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## **Nourishing Hearts for God, Being a Home to Friends and Strangers, Being a Hub for Sharing God's Love...**

As we move into a new season, we're giving thanks for the ways in which Radiance Community Church lived into our mission this summer! Our children were "wild about Jesus," learning about God's creation through a trip to the Krawchisons' farm and learning about imitating Jesus at our "Monkey See, Monkey Do" party. Our youth invited friends and made a "home" for them as we played and served together here in Roanoke and in Harrisonburg at Passport Missions Camp. In worship, we were challenged to allow ourselves and our church to be re-shaped by God, to put feet to our faith, and to allow God's light to shine on and through us. We partnered with Feeding America, Manna Ministries, The Least of These Ministries, Angels of Assisi, Our Lady of Nazareth, and Presbyterian Community Center to feed the hungry in our community. We cared for each other, making hospital visits and providing meals. We studied the Bible together in small groups on Sundays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, helping each other grow closer to God. Radiance Church, we are proud of you!

As we look forward to fall, so many good things are in store as we continue to live out the vision God has given us! Inside this newsletter, you will find information about our plans for worship this fall (as well as a behind the scenes look at how we plan worship), our mission projects, and our "New Members" class on Sunday mornings. Since we're all new members of our new church, this is a great time to learn more about who God is calling us to be and to join in Bible study with your church family. In the next month are so, we will also be unveiling our new church logo (the graphic designer is hard at work), and our consultants for the legal and business side of things will be here in person on September 18 to meet with us. We will be setting up our new structure this fall, too, and we will be asking each of you to serve in the ways in which God has gifted you and created you.

We know that change – and we have had lots of change! - can be hard, even as it makes space for the new things God wants to do in and through us. As you see the leaves change and fall this season, be reminded that this cycle of change is necessary for the trees to grow and thrive. As you enjoy the bright colors of autumn, ask God to help us celebrate the changes we see in our church, even the ones that may be a little uncomfortable. Remember to pray the prayer that we have prayed from the beginning of Radiance Church - that we will be indifferent to everything except for God's will for us. Exciting things are ahead!

Your Pastors,  
Rev. Melissa Scott and Dr. Steven Pollard

*Be* **Transformed**

## **Behind the Scenes...Planning Worship**

This fall, we are turning to perhaps the most famous sermon ever preached to guide our worship – Jesus' sermon on the mount. These words show us how Jesus viewed the world and God's kingdom. As followers of Jesus, our lives should be shaped by them.

Have you ever wondered how our worship service comes into being? Each element has a specific purpose in focusing our attention on God and bringing God glory. For example, we light candles at the beginning of the service as a reminder that Christ is the light of the world. Some things, including our general order of worship, remain pretty consistent from week to week. You may have noticed that other things change occasionally. We might change the banners on the walls, sing a different song or lyrics for the doxology and benediction response, or use different visual elements around the communion table.

Our staff is very intentional in each of these things. Pastors Steve and Melissa meet together to prayerfully consider what scriptures will shape each season of worship. Sometimes, we are guided by the lectionary, a three-year list of scriptural readings that includes an Old Testament, Psalm, Gospel, and Epistle passage for each week. Other times, the Spirit guides us to a different theme (such as our coming series on the Sermon on the Mount). After we have determined our scriptural focus, we look at each element of worship. Our minister of music, Bill, works with Pastors Steve and Melissa to choose hymns that add to the service, both musically and lyrically. You may notice a familiar hymn tune sung with different lyrics that add to the message of the day. We try to have a mixture of familiar and less familiar hymns throughout a season; it is good to sing favorites that bring our hearts to worship from the first note – *and* it is good to experience God in different ways.

For example, you may have noticed that during the Easter season, we sang lyrics to our familiar doxology tune that focused on the Risen Savior. At the beginning of the summer, our worship theme was "Re-Shaped," as we focused on how God leads us to and through change. We changed the doxology words from a familiar way of referring to the Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Ghost – to a different reference to the trinity – God, Christ, and Holy Spirit. We also frequently change the benediction response in order to send us out with the message of the season clear in our minds; during our focus on light these last few weeks, we have been singing a verse of "Arise! Your Light Is Come." It can be hard to sing less familiar words, but our prayer is that it also helps us to expand our understanding of God and gives us more language to express our praise and proclaim our love of God.

Our worship traditions are important and have been carefully shaped through the years. We want to honor them, and we also want to leave room for the Spirit to work in new ways. Too often, our worship can become simply a habit, a routine that we do without thinking about what we are saying or singing. Small changes can be ways for God to catch our attention and for us to offer fresh expressions of devotion to God. If you ever have questions or wonder why a change has been made, please come talk to our pastors. They love talking about worship and would love to have your input. We hope in the future, as we set up our church's structure, to expand our worship planning and leadership to include more members of our congregation.

