



# 2023 SMOKE SIGNAL

Our Mission Statement  
Sharing the love of Christ with ALL  
people.

*“Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”*  
Matthew 5:16

Burnt Factory Church  
1943 Jordan Springs Road  
P. O. Box 399  
Stephenson, Virginia 22656  
burntfactory.org  
PH: (540) 667-4993



## IS GOD CALLING YOU?

The church of Jesus Christ exists in and for the world. The church, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, is to help people accept and confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and to guide them to salvation and to help them live their daily lives in light of their relationship with God. This relationship gives structure, meaning, relevance, purpose, and direction to our lives!

The church is a community, a family through which discipleship-making occurs. It is a community that reaches out in mission to those in need. No person is perfect, and no church is perfect, but the church remains God's ordained and preferred means of proclamation about the one who was and is and forever will be perfect: Jesus Christ!

Our lives take many turns. We all have ups and downs, joys and concerns. We all have needs and we are all on different points on the road of discipleship. Membership in a local church identifies us with Jesus Christ and awakens, confirms, strengthens, and solidifies our faith, charity, and hope. It provides spiritual roots and helps the disciple and seeker to embrace the true worship of God, to be edified and encouraged, to use our God-given gifts and graces for others, and to embrace the joy that comes with commitment and dedication to God!

If you are interested in moving forward with membership, please let Pastor Steve or Carrie know and one of us will be glad to answer any questions you may have. On December 3, we will provide two opportunities to attend a brief “new member” class. The first class will gather during the Sunday school hour (9:45) and will meet in the library. The second opportunity will gather at the conclusion of the 11:00 service in the fellowship hall. We will hold a new member recognition service on January 14 at both services.



Baptism is required for membership and Burnt Factory Church recognizes baptisms initiated in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We recognize and practice infant baptism and we do not re-baptize, although we do offer a re-affirmation of your baptismal vows and also a renewed profession of faith. I thank you for your consideration and for your continued support of BFC. Membership is certainly not required. This is simply an offer for consideration. I am your pastor, and this is your church regardless if you are ready to formally join or not. God bless you and I look forward to hearing from you soon. Grace and Peace!

Pastor Steve Melester



### Thankful for His Good Gifts

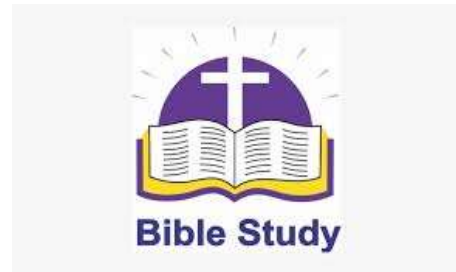
Most Gracious and all wise God; Before whose face the generations rise and fall; Thou in whom we live, and move, and have our being. We thank thee [for] all of thy good and gracious gifts, for life and for health; for food and for raiment; for the beauties of nature and the love of human nature.

—Martin Luther King Jr.



- 1<sup>st</sup> Debbie Knight
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Linda Nicholson
- 4<sup>th</sup> Tim Stinnette
- 6<sup>th</sup> Martina Boudier
- 7<sup>th</sup> Mike Taylor
- 12<sup>th</sup> Kate Reed  
Robert Willis
- 15<sup>th</sup> Bonnie Carter
- 18<sup>th</sup> Adam Woods  
Mackenzie Leonard
- 20<sup>th</sup> Dolores Knight  
Jani Shope
- 21<sup>st</sup> Donna Gallagher  
Abby Melester
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Anne Perrault  
Glen Fair
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Karen Willis
- 25<sup>th</sup> Frances Taylor
- 26<sup>th</sup> Wilson Gilbert  
Mark Lentz
- 27<sup>th</sup> Leila Bayliss
- 29<sup>th</sup> Jo Anne Baker  
Mike Dick

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Johnny & Darlene Morrison
- 13<sup>th</sup> Patrick & Vickie Thompson
- 18<sup>th</sup> Jerry & Regina Baldwin
- 19<sup>th</sup> Jimmy & Jo Anna Grayson
- 24<sup>th</sup> Mike & Maureen Dick



## ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

On Adam Hamilton's book

*"INCARNATION"*

**November 20 & 27**

**December 4, 11, 18**

**When?** Monday's

**Where?** Fellowship Hall

**What Time?** 10:00 & 6:30



It's here! The Holiday season is upon us! For the church, the holiday season begins with the month of Thanksgiving! We give thanks to God for all he has done for us, and we count our blessings one by one because we have so very much. I love this season of thanksgiving not just because we have a giant meal at the end of the month, but because we can take time to be grateful, spend time with family, and give Glory to God for all He is! I will rejoice and be grateful for my church family and all the amazing kids I get to minister to! God Bless you all this wonderful time of the year!

