



January

2025

SMOKE SIGNAL

Our Mission Statement

Sharing the love of Christ with ALL people.

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

"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



A Prayer for 2025

"Lord God Almighty, at the start of each day, help us to recognize you above all other distractions. Enlighten the eyes of our hearts so that we might see you and notice how you are working through our lives. Give us the wisdom, Lord, to make the best choices we can and fill us with a desire to seek your will more than anything else in this world.



Let your Holy Spirit, in this new year, breathe in us and through us, afresh and with renewed faith. Thank you for being greater than anything we may face this coming year. Thank you that your presence goes before us and with us, and that your joy is never dependent on our circumstances. No matter what we're up against, you are our anchor in the storm and our solid foundation in the midst of chaos. We ask that your peace lead us in 2025 and that it would guard our hearts and minds against the forces of evil. We ask for your grace to cover our lives. We love you, Lord, for you are our Savior, you are our redeemer, you are our power and strength. You are our everything!" Amen

I would be remiss if I did not mention that 2024 has been a tremendous year in the life of Burnt Factory Church. Our ministries and missions are the strongest they have ever been. Our attendance records have recorded six record-breaking months. We have welcomed forty-four new members this past year, with more to come. Our streaming services, through YouTube & Facebook are reaching many people who are unable to attend in person. CHURCH, we are making a difference in our community for the glory of Jesus Christ and I am so very blessed and thankful to partner with all of you in our various ministries! I am excited and can't wait to see where God will lead us in 2025! I know one thing for sure. Our loving God will never lead us astray and if we continue to keep our eyes focused on Jesus, we will be blessed & will be fruitful for His glory! I am so thankful to be your pastor.

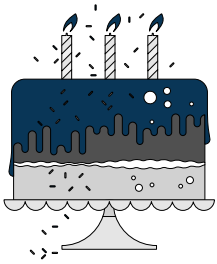
Melanie and I and all our family are so very thankful and humbled by your great generosity toward us. We are blessed by your unconditional love and are truly grateful to receive your trust, support, and wonderful encouragement! It is a tremendous privilege to be a part of Burnt Factory Church!

I want to take this moment to thank the Servant Board and the staff of BFC. They are the very best. BFC would not be where we are without them. Every single one of our Board and staff work very hard with devotion and character. They all have a profound and deep faith and inhabit a high understanding of Christian ethics and personal integrity. They are all on the same mission, which is to glorify Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Happy New Year Burnt Factory Church!

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

Pastor Steve





January Birthdays

- 1st Keith Roberts
- 2nd Iris Sibert
- 3rd Mason Smith
- 4th Noah Swimley
- 5th Karen Lynch
David Wales
- 8th Jacob Taylor
Derek Busey
- 13th Bill Shope
Kenny Rohrbach
- 15th Harrison Fair
Jimmy Grayson
- 21st Stephanie Britton
- 22nd Jay Powell
- 24th Lilly Reed
- 25th Hayden Earhart
- 26th Scott Snyder
- 27th Ron Baker
Anne Bromley
- 29th Gary Jenkins
- 30th Gail Winter
Audrey Sutphin
- 31st Jackie Livengood
Jason Wiseman



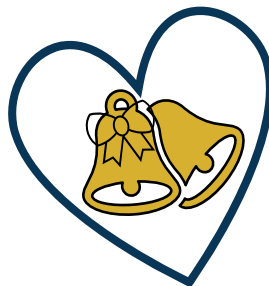
Happy Anniversary

- 5th Tim & Danette Heinlein
- 29th Norbert & Donna Bonjo



Joys

Let us celebrate together the joys in our wonderful faith community. As we are told in Philippians 4:4, Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!



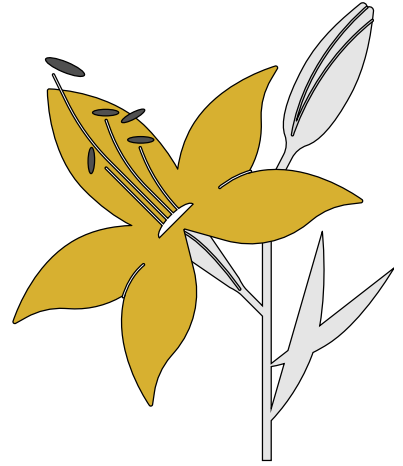
Taylor Owens & Jacob Thomas entered into Holy Matrimony on December 14th.



