

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

to

REACH UP, REACH IN, REACH OUT

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REACHING UP: WORSHIP IN MARCH

March 3 – Spiritual Gifts Ever wondered what your spiritual gifts were? Ever thought to yourself, "I want to do something for Jesus but I don't know what I can do," or "I want to be more involved at church but I don't know what I can offer?" If this sounds at all familiar, you will want to be in worship on Sunday, March 3. Answers to your questions just might be answered...

March 6 – Ash Wednesday – 6:30 p.m. -7:15 p.m. We will gather in the fellowship Hall for worship and the beginning of the Lenten season.

The Theme for Lent this year is "Busy—Making Room for an Unhurried God."

The season of Lent has often been a time when we think about "giving something up"—a holdover from its penitential flavor in the medieval church. But what if we thought less about "giving up" and more about "making room?" In this Lent series, we will find out what it really costs to be so busy. Let us reconnect to an unhurried God.

Here is a summary of what each Sunday of Lent in March will be about:

March 10 – The Right Tempo Jesus never promised that the yoke would literally be "easy". This is a mistranslation. In this context of yoking oxen, the translation means "well fitting". As we begin our "Busy" series, we discover that each of us has a tempo that fits well, that energizes us. What tempo gives you life and energy?

Matthew 11:28-30

March 17 – Preparing a Table The twenty-third Psalm is a great comfort to us as we imagine the green pastures and still waters. It also recalls the dark valleys and calls us into the not-so-easy practice of sitting down at the table with our enemies. An unhurried God is present with us in the good times and in the difficult times and invites us to be radically present to each other in the same way. Have we been too busy to be really present to one another?

Psalms 23

March 24 – Tuning In In Luke 10:38-42 we read of two sisters, Martha and Mary. Martha was busy. Mary chose to be still, to tune in to Jesus. The lesson here is not that it is bad to work, but that we also need times of connection to God. Tuning in to the holy may mean just taking time to notice things that are beckoning to dwell with us a while. What contemplative practices can feed and nourish our active lives?

March 31 – Living Light No one, at the end of their life, would say, "I should have spent more time at the office." And yet many of us live with the tyranny of measuring-up that keeps us weighed down. Lightening the load of expectations and "shoulds" is one way to lighten up as well as to literally lighten the clutter that crowds out our serenity. How do we create space to flourish in the ways God intends?

Luke 12:29-34

** In the event of bad weather please check Channel 7 and 10 News and our Facebook page for delays and closings. **

REACHING OUT OPPORTUNITIES

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| * Food Sunday | *Undies Sunday |
| * Helping Hands | *Clothing Bank |
| * Serve at Community Table | *To Our House |

REACHING IN OPPORTUNITIES:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| * Sunday School | *Young Family Potluck & Gatherings |
| * Christian Women's Fellowship | *Youth Group |
| * God and My Girlfriends | *Men's Breakfast |
| *Young Adult Bible Study | *Men's Bible Study |



Wendy's Wonderings

The Unity Leadership Retreat on Feb. 8 and 9 was amazing. The leaders of the congregation worked really hard at looking at our process of transformation and why we are doing what we are doing at Unity. Dr. R. Wayne Calhoun led us in some insightful and honest conversations about the different generations and where our focus needs to be in order to reach younger generations and share with them the love of Jesus and what it means to have a relationship with him. In Dr. Calhoun's sermon on Feb. 10, he challenged Unity to not only be a good church, but a great church...not only a transforming church, but a flagship church. In my own words, a flagship church is a Church so committed to the mission of making disciples for Jesus, so committed to reaching out and being a witness of Jesus' love in the world, and so committed to trusting and taking risks for God that other churches will be inspired to do the same.

Unity's Congregation Transformation Team is meeting regularly to help us stay on track with the transformation process. We are working on finishing up the details of phase 1 which we started when Unity came into existence and we will move the church forward with phase two that began at the retreat. The team will keep you updated on what we are doing and inviting the entire leadership and church to be a part of the process because we all have to be a part of the process to be successful at transforming. Serving on the team are: Cindy Stump Calhoun (team leader), Sonny Dodson, Sandy Pascoe, Kennise Baker, Jackie Lemmon, Hayden Cran, and myself. I'm so excited for the rest of the year and seeing how the Holy Spirit will lead our transformation. Keep the team in your prayers and buckle your seatbelts...it's going to be a ride!

Faithfully,
Wendy

A WORD FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

Let me begin by saying a "great big thank you" to R.Wayne Calhoun, Wendy Wilson and Hayden Cran for what I am sure was a fantastic Annual Planning Event (APE) last month. I trust that those who attended came away with a fire burning in your souls to bring more people to Christ, to lead them to know Christ and what the importance he will have in their lives. After all, that is our charge, to spread the word of Jesus' love throughout the world.

