

November 2018  
Volume 32.11

## 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

503 Stuart Circle  
Richmond, Virginia 23220

Telephone:  
804.358.9291

Rev. Linda Higgins  
Pastor

#### Email:

office@stjohnsrichmond.org



#### Web Site:

stjohnsrichmond.org




November is here, the month of gratitude. Stop right now and think of ten things you are grateful for, yes ten, you can do it. Now write them down and every day from now to the end of the year, make a list of ten things you are grateful for. If you keep them on separate pieces of paper, you can put them in a bowl and read them on New Year's Eve. If you keep them in one file on your computer, they will also be handy. Not only by doing this will you be centered in giving thanks for these things, but as you see what gets named over and over you will get a sense of your priorities.

Every day we each have a choice of what kind of a day we will have. Will we have one focused on what has gone right in our life, what we are grateful for or will we focus on what went wrong? How we experience life is affected by this daily choice more than anything else. It is good we get a month each year to really focus on the skills of gratitude and giving thanks.

In the church we are called to not only be grateful but realize that all we are thankful for is a gift from God. We are also called to remember that part of giving thanks is giving a tithe of what has been given to us. We are called to give it, not because we must, but because we may, in thanksgiving, as a sign of our belief that God will continue to provide and bless us with good things. The gift of the first fruits unto God was a radical idea for the early Hebrews who lived day to day dependent on the land. Today it may also feel radical to think you can give a tithe to God, but in doing so we realize we can and God does provide for us maybe not what we want but what we need.

So it is November and time to practice gratitude including acting on it.

*Linda Higgins*



Sunday, November 4th

DON'T FORGET TO

**FALL  
BACK**

Daylight Savings Time Ends

**Daylight Saving Time ends on  
Sunday, November 4th,**

so you should set your clocks back one hour before you go  
to bed Saturday night.

Sunday's change means sunrise and sunset will be about  
one hour earlier on Nov. 4 than it was the day before,  
meaning there will be more daylight in the morning hours.



# church council **MEETING** **REPORT**

Church Council met for the monthly meeting on Monday, October 8, 2018.

## **Announcements:**

Jeff Jacobs created a use agreement for groups using the building. Discussed process of letting groups use the building. Need to review and update the wedding fees for building use. Council should review use agreement and let Jeff Jacobs know of questions or comments before next meeting.

**Restoration Fellowship** - Council met with the pastor. Restoration Fellowship will have insurance, sign Use Agreement, and pay \$50 per night. They will use the building two Wednesdays per month, dates and times will be decided.

Need webmaster to coordinate church life with the website. Dreama and Linda will meet to discuss website updates.

Potomac Association annual meeting is October 20 in DC area. CAC conference minister vote is November 17.

**Finance Report** – Jeff moved \$20k from money market to checking to pay normal monthly expected bills. A member donated stocks for pledge, and once deposited in investment account, the stock was sold and the proceeds moved to money market account. We incurred over \$600 in bank fees for 2018. Jeff is checking with SunTrust because our accounts should not incur fees. An additional check signer is needed.

The Finance Committee will meetings to present the proposed 2019 Budget – October 28 (breakfast meeting) and November 4 after church. The Congregational Meeting will be December 2 to vote on the Budget. Jeff requested council members complete their pledges before the breakfast meeting.

The church has been using the gift from Helen Karnap to pay bills and expenses. Council will request the gift amount from Endowment when ready to determine best way to honor Helen's memory. Endowment is expected to honor June Sullen's memory as well.

OCMW contributions. Jeff spoke with the Association treasurer and they are charging dues based on the number of members we provided in our yearbook - 149 members. Linda and Sanya are reviewing the membership list. Congregational Life and Care will review membership roles.

Report continued on next page...



# church council **MEETING** **REPORT**

Church Council Report Continued...

## **Senior Pastor Evaluation**

Discussion is needed as to the reason members are leaving. Dreama will discuss a pastoral relations committee with Linda.

## **Parking Lot Update**

The closing should be October 22. Financing requirement is closing by November 4. The church entered into contract with ETEC for HVAC replacement in the parlor. Received competitive bids before signing contract.

## **175th Anniversary Re-Cap**

Revenue \$2300 - 2400, net profit about \$1500 so far.

## **Committee Updates**

### **Mission and Outreach**

Chris Hagan is going off the Circle Center Board and St. John's representative is needed. All the t-shirts were sold. Caritas will be March 9 -April 20. PrideFest was a success!

### **Facilities Report**

See report. Will get estimates for installing key pad. Council decided to not proceed with a new railing at the Stuart Circle entrance.

