



2024 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

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"This is a newsletter article I shared in 2016. I believe it is still just as relevant today as it was in 2016. I hope you will receive it in the spirit it is intended. As a Christian pastor, it still reflects my position, priority and mantra. It is the only word about politics that I will issue."

Well, the election of a new president is just around the corner.

(1.) What is the role of the pastor when it comes to politics? RUN & HIDE!

(2.) Should a pastor declare for a candidate from the pulpit? NO and NO! Again, running and hiding is the way to go on this one!

In all seriousness, this particular election and these particular candidates will be a part of one of the most divisive in history. The obvious political divide and schism in our beloved country is worse than it has ever been and quite frankly, the selection (in my humble opinion) is at an all-time low! Having said that, I still believe that it is the duty of every American to vote! I want to encourage everyone to vote!

Why pastor? What's the use?

Thousands upon thousands of Americans have sacrificed their lives for our freedoms and no freedom that we enjoy is as important or as vital, as the freedom to vote.

So, once again, what is my role as your pastor during an election cycle?

Let me share some insights from Rev. Tyler Scarlett, professor of homiletics at Liberty University.

“While pastors are indeed leaders for us spiritually, lines are blurred and divisions can occur among congregations when they step into leading us politically. Pastors are first and foremost shepherds of the souls of men and women, not political activists, life coaches or psychological gurus. Ultimately, their role is to glorify Jesus Christ as Lord.” Rev. Tyler Scarlett

Thank you Rev. Scarlett!

Now having established this mantra for myself many years ago before I ever read Rev. Scarlett’s words, I do think it beneficial to share with you some further writings of Rev. Scarlett on this issue. I hope each of you will think very intentionally and with unceasing prayers about whom you will cast your vote for. Rev.

Scarlett shares this with pastors:

(1.) Encourage people to think clearly and biblically about the issues at hand, while avoiding the mindless herd mentality of partisan politics. “Neither party represents the “Christian position” or genuine Christian hope. They never have and they never will” Scarlett goes in to say,” It can be easy to go along with the crowds in politics, especially because they are often sharing messages that appeal to our emotions and convictions. Take a step back from that herd mentality and really analyze what Scripture says in light of different issues or topics. This is essential for us as Christians.

(2.) Guard your attitude and words. “Yes, we should promote Christian ideas but we must do so in a distinctly Christian manner. At the end of the day, we need to be sure that we preserve our gospel witness towards others by modeling humility, civility and dignity. It’s nearly impossible to speak politely with your neighbor about Jesus after you’ve harshly condemned them about their candidate of choice. It can be easy for us to respond to messages on social media about politics and quickly get caught up in heated debates that can hurt our spiritual influence.”

James 1:19 advises that *“Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.”*

Friends,

It is my opinion that this should be our guiding force as this politically charged election season continues. I believed this when I started my pastoral journey in 2005 and I believe it even more today. That’s my story and I’m sticking to it.

Your servant in Christ Jesus our Lord,
Pastor Steve

Worship Road for October 2024

October 6th

We will celebrate Word Communion Sunday! This is the day, all Christians seek unity through the Grace of God found in and through the sacrament of Holy Communion.

Mark 1: 40-45

October 13th

We will be exploring passages of scripture from the book of Hebrews for the next three Sundays. We will begin today with

Hebrews 3: 1-14

October 20th

We are looking at Hebrews 5: 1-10 with supporting scriptures coming from Genesis 14: 18-20 and Psalm 110: 4.

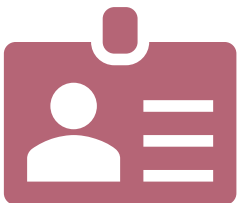
October 27th

We are preaching on Hebrews 11: 1-6 and Genesis 1: 1-5

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

ON OCTOBER 20TH AT 2:00, BURNT FACTORY CHURCH WILL HOLD ITS FIRST ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING. EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ATTEND BUT ONLY PROFESSING FULL MEMBERS WILL HAVE VOTE. WE WILL HAVE BRIEF REPORTS FROM THE SERVANT BOARD & PRESENT THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2025

Church Directory



We will be putting together a pictorial directory this fall. There is a limited time to sign up because we would like to have it printed by Christmas. There are sign up sheets in the fellowship hall for a physical form, and there is also a link to sign up online.

<https://forms.gle/FHA1hsy3mWKKHSPx8>

For more information you can contact:

Glen Fair or Dennis Loeffler.



