

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
to
REACH UP, REACH IN, REACH OUT
@



REACHING UP: WORSHIP IN MAY

May 5: “Touching the Wounds”

John 20:19-31

May 12: “Her Story Too”

Isaiah 66:10-14, John 4:4-15, 28-30

May 19: “Bible Testimony”

Psalms 119:97-104, 2 Timothy 3:14-14:5, Jeremiah 31:27-34

May 26: “Peace Out”

John 14:23-29

**May 26 – July 7 First Summer Series:
“Ordinary People, Extraordinary Lives”**

What better way to study and become more acquainted with the bible than to look at some of the ordinary people in the bible and how God used them to do extraordinary things.

We will start in May with a look at Joseph—More than a Man with a Brightly Colored Coat.

REACHING OUT OPPORTUNITIES

- * Food Sunday
- * Helping Hands
- * Serve at Community Table
- * Craig Springs Work Weekend

REACHING IN OPPORTUNITIES:

- * Sunday School
- * Christian Women’s Fellowship
- * Youth Group
- * Men’s Breakfast
- * God and My Girlfriends



Wendy's Wonderings

I'm feeling extremely grateful! Winter has passed, Spring and new life is all around us. There has also been a lot of hard work, energy, love, and new life going on at Unity. I first want to thank the media team and specifically to Craig Chrisman for the research and quick set up of our new media system. After our system crashed and burned there was no question that we needed to move quickly to get a new one, and I hoped we would have it by Easter...and we did. Thanks to Anne for heading up the fundraiser and to everyone who gave towards the system. The new projectors are amazing! And soon we will be able to live stream the entire worship service. Live streaming is one way to do serious evangelism for the 21st century! I am also grateful to John Fox and Dennis Martin for the new hearing devices for the hearing impaired. We have a number of people who have a hard time hearing the worship services and thanks to a new hearing system, they can hear and be a full part of the service again! Wonderful! I also want to thank the music staff and choirs for all their hard work and beautiful music through Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. The music was outstanding and uplifting. Lisa Damboise worked very hard at decorating our sanctuary for Lent and Easter. She has quite a gift! Candice Davis and Sarah Akers with the help the Christian Ed Team put on an amazing Bunny Brunch for our families and community. And Jackie Lemmon's eggs we received on Easter are so beautiful! What a gift of time and talent Jackie shares with our Unity eggs! Natasha Pappas and the Worship Team shared their gifts as they made sure all our Lent & special Holy Week services went off without a hitch.

Dennis Martin and the Property Team have been very busy working on our building. Go check out the repairs in the fellowship hall. I think you'll have trouble seeing that there was a problem with the wall. Tony Akers has been busy painting the Mustard Seeds Room throughout the winter. It is almost done and will be ready for their upcoming summer activities. I know there are many more to thank, but this is a start. We have a remarkable and faithful church family. God is using everyone to make a difference in the lives of our church, community, and beyond. If there is something that interests you, let us know and we will plug you in.

Faithfully and grateful,
Wendy

HAYDEN'S THOUGHTS

I pray that May brings light, joy, and warmth to you all! It's graduation season, and it's so bittersweet that some of our young people are going to be leaving town. For some, they will be GRADUATES soon!! We will be celebrating their accomplishments (and how **awesome** they are) on Sunday, May 5! Come join us in this celebration! Remember that with the new growth of nature, we are also called to grow in Christ now that we journey with Him and serve God, others, and ourselves.

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings and easily distracts, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our

faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God."

Hebrews 12:1-2

YOUTH

They youth had a busy month with the Journey Bags and World Vision! We're winding down the school year this month and we'll have an afternoon at Claytor Lake after church on May 19! Who's ready for Craig Springs?? Get pumped up for the best week of your life! If you've never experienced this life-changing experience on the mountain, please talk to Wendy or Hayden to get signed up! Check out the video on Unity's facebook page and visit <http://www.craigsprings.com/>

UCC UNPLUGGED

We only have a couple weeks left until the semester ends here at RU! We will end our Bible study on May 3 from 7-9pm. Come to Hayden's for some food, some fun, and a whole lotta Jesus! FRiNGE will also be breaking for the summer on May 5. Come out and join us!

