

JUNE 2018

Volume 32.6

St. John's
United Church
of Christ

St. John's United Church of Christ is a diverse community forming a united congregation, seeking to grow our faith, share it with others, and serve God's people wherever the need is present. We are living God's love and all are invited!!!

*An Open and
Affirming
Congregation*

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THE *Messenger*



Dear All,

Remember as June comes our **worship moves to 10 am** and there is no adult education before the service. Our summer schedule is worship at 10 followed by coffee hour. This means coffee hour should be even lighter keeping it simple for all. A glass of ice tea, a bit of fruit or something and we can all visit. If you have not volunteered for coffee hour summers are a great time to get your feet wet.

June also brings us into the long season known as Pentecost or common time signified in church colors as green or growing time. This is the time of year we focus on growing our faith as we continue to be led by the Holy Spirit. In our American calendar it begins the summer season a time of remembering to celebrate God in nature. This calls us to truly look at how we are being stewards of this world God has set us in. Are we poisoning the world around us to make weeding easier or are we caring for the spaces around us? Are we creating extra garbage to eat outside or recycling? What are you doing this year to be a steward of the environment you find yourself in?

June also means for many the beginning of vacation times and recreation. I encourage you to remember to re-create as you recreate for we all need quiet internal time as well as social external time. It is the balance that keeps us growing and healthy in spirit, emotion and body.

May the rains slow and may we each continue to challenge ourselves to grow, as we act as in love being God's hands and feet on earth.

Pastor Linda

Pastor Linda Higgins



Church Council met for the monthly meeting on May 14, 2018.

Announcements:

The CAC Conference Minister Search Committee is seeking input from congregations. Linda has spoken with Marvin Silver about contacting Cornerstone.

The Finance Committee will meet with Carol with Lane and Associates to discuss the financial report. The 2017 Audit has not been completed.

The 2018 – 2019 Slate:

Council (two year term)	Endowment (three year term)	Trustee (three year term)	Audit
Marcie Agee Betsy Bighinatti Dreama Terrill Laura Totty	Dorothy Cook Bud Higgins Tony Sharpenstein Helen Bunch (one year term)	Rob Osborne	Vacant

Council Officers:

President – Dreama Terrill

Vice President – Scott Siefert

Secretary – Elisabeth Burnette

Treasurer – Vacant

175th Anniversary:

Save the Date! October 5-8, 2018. All ministry groups will create displays to show St. John's church life today. Friday night – Cocktails and hor d'oeuvres in Guild Room. Saturday – German Fest. Sunday – Celebratory worship beginning at 10:00 followed by coffee hour.

Website Change: The Technology Subcommittee of Congregational Life and Care will proceed with new website service with Net Ministry Technology Corp. The cost will include the website platform and migration from old to new website. Set up \$199; first six months \$199 per month; evaluate after six months to determine level of service but expect \$99 per month. The website will be managed by the Technology Subcommittee of Congregational Life and Care. It was suggested that our website name be changed to better identify us – stjohsuccrva.

New Members will join on May 20 and May 27. Charles and Terry Weaver, Theresa Pollack and Ella Roberson.

Mission and Outreach: Twelve members of St. John's helped Comfort Cases pack back packs and duffle bags for foster children on May 5. St. John's donated 30 duffle bags and various items to put in the bags. Caritas intake will end on May 18 and Caritas overnight will be May 26-June 2nd. St. John's will serve as a shelter only. Caritas will arrange meals (including plates, utensils, etc.), showers, laundry, etc. Church members will be here every night to open the doors for the women and the food providers.

Missions of the Month:

May – Strengthen the Church

June – Circle Center

Music and Worship:

A new Lectern Bible was purchased and used in worship on May 13. The connectivity with the hymn boards has been worked out and will be installed.

The yard sale date has changed to Saturday, June 9.

The Central Atlantic Conference is being held June 8-9, 2018. Linda and Marcie Agee plan to attend. There is space for one or two more people from St. John's to attend.