### **CHRISTMAS PLAY!!**

Our Christmas program will be on Dec 10<sup>th</sup> at 6pm Practices are as follows:

- Nov 5<sup>th</sup> Part distribution and table read in Social Hall 5-6pm
- Nov 12<sup>th</sup> First full run through
- Nov 19<sup>th</sup> 5-6:30pm
- Nov 26 NO PRACTICE enjoy thanksgiving weekend
- Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> 5-6:30 (All attend even the littles)
- Dec 10<sup>th</sup> Program 6pm

All are welcome to come in for a part. The Littlest kiddos are welcome to be parts in the play program as animals. They will practice on Dec. 3

We will go over songs during Children's Church and Sunday School time, anyone not wanting a speaking part but would like to be in the play as a background character to sing is also welcome to attend!

The Sunday School Children are learning the Bells during the hour of 9:45-10:45 from Miss Lucinda. Any child desiring to be a part of that fun program is welcome to attend at that time. They will perform during Children's Time throughout the year.

Peace and Blessings!

Love,  
Miss Carrie  
Minister of Children and Family  
Burnt Factory Church



*All youth grades 6-12 are invited to participate in the following events:*

**November 4th-** Campfire at the shelter from **5-7pm!** Hotdogs, chips, and s'mores will be provided. Please bring a flashlight and camping chair. (In case of inclement weather, we will have movie night at the youth cottage).

**November 18th** — We will be volunteering at Jubilee Soup Kitchen from **10-12:30**. Please meet at First Presbyterian Church on the downtown mall.

The youth group has lots of opportunities for anyone to help. We are especially looking for someone to drive the bus to youth activities (driver would get to join in on the activity and get to know our amazing youth!).



Please RSVP to Miss Erin for any of the above events [youth@burntfactory.org](mailto:youth@burntfactory.org), or text 540-535-5283

## Remembering Buddy's Jokes

Question: The baseball bases are all 90ft. apart. Why does it take you longer to run between 2nd and 3rd?

Answer: Because there's a shortstop in between the bases!



\*Pulled from the September 2020 Edition of Smoke Signal



## Thanksgiving Word Scramble

ntnkavshgiig

---

hftnkual

---

lssesgbni

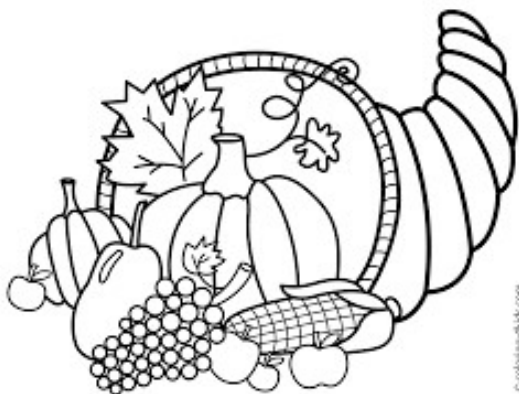
---

tefragul

---

miafyl

---



Answers: thanksgiving, thankful, blessings, grateful, family

# Apple Butter 2023

Snitting:



Washing:



Stirring:





## Burnt Factory Church Men's Fellowship



We would like to thank everyone who came out to support Apple Butter 2023, from cutting apple butter firewood, driving to pick up our apples in Hedgesville, to setting up the shelter to peeling and snitting apples, bringing a covered dish, to washing the apples and setting the kettles and installing the tarps above the kettles, to stirring the kettles, to preparing the jars, to stoking the fires under the kettles, to carrying the product to the dispensers to jarring the apple butter to cleaning up and to selling the finished product.....Thank you, thank you, thank you.

A special thank you to Keith Roberts and Eddie Cooper for their years of experience to making sure that our I's are dotted and our T's are crossed, they do not miss a detail. And to Polly Duvall and the Women of Faith for providing food throughout the event and for Saturday morning breakfast. And a Big Thank You to Chris Shepley for spending the weekend with us while in transition from Utah to Maine, we really appreciate that. And a thank you to Alex Shepley from being there from beginning to end, doing every apple butter chore imaginable. Having young men participating in our projects is something very special and means a great deal to me.