R A D F R D
E X P E R I M E N T



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're 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/objectionable 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 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, through May 5, 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. Don’t hesitate to contact Hayden with questions and thoughts!

YOUNG FAMILIES

Young families are a priority at Unity Christian Church. We welcome any input as to how we can better fill you spiritually, as well as give you all time to be with each other. Please contact Hayden with any comments and thoughts!

In Christ’s Love,

Hayden Cran
Director of Faith Development
540-639-3696
hmc2041@gmail.com

A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

Wow, I can hardly believe it, old man winter has finally gone, spring has sprung and we are already one third of the way through another year. The thing I like most about spring, my favorite season, it is a new beginning, a fresh start for all the wonderful flowers and trees God has created to make this palate called Earth. It is a time of renewal, of new and excited things to come. It is refreshing in all its splendid glory!

The Transformation Team has been using the book, “Unbinding the Gospel,” in our sessions. One of the topics we have discussed is evangelism, something we as Christians are called to do. When most of us are called to evangelize we get turned off by the very word, a picture pops up in our heads of someone standing on a street corner thumping a Bible. The very idea turns us off, but it shouldn’t be that way. Evangelizing is simply sharing your faith, sharing your love for your church and your love of God. Now, many of us do in fact love our church and have a loving relationship with a God, but we don’t share it! Evangelism is anything having to do with helping another person move closer to a relationship with God. If you love your church, tell others, invite them. If you have a story to tell about your church or your personal relationship with God, share it. That is what we are called to do, to bring others to Christ. What is at stake in sharing your faith is transformed lives, yours included!

As Christians we need to think of our church life as a “trinity of relationships” with each other. First, and not necessarily in this order, is our relationship with God. Second, is our relationship with other church members and third, our relationship with people outside the church. These relationships affect each other,

when one grows and strengthens, the others will also change. A congregation that is out of balance, while being strong in one area or another, simply limps along. Let’s try to make a better balance at UCC by examining how we do in each of these three areas.

If faith and church have had positive impacts on your life, you’ll want to share it. You’ll want everyone to know that God has been there for you and will be there for them also. Nothing is more real or powerful than that good news!

FLOCKNOTE IS HERE!!!

We officially launched our new form of communication, FLOCKNOTE, on Easter Sunday and boy is it working. We have 211 members signed up to receive text and or email not only from the church office, but also from their individual teams, study groups, and ministries. Flocknote makes it easier and faster to get information out to everyone in the format they prefer, so no one misses out on all that’s happening at Unity. If you haven’t signed up yet it’s easy. Just text **UCCR** to **84576** or visit **unitychristianchurch.flocknote.com** and follow the simple steps to get started.

HELPING HANDS WATCHING OVER OUR FLOCK

Spring has sprung!!! Time to open the windows and shake of the winter. With the sun shining and encouraging the flowers to grow, it also reminds us of the list of outside chores that need to get done. We’ve had a few requests trickle in so far, including gathering and hauling brush. Remember, if you need assistance 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, May 7th, 2019

- ❖ **OASIS (Lila):** 10:30 a.m. in the Parlor
- ❖ **M&M’s (Janet B.):** 7:00 p.m. at Pam Runnal’s home

****C.W.F.: Tuesday, May 14th at 7:00 pm in the Parlor**

THANKS

- To all who made and delivered cookies to our Special Friends for an Easter surprise. Thanks to Janet Bratton for being our team leader for this!!
- To all who participated in items for the Journey Bags for be given to foster children. A big thank you to Emily Jackson for bringing this local need to us!
- Pam Runnals for purchasing on behalf of the CWF new towels, dish rags and hot pot holders for the kitchen.