### **New Business**

Suggested we offer a space for college musicians to perform.

DBG Flattery and Friends request use of Sanctuary on November 3 for a memorial liturgy.

### **Motions:**

- Minutes - September 10 approved with correction. Under Financial Report, the proposed 2019 Budget shows a deficit of **\$99,981**.
- Marcie moved to allow Restoration Fellowship to use the building as stated above.
- Request a monthly Pastor's Report and suggest Linda develop an action plan for church membership development for 2019.
- DBG Flattery and Friends may use the sanctuary on November 3 if they complete and sign a Use Agreement and facility needs are met.



### **Pledge Sunday on November 11th**

By now you should have received pledge cards and a stewardship letter seeking your support for the church's ministries and activities for 2019. On Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, after church in the Fellowship Hall, there will be a presentation by members of the Finance Committee on the current state of church finances and the proposed 2019 church budget, with an opportunity for questions and discussion. All are invited, whether you were able to attend the similar session on October 28<sup>th</sup> or not. As we spend this year celebrating the church's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary, this is a good opportunity for all of us to consider how we can meaningfully contribute to the life and ministries of St. John's, through the donation of our time, talents and (monetary) treasure.

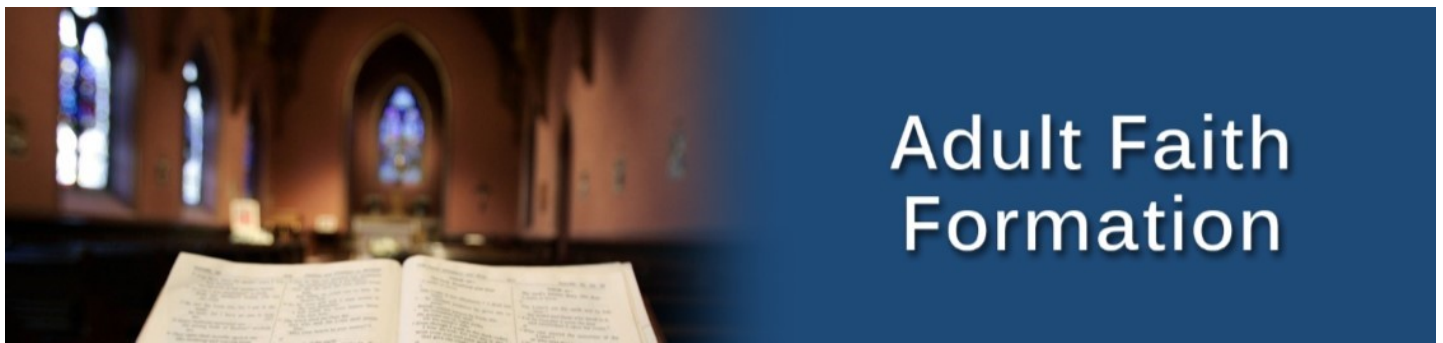
While the sale of the church parking lot will help underwrite many of the essential costs of renewing our aging church infrastructure, the church's long-term future depends on ongoing support for its community ministries, outreach and other activities. Pledge Sunday and the dedication of pledges will be held on November 11<sup>th</sup>, and you may put your pledge cards in the Sunday collection plate, mail them to the church, or put them through the church office mail slot any time before then. In the meantime, please contact Stewardship Chair Jeff Jacobs if you need another pledge card or if you have any questions about, or would like to discuss, any church finance or stewardship issues or concerns.



### **Anniversary Celebration Thank-You**

The celebration of St. John's 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary the weekend of October 5-7, provided a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with former and distant members and clergy, consider the church history display in the Guild Room, enjoy the fellowship of the annual German Dinner, and worship together as we celebrated the past and looked to the church's future. Thanks to everyone who participated in making this a special and

joyful celebration, from those who helped with outdoor and indoor clean-up, painting and fix-up projects and those who assembled the history display, to those who set-up tables and chairs, decorated and set tables, made applesauce, baked cakes, snapped and cooked beans, shredded and cooked red cabbage, sliced and cooked potatoes, sold and collected tickets, coordinated parking deck transportation, served dinner and beverages, baked a special anniversary cake, and participated in the Sunday worship service. It took a lot of effort from dozens of people, and everyone's contributions and participation are gratefully appreciated.



# Adult Faith Formation

## Adult Faith Formation Begins November 4<sup>th</sup>

Join us at 9am Sunday mornings as we Look at how our faith can be enriched by science. *Painting the Stars* is a study that celebrates the communion of science and faith. This seven-session study is written by Bruce Sanguin with interviews from over a dozen evolutionary theologians and progressive thinkers.