October Birthdays

- 1st Josh Jenkins
Serenity Buddenhagen
- 2nd Donna Willis
- 5th Kathy Dick
- 8th Asher Nathaniel Dennis
- 9th Doris Duvall
- 12th Bubba Hall
- 14th Jim Shepley
- 18th Kathy Dixon
Lillian Sutphin
Jack Jenkins
Ramona DeLaFe
- 20th Savanna Lee
- 21st Tiffany Smith
- 23rd Darlene Morrison
- 24th Ryan Swisher
- 25th Sean Everhart
- 26th Ayda Rodgers
Nathan Thompson
- 27th Anne Kackley



Happy Anniversary

- 7th Jason & Angela Wiseman
- 8th Kenny & Christina Rohrbach
- 11th Mike & Allie Goode
- 14th Duane & Karen Swisher
- 21st Tim & Jennifer Stinnette
- 24th Larry & Kathy Dick
- 29th Wilson & Theresa Gilbert

Remembering Buddy's Jokes



**I used to be a member of the Secret
Cooking Society, but they kicked me out
for spilling the Beans!**

*Pulled from the October 2021 Edition of Smoke Signal.

Children's Ministries!!

Happy Autumn! Take some time to look around and truly appreciate all the colors and wonders of this time of year! We will be celebrating autumn in Children's Church by doing some great art projects and of course working on our placemats for WATTS! The kids will be singing during Children's time on October 20th for both services.

The Preteen's will gather together with the youth group on October 20 at 3 to do some pumpkin carving over at the shelter.

October 26th from 1-4 is our annual Fall Family Fun Fest and rescheduled Church Picnic. There will be games, food, hayride, crafts, face painting, and a huge trunk or treat! Come dressed in your costumes and be ready for some fun!

Have a blessed October,

Miss Carrie



Please RSVP to Miss Erin for these events:

youth@burntfactory.org

Or

text 540-535-5283

October 20th

Pumpkin Carving at the shelter!
Pumpkins and carving materials will be provided along with snacks.
Come out for a smashing good time!

Time: 3-4:30

October 26th

Fall Festival at the church; I plan to have youth decorate my van for the trunk or treat!

Time: 12:30

(Festival starts at 1 but gathering to help decorate my van beforehand. We will meet in the church parking lot right outside my cottage)

CONDOLENCES

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



Please pray Marcia and Dave Etu, along with family. Marcia's sister, Sally, claimed the promise of the resurrection after a long illness.



“So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy.”

John 16:22

Greetings from the Outreach Team!

The Outreach Mission Statement

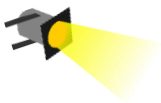
1 Peter 4:10-11 *“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.”*

We are looking forward to an active October. There will be a collection for the Laurel Center this month. The Believers – Helping Hands Outreach has a Benefit Bike Ride on October 5th, we will have our Family Promise Meal on the 20th, volunteers will be finished in time to attend the First Annual Church Report at 2:00pm.

Our Family Promise Meal in September was a special one. The BFC Youth participated for the first time by making all the sandwiches for the soup and sandwich meal. We also had the “Kevin Riley Foundation of Hope” provide a birthday cake dessert and help deliver the meals that day. The cake was in celebration of Kevin’s birthday. He was murdered in Winchester in 2020. Thanks to all who helped prepare, assemble and deliver these meals.

The Red Cross Blood Drive on the 12th was a success. Thanks to Dennis Loeffler for organizing this and all the volunteers who helped on that day.

Note: *September’s Newsletter stated that our Spotlight would focus on WATTS in October. That will now be the focus of November’s newsletter. We are looking for a Co-WATTS team lead to work with Steve Cunningham this year. Steve will be moving to Midlothian, VA next year and we are looking for a new WATTS Team Lead. Please pray and consider if you might be willing to step into this role.*



This month our spotlight will shine on the mission areas led by Marcia Etu. Marcia has gathered a Handyman Team to provide small repair/renovation/build projects for those in our local community in need.

The second mission Marcia is leading is our Refugee Assistance program. Read more about it in Marcia’s article in this month’s newsletter.

Thanks and Blessings to you who give selflessly through our Outreach efforts.

Grace and Peace,

Sharon Woodard, Outreach Chair
sfwoodard111@gmail.com



CCAP Corner – October 2024

CCAP Mission: Guided by our faith in God and love of neighbor, CCAP is a community lifeline for all people in our area who find themselves struggling to meet basic needs, providing stability and security while enabling them to find paths to self-sufficiency.