BLESSING BOX

Please turn in your money to Gina by the May CWF meeting. One half goes to Women's Ministries & one half goes to Disciples Mission Fund.

MEDIA SYSTEM DONATION

The CWF is contributing \$300 towards the new media system.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

The women's retreat will be May 31 – June 2 at University of Lynchburg with Brenda Etheridge as guest speaker. Contact Nancy Martin or Anne Chrisman immediately if you wish to attend.

HOLLYBERRY FAIR LEADERS

Charlotte McCroskey will be the PRE team leader with Pam Runnals & Betty Jones being the POST team leaders. Thanks ladies!!

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.

2019-2020 SCHOLARSHIPS

College Scholarship applications are due May 19th. Information can be found at the Welcome Center. You may also contact the church office to have a copy of the application emailed to you.

CONGRATULATIONS 2019 GRADUATES

Congratulations to all our High School and College Graduates. Lauren Young, Emily Jackson, Dillon Whitt, and Jordan Phillips will be graduating from high school. Carrie Pascoe, Chris Phillips, Jacob Depriest, Meg Robertson, and Maria Downey will be graduating from college. We will honor them during our May 5th worship service followed by a reception in the fellowship hall. Please join us in celebrating their accomplishments.

CRAIG SPRINGS WORK WEEKEND

Registration is now open for the Spring Work Weekend at Craig Springs. Come out May 25th – 27th and help prepare the grounds and buildings for summer camps. More information can be found at The Message Center and Welcome Center. This is a fun REACH OUT opportunity for everyone. Please register by May 15th. You can also register at www.craigsprings.com under the REGISTER NOW tab!

**LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT A SPECIAL PLACE FOR US TO
MEET GOD, FIND LIFELONG FRIENDS, AND GROW
SPIRITUALLY:**

Craig Springs Camp

Registration will be open starting now through June. We recommend registering as early as possible! Please contact Wendy or Hayden for info and to get all set to spend some time "up on the mountain."

God bless you all, and hope you'll join us!



We envision...

... an environment where there can be an open and honest exploration of Christian and Disciples of Christ values.

... opportunities for worship that are new, challenging and help all to encounter God in new and exciting ways.

... a sacred space, both physically and in the heart, that allows the Holy Spirit to inspire wonder.

... a camp ministry that draws campers from all ages and backgrounds and incorporates their needs as they are drawn closer to God.

Here are the camps that Craig Springs offers:

Nature Camp:

Counselor: Are you in high school and have a heart for ministry with children? Would you like to be a positive role model for a child? Nature Camp provides an opportunity for at-risk children (ages 9-11) to experience a week of a Christian camp and an opportunity for high-school age counselors to develop skills for ministry and service. This is a high-energy week for young campers to learn about God, sing, swim, enjoy the peace of the mountains, play outdoors, participate in group activities, and be mentored one-on-one by a high school counselor. Counselors teach and model conflict resolution, participation, and cooperation while having fun. It's the toughest, most rewarding, most memorable week you'll ever have! Counselor registration fees cover the cost of room and board. Counselors will be selected based on their qualifications reviewed by the directors. (This is a great opportunity for high-school youth to talk about when applying to colleges.)

Campers: At-risk youth ages 9-11 in grades 6th-8th.

Special Camp: This is an unforgettable week of love, laughter, and forming lasting friendships. Campers with intellectual and physical disabilities come from across the region to Craig Springs to learn about God's love for them through a welcoming, supportive, and accepting camping experience. Counselors and staff plan daily bible and craft lessons. Campers enjoy singing, pool-time, a carnival, talent show and dance. Special Camp requires a separate registration packet that can be obtained by contacting the regional office at (434) 846-3400. Staff includes counselors-in-training (age 12-17); counselors (age 18+); craft

and keynote leaders; a chaplain and two nurses (certified EMT, LPN, RN, MD, or OD).

[Please contact Janice Austin](#) (540-320-4086) if you know of a camper with special needs who would like to attend Special Camp or if you are interested in volunteering.