This is a huge church project and you all stepped up and participated to make it a success. This project provides the Men's Fellowship with some funding to help us in our community mission work. But it also provides us with an opportunity to fellowship with one another and to get to know one another in a way that we just cannot at other church events.

We will be holding a wrap-up meeting very soon to discuss the good and bad of this year's Apple Butter 2023 to see how we can improve on this wonderful church ministry project.

Again, thank you so much to each and everyone who participated in Apple Butter 2023 in some way.

God bless,

Steve Cunningham  
Burnt Factory Church Men's Fellowship



# CONDOLENCES

As many have experienced the loss of a loved one, please remember them in prayer:

- Robin Russell's father claimed the promise of the resurrection (John Johnson)
- Tom Miiller's mother (Loette Miiller)
- Brandy Wood's mother (Linda Barlow) in Oct.
- John & Mike Goode's mother (Debbie Goode) in Oct.



**“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, <sup>4</sup> who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.”**

**2 Corinthians 1:3-4**





# Pathfinder Ministry

Contact: Debbie Walker

E-mail: [dswalker1@yahoo.com](mailto:dswalker1@yahoo.com)

(540)664-0908 Cell / (540)667-6711 Home

Monthly: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday @ Noon

Fellowship Hall

Our grief support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficulty of grief. With Pathfinder's, you'll meet others who are grieving and enjoy fellowship, who are suffering the same issues, loneliness and heartache, as you. There is nothing "normal" about grief. We all grieve differently, in our own way, which is how it is supposed to be. There is no neat, orderly stages of grief. We learn helpful ways of coping, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support, from one another, each step of the way.



## Pathfinder Luncheon

Wed. Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023

BFUMC Fellowship Hall

12:00 Noon

Info or Questions contact:

Debbie Walker

(540)664-0908 / (540)667-6711

[dswalker1@yahoo.com](mailto:dswalker1@yahoo.com)

Please Join Us

The Pathfinder Ministry is a safe space of compassion, respect, and encouragement for those currently experiencing the loss of a loved one, who recently passed, or have previously experienced loss. There is no time limit on loss and grief. We will gather as a community of empathy, acceptance, and emotional support.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. If you are not sure ahead of time that you can make it, but on the day of the meeting you would like to come – PLEASE JOIN US - *YOU ARE WELCOME!* If you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Jesus wants his love for you to be your foundation as he walks with you through this emotion-filled season of grief. We welcome you to join us in fellowship, comfort and support.

“I can do all this through him who gives me strength.” Philippians 4:13

God keep you in his warm and comforting embrace,

*Debbie Walker*

## For That, I Am Thankful



It doesn't seem to get any better  
But it doesn't get any worse either.  
For that, I am thankful.  
There are no more pictures to be taken  
But there are memories to be cherished.  
For that, I am thankful.  
There is a missing chair at the table  
But the circle of family gathers close.  
For that, I am thankful.  
The turkey is smaller  
But there is still stuffing.  
For that, I am thankful.  
The days are shorter  
But the nights are softer.  
For that, I am thankful.  
The pain is still there  
But it lasts only moments.  
For that, I am thankful.  
The calendar still turns, the holidays still appear  
And they still cost too much  
But I am still here.  
For that, I am thankful.  
The room is still empty, the soul still aches  
But the heart remembers.  
For that, I am thankful.  
The guests still come, the dishes pile up  
But the dishwasher still works.  
For that, I am thankful.  
The name is still missing, the words still unspoken  
But the silence is shared.  
For that, I am thankful.  
The snow still falls, the sled still waits,  
And the spirit still wants to  
For that, I am thankful.  
The stillness remains  
But the sadness is smaller.  
For that, I am thankful.  
The moment is gone  
But the love is forever.  
For that, I am Blessed.  
For that, I am Grateful  
Love was once (and still is) a part of my being  
For that, I am living.  
I am living and for that, I am thankful.  
May your holidays be filled with reasons to be thankful.  
Having loved and having been loved is perhaps  
the most wondrous reason of all.

By Darcie Sims



Greetings from the Outreach Team

### The Outreach Mission Statement

*1 Peter 4:10-11 "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ."*

October was a full month for Outreach. We had a very successful yard sale held by the Believers, our collection for the Laurel Center resulted in about \$300 worth of items being donated to them, we packed food for Bright Futures, and we filled the Freedge! It was amazing to see that it emptied out about as fast as we put items in. Unfortunately, two of our projects were postponed. Our mission trip to Pennsylvania and our meal delivery partnership with Family Promise. However, these are only temporary pauses, and we look forward to a mission trip in the new year and the start of our Family Promise meal outreach very soon.