Motions voted during the meeting:

- Approved revised April 9, 2018 minutes. (Under Mission and Outreach, changed May Mission to Strengthen the Church.)
- Approved website change to Net Ministry Technology Corp. \$199 set up, \$199 per month for first six months; then evaluate to determine level of service but expect \$99 per month thereafter.
- Approved additional funds to purchase and install hymn boards and security cameras.
- Approved accepting new members: Charles and Terry Weaver; Theresa Pollack and Ella Roberson.
- Approved election slate for Congregational Meeting.
- Approved Council Officer Slate for 2018 – 2019

Thank you to everyone who has been a part of our Caritas ministry. Members volunteered, baked, shopped, opened the doors, put out an assortment of food, cleaned up, rescued people from the elevator, and answered the call to be there to greet our Caritas guests for two months. Well done, St. John's. A special thanks to First English Lutheran and the Church of the Good Shepherd for their help. An extra special thanks to Vijaya who was there almost every night. She was a steady, constant presence who helped everything run smoothly.

DATE CHANGE: Yard Sale on Saturday, June 9. Members are invited to bring their stuff to sell separately or donate their stuff to the church to sell. This is the perfect time to clear out your clutter. Please bring your donations to church and place by the Mission closet at the Parlor entrance. If you have more than you can handle, let us know and we will pick it up. Please let your friends and family know we are taking donations.* We are looking for volunteers to help put things out, sell, and clean up. Please see Laura Totty or Elisabeth Burnette. **We cannot take electronics that no longer work, broken items, items with missing pieces or parts. If it's usable and in good shape but you no longer want or need it, bring it to us. If it is not usable and you no longer want it, please put it in your trash.*

Council Member and President

Dreama Terrill has been a member of St John's since 2003. She has served on council in several capacities including Worship and Music / Mission and Outreach / Extravagant Welcome Team and ONA project. She has been a continuous participant in the Woman's Group helping with planning two retreats. She has served at the association level as well and was St John's representative to several General Synods. She has attended the Central Atlantic conferences 4 times. She was instrumental in starting a monthly book discussion group where several members read and discussed many current books such as The Heart of Christianity, Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time and God's Politics just to mention a few. She was helpful in working with our Parking Lot Ministry as well.

She hopes her passion for St John's and our outreach to the community will help guide her on God's path for us in the near future. As she assumes the Council's President role, she asks for your prayers and participation as we move forward. She invites your suggestions and comments as well.

Council members

David Agee has been serving on council for the past year as a replacement member. In his previous church He served as a council member and as an elder. He retired 2 years ago after being in the home improvement business for 25 years. He currently volunteers at Feedmore. He enjoys traveling on his motorcycle.

Marcie Agee has been serving on missions. Prior to her retirement from Lutheran High School she worked as accounts receivables manager and mission trip coordinator. She served her previous church on missions, Christian ed and deacons. Since she retired Marcie has been volunteering with the IRC. She loves to travel.

Betsy Bighinatti has been a member of St. John's since 1985 along with Richard her husband. She grew up in Berlin, Connecticut and was a member of Berlin Congregational Church where she was baptized and confirmed.

They moved to Richmond in 1978 with their two sons, Kevin who now lives in Boston near grandson, Sam and Kent who lives in Jamestown, NC with his wife, Angela and grandsons Collin and Jaxson.

Betsy has been an active member of St. John's serving now as the President of Endowment Board, Finance and Congregational Life committees, chairman of the Search committee in 2003, President of church Council two different terms and has served many years on Church Council.

The next two years will be challenging years for our congregation and she looks forward to helping in any way possible.

Trustee

Rob Osborn has been a member of St. John's United Church of Christ for over 16 years now. He and his wife, Helena, are both Social Workers. Helena works for the Daily Planet, a service center for the homeless and uninsured here in Richmond. He works for Virginia Premier a non-profit managed care organization that is a subsidiary of the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System. Rob is an addiction and recovery coordinator for that program. He has worn many hats as a church-member. Rob has served on Church Council for a 7-year period in the past. In that role he has been a teller, served on the Education Committee, chaired the Worship and Music and the Administration Committees, and has served as Vice-President and President of the Council. He has also been a long-standing member of the Choir and of the St. John's Community Players. Rob has served 2 terms on the board of trustees and is glad to serve for another one.

Endowment

Tony Sharpenstein has been the treasurer of the Endowment Fund since 2008. He and his wife, Anita, helped in establishing the St. John's Community Players back in 2006. Tony is a licensing specialist for the state of Virginia and licenses professional engineers.

Helen Bunch has been a member of St John's for more than 50 years. She is active in the fellowship as well as being on altar guild.

Bud Higgins is a member of the finance committee and facilities. He has been a member of endowment for two terms and is reupping to continue to serve.