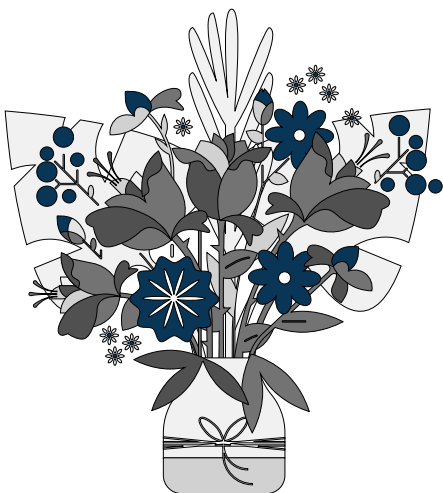
We would love to add your Birthday/Anniversary to our newsletter. If you would like yours shared in the newsletter, please let us know by signing up on the Birthday/Anniversary list in the fellowship hall. Thank you!!

CONDOLENCES

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



- Bob McIntire and Bonnie Carter suffered the loss of their brother, Donnie McIntire.
- Wayne & Brenda Drumheller suffered the loss of Wayne's mother, Jane Drumheller.
- JoAnne Baker's brother, Phillip Kline also claimed the promise of the resurrection.

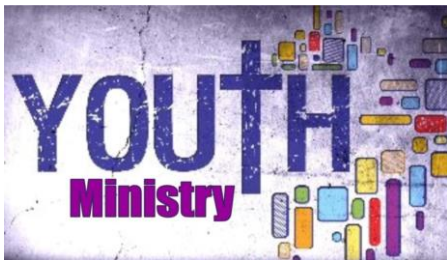


*"Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn"
(Romans 12:15)*

Children's Ministries!!

There's a lot of fun stuff coming!! It's a new year and we are going to praise God all year!! Miss Carrie wishes everyone a wonderful and blessed New Year's celebration!!

Blessings,
Carrie Fair
Minister of Children and Administration.



Questions/comments please text
Miss Erin 540-535-5283

January 4th

Time: 2 – 4 PM

Youth will be “filling the freedge” on Cameron St. We will meet at the youth cottage to prepare sandwiches and take them, then come back and youth will enjoy hot cocoa!



January 25th

Time: 4 – 6 PM

Youth Game Night!! We will have a variety of fun games (including some outdoors ones weather permitting), and dinner will be provided!



Worship Road for Jan 2025

1-5-25 Epiphany Sunday (Holy Communion)

Matthew 2: 1-12 & Isaiah 60: 1-6

1-12-25 Baptism of the Lord Sunday

Isaiah 43: 1-7 & Deuteronomy 31: 6-8

1-19-25 Second Sunday after the Epiphany

John 2: 1-11 & Psalm 36: 5-10

1-26-25 Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Luke 4: 14-21 & Psalm 19: 1-10



Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" (Matthew 22:37-39)

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”



Spiritual Gift Seminar

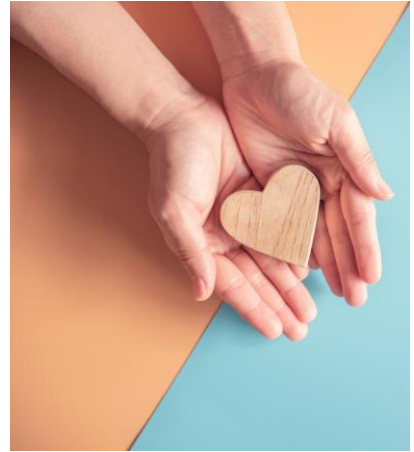
“Serving from the Heart”

(Finding your gifts & talents for Service)

WHEN: Saturday --- January 25th

WHERE: BFC Fellowship Hall

TIME: 9 till 2 (Lunch Provided)



All materials will be provided. Pastor Steve will be leading this seminar as we explore S.T.R.I.D.E.

Spiritual gifts

Talents

Resources

Individuality

Dreams

Experiences

Sign up in Fellowship Hall or let Pastor Steve or Carrie know.

We need a solid count to order materials & provide for lunch.

Need to know by January 18th.

Greetings from Outreach

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."

Happy New Year!