CCAP's 50th Birthday celebration is October 24 from 5:30 to 9 pm at the George Washington Hotel. Come celebrate 50 years of CCAP with a fashion show showcasing clothes from our Clothing House and modeled by our volunteers. For dinner, there will be chef creations utilizing food that clients can find in CCAP's food pantry. There is a flyer posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall with a QR code to scan and purchase tickets. We hope to see you there.

Our next CCAP Collection will be in November for the Thanksgiving Dinner giveaway. Stay tuned for more information in an email and in the November Newsletter.

CCAP is the perfect place to REDUCE, REUSE, AND RECYCLE your clothing. We need the following gently used items:

- Fall/Winter clothes for infant through adult size 5XL
- Tennis shoes (Toddler thru adult size)
- Men's Jeans and T-Shirts; Women's Jeans - sizes 2 thru 6
- New socks and underwear for toddler through adult 5XL,
- Men's belts and women's purses
- **Adult** Backpacks & gently used/clean linens (sheets, pillowcases, blankets, & towels),
- Hygiene Products for babies and adults; Individual baby wipe packs
- **ALL SIZES OF DIAPERS**
- Tampax tampons
- **Adult** disposable underwear in all sizes and incontinence pads.

Donations may be dropped off *Monday-Friday between 9am and 2pm* at 112 S. Kent St. Winchester, Va. Call CCAP at 540-662-4318 for a scheduled donation drop off if these hours don't work with your schedule

THREE FREEDGE LOCATIONS are open **24 hours a day; 419 N Cameron St, 700 Aylor Rd (Abundant Church) and 102 Montague Ave.** These are for low-income residents. Everyone can donate. This is another way CCAP helps reduce waste. Please label and date your items before putting them in a Freedge. Examples of Items needed: Fresh fruits and vegetables, granola, cheese, soups, prepackaged sandwiches, garden foods, and yogurt.

Volunteers are needed in the Clothing House. One day a month or week would be tremendous help. Please contact me, or anyone on the Outreach Committee if you would like to learn more about volunteering in any area at CCAP. Kathy Dixon, Cheryl Jones, Kathy Dick and I volunteer regularly at the Clothing House and would love to walk you through the House and show you what we do.

Thanks so much for your continued support of this important, Community Lifeline.

Patty Leonard – Outreach CCAP Rep



Opportunity to Serve!

October is our donation month for the Laurel Center. Here are the items on their wish:

- Paper towels
- Razers/shave cream
- Hair brushes
- Food storage containers
- Phone chargers
- Bath towels
- Body lotion
- Motrin
- Tylenol
- Individual snacks and drinks



The Laurel Center empowers those affected by domestic and sexual violence by providing emergency support services, education and awareness. We are working together with our community to stop the cycle of domestic and sexual violence.

Thank you once again for showing your support by providing items from their wish list. You can place your items in the red bins located in the Narthex.

The Handyman Team

On September 9th the Handyman Team met for the first time. Our group of 18 men and women is committed to providing needed small home repairs, ramps, painting, yard work etc. for those who can not otherwise afford it, with priority being given to the elderly, widows, the disabled and veterans. Recipients can be members of the congregation or the community. Each project will be evaluated to determine if it is within our team's capabilities.

To date 5 families from the congregation have requested assistance. Four projects have been evaluated, plans are underway for three of them and one project has been completed. If your family has a need, or you would be interested of being part of this outreach, please contact Marcia Etu, marciametu@gmail.com, 518-744-5159.



There is still time to get involved:

Benefit Ride – October 5th

The ride will begin and end at the Stonewall District Ruritan Club on Route 11 North between the Frederick County Fairgrounds and Stonewall Elementary School.

Registration, coffee and donuts will begin at 8:00 a.m.

\$25.00 per bike and \$5.00 for additional riders

Stopping points:

(1) Fort Valley Country Store,
[7091 Fort Valley Rd, Fort Valley, VA 22652.](#)

- Mileage from Ruritan Club: 45 mi

(2) Cooter's, [4768 US-211, Luray, VA 22835](#)

- Mileage from Fort Valley Country Store: 21 mi

- Mileage from Ruritan Club: 66 mi

(2a) Circle K Exxon, [970 US-211, Luray, VA 22835](#)

- This stop is optional. We will stop here only if riders need gas and can't make it to Front Royal without refueling.