November 4	Toward Healing the Rift
November 11	A Renaissance of Wonder
November 18	Getting Genesis Wrong
November 25	An Evolving Faith
December 2	Evolutionary Christianity
December 9	Imagining the Future
December 16	An Evolving Spirituality: Mysticism

## Mission of the Month

**Hurricane Michael:  
How You Can Help!**



Our **Mission of the Month** for **November** is the United Church of Christ Disaster Response Ministry.

The effect of global warming threatens to increase the scope and number of these disasters. UCC Disaster Ministries is well positioned to respond to emergency and long-term needs worldwide. 100% of these funds are used for disaster relief and rehabilitation programming. Checks should be made out to St. John's UCC. Mark the memo line with UCC Disaster Relief. Cash should be placed in the offering pail on the 1st Sunday of November or in the blue Missions envelope during the month of November. Please support this relief effort.



*"The Fellowship"* will meet for lunch on Thursday, November 8, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. We will meet at Portico Restaurant (12506 River Road, Richmond, VA 23238) I hope you can join us. For information contact Dorothy Cook at 804-675-9269 or Lynda Merry at 804-756-0270. We hope you can join us!



*St. John's Community Players Present*



# Happy Holidays Cabaret & Hor d'oeuvre Buffet

**St. John's UCC 503 Stuart Circle, Richmond, VA 23220**

Saturday, December 8 @ 6:00 pm

Tickets: \$20 Adults    \$18 Students

Reservations must be placed by noon on Thursday, December 6

Call the Box Office to Make Your Reservations 762-4870

or pay on-line at

[stjohnsrichmond.org](http://stjohnsrichmond.org) (use the Tickets/Events/Donate button at bottom)

**Free Parking is available at the VCU deck located at Broad and Harrison Streets. (Two blocks East of the Church)** Take a ticket as you enter the deck and a QR code will be in your program to use as you exit the deck that will cover the cost of parking. Shuttle service will be available beginning at 5:30 pm to transport guests from the deck to church and at the church following the performance to transport guests back to the deck.



***“Glitter and Be Gay”***  
A Centennial Celebration  
of  
***Leonard Bernstein***



**Karine Marshall, Artistic Director**

**When**

**Friday November 9 at 7 PM**

**Saturday November 10 at 4 PM**

**Sunday November 11 at 7 PM**

**Where**

**Saint John's United Church of Christ**

**503 Stuart Circle**

**Richmond, Virginia 23220**

**Free parking available at Grace Covenant Presbyterian,  
1627 Monument Ave, Richmond, VA 23220**

**Bernstein's work has been described as a rich musical synthesis of many musical styles and conventions. Always in Bernstein, one hears the joy of music and infinite variety of music, whether employing pictures of life in NY, Jewish liturgical themes, biblical themes, jazz rhythms, modern poems, dance, or other rich aspects of life.**