It seems to me that the time between the holidays every year just gets shorter and shorter. We are coming to the busiest time of year for our church and our Outreach team. We are currently signing up for the CCAP Thanksgiving meals to be collected on November 5. Sign up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall. The Red Wagon diaper and blanket collection on November 15<sup>th</sup> and the 19<sup>th</sup> and sign ups for Christmas Meals through Social Services are all this month. We hope you will join us as we have fun and fellowship while we share the love of Christ.

It's a blessed time of year!

Grace and Peace,

Sharon Woodard, Outreach Chair  
sfwoodard111@gmail.com





## CCAP Corner November 2023

*CCAP is a cooperative effort of individuals, civic groups, businesses, and religious communities in Winchester and Frederick County. They have unified to provide financial, material, and supportive assistance in a loving way. Even with the help of existing social service programs, CCAP clients are unable to meet their needs and responsibilities. CCAP's desire is to do God's work in a world where many basic human needs are simply not met.*

**Collections for CCAP at Burnt Factory UMC – November is a busy month for CCAP collections!** We will continue our traditional giving to CCAP as follows:

- We are currently collecting **food for the Thanksgiving giveaway** being held Nov.18 at CCAP. We will supply 20 complete meals including a turkey or ham.
- **Diapers for the Red Wagon Ministry and Blankets for CCAP - Healing Service on 11/15 and Sunday, Nov. 19** – We will collect diapers for the Red Wagon ministry and blankets for CCAP at both of these services. Diaper sizes 4, 5, and 6 are the most needed. Requested blanket sizes are Full and Queen.

**Report from CCAP quarterly Representative/Board Mtg** held in October: Andrea Cosans, the Exec Director at CCAP, reported the completion of some **major property improvements** that were recommended by a building inspector last year. Fundraising was done to cover these costs. These improvements include:

- foundation/termite damage at the Clothing House has been fixed,
- lighting throughout both buildings has been upgraded,
- HVAC work was done in the main building at **no cost** by Farrells. Thank you Farrells!!
- Gutter Work is still being planned to divert water away from the buildings.

In addition to these improvements, the Pantry Manager has gotten donations of coolers and shelving.

**TWO Friendly Neighborhood FREEDGES:** The original at 419 N Cameron St and the newest at 700 Aylor Rd at Abundant Life Church are open **24 hours a day!!** These are intended to serve low-income residents. Items needed: Fresh fruits and vegetables, granola, cheese, prepackaged sandwiches, garden foods, and yogurt. You can drop off your food at **any time**.





## CCAP Corner cont'd

### November 2023

#### Current Needs at CCAP:

- **Interpreters** are needed Monday thru Friday from 9-1. If you're trying to learn a second language or are comfortable using the Google Translate on your phone, come on down and hone your skills helping narrow the communication gap between our clients and volunteers.
- **Volunteers** are needed in the Clothing House Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings. The House is open 9-12 on those days.
- **Donation pick-up drivers** are needed to assist with produce and goods pickups from our local stores (Sheetz, Martins, Walmart, Target, Dollar General, Starbucks). The pickup runs are made Monday thru Saturday from 8-11am.

#### Donations needed: (donations can be dropped off Mon-Fri from 9-2 at 112 S Kent St.)

- Gently used Fall/Winter clothes, coats, hats gloves and shoes in men, women, and children's sizes.
- Men's belts and Women's purses.
- Men's jeans, men's t-shirts, women and men's sweatpants/sweatshirts.
- **New** women's, men's and children's socks and underwear and Men's white T-Shirts.
- Gently used blankets, sheets and towels.
- Adult Backpacks

Please contact me or anyone on the Outreach Team if you have questions about CCAP.

*Thank you for all you do for CCAP.  
Patty Leonard*

#### Have you given your email address to Keith Roberts, yet?

Pastor Steve has special notices he needs to send to those who attend Burnt Factory. The notices will include not only prayer concerns, but also schedule changes during bad weather.

Keith keeps an email list in his computer for just such purposes. Your email address is protected, and emails are sent, recipients not disclosed, to protect your privacy.

Kindly send your email address to Keith Roberts at [john.k.roberts@comcast.net](mailto:john.k.roberts@comcast.net) with the message:

"ADD ME TO THE CHURCH EMAIL LIST"



**WATTS 2023**  
Newsletter Article



**What is WATTS?** We are glad you asked! WATTS stands for Winchester Area Temporary Transitional Shelter. WATTS mission is to break the cycle of homelessness one life at a time. We empower individuals to re-enter the workforce and connect individuals to the resources needed to be as self-sufficient as possible while providing a safe, temporary shelter during extreme weather

We are set to host the WATTS shelter for the week of December 2 - 9, 2023

Our WATTS shelter is located at the Stonewall District Ruritan Building in Clear Brook.