Circle Center Adult Day Services is our mission focus for June. The center provides adult day services. St. John's is one of the founding churches. Did you know Chris Hagan represents us on their board? I know she will be happy to talk to you about this wonderful program. They are raising funds for scholarships. A

day at Circle Center is \$75; So in addition to your loose coins on June 3, the Mission & Outreach Committee is asking that you consider donating a little extra. If you wish to write a check, please make it out to St. John's and in the memo write Circle Center. Please take a minute to read about Circle Center and their wonderful programs.

Mission:

To provide comprehensive and individualized quality care for older adults during the day, enabling them to live at home and providing assurance and respite for family caregivers.

Vision:

A community where all older adults and their families have the support and resources to live together with purpose and dignity.

Brief description of current organizational programs/services offered

Circle Center Adult Day Services provides licensed daycare for community-living, high risk, nursing home eligible older adults, and respite, education and support for their family care-givers. Center services are designed to support continued community living, maintain or improve functional abilities, develop coping skills and improve the quality of individual and family life.

Program and services include:

- ♦ On-site, all-day skilled nursing care, including showers, personal care and medication management.
- ♦ Wellness programs including balance and strength training, a steps monitored walking program in a dedicated space led by professional staff (a model for others serving the frail elderly).
- ♦ Recreational and music therapy.
- ♦ Dietician approved nutrition services (breakfast, lunch and 2 snacks).
- ♦ Social work services including support groups for participants and family caregivers and individual counseling.
- ♦ Transportation and rehabilitation coordination to meet individual needs, respite for caregivers.
- ♦ Pioneering use of Montessori-based care for advanced dementia; documented to improve engagement and reduce problem behaviors in participants who otherwise are unable to attend to tasks, are restless and anxious, wander, ruminate and otherwise require constant support and supervision.
- ♦ An innovative multi-sensory room, to meet the needs of the most impaired who are withdrawn or agitated.
- ♦ Use of electronic health records to increase compliance with regulatory requirements.
- ♦ Preparation of the next generation of professionals for future eldercare roles with student internships in nursing, occupational therapy, social work, psychology, and therapeutic recreation, from seven Virginia and out-of-state universities.
- ♦ Needs-Based Scholarship Program for those who cannot afford all or part of their care.



Summer Parties

Summer Parties will be on July 14th at the home of June Smyth, August 12th at the home of Jeff Jacobs at 5 pm and August 25th at the home of Richard and Betsy Bighinatti. We are looking forward to having our summer parties again this year which are great time for Fellowship and enjoying time together. If you would like to host a party, please contact Betsy Bighinatti at 804-502-1007 or email her at grandude42@aol.com. Let her know if there

are dates that would work well for you or if you have any questions. Once we get the hosts and dates set then we will post a sign-up sheet so that hosts will have an idea on turnout.



St. John's Yard Sale will be held on **Saturday, June 9nd.** Members are invited to bring their stuff to sell separately or make donations to the church to sell items. This is the perfect time to clear out your clutter. Please bring your donations to church and

place them by the Mission closet at the Parlor entrance. If you have more than you can handle, let us know and we will pick it up. Please let your friends and family know we are taking donations. **We cannot take electronics that no longer work, broken items or items with missing pieces or parts. If it is usable and in good shape, but you no longer want or need it, bring it to us. If it is not usable and you no longer want it, please put it in your trash.*



There will be no Morning Adult Education in June We will continue to have children's classes during the summer months!



Congregational Life and Care Activities for the Summer!!!

St John's members will be attending **"Faith Night" at the Diamond** on Thursday, August 9th at 6:35 p.m. Tickets are \$11.00 and will be in we will have a reserved section together. If you are interested in going with us, please see or contact Betsy Bighinatti (804-502-1007 or 804 379-2572) to purchase a ticket. There are limited tickets available... so get yours early!!

Summer Suppers:

We again will have Summer suppers for all members to participate in. Our first one is scheduled for **July 14 at the Home of June Smyth**. June and Dreama Terrill will be hosting this and more details will follow in the July Newsletter. If there is anyone else who would like to host one, please call Betsy Bighinatti as soon as possible. There will be more details in the July newsletter as to others scheduled.

Other Activities in Richmond

There are many different activities in Richmond during the summer. If you see events or activities that others may be interested in attending, please contact Betsy and we will get the word out.

Fellowship Dinner



There will be a Fellowship Dinner **Thursday, June 7th at 6:15 pm** and back by popular demand, our very own Jeff Jacobs will be cooking. The "Strolling Cabaret" will be the evening's entertainment. The cost is \$15.00 per person and you will be able to purchase wine. The dinner will be in the Fellowship Hall. For more information, please see Lynda Merry or call the church office.