**SUNDAY - NOV 4 - 7 PM**

*Formerly the Blackwood Legacy*

**FREE NON-DENOMINATIONAL CONCERT**

**First Congregational Christian United Church of Christ**

**4310 Courthouse Road – Chesterfield**

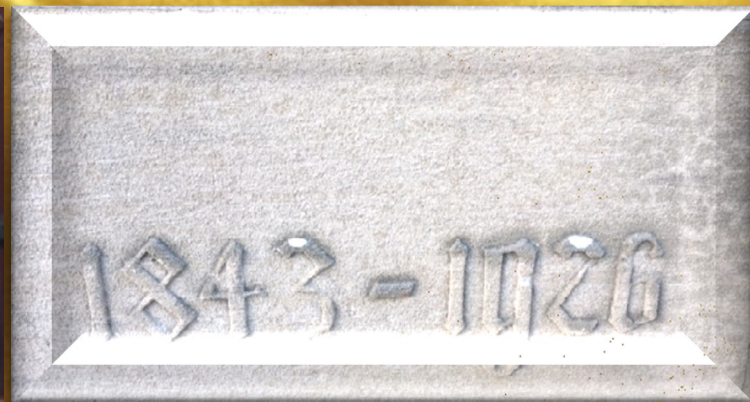
**For Information Call 804-276-5338**

***Come early for best seating!***

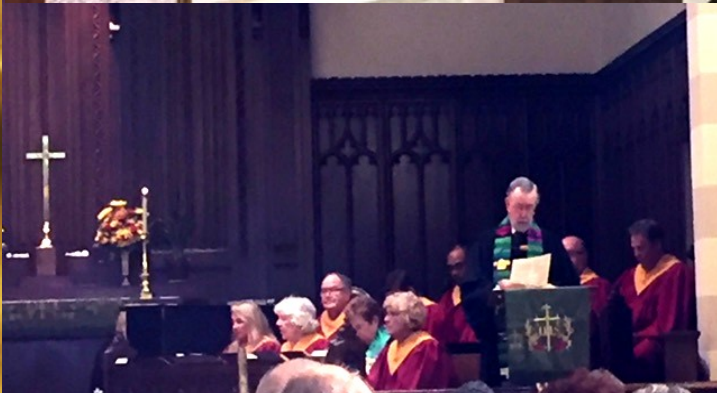
New Legacy Project, formerly the Blackwood Legacy, blend the best of country gospel, traditional and edgy newer southern gospel, with today's popular worship music, while staying true to the Gospel Message.

This Nashville-based group is known for their flawless harmonies, comedy, and homespun humor. Join us for a memorable time of live music, fellowship and fun! Admission is free and a love offering will be received. Listen for their new radio single "Come to the Water" and visit them on Facebook or at:

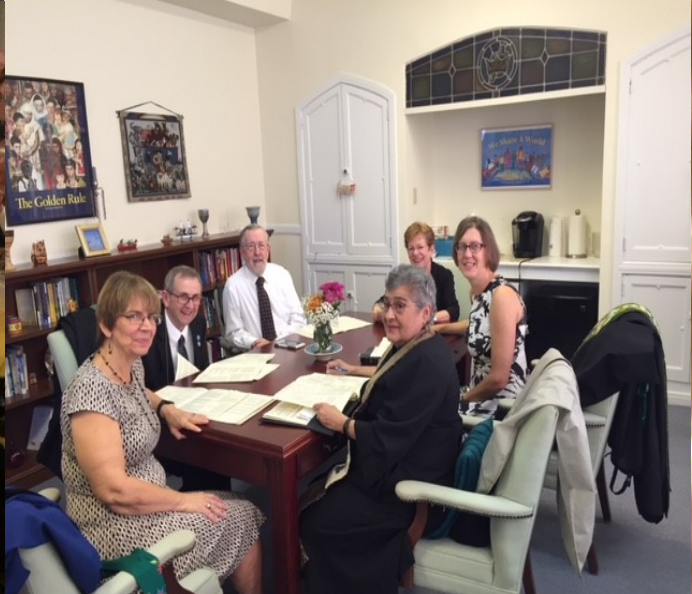
***[www.NewLegacyProject.com](http://www.NewLegacyProject.com)***



**175  
YEARS**



CELEBRATING  
**175**  
YEARS



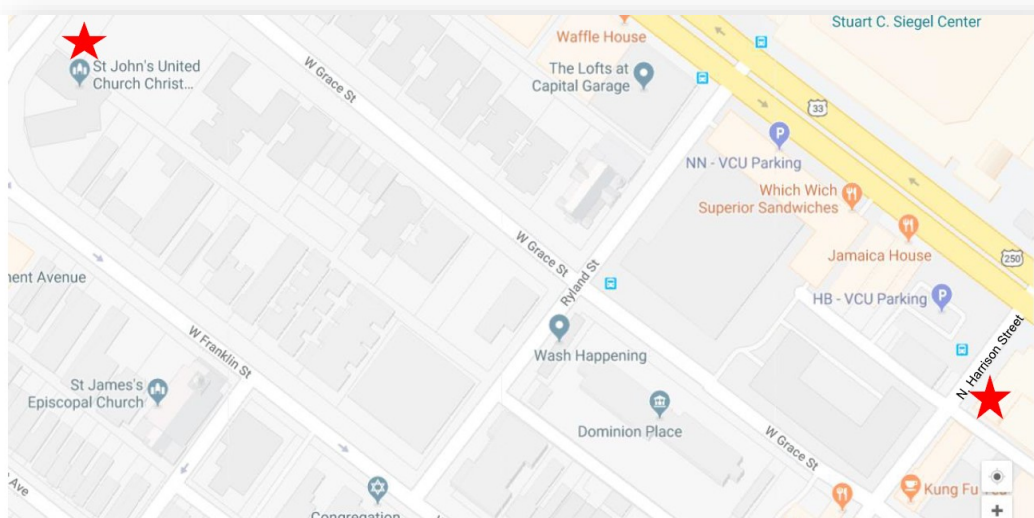
CELEBRATING  
**175**  
YEARS







**New Parking Plan** ~ Sunday parking is available at the VCU deck located at Broad and Harrison Streets. You will receive a ticket to access parking. Shuttle service is available one hour before service to transport members and guests from the parking lot to church and at the church following service and coffee hour. At church you will be given a bar code to use as you exit the parking lot, so you do not pay for parking. Parking is also available on Sundays from 7 am to 2 pm on the island side of Monument Avenue. For more information, call the church office at (804) 358-9291.