The Congregational Transformation Team is up and running again and we have discussed ways we can continue to transform in more intentional and active ways. Some of the needs we see are:

1. A Director of Evangelism and Outreach on staff
2. The purchase of a church van to provide transportation to and from church events
3. The implementation of a second service, call it a contemporary or praise but an attraction to a younger generation

4. An increased use of social media using streaming, podcast, etc. to get the word out

5. Implementation of online giving

6. Electronic signage on Tyler Avenue so we can "broadcast" what is happening at UCC.

Of course we realize all of this costs money. However, we have \$517,000 in our Stifel account and we believe that God has given us this money to use to further God's Kingdom. In the next month or two we will be looking at our priorities for reaching up, reaching in, and reaching out and how we can best use some of our funds to help us to do that. We do not intend to use all these funds but we feel it is irresponsible as people of faith to simply "sit" on all of it for a rainy day.

What do you think would be the most pleasing in the eyes of The Lord? Would he be happy knowing we are earning money or would he rather we be using some of that money to bring others to Christ? Remember the slogan a few years ago, what would Jesus do?

2019 is the year for Unity Christian Church to be both BOLD and INTENTIONAL!

HAYDEN'S THOUGHTS

Hi, Unity family!

We're having a wonderful time here serving God and others. One focus that I would like to work on as a church (and myself, honestly,) is presenting as much opportunity for people to serve at Unity as possible. The Spiritual Gift Inventory coming soon is going to be so insightful not only for yourself, but for the body of Christ as a whole. We all can be called in different areas; that is the beauty of ministry: We all have different gifts, but more importantly, we all have A gift! We pray that you will join us at Unity in using your gift to CREATE DISCIPLES (*Matthew 28:16-20*)!

YOUTH

There are some awesome things coming to our youth group this month, like an exciting book called "Can I Ask That?" by Sticky Faith curriculums, our Night of Prayer event, Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper, a Clothing Bank volunteer day, and Community Table!

We're also getting ready for our 30 Hour Famine coming in April!



YOUNG ADULTS

Our college group has been growing this semester! We have had a great time of learning and growing as Christians. Some things coming up in March are Sunday School at 10am, Bible Study at Hayden's house on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of every month, heading up Community Table, and Radford FRiNGE Experiment! Stay tuned for some other great events.

If you are new to RU, or haven't experienced Unity Christian Church, please get in contact with me and I'd love to get to know you!

YOUNG FAMILIES

Our young families are saying goodbye to February with an intergenerational pot-luck supper, and coming in March, we will be announcing some awesome events to enjoy and grow. Being a transforming congregation, we make young families a **PRIORITY**. We want to best serve you and your family; please contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns.

FRINGE



Don't Put Out the Fire

There's a lot going on at Radford University--so many ways to be involved; to be fulfilled; to find community. That's a good thing. Even within the narrower category of Religious & Spiritual Life Organizations at RU, there are so many to choose from, all with unique and potentially valuable traditions/practices/stories. We could be forgiven for feeling overwhelmed, and put out, by the sheer number of choices. Perhaps we can relate to the folks who've simply opted out. Perhaps we can relate to them because we **ARE** them. But, even for many of us who've opted out of religion altogether, there often remains some nagging, unanswered questions, some unfinished business, some healing that's needed, some sense of loss mixed up with all the other stuff.

For those of us who've inherited the various Christianities of our parents and grandparents, and who've found these traditions/worldviews to be profoundly wanting; we are not alone. Within the Protestant Christianities (roughly all those Christian traditions outside of the Roman Catholic Church and the various Eastern Orthodox traditions) alone, there's far too much trauma/irrelevance/objectable behavior to ignore; from mistreatment and exclusion of LGBTQ+ people, to anti-intellectualism, to abuse of power, to the propagation of unjust systems of racism and sexism, to lazy, reductive theologies.

Considering all this, we're a movement of folks at Radford who're challenging prevailing narratives about what it means to be a Protestant Christian. We believe our inherited traditions are both important and not the whole picture. We believe there's **ALWAYS** a better way to be/practice church, and we're looking to explore and enact those better ways. We believe the unqualified inclusion and affirmation of the **FULL** humanity, agency, and potential leadership of LGBTQ+ people is not only right and good, but **CENTRAL TO WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A CHRISTIAN**. We believe in not only rejecting the strange concept of reading the Bible "literally," but that, if we're actually taking this ancient collection of writings seriously, we'll read the Bible **LITERATE-LY**. We believe in asking real questions, expressing real doubts, and challenging status quos, because we firmly believe that if there is a God, and if this is, in fact, God's world, that same God holds us all, and keeps us all, and loves us all.

If this sounds interesting / intriguing to you, you're welcome to join us Sunday evenings, from 7-9pm, at 903 Tyler Avenue, Radford. We'll have dinner at 7pm (free and home-cooked!), sing a few songs, listen to someone give their thoughts on a topic, and then engage in a group discussion around the same topic.