# Worship

## **Thank You**

Thank you so much for the beautiful anniversary celebration! It is hard to believe that I have been ministering in this place for 25 years. Your cards, gifts, kind words, beautifully planned worship, and the lovely tree (and print) meant so much to me and continue to bring me joy. I'm excited to see where the next years of being church together will take us! Paul wrote these words, and they express my feelings for you: "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel..." (Philippians 1:3-5).

With love, Pastor Melissa

## **Prayer Concerns**

- Those in retirement/nursing homes or homebound: Jim Bryant, Jane Byrum, Virginia Draper, Mary Durrer, Sue Epperly, Buddy Hawkins, Evelyn Hutcherson, Nadine Minnix, Shirley Moore, Betty Obenchain, Louise Parris, Betty Payne, Becky Peyton, Jack Pilcher, Evelyn Ragland, Alice Scogin, Sylvia Shortt, Anna Mae Smith, Joe St. Clair
- Those with cancer including Beth Bankston (friend of Debbie & Gordon Williams), Linda Dwyer, Doug Hicks (Kathy Kinsey's brother), Angela Johnson (Joyce Short's niece), Barbara Kern, Penny Long (Bob Crawford's sister), Wayne Simmons (cousin of Vilas Secrist & Linda Dwyer), Posey Weddle (Michael Krawchison's uncle), Betsy White (Joyce Waugh's niece), Declan (four-year-old friend of the Morrisises), Carolyn Young
- Our congregations, our pastors, our community, and those around the world
- Janet King's son-in-law, Chuck Bruen      • Cheryl Nicely      • Herb McBride, in Lewis Gale Hospital
- Friends of Joyce Waugh, Kathleen L. and Nathan R. (son) with serious health concerns
- Donna and Roger Smith's grandson Jacob, with severe burns
- Lolly Quigley (friend of Amy Grant, Dabney Ward, & Louise Conner) whose cancer spread to her lymph nodes

## **Giving**

Thank you for your faithful support of the ministry of our church. If you wish to give an offering, you may do so by placing it in the designated plate in the foyer, via mail, electronically through your bank or our websites at: <https://cabc.churchtrac.com/give> or <https://bit.ly/givecalvary>. You may also donate by scanning our QR codes:



NOTE: Please continue to write checks to the individual church names until our new church account is in place.

## **Faith Lending Library**

Faith Lending Library: We have seasonal resources for Pentecost and the "Harvest Season" of Ordinary Season on the bookcase in the foyer. Feel free to borrow books and return them when you are done so that others can enjoy them as well!

## **Thank You**

The Presbyterian Community Center sent a thank you note: "Thank you to your congregation who lent us a hand moving furniture. The situation we walked into was not what we were told it would be, and we would have been lost without your help. We are so grateful!"

## **Upcoming Meetings**

- Implementation Team, Monday, Sept. 3, 5:30 pm
- Deacons, Sunday, Sept. 22, 2:00 pm

## September Birthdays

Betty Payne Sept. 3  
Allison Trent Sept. 6  
Neal Kinsey Sept. 13  
Rita Bryant Sept. 14  
Becky Peyton Sept. 14  
Mia Viele Sept. 16  
Cason Krawchison Sept. 17

Bill Lininger Sept. 19  
Lisa Baker Sept. 20  
Emma Seidel Sept. 20  
Cathy Howell Sept. 23  
Glenda Pollard Sept. 23  
Julie Wood Sept. 23  
Sarah Howell Sept. 24

Tiffany Kinsey Sept. 27  
Ashley Krawchison Sept. 27  
Barry Wirt Sept. 27  
Bobbie Hawkins Sept. 28  
Virginia Draper Sept. 29  
Brad Dillon Sept. 30  
Lindsay Wirt Sept. 30



## Bible Study Opportunities

- **"New Members" Class for everyone:** This fall, beginning September 15, we hope you will join us during the Sunday morning Bible study time (9:30-10:15) for a "New Members" class. Since Radiance Community Church is new, that means all of us who are forming the church are new members together! During this time, our pastors will be leading us through a study of who our new church is - beginning with what it means to be Baptist (especially Cooperative Baptists), followed by examining our church mission statement, and ending the fall with a study of spiritual gifts and helping to determine what each of our places of service might be in Radiance Church. All adults and youth will be meeting together during this time. It's a great time to form the habit of coming to Sunday Morning Bible Study, if you've wanted to come but weren't sure of what class to join!
- **Midweek Bible Study** meets Wednesdays, at noon, in the conference room and on Zoom ([www.bit.ly/cabcbiblestudy](http://www.bit.ly/cabcbiblestudy)). Rev. Steven Harris is leading us through a study of "what it means to be human."
- **First Thursdays Young Adult Dinner & Bible Study:** Young adults (20s-30s) are invited to join us on the first Thursday of each month at 6 pm for dinner & Bible study, hosted by Pastor Melissa and Ric. Our next meeting will be September 5th.