**WATCH PARTY FOR
THE POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN**
VA Poor People's Campaign Community
Gathering and Potluck
Hosted by Virginia Poor People's Campaign:
A National Call for Moral Revival and
St. Johns UCC Richmond, VA
Sunday, June 3rd, 10th & 17th @ 5:30 pm
@ St. John's UCC



remember, “All We Need is Love,” but cookies are pretty awesome too!!! Thank you in advance for your help!

Building your AGAPE MUSCLES takes faith, food, and fellowship! Volunteering to be a liturgist or fellowship hosts is an excellent way to stretch those muscles! There are several Sundays in June open for both opportunities. All you need to bring for coffee hour is a fruit (like grapes) or a vegetable (like carrot sticks): we have the coffee, lemonade mix, cups, plates, crackers, and cookies. Sign-up sheets are in the parlor. Please

SAVE THE DATE!! October 19-21, 2018 St. John’s will have its Women’s Retreat at Kiptopeke State Park. Additional details will be forthcoming. If you would like more information and to indicate your interest in participating, please contact Helena DeLigt @ hdeligt@comcast.net We want to know soon so we can reserve enough space.

We stood for justice & improved our community—so let’s celebrate!



RISC Justice Celebration

Monday, June 11, 2018

Potluck Dinner 6:30pm—Program 7:00pm

First Presbyterian Church, 4602 Cary Street Rd, Richmond, 23226

Potluck—please bring a dish to pass!

(Last names A-M salad or dessert, N-Z main dish or appetizer)

RSVP to your congregation’s justice team leaders.

hello JUNE

Volunteer Ministries

Ministry	June 3 Team 1	June 10 Team 1	June 17 Team 2	June 24 Team 2
Welcome Team Leader	Richard Bighinatti	Richard Bighinatti	Lynn Snyder	Lynn Snyder
Sound System	David Pittman	David Pittman	Will Atkinson	Will Atkinson
Tellers	Mark Souza Betsy Bighinatti	Mark Souza Betsy Bighinatti	Rob Osborn Tony Sharpenstein	Rob Osborn Tony Sharpenstein
Liturgist	Dreama Terrill	Elisabeth Burnette	Kate Schaefer	Sarah Allen
Facilities	Richard Bighinatti	Richard Bighinatti	Jeff Hetzer	Jeff Hetzer
Altar Guild	Erin Burnette Georgianne Stinnette	Lynda Merry	Johanna Gilbert Charlotte Quick	Dorothy Cook Helen Bunch
Fellowship Hosts	Vijaya & Maithili	Elisabeth Burnette Thomas Pridgen	Don & Beth Stiegler	Dreama Terrill
Altar Flowers	Elisabeth Burnette in Celebration of June Smyth by Daughters			

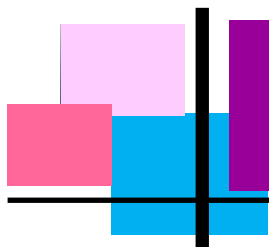
Teller Coordinator:
Bud Higgins
804-301-5059

Fellowship Host Coordinator:
Kate Schaefer
804-239-2871

**Celebrating a special occasion?
Honoring a loved one?**



Please find a substitute if you are unable to perform your ministry and contact your Team Coordinator AND the office to let them know who will be filling in for you. Thank you for making our church



JUNE 2018

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1	2
3 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal 10 am Worship Officer Installation 5:30 pm Poor PPL'S Campaign	4 5:30 pm Finance Meeting	5 6:15 pm Congregational Life and Care Meeting	6	7 1:30 pm Music / Worship Meeting 6:15 pm Fellowship Dinner	8	9 Church Yard Sale
10 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal 10 am Worship 5:30 pm Poor PPL'S Campaign	11 6:30 pm Church Council Meeting RISC Potluck @ 1st Presb.	12	13	14	15	16
17 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal 10 am Worship 5:30 pm Poor PPL'S Campaign	18 6:30 pm Mission & Outreach Meeting	19	20	21	22	23
24 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal 10 am Worship	25	26	27	28	29	30

JUNE
Birthdays

2	June Smyth	19	Helen Bunch
4	Savannah Quick	21	Thomas Pridgen
5	Georgia Pollard	21	Ray White
6	Beth Oxenham	22	Matthew Walsh
9	Peggy Ford		
9	Phil Jones		
13	Tony Sharpenstein		
14	Joe McGregor		