Questions? Concerns? Suggestions? Message us on FB at @radfordfringeexperiment or text Matt at (919) 614-3823

In Christ's Love,
Hayden Cran
Director of Faith Development
hmc@gmail.com
804-572-3940

YOUTH IN MARCH

March 3: Youth Meeting 6pm – 7:30pm
March 5: All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Supper 5:30pm – 7:30pm
March 10: Youth Meeting 6pm – 7:30pm
March 16: Radford Clothing Bank - 10:00 am - Noon
March 17: Youth Meeting 6pm – 7:30pm
March 23: Community Table 1:00 pm – 6pm
March 24: Youth Meeting 6pm – 7:30pm

GROWING DISCIPLES

Growing Disciples is part of the Phase 1 of the transformation process that we have not completed. It entails all the leaders of the church to pray and study scripture together at set times and to discuss their experiences in small groups through physically meeting, or through a facebook group or a texting/emailing group. We will have "training" on Sunday, March 10 at 9 am in the fellowship hall to discuss more specific details and to assign folks to groups. If you are: a board member or board officer, elder, deacon, junior deacon, trustee, team leader, youth group and children's ministry leader, children worship and wonder storyteller or greeter, Sunday School teacher, Bible Study leader, ministerial & music staff then you are part of the leadership team who will go through "Growing Disciples." This will be a real growing opportunity for all of us.

PRAYER AND MEMORIAL GARDEN

The first day of Spring is March 20 which reminds us that all the beauty of the Spring is coming and will unfold as God intended. As the weather gets a bit warmer and days a bit longer, you will notice the beauty sprouting up in the prayer garden. You will also see signs of the addition to our prayer garden which will be that of a memorial garden. In loving memory of Leonard Gallimore, his family has given funds to help us add this addition which will include a Memorial wall where we can put the names of our loved ones who have passed. Ashes of loved ones may be spread in the garden and there will be places to sit and reflect as we remember those who have passed on but who remain with us through the love and eternal life of Christ. Our Property Team, led by Dennis Martin will be working on this in the months to come.

HELPING HANDS WATCHING OVER OUR FLOCK

Another project complete! We have been cleaning up tree limbs and twigs and hauling them away. We also provided transportation for a student to take part in a blood donation in Blacksburg. Remember, if you need assist with household chores (inside and out) or a ride to an appointment, please contact Ronnie or Dottie Wheeler.

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP
C.W.F. CIRCLE MEETINGS

Tuesday, March 5th, 2019

- ❖ **OASIS (Lila):** 10:30 a.m. at UCC in the parlor
 - ❖ **M&M's (Janet B.):** 7:00 p.m. at Anne Chrisman's home
- **C.W.F.: Tuesday, March 12th at 6:00 pm**
(Note time change due to bridal shower at 7:00 pm)
Meet in Fellowship Hall. **

UNDIE SUNDAYS

Please bring new underwear for men, women, & and children that will be donated to The Clothing Bank (box near coatrack). XLarge sizes for men and women are the greatest need.
Collection dates: March 10 & 17.

BRIDAL SHOWER

The CWF is hosting a bridal shower for Maria Downey & Jesse Shepherd on Tuesday, March 12th at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. They are registered at Target and Macy's. Please join us as we celebrate with them.

PAPERTOWEL DRIVE

UCC provided rolls of paper towels for Our Daily Bread. Thanks to everyone who participated!!

CWF ANNUAL WEEK OF COMPASSION
SOUP LUNCHEON

Thanks to all who assisted in any way: making soup, cornbread, working before, during, or after. It was a wonderful meal and time of fellowship!!

CLOTHING BANK

UCC works the entire month of March on Tuesday, Friday, & Saturdays. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center. Please take a look and commit a couple of hours when you can for this greatly needed and used local mission. See Becky Moore for information.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

The CWF donated 10% (\$225) of our Hollyberry Fair project to UCC's Neighbors in Need ministry. Your generosity for our event allows us to financially assist many local needs and missions – even within Unity!

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

General Assembly 2019, "Abide in Me" (John 15:1-5), will be in Des Moines, IA, July 20 – 24. For more information and to register visit ga.disciples.org.

CRAIG SPRINGS CAMP DATES

Believe it or not it's time to start thinking and preparing for Summer Camp. This year's camp dates and cost are:

Date:	Camp:	Total by May 15th:	After May 15th :
June 24- June 28	Nature Camp	\$335	\$335
June 30- July 5	Special Camp	\$335	\$335
July 14- July 19	First Triple	\$347	\$387
July 28 – Aug. 2	Second Triple	\$347	\$387
Aug. 4-9	New Covenant	\$347	\$387
Aug. 9- Aug. 12	Family Retreat	\$75/adult \$50/under 18 Free/5 and under	\$100/adult \$75/under 18 \$25/5 and under

****UCC pays for half the cost of 1 week of camp ****

For more information including registration,
 Visit www.craigsprings.com for details on each camp week.