### **St. Johns Church Shuttle**

The vans will pick up at the parking structure at 534 N. Harrison Street and transport to the alley behind the church. **Shuttle service from parking structure to church begins at 9:00 am and will run until 10:15 am.**

After the church services are complete the shuttle will begin transporting the congregation from the alley behind the church back to the parking structure at 534 N. Harrison Street. **The return shuttle will begin at 11:30 am and run until 12:15.**



Expiration Date: 06/30/2019 11:59:59 PM

Validation Number: WB-603

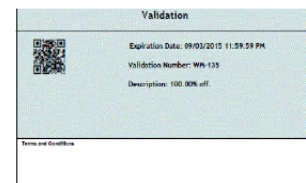
Description: 100.00% off.

### Steps to Using a QR Code:

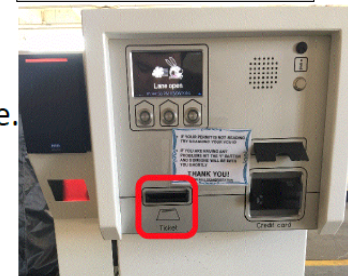
1. When coming into the deck press the button on the machine to receive an entry ticket.



2. Obtain a copy of the QR Code while at the church.



3. When exiting the deck reinsert the entry ticket into the machine so it can calculate time spent and the associated fee.



4. Scan your QR Code on the scanner just left of the machine.



5. If you are experiencing problems and there is no attendant nearby, please hit the "I" button and someone from our 24/7 Command Center will be with you shortly.





# Volunteer Ministries

Ministry	November 4 Team 4	November 11 Team 4	November 18 Team 1	November 25 Team 1
Welcome Team Leader	Dorothy Cook	Dorothy Cook	Richard Bighinatti	Richard Bighinatti
Sound System	Jeff Michel	Jeff Michel	David Pittman	David Pittman
Tellers	Jeff Jacobs Scott Siefert	Jeff Jacobs Scott Siefert	Dorothy Cook Helen Bunch	Dorothy Cook Helen Bunch
Liturgist	Jeff Quinanola	Sarah Allen	Chris Hagan	Chris Hagan
Facilities	Bud Higgins	Bud Higgins	Richard Bighinatti	Richard Bighinatti
Altar Guild	Erin Burnette Georgianne Stinnette	Lynda Merry	Johanna Gilbert Charlotte Quick	Helen Bunch
Fellowship Hosts	Terri Pendleton	Dorothy Cook Helen Bunch	Lynda Merry	Charlie & Terri Weaver
Altar Flowers			Lynn Snyder In memory of Father Frederick Snyder	

**Teller Coordinator:**  
Bud Higgins  
804-301-5059

**Fellowship Host Coordinator:**  
Rev. Beverly Lindsey  
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 ministries run smoothly!*

# November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 1 pm Worship & Music Meeting		3
4 9 am Adult Faith Formation 10 am Worship <b>Stewardship Briefing</b> after Worship	5	6 	7	8 1 pm The Fellowship Luncheon Portico Restaurant	9 7 pm <i>Glitter be Gay</i> Performance	10 4 pm <i>Glitter be Gay</i> Performance
11 9 am Adult Faith Formation 10 am Worship <b>Pledge Sunday</b> Finance Meeting after Worship 7 pm <i>Glitter be Gay</i>	12 6:30 pm Church Council Meeting	13	14	15	16	17 Special Central Atlantic Conference Meeting to Vote on Conference Minister
18 9 am Adult Faith Formation 10 am Worship	19	20	21	22 <b>Thanksgiving</b> <b>Holiday</b>	23 Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday	24
25 9 am Adult Faith Formation 10 am Worship <b>Greening of the Church</b>	26	27	28	29	30 Greenspring International Academy of Music Concert	



- 1 David Craig
- 5 Jerlyn Morris
- 6 Matthew J. Gilbert
- 10 Kevin Hetzer
- 14 Laura Totty
- 15 Kathy Smith
- 16 Bob Corby
- 17 Gary Beasley  
Kate Schaefer
- 30 Mark Atkinson