2025 will be an exciting year for Outreach at Burnt Factory Church. Our Board of Servants voted in 2024 to expand our budget from \$5,000 annually to \$10,000. This increase reflects the tremendous generosity of the Burnt Factory family. We will continue to support CCAP, The Laurel Center, WATTS, and Project Esperanza. We have increased our funding for Helping Hands Cancer Outreach, The Family Promise Organization, and The Burnt Factory Sisters in Faith. We will support these efforts directly with funds, but also through volunteering, donations and collections.

There are many ways to help. If you are handy, we have a group led by Marcia Etu and Dennis Loeffler who are active locally building ramps and doing home repairs for BFC members and others in the community. If you have a heart for the neediest among us, Burnt Factory has a hotel/motel/food assistance ministry that works diligently to meet the ever-growing requests for help.

If you would like to learn more about our areas of mission & ministry, please come to our next Outreach meeting. It is Thursday, January 2nd at 7p.m. in the lower cottage. All are welcome!

Sharon Woodard

Outreach Committee Chair

sfwoodard111@gmail.com



CCAP Corner

January 2025

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 would love to welcome YOU into the volunteer family! Consider giving your time, talents and abilities to CCAP by volunteering in one of the following areas: Receptionist, Clothing, Interviewer, Client Door Greeter, Transportation and Receiving. CCAP cannot accomplish all it does without the help of volunteers. Go to www.ccapwinchester.org and click on the Become a Volunteer tab at the top of the page for a list of positions, days, and times available. You can also reach out to me or anyone on the Outreach Team if you have any questions about what we do as volunteers.

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, prepackaged sandwiches, and yogurt. This time of year, soups and stews are greatly appreciated. You can drop off your food at **any time**.

Donations needed:

- Clothing for men/women
- Diapers for infants
- Pull Ups all sizes
- Clothing for kids – all ages
- Shoes and boots
- Coats for all ages
- New Underwear and socks
- Gently used Linens, blankets, sheets & pillowcases
- Backpacks/Sleeping bags
- Personal Hygiene Products
- Adult Diapers

In the Food Pantry:

- Canned vegetables, soups and fruit
- Canned meats (spam, tuna, vienna sausage, ham)
- Canned beef and chicken stew
- Boxed pasta of all types
- Pasta sauces
- Pre-cooked packaged foods
- Cereals, crackers, cookies
- Peanut butter, jelly and jam
- Apple sauce
- Infant and baby foods (must have current dates)
- Toiletries/Paper Products
- Laundry detergent
- Fresh, dairy, or frozen foods (we now have walk-in freezers and coolers)

Donations may be dropped off Monday-Friday between 9am and 2pm at 112 S. Kent St. Call CCAP at 540-662-4318 from 9 to 4 daily for a scheduled donation drop off if these hours don't work with your schedule.

CCAP is so grateful to all of our current Burnt Factory volunteers that give many hours of their time. Any questions, please contact me at 540-664-6973 or ricpat5@gmail.com

Patty Leonard, Outreach CCAP Rep



Getting Started with Mindfulness

Mindfulness practices can bring us many benefits as we begin the new year. Like many habits, the more we practice, the better we get, but we don't have to be experts before we can start. Here are some ideas for getting started with mindfulness in small doses in a variety of ways until it just becomes second nature.

- 1. Mindful Mornings.** Are you aware of how you start the day? Even before you get out of bed, take some deep breaths, use a favorite centering prayer, or pause to be aware of how the various parts of your body feel.
- 2. Working Ways.** When you sit in your chair, let yourself feel your body come into contact with the chair, the floor, the desk, or other physical tools of your profession. Draw a breath and let it out slowly before moving on to be physically present to another dimension of your space before being lost in the rush of tasks.
- 3. The Best Intentions.** We all have things we have to do every day that consume most of our time. It only takes a few seconds to choose something that we want to be today – kind, calm, patient. What value is on your heart that you want to embrace in this moment?
- 4. Nothing Senses.** Try using a sense you don't usually focus on. Close your eyes and listen. Stop moving and be still. Inhale deeply the fragrances around you. Touch a new texture. In that moment, what is that sense of discovery like?
- 5. All the Feels.** We do so much on auto-pilot, from small tasks like brushing our teeth to important tasks like how we fuel our bodies or have conversations. For one minute, turn off auto-pilot. What does it feel like to brush your teeth? To scratch the dog's chin? To inhale clean laundry?
- 6. The Real Truth.** When you have a self-deprecating thought, nip the rumination in the bud by speaking truth out loud. Say something positive and admirable about yourself, take a deep breath, and sit with the truth for a moment before moving on.

