Regional office at 434-846-3400.

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Disciples Men's Reforming:

There are many Disciples Mens groups across this region still meeting or reforming. Rev. Greg Ott has volunteered to begin the organizing to dream for a region-wide mens retreat or other common ways we can do ministry together. Send Greg an email at pastorgregott@gmail.com. Note: Rev. Ott will be on sabbatical for the next two months and will receive these names when he returns.

Just Women Bible Study 2023:

Pre-Orders for Just Women 2023 "Fanning the Flames of Hope" is a 13 set collection of lessons and articles written by a team of exceptional writers from across the denomination and beyond that invites readers to explore the tension of being stuck between our sometimes dark, isolated reality and the eternal hope of Christ that lights our path in the darkness. To Order to here: <https://tinyurl.com/DWMStore>
Orders received by December 9th receive free shipping.



Resources for Churches Ministering to Families at Home:

Hey Region! **Ministries Across Generations** loves connecting what happens in worship with what can happen at home. We have 33 stories that can be used during worship moments with younger people and families or a children's church. All of these are simple enough to be used at home by families during different times of the year. (You do not need a divinity degree!) You just need a little time to engage in faith together from church to home.

In a world where many are not in worship every week, we encourage multiple ways to get these stories into the home. You can create links for these stories to emails and other digital communication. You can print extras so that when a person is in worship, you can give them what they missed for their own time at home. You can hand out extras to grandparents who may not have kids who worship in the same place, but who have kids who still spend time learning from grandma and grandpa about the important things in life.

Use these stories in multiple ways that work for your community and your busy lives. You can buy all 4 sets (33 stories) for \$100.00. Each set is \$25.00 (Advent, Lent, Biblical Women, and Parables). Once purchased, you can make copies as needed. There is no limit. \$25.00 can cover one to 100 copies. We care more about sharing the stories and growing in faith.

[Disciples Family Faith | familiesandchildren \(docfamiliesandchildren.org\)](https://www.docfamiliesandchildren.org)



Celebration of New Calls

- Piedmont District Convention elects and blesses new Moderator Rev. Kathy Thomas-Grant.
- Wendi Mar has been called as the new Student Commissioned Minister at Colonial Christian Church in Colonial Heights, VA.
- Rev. Donna Webster has been called as the Senior Minister at Perseverance Christian Church in Dundas, VA.
- Debbie Ott has been called as the Student Commissioned Minister at First Christian Church, Hampton, VA.
- Rev. Kelsey Creech has been called as the Associate Minister at Virginia Beach Christian Church.
- Rev. Matthew Cox has been called as the Minister at Fort Lewis Christian Church in Salem, VA.

On Sunday, October 2nd, the congregation of West Side Christian Church participated in the Commissioning of Jennifer Larson to the Christian Ministry. The morning message was brought by Terry Williams and our Regional Minister, Bill Spangler-Dunning led the Commissioning service. The worship music was provided by Soul Intent, a band led by our Music Director, Kristen Schafer. There was a delicious buffet meal provided by Jennifer's husband, Tom, after the service in the Fellowship Hall. It was a day to celebrate Jennifer's commitment and discipline to achieve this Commissioning. West Side could not be more proud of her.



Church Celebrations

Madison Heights Christian Church, Madison Heights, VA will be having their 118th Anniversary celebration on Sunday, October 23. There will be a celebration luncheon following worship.

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First Christian Church, Richlands

First Christian Church of Richlands is celebrating their 125th birthday and hosting a revival to coincide; this is shaping up to be a wonderful event. We are inviting former pastors of the church, and all our fellow brothers and sisters who walk in the faith with us. The revival will be October 23 - 26, with music each evening, a powerful message, a room set up with church history, and so much more! We hope you can join us as we celebrate the birthday of our church and rejoice in our heritage.

Where: 1502 Second Street
Richland, VA
Starts at 6:00 pm each evening

You can contact Melissa Snyder for more information at mesnyder@pts.edu

First Christian Church, Hopewell, VA

First Christian Church, Hopewell, officially turned 100 years old in the spring of this year (2022). To celebrate, the church will be holding a One-hundredth Anniversary Celebration November 19-20, 2022. Saturday, beginning at 2:00 pm there will be a time for remembering and reflection, light refreshments and rejoicing as we enjoy music by True Spirit, a blue grass gospel singing group. Sunday, beginning at 11:00 am, there will be a worship service with reflections and recognitions followed by a good old fashioned potluck luncheon. We look forward to celebrating our past and moving forward into the next 100 years of service and ministry. If you wish to attend, please contact the church office at 804-458-6754 to RSVP by October 25, 2022 to attend the concert and/or luncheon. We hope you can join us for all or part of the celebration. For updates and announcements concerning the event, please follow us on Instagram and Facebook. We will be posting fun photos and fun facts about the church leading up to the event starting in November. Hope to see you there!





First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
 203 North 11th Avenue, P.O. Box 1232
 Hopewell, Va 23860

Greetings friends and family of First Christian Church:

*You are cordially invited to attend
 The 100th Anniversary Celebration Weekend
 Saturday, November 19th at 2:00 pm
 &
 Sunday, November 20th at 11:00 am
 203 North 11th Avenue Hopewell,
 Virginia*

Saturday, November 19th - *Reflections, Refreshments and Rejoicing!*
 Reflections with slide show presentation - 2:00 PM
 Refreshments - 2:45 PM
 Rejoicing with *True Spirit* (a blue grass gospel group) - 3:30 PM

Sunday, November 20th - *Worship Service & Luncheon*
 Worship Service - 11:00 AM
 Luncheon - 12:15 PM

We look forward to celebrating this accomplishment with you!

If you have questions or know someone who would like to attend this event, please contact Sharon Neal at 804-721-4703.

In His Service,
The 100th Anniversary Celebration Committee

Please RSVP by October 25th.

Name _____

_____ I am able to attend Saturday 11/19.

_____ I am able to attend Sunday, 11/20

_____ Number attending 11/19

_____ Number attending 11/20

I cannot attend either day. Please accept my gift of \$_____ to continue the ministries of First Christian Church.

Checks may be made payable to First Christian Church. Memo 100th Anniversary

100th Anniversary Celebration



Poole Christian Church

7521 Trinity Church Road
Church Road, VA 23833

You are cordially invited to the 100th Anniversary celebration of Poole Christian Church at our current location.

When: Saturday, October 22, 2022

Time: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Casual Dress Encouraged.



There will be a short program with Special Music by

[The Good News Gospel Group,](#)

followed by fellowship with light refreshments.

We hope you will be able to join us in celebrating this special occasion!

For any questions contact Barbara Foster, (804) 712-2058 or Email: MusicLdy47@comcast.net.



THE GIVING HEART COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING FEAST

Springfield Christian Church will again be collecting donations of items to be distributed to the homeless, economically disadvantaged, and elderly at Giving Heart's Community Thanksgiving Feast. Collection days will be Saturdays, November 5 and 12, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM., at Springfield Church, 18285 Vontay Road, Rockville, VA.

For Questions or donation pick-up information, contact Louise Gordon, 804-350-2274 or by email at wandlgordon@gmail.com

We appreciate your support!

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Toiletries- Personal Care Products- Reading Glasses- Umbrellas- Toilet Paper- Adult/Youth Activity Books | <p><u>New and Gently Used:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Gloves- Scarves- Hats- Coats/Jackets- Blankets/Sleeping Bags- Athletic Shoes- Work Boots |
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