With the end of Apple Butter 2023 I will get to work on the Signup Genius for our week of hosting WATTS. We have some wonderful opportunities this year. On Wednesday December 6, Love to NIC will provide dinner for our guests as well as winter necessities, jackets, boots, hats, gloves, thermals & socks. December 6 is the birthday of Holly's late son NIC to whom she has dedicated this ministry to helping the homeless in our community, so it means a lot to her that we are sharing our week of WATTS with Love to NIC.

We need a lot of help during our week to make sure that we provide our guests with a week of comfort and peace as well as some nourishing meals and plenty of coffee ☺

If you have any questions, please contact our WATTS Lead this season, Steve Cunningham (540) 207-7404

---

## **Great is Thy Faithfulness**

Hymn written by Thomas Chisholm  
(1923)



### ***Chorus Spotlight***

*“Great is thy faithfulness!  
Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see:  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided--  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!”*



# WHAT'S HAPPENING DOWN THE WORSHIP ROAD



**Nov. 5** We will celebrate All Saints Sunday as we take time to remember the Saints of the church that have claimed the promise of the resurrection this past year. Holy Communion will be celebrated.

**Nov. 12** We will take time to honor & remember all the veterans of Burnt Factory Church that have served our country. Thank you!!!

**Nov. 15** At 7:00 this evening, we will offer our annual Healing Service. This is a special time of prayer and anointing with oil as we seek God's special healing grace. We will be collecting diapers & blankets for CCAP this evening and again on Sunday, Nov. 19.

**Nov. 19** The Sermon will be based upon 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11

**Nov. 26** We celebrate Christ the King Sunday today with our own Carrie Fair bringing the message! This is the last Sunday of the church calendar year!



## LOOKING AHEAD

- The season of Advent begins December 3 with the candle of Hope.
- Our Wonderful Children's Christmas Program will be Dec. 10 @ 6:00
- We will offer four services on December 24. Our regular worship services (8:30 & 11:00) along with two Christmas Eve services. (5:00 with nursery and 8:00 without nursery)
- Dec. 25 Merry Christmas!

### **Have something you would like shared in the next edition of Smoke Signal?**

Kindly send an email to Becca Ratliff at [beccalea.ratliff@gmail.com](mailto:beccalea.ratliff@gmail.com) with a subject:

“Smoke Signal Newsletter Article Request”

### **Would you like to receive the Smoke Signal Newsletter by email?**

Kindly send an email to Becca Ratliff at [beccalea.ratliff@gmail.com](mailto:beccalea.ratliff@gmail.com) with a subject:

“Add me to the Smoke Signal Newsletter email distribution”



# November 2023 Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 8:30am - In- 9:45am - Sunday 11am - In-Person	30 10am - Bible Study 6:30pm - Bible	31 5:30pm - Praise 6:30pm - Choir	1 9:30am - Pastor's	2 7pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Outreach	3	4
5 8:30am - In- 9:45am - Sunday 11am - In-Person	6 7pm - Mission	7 5:30pm - Praise 6:30pm - Choir	8 9:30am - Pastor's 7pm - Church	9 7pm - Boy Scouts	10	11 3:30pm - Emily
12 8:30am - In- 9:45am - Sunday 11am - In-Person	13	14 12pm - 2/4 BLT @ 5:30pm - Praise 6:30pm - Choir	15 9:30am - Pastor's 12pm - 7pm - Healing	16 7pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Servant	17	18 10am - Jubilee
19 8:30am - In- 9:30am - Blood 9:45am - Sunday 11am - In-Person	20 10am - Advent 6:30pm - Advent	21 5:30pm - Praise 6:30pm - Choir	22 9:30am - Pastor's	23 7pm - Boy Scouts	24 Print Newsletter	25
26 8:30am - In- 9:45am - Sunday 11am - In-Person	27 10am - Advent 6:30pm - Advent	28 12pm - 2/4 BLT @ 5:30pm - Praise 6:30pm - Choir	29 9:30am - Pastor's	30 7pm - Boy Scouts	1 Print Newsletter	2 WATTS @
						<p><b>“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.”</b> 1 Chronicles 16:34</p>