7. **Flickering Flames.** Light a candle and simply watch it flicker and dance. Let the simple movement of the light calm you. You are not trying to think about anything or accomplish anything but simply notice.

8. **Soothing Showers.** A warm shower already has a calming effect for many people. Use it as an opportunity to intentionally slow down, notice the sensory experience and observe your thoughts without judging them.

9. **Ritual Richness.** Your own mini-ceremony for anything from how you prepare your tea to clearing your desk – and your mind – at the end of the day can create calming space for you to better manage stress in your life.

10. **Cools Spots.** Choose a spot where you can be alone for five minutes – even in the midst of a group of people, such as on a bus or subway ride. Anywhere you can close your eyes, breathe intentionally, and observe your senses will help reduce stress.

***“Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth.” Psalm 46:10***

I wish each and every one of you a healthy and joyous 2025. As always I pray that you will both be a blessing and be blessed.

Theresa

You can reach me at any time by e-mail at tgilbert@afpdocs.com or theresahgilbert@gmail.com or by phone at (540) 247-5612

As your faith community nurse, I am here to serve as a bridge to better health, meeting the wholistic healing mission of the church by partnering with the pastor as a healer of the spirit, mind and body.





There are currently 623,405 people living with metastatic breast, prostate, lung, colorectal, or bladder cancer or metastatic melanoma in the United States, and that number is expected to increase to **693,254** in 2025.

Not one of us has not been affected in some way by cancer. We will be planning some great fundraisers in 2025 to help fight this dreadful disease. However, if you feel led to please know that you may make a donation at any time. Checks can be made out to The Believers and placed in the collection plate.

All of the money that we raise goes to Helping Hands Cancer Outreach and is then distributed to folks with cancer in our community to help them with their needs.

“Cancer can touch you, but not your soul; neither your thoughts, nor your heart.”

Theresa Gilbert
(540) 247-5612
theresahgilbert@gmail.com



A "Big" shout out to our intrepid Salvation Army bell ringers. Our volunteers endured very frigid weather. Thank you!!!!

Pathfinder's Grief Support Group



Pizza Lunch
Wed. Jan. 15th, 2025
Burnt Factory Church
Fellowship Hall
12:00 Noon

Any questions, please contact
Debbie Walker
(540)664-0908 / (540)667-6711
dswalker1@yahoo.com

I'm looking forward to having lunch with everyone.
If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Prayer Partners

Burnt Factory Sisters in Faith has decided to discontinue its Prayer Partner ministry going forward into 2025. However, we want to recognize those who have participated in this program this year and reveal the identity of who each partner was.

Sister in Faith member

Karen Lynch
Becky Dennis
Anne Kackley
Karen Swisher
Debbie Burke
Jo Anne Baker
Doris Duvall
Diann Duvall
Penny Elliot
Polly Duvall
Jani Shope
Martha Inglis
Anne Perrault
Donna Gallagher

Your Prayer Partner was

Jo Anne Baker
Debbie Burke
Becky Dennis
Diann Duvall
Doris Duvall
Polly Duvall
Donna Gallagher
Penny Elliot
Anne Kackley
Karen Lynch
Anne Perrault
Jani Shope
Karen Swisher
Martha Inglis

Burnt Factory Sisters In Faith

The Sisters in Faith met on Saturday, December 14th in the Fellowship hall with over 20 women in attendance. Baby gifts were brought in wrappings of silver, gold, and brown to be donated to the ABBA Center. Thirteen women from the group also participated in a wonderful ministry where they adopted a family for Christmas from the Laurel Center. There was an abundance of gifts for a mother and her three daughters ages 13, 8, and 4.

Ms. Carrie had a beautiful program planned for the meeting. It started with a fun little Christmas game of matching bows to win prizes. Ms. Carrie then gave an inspirational message from the book "Three Wise Women" where she talked about Mary, Elizabeth, and Anna.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, February 15th in the Fellowship Hall. We will be supporting the Laurel Center again this year by supplying items for a Welcome Home Basket.