AAMPD Camp:

AMPDD (Art, Music, Photography, Dance, Drama) offers a rare opportunity to participate in a camping experience that provides youth of similar ages and interests the chance to flex their creative talents. Campers choose one of the five areas to focus on during the week, and each day a significant amount of time is spent exploring their interests. In addition to the various arts, campers also experience a positive, accepting, faith-based camping program and are able to form a close-knit community with other artists, photographers, singers, musicians, dancers, and actors. At the end of the week, the campers lead a show that is open for friends and family to attend. We strongly encourage youth to bring their own materials and instruments, yet we strive to have as many materials and instruments present as possible – from paints, to charcoal and pencils, to guitars, drums, and microphones. Don't know anything about the area you are interested in? Have no fear, our staff is present to help you learn and explore! Come enjoy the freedom to express yourself in an open and supportive faith-based week of fun and learning.

Triple 1 and Triple 2 camps

Come join us for an exciting week of fun in a safe, Christian environment where new friends and old friends come together! Triple camps are open to Juniors (completed 3-5 grades), Middle-schoolers (completed 6-8 grades), and High-schoolers (completed 9-12 grades). The week is filled with a variety of total camp activities such as a dance, talent show, and games. There will be time for small group study, pool-time, crafts, and worship time. Triple camps provide the opportunity to have everyone's life cross paths with Jesus and other youth and adults from around the region. **Be sure to get your registration in as soon as possible.**

New Covenant (completed 1st – completed 5th):

Introducing elementary aged children to the exciting experience of Christian camping with Bible Study, age related discussion and Worship Time with God. There are plenty of opportunities for faith-building activities in play, hiking, swimming, slip-n-slide and exploring God in nature and in each other.

Diversity Camp:

AGE GROUPS:

Elementary (Ages 7-10)

Middle (Ages 11- 13)

High School (14-17)

Young Adult (18-28)

Families & Friends (All Ages)

A summer camp for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Non-Binary, Queer, Questioning, Asexual, Ally, and all gender and orientation diverse (LGBTQ+) individuals. Hiking, swimming, campfires, music, dancing, workshops, discussions and much more! Hosted by Roanoke Diversity Center; Directed by Joshua Olinger, Brandon McGee and Dolly Davis. If interested please contact Joshua Olinger at DiversityCampInc@gmail.com for more information.

Registration will be open starting now through June. We recommend registering as early as possible! Please contact Wendy or Hayden for info and to get all set to spend some time "up on the mountain."

God bless you all, and hope you'll join us!

*Craig Springs does not discriminate on any basis including age, gender, color, race, creed, national origin, marital status, political belief, sexual orientation, or disability.

Camp packets with details about each camp and registration forms can be found at the Welcome Center.

CRAIG SPRINGS CAMP DATES

This year's camp dates and cost are:

Date:	Camp:	Total by May15th:	After May 15 th :
June 24- June28	Nature Camp	\$335	\$335
June 30- July 5	Special Camp	\$335	\$335
July 14- July19	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 registrattion, Visit www.craigsprings.com.

Thank You

Dear Unity Christian Family,

Thank yo so much for hosting a bridal shower for us. Your generous gift is greatly appreciated and it helps us immensely. We love your love and support and are so happy to have found a loving church family!

Love,
Maria & Jesse

Dear Unity Christian Church,

"Thank you" just isn't enough for all the love that you have shown Jesse and Maria.

You have welcomed them in as new college students, allowed them to grow through service opportunities and are overwhelming them your love and support as they begin their life together.

You are all the face and hands of Christ and we are so thankful for each of you

Most Sincerely,
David & P.J. Shepherd
(Jesse's dad & mon)

Wendy,

I just wanted to make sure the congregation knows how blessed I feel to be part of such a wonderful, loving church family. I appreciate all of the prayers, food, cards, and calls. It is so nice to have friends who not only show they care about me during difficult times, but also rejoice with me over good news. I am slowly on the mend and look forward to being back in church soon.