- Mileage from Ruritan Club: 69 mi

- Mileage from Fort Valley Country Store: 24 mi

- Mileage from Cooters: 3 mi



**“Be kind and
compassionate to one
another, forgiving each
other, just as in Christ,
God Forgave you”
Ephesians 4:32**



**“Three things in human
life are important: the
first is to be kind. The
Second is to be kind.
And the third is to be
kind. Everything else is
commentary.”**

Refuge Assistance

In January 2021 Burnt Factory Church became a community partner with the national office of Church World Services and officially sponsored a family of 8 Afghan refugees who were evacuated following the withdrawal of the United States from their country. Mr. Osmani had served as a security officer at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul.

The family has done very well here. They became financially independent within months of arrival, the two oldest are on track to graduate from Handley High School in May, the entire family is studying English, they have drivers licenses and their own transportation, and have truly made Winchester their home.

Since that time the extended Osmani family living here has grown to 31 members (5 individual families). Members of our church have provided ongoing support on an informal basis. In July 2024, Outreach voted to add Refugee Assistance as an official outreach of the church with designated funds in the 2025 budget.

We will work alongside Church World Services Winchester who opened an office here in 2021. This agency is one of 9 nationally that assists refugees resettle in the United States. There are 24 offices across the country and one is here in Winchester. The majority of the refugees are from Afghanistan, but others are here from Ukraine, Syria, Venezuela, Columbia, various countries in Africa, etc.

As of May 2024 the worldwide number of forcibly displaced people reached a staggering 120 million...victims of persecution, war, violence, famine and human rights violations. Of these more than 43 million are refugees, unable to return to their homes. This past year Church World Services has resettled 300 refugees in the Shenandoah Valley.

Currently two couples in our congregation serve as landlords for immigrant families, providing affordable housing in an extremely tight market. A number of Burnt Factory families have provided in kind donations and gifts of money to purchase needed household items. Keith Roberts provided his garden, tools and bedding plants to enable the Osmani family to have a community garden this summer.

Refuge Assistance Cont'd

Karen Willis taught English as a second language this year to a family from Syria. Dave Darsie has assisted with the community garden and moving donations with his truck. Marcia Etu works closely with each Osmani family as needs arise. Tom Miiller continues to field immigration related issues.

Erin Hartman is meeting with Church World Services Winchester to explore ways our youth can serve refugee families. CWS now has guidelines for youth 14 and older to get involved. Others members of the congregation are volunteering to drive refugees to appointments (medical, dental, social services, DMV, etc), assist with setting up bank accounts, read with children and adults, etc. If you are interested in sharing the love of God with those who have been through great hardship, please contact Marcia Etu (marciametu@gmail.com, 518-744-5159).

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 with the message:

“ADD ME TO THE CHURCH EMAIL LIST”

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

Kindly send an email to Becca Ratliff at beccalea.ratliff@gmail.com with a subject:

“Add me to the Smoke Signal Newsletter email distribution”



From the Nurture Team!



Fall Family Fun Fest and Church Picnic. **Sat. Oct 26th 1 - 4**

- Lots of children activities.
- Great opportunity for fellowship with our church family.
- Fried chicken, hotdogs with fixings and drinks will be provided.
- Please bring a side and or dessert.
- Don't forget a blanket or chair.

Questions?

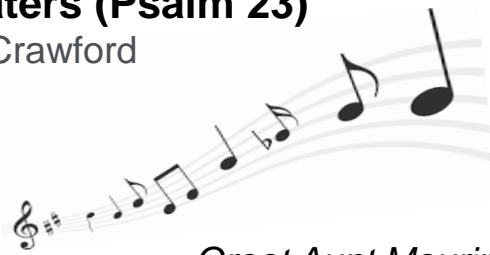
Contact:

Donna Gallagher

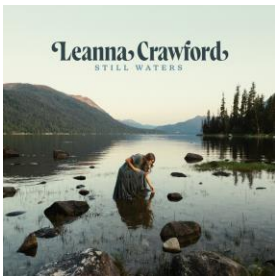
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Still Waters (Psalm 23)