Thank You

Unity Christian,

Thank you! We appreciate the pre-game meal you prepared and provided for the team. Thank you for supporting RHS football.

The Radford Bobcat Football Team

Dear Unity Christian Church,

Thank you for being part of my life through prayer. It has meant a lot in my healing process. I'm feeling so much better that I'll be able to attend church tomorrow for the first time in three months. God bless your ministry.

Sincerely,
 Pat Faulkner

Thank you for all of your prayers, calls, and peace lily.

Love,
 The Parris Family

COMMUNITY TABLE MEALS SERVED

Date	Men	Women	Children	Seconds	Takeout's
Feb. 2	14	25	1	40	30
Feb. 9	17	21	3	26	24
Feb. 16	20	15	4	5	13
Feb. 23	16	25	1	10	32

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE @ UCC

Sunday School:		Worship:	
Feb. 3	35	Feb. 3	103
Feb. 10	31	Feb. 10	126
Feb. 17	36	Feb. 17	106
Feb. 24	33	Feb. 24	109

MARCH SERVING SCHEDULE

WORSHIP LEADER	DEACONS	ELDERS
03.03 Dan Cheverton	Ray Singleton	Wes Wilson
03.10 Gloria Boyd	Barry Moore	Anne Chrisman
03.17 Janice Cheverton	Becky Moore	
03.24 Anne Chrisman	Kathy Young	
03.31 Dan Cheverton		

COMMUNION PREPARATION	COMMUNITY TABLE
03.03 Gary & Sally Davis	03.02 Jordan's Chapel UMC
03.10 Grady Devilbiss	03.09 Chrisman Team
03.17 Frances Dalton / Becky Moore	03.16 Christ Church
03.24 Sid & Barbara Johnson / Nancy Dalton	03.23 UCC Youth & Young Adults
03.31 Barbara Turk	03.30 Pulaski County Jaycees

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER
03.03 "The Great Banquet" Storyteller: Sally Davis Greeter: Morgan Via
03.10 "Lenten Puzzle" Storyteller: Sandy Pascoe Greeter: Brandy Bondurant
03.17 "Jesus and the Children" Storyteller: Gina Rhea Greeter: Janice Cheverton
03.24 "Jesus and Bartimaeus" Storyteller: Sandy Pascoe Greeter: Morgan Via
03.31 "Jesus and Zacchaeus" Storyteller: Gloria Boyd Greeter: Hayden Cran

A full list of Team Serving Schedules can be found on the bulletin board at the Welcome Center.

MARCH DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Date	Morning	Evening
	Mark	Numbers
1	7:14-37	23, 24, 25
2	8:1-21	26, 27
3	8:22-38	28, 29, 30
4	9:1-29	31, 32, 33
5	9:30-50	34, 35, 36
		Deuteronomy
6	10:1-31	1, 2
7	10:32-52	3, 4
8	11:1-18	5, 6, 7
9	11:19-33	8, 9, 10
10	12:1-27	11, 12, 13
11	12:28-44	14, 15, 16
12	13:1-20	17, 18, 19
13	13:21-37	20, 21, 22
14	14:1-26	23, 24, 25
15	14:27-53	26, 27
16	14:54-72	28, 29
17	15:1-25	30, 31
18	15:26-47	32, 33, 34
		Joshua
19	16	1, 2, 3
	Luke	
20	1:1-20	4, 5, 6
21	1:21-38	7, 8, 9
22	1:39-56	10, 11, 12

23	1:57-80	13, 14, 15
24	2:1-24	16, 17, 18
25	2:25-52	19, 20, 21
26	3	22, 23, 24
		Judges
27	4:1-30	1, 2, 3
28	4:31-44	4, 5, 6
29	5:1-16	7, 8
30	5:17-39	9, 10
31	6:1-26	11, 12

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

R. J. Phillips	3
Lauren Young	4
Janet Johnston	6
Kayden Akers	8
Travis Akers	8
Mike Hopkins	8
Lisa Damboise	10
Ralph Doud	10
Christine Mottesheard	10
Kelly Weaver	10
Benny Keister	13
Lois Horton	15
Alice Gallimore	16
James Weaver	17
John Cole	20
Sally Davis	20
Peggy Wilson	20
Christopher Thompson	21
Kathy Young	21
Sally Davis	22
Dennis Martin	23
Tiffany Wall	26
Justin Whitt	26
Danielle Wall	27
Heather C. Akers	28
Craig Chrisman	28

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Chanz & Amanda Hopkins	8
Dan & Janice Cheverton	12
John Fox & Betty Jones	27

Unity Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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