Love,

Alicia

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

05.05 **"The Good Shepherd and the Wolf"**

Storyteller: Sally Davis Greeter: Brandy Bondurant

05.12 **"The Good Shepherd and the Lord's Supper"**

Storyteller: Gina Rhea Greeter: Janice Cheverton

05.19 **"The Good Shepherd and the Lord's Supper II"**

Storyteller: Sandy Pascoe Greeter: Kathy Young

05.26 **"Ascension"**

Storyteller: Sally Davis Greeter: Erin Wilson

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

COMMUNITY TABLE MEALS SERVED

<u>Date</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Children</u>	<u>Seconds</u>	<u>Takeout's</u>
April 6	23	29	2	18	30
April 13	26	34	5	26	26
April 20	19	18	1	13	26
April 27	15	23	1	17	18

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Chuck & Becky Morris	8
Ed & Brenda Jervey	11
Matt & Brandy Barrow	20
Michael & Candice Davis	25
Darryl & Lisa Altizer	29

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Becky Morris	1
Rachel Grace Drew	2
Brenda Jervey	2
Josh Talbert	4
Brittney Stike	5
Wes Wilson	5
Kenny Bratton	6
Bob Foster	6
George Harkrader	7
Alyssa Wilson	7
Christopher Phillips	10
Sandy Pascoe	12
Charlotte McCroskey	13
Don Mottesheard	14
Michael Turk	14
McKinley Rountree	17
Jack Clay	18
Helen Simpson	18
Barry Moore	20
Nicholas Lemmon	27

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE @ UCC

Sunday School:

Worship:

April 7	33	April 7	113
April 14	35	April 14	130
April 21	38	April 21	176 (31 SR)
April 28		April 28	94

MAY SERVING SCHEDULE

WORSHIP LEADER	DEACONS	ELDERS
05.05 Kathy Young	Katie Lemmon	Jackie Lemmon
05.12 Anne Chrisman	Lin Martin	Charlotte McCroskey
05.19 Josh Talbert	Kennise Baker	
05.26 Alyssa Wilson	Josh Talbert	

COMMUNION PREPARATION	COMMUNITY TABLE
05.05 Frances Dalton / Becky Moore	05.04 Oasis
05.12 Gary & Sally Davis	05.11 McCroskey Team
05.19 Buddy & Janet Johnston	05.18 Christ Church
05.26 Doyle Barton / Dee McConnell	05.25 Grove UMC

MAY DAILY BIBLE READING

Date	Morning	Evening
	Luke	1 Kings
1	21:20-38	10, 11
2	22:1-20	12, 13
3	22:21-46	14,15
4	22:47-71	16, 17, 18
5	23:1-25	19, 20
6	23:26-56	21, 22
		2 Kings
7	24:1-35	1, 2, 3
8	24:36-53	4, 5, 6
	John	
9	1:1-28	7, 8, 9
10	1:29-51	10, 11, 12
11	2	13, 14
12	3:1-18	15, 16
13	3:19-38	17, 18
14	4:1-30	19, 20, 21
15	4:31-54	22, 23
16	5:1-24	24, 25
		1 Chronicles
17	5:25-47	1, 2, 3
18	6:1-21	4, 5, 6
19	6:22-44	7, 8, 9
20	6:45-71	10, 11, 12
21	7:1-27	13, 14, 15
22	7:28-53	16, 17, 18
23	8:1-27	19, 20, 21
24	8:28-59	22, 23, 24
25	9:1-23	25, 26, 27
26	9:24-41	28, 29
		2 Chronicles
27	10:1-23	1, 2, 3
28	10:24-42	4, 5, 6
29	11: 1-29	7, 8, 9
30	11:30-57	10, 11, 12
31	12:1-26	13, 14

**Unity Christian Church (Disciples of Christ),
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Wendy Wilson, Pastor

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