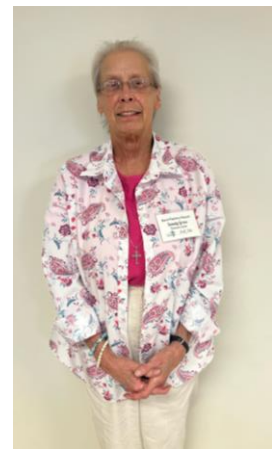
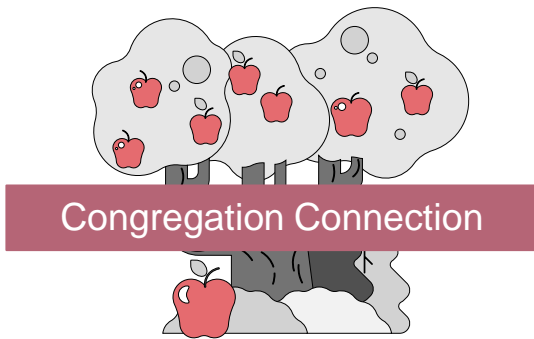
Leanna Crawford
(2024)



Chorus Spotlight



*Great Aunt Maurine said at a hundred and three
Write scripture on your heart for when you need it
Cause anxiety hates Psalm 23
So just say it to yourself 'til you believe it
And I'm feeling like I'm needing it right now*



Name: Sandy Grove

Hometown: Winchester, VA

Time attending Burnt Factory Church: 10 years

What service do you regularly attend? 8:30 am

What would you encourage others to get involved with? I recommend you attend one of Sunday School Classes. Our Intentional Prayer Group is also a wonderful thing to be involved with.

Favorite part of Burnt Factory Church: My favorite memory is when Burnt Factory Church honored my husband Maynard W. Grove by dedicating the prayer room in his memory.

Favorite hymn:

Because He Lives

*Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,
Because He lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living,
Just because He lives!*

Amazing Grace

*Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch; like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.*

Favorite Scripture:

Psalms 23

*The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.
He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters, he
refreshes my soul.
He guides me along the right paths for his
name's sake.*

Corinthians 13; The Love Chapter

*Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it
does not boast, it is not proud. It does not
dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not
easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.
Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the
truth.*

October 2024 Calendar

Date/Time		Event
Tues 1 st	10:30 AM	Steve's Bible Study Opt 1
	5:30 PM	Praise Team Practice
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice
Wed 2 nd	9:30 AM	Pastor's Office Hours
	6:30 PM	Steve's Bible Study Opt 2
Thurs 3 rd	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 63
Sun 6 th	8:30 AM	In-Person Worship
	9:45 AM	Sunday School
	11:00 AM	In-Person Worship
Tues 8 th	10:30 AM	Steve's Bible Study Opt 1
	12:00 PM	2/4 BLT
	5:30 PM	Praise Team Practice
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice
Wed 9 th	9:30 AM	Pastor's Office Hours
	6:30 PM	Steve's Bible Study Opt 2
Thurs 10 th	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 63
Sun 13 th	8:30 AM	In-Person Worship
	9:45 AM	Sunday School
	11:00 AM	In-Person Worship
Tues 15 th	10:30 AM	Steve's Bible Study Opt 1
	5:30 PM	Praise Team Practice
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice
Wed 16 th	9:30 AM	Pastor's Office Hours
	6:30 PM	Steve's Bible Study Opt 2
Thurs 17 th	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 63

Date/Time		Event
Sun 20 th	8:30 AM	In-Person Worship
	9:30 AM	Blood Pressure
	9:45 AM	Sunday School
	11:00 AM	In-Person Worship
Tues 22 nd	10:30 AM	Steve's Bible Study Opt 1
	12:00 PM	2/4 BLT
	5:30 PM	Praise Team Practice
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice
Wed 23 rd	9:30 AM	Pastor's Office Hours
	6:30 PM	Steve's Bible Study Opt 2
Thurs 24 th	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 63
Sat 26 th	1:00 PM	Fall Family Fun Fes and Church Picnic
Sun 27 th	8:30 AM	In-Person Worship
	9:45 AM	Sunday School
	11:00 AM	In-Person Worship
Tues 29 th	10:30 AM	Steve's Bible Study Opt 1
	5:30 PM	Praise Team Practice
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice
Wed 30 th	9:30 AM	Pastor's Office Hours
	6:30 PM	Steve's Bible Study Opt 2
Thurs 31 st	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 63



For more info, view the calendar on our website:
[CalendarNew | Burnt Factory Church](#)