## Radiance Kids

Beginning September 8, our children will be sitting with their families during the first part of the service and then going to children's church (if they wish) after the Word for All Ages. A family worship guide will help you participate fully in worship in child-friendly ways. We will also have worship bags available to give you resources to help you as you worship with your children.

## Youth

- Our fall Youth Dinner and Discipleship time will begin on Sunday, Sept. 15. We will gather for games and fellowship at 5, have dinner at 5:30, and have Bible study from 6-7. This fall, we're looking at how Jesus experienced emotions and how we can follow Jesus' example.
- If you would like to provide dinner for our youth on a Sunday evening, please see Pastor Melissa or sign up at <https://bit.ly/pbjyouthsuppers> We typically have around 12 people, and dinner is served at 5:30.



## *September Worship Leadership Schedule*

### **Worship Leaders - September 1**

**Greeters:** Neal Kinsey, Penny Horsley

**Scripture Reader:** Mary Harris

**Offertory Prayer:** Bob Crawford

**Offering:** Bob Crawford, Gerri Mills, Mark Smith, Brennan Viele

**Children's Worship Leader:** Donna Kester

**Communion:** Mary Harris, Paul Howell, Kathy Kinsey, Neal Kinsey, John Urquhart

### **Worship Leaders September 8**

**Greeters:** Lisa Baker, Nancy Vest

**Scripture Reader:** John Urquhart

**Offertory Prayer:** Ric Scott

**Offering:** Becky Beard, Mary Shirley, Joyce Short, John Urquhart

**Children's Worship Leader:** Mary Harris

### **Worship Leaders September 15**

**Greeters:** Gordon Williams, Mary Shirley

**Scripture Reader:** Ray Templin

**Offertory Prayer:** Janice Deyerle

**Offering:** Mary Harris, Ray Templin, Susan Snyder, John Urquhart

**Children's Worship Leader:** Glenda Pollard

### **Worship Leaders September 22**

**Greeters:** Bobbie Hawkins, Vicki Wray

**Scripture Reader:** Susan Snyder

**Offertory Prayer:** Mary Shirley

**Offering:** Bob Crawford, Janice Deyerle, Ric Scott, Brennan Viele

**Children's Worship Leader:** Nancy Vest

### **Worship Leaders September 29**

**Greeters:** Bobbie Hawkins, Mark Smith

**Scripture Reader:** Ric Scott

**Offertory Prayer:** Susan Snyder

**Offering:** Michael Krawchison, Mark Smith, Nancy Vest, Vicki Wray

**Children's Worship Leader:** Mary Harris



## **Leadership Schedule**



4165 Colonial Ave.  
Roanoke, VA 24018-4097  
540-774-2084

### Our Church Staff:

Rev. Melissa Scott  
Pastor

Dr. Steven Pollard  
Pastor

Rev. Steven Harris  
Minister in Residence

Debbie Foutz  
Church Administrator

Karen Viele  
Church Administrator

Bill Lininger  
Music Director

## Missions

- **Sneakers and Snacks:** During August and September, we will be collecting individually wrapped snacks (Cheez-its, Goldfish, fruit snacks, cheese crackers, pretzels, popcorn) for Green Valley Elementary School. We will also be collecting gently used sneakers (of all styles and sizes) for Presbyterian Community Center. Please bring your donations to the boxes in the foyer. If you have questions, feel free to ask the members of the Evelyn Townsend Women's Mission Circle.
- **Weekend Food Bags for Keystone Community Center:** During the school year, we provide food for the children of Keystone Community Center (located at the corner of 17th Street and Wise Avenue). Many of these children eat breakfast and lunch at school, so on the weekends, we want to be sure they are able to eat. Typically, we provide a couple of options for breakfast, some snacks, fruit, and proteins for lunches and dinners, along with juice boxes and shelf-stable milk. We package the food in grocery bags and deliver the bags to Keystone Community Center no later than Wednesday each week. The cost for the food is usually around \$100. We need your help to keep this ministry going! There is a sign-up list in the foyer for each week of the semester. If you can't take a week by yourself, ask someone else to join you in providing food and sharing God's love with these children! Pastor Melissa will be offering a quick tutorial on what to buy/how to pack the bags on Sunday, September 8, following worship.
- **Book and Magazine Collection:** The Evelyn Townsend Circle is collecting reading materials for the Roanoke City Jail library and for TAP. Paperback books and magazines will go to Roanoke City Jail and hardback books will go to TAP. Please place your donations in the appropriate box in the foyer.