If you are interested in joining the Burnt Factory Sisters In Faith, please reach out to Karen Willis or Ms. Carrie. We would love to have you!



Here I Am, Lord

Dan Schutte

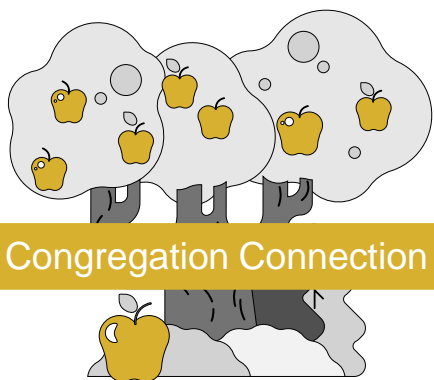
(1981)



Chorus Spotlight

*I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry,
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?*

*Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*



Name: Erin Hartman

Hometown: None; I'm an army brat. I was born in Utah and moved around the rest of my childhood/teenage years to include 6 states and 2 countries (Germany and Japan).

Time attending Burnt Factory Church: 8 years (first started coming when I was pregnant with Emily).

What service do you regularly attend? 11 am

What would you encourage others to get involved with? There are so many wonderful ministries at Burnt Factory; I personally encourage Family Promise, WATTS, or CCAP. Finding ways to help others is something I'm passionate about and I love how there's many different opportunities to do so through our church.

Favorite part of Burnt Factory Church: The one that stands out to me right now is when Pastor Steve asked me to be in a play, he was creating for Palm Sunday entitled "He Touched Me: A Wonderful Reunion." This play was composed of only women, and it became my gateway to learning more about some of the women at Burnt Factory. We all had a wonderful time with our parts, and I loved how the focus was on the women in the Bible who were touched by Jesus.

Favorite Scripture:

Matthew 17:20, which reads, "Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you".

This verse challenges me to find more ways to grow in my faith. Before becoming the youth leader at Burnt Factory, I felt pretty confident in my beliefs. Now I'm learning that there is always more to learn, more to question, and more to do. It's not just about attending church and saying prayers every night, it's about making the effort to connect with others. It's also about connecting with God to see how he wants to use you. I feel so blessed to be able to work with youth to help plant seeds for their faith, and at the same time I'm finding they are helping me in mine.

January 2025 Calendar

Date/Time		Event	Date/Time		Event
Wed 1st	9:30 AM	Pastor's Office Hours	Sat 18th	10:00 AM	Intentional Prayer Meeting
Thurs 2nd	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 63	Sun 19th	8:30 AM	In-Person Worship
	7:00 PM	Outreach Team		9:30 AM	Blood Pressure Checks
Sun 5th	8:30 AM	In-Person Worship		9:45 AM	Sunday School
	9:45 AM	Sunday School		11:00 AM	In-Person Worship
	11:00 AM	In-Person Worship	Tues 21st	5:30 PM	Praise Team Practice
Tues 7th	5:30 PM	Praise Team Practice		6:30 PM	Choir Practice
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice	Wed 22nd	9:30 AM	Pastor's Office Hours
	7:00 PM	Outreach Team	Thurs 23rd	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 63
Wed 8th	9:30 AM	Pastor's Office Hours	Sat 25th	9:00 AM	Spiritual Gift Seminar
Thurs 9th	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 63	Sun 26th	8:30 AM	In-Person Worship
Sun 12th	8:30 AM	In-Person Worship		9:45 AM	Sunday School
	9:45 AM	Sunday School		11:00 AM	In-Person Worship
	11:00 AM	In-Person Worship	Tues 28th	12:00 PM	2/4 BLT
Tues 14th	12:00 PM	2/4 BLT		5:30 PM	Praise Team Practice
	5:30 PM	Praise Team Practice		6:30 PM	Choir Practice
Wed 15th	6:30 PM	Choir Practice	Wed 29th	9:30 AM	Pastor's Office Hours
	9:30 AM	Pastor's Office Hours	Thurs 30th	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 63
Thurs 16th	12:00 PM	Pathfinders Ministry			
	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 63			
	7:00 PM	Servant Board Meeting			

For more info, view the calendar on our website:

[CalenderNew | Burnt Factory Church](#)

