

Laurel Gazette

November 2021



Stewardship Love...

Them dry bones can dance!

Yes, good people, we can dance. God is bringing us to life and is doing a new thing among us. Can you not perceive it? Can you not feel the love? The energy? The excitement? Can you picture what brings us as Laurel Love most alive?

Can you imagine a new bathroom off by the sanctuary?
Can you picture a soccer field out front?
Can you see a pavilion by our parking lot?

Can you see a fresh coat of paint on all our walls?
Can you see our parlor repurposed?
Can you imagine a therapist in residence?
Can you see an updated social media presence?
Can you see new signage pointing the way?
Can you see a circular driveway, ramp, and overhang at the front of our church?

Yes, good people, we can dance. Even our dry bones can dance. Our Vision Task Force has been hard at work dreaming dreams and following the spirit of our Living God to flesh out our Body of Christ.

Your spirit is needed here.

This year there are two opportunities to dance. One is the IMPORTANT giving to our church through tithing of our talents, time, and financial resources. This is what keeps our doors open and keeps us alive and kicking as we move forward with our dreams. The second is to help fund our dreams of where God is calling us to live. This second way will take time to nurture and to refine but it is the start of something new and big as we faithfully respond to God's call for us.

"Rock, rattle, and roll" just may be our new way to express Laurel Love. So, pray, meditate, wonder about how to express Laurel Love. We are dancing at Laurel because God has called us to live.

Let your spirit join in this big dance!

"The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath^a to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD." Ezekiel 37: 1-6 NRSV



November Events

November 3

3:00pm Country Donuts and Coffee @ Country Style Donuts, 8900 W. Broad St.

November 4

1:00pm Dusk, Night, Dawn group meets
5:30 pm Choir Rehearsal,

November 7

10:00am Worship/Communion/Good Samaritan Offering
Afghan donations due

November 9

10:00 am Women's Circle Meeting

November 11

Veteran's Day
1:00pm Dusk, Night, Dawn group meets
5:30pm Choir Rehearsal

November 14

10:00am Worship
No Session Meeting (Ann away)

November 15

Christmas Shoeboxes due

November 18

1:00pm Dusk, Night Dawn group meets
5:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

November 21

10:00am Worship
11:00am Vision Task Force meets

November 25

Happy Thanksgiving!

November 28

10:00 am Worship/5 cents a meal offering
Pledge Dedication Sunday

How do I pledge?

Join us on November 28, the first Sunday in Advent (if you can believe that) for Pledge Card Sunday. We will be dedicating our Laurel Love to God. A pledge card will arrive by mail in the next week or so. You can bring either to the church or mail it back to our Post Office address below:

Laurel Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 1280
Glen Allen, VA 23060



COFFEE AND DONUTS AT COUNTRY STYLE DONUTS

We will be meeting for coffee and donuts at Country Style Donuts at 8900 West Broad

Street at 3:00 pm on Wednesday November 3. Hope to see you there!



The **Shepherds on Call** for the month of **November** are Margaret and Reggie Fitch. If you know of someone who needs extra love and concern, please contact the Fitch's at 755-7201.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF LAUREL!

Bob Anderson (1)
 Jacob Scearce (15)
 Colleen Lannetti (17)
 Eugene Jackson (20)
 Mary Lawrence (21)



NOVEMBER SANCTUARY FLOWERS

November 7 - Joan McArthur and Denis Ramdas - To the glory of God and in memory of Malcolm McArthur

November 14 - To the glory of God

November 21 - Glenda & Clint Miller and Howard Lawrence - To the glory of God and in honor of Mary Lawrence on her birthday.

November 28 - To the glory of God



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's

Purse, an international relief organization. Their mission is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. They ship these simple gifts outside the United States to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease; and to children living on Native American reservations in the U.S. There are shoe boxes available in the narthex. Please take one and fill it up. Boxes are due back by November 15. See Carolyn Stinger if you have any questions.



Let us keep the following people in our prayers, sharing in both their joys and needs:

***New additions will be in bold.**

Our First Responders – Police, Fire, Rescue
Our Military Personnel, Healthcare Workers
Sue Anderson

Corinne Augustine – mother of Carol Short
Sue Bell

Marshall and Gladys Chamberlayne

Vickie Chaplain

Helen Clark

Bonnie Clatterbuck-mother of David

Mildred Clayton, mother of Steve Searce

Jean Cole

Jackie Cooper and Family

Wayne & Marcia Deisher

The Doering family

Donna Edwards

Claudia Hicks

Melvin James

Sherrie Kolb

Howard Lawrence

Mary Lawrence

Ann Leveridge

Eddie Ann Mathewson

The McArthur family-Denis Ramdas sister's family

Ann McDermott

Clint Miller

LaVerne Miller

Muriel-neighbor of Michael Henderson

Jahria Paige-Great Grandson of Diane and Gene Jackson

Eugene Peterson

Phyllis Perross

Sharon Riley

Nana Sarfo-Kantanka

Rick Short

Dot and Page Shepherd

Trish Stratton

Ann Whitby

Becky Zolnai

Prayers for the World

Prayers for the people of Afghanistan

Prayers for Ruling Elders

Prayers for friends and families

Prayers for the hungry and homeless

Prayers for Laurel's vision team

Prayers for the incarcerated

Prayers for the COVID isolated and infected

If you know of someone in need of prayer or you need prayers, please call Barbara Rose @ 270-6978.



Thank you to all our Laurel Veterans!

United States Army

Jake Anderson, Korea

Tod Balsbaugh, Vietnam

Jim Clark, H&HC 4th

Psych Operations Group, 1968-1969

Wayne Deisher, Sergeant/E5 1971-1972

Jim Smith, Colonel 1959-1989

82nd Airborne Division

2nd Airborne Battle Group

503rd Infantry Combat Team

United States Air Force

Mary Searce, Captain 1989-1996

Served State-side during Desert Storm

Rick Short, Sergeant/E4 1966-1970 Vietnam

Eugene L Jackson, Sergeant, 1969-1973

United States Navy

Larry Runyon, Petty Officer First Class,

1964-1971 Submarine Division

United States Marine Corps

Bernie Cheatham, Sergeant/E5 1963-1967



Fall back 1 hour November 7.



**ADVENT IS COMING:
LET'S DIG IN SO WE
ARE READY TO
RECEIVE THIS GIFT
OF ALL GIFTS**

We will be offering an online Advent 4-week devotional study that will meet at 7 pm on Wednesdays starting December 1 and concluding on December 22. Please let Ann know if you are interested by November 15 so books can be ordered for you. We are using the book, "All I really want" written by Quinn Caldwell. This is a day-by-day devotional through the season of Advent. The dates of the study are December 1, 8, 15, and 22. We will meet by Zoom. Bring your wonder and your stardust.

+++++

LAY LITURGISTS HAVE ANSWERED THE CALL

We have added more voices to our morning worship service and kept an important familiar one to pray us through our community life. If you would like to serve, it is not too late to add your name. Ann will be happy to meet with you. We still have some opening spots if you would like to add your name to this awesome line-up.

A big shout out to these worship leaders:

NOVEMBER

- 7 Michael Whitby
- 14 Michael Henderson
- 21 Janice T. Berger
- 28 OPEN

DECEMBER

- 5 Gladys Chamberlayne
- 12 Duane Berger
- 19 Pete MacRae
- 24 OPEN
- 26 OPEN

JANUARY

- 2 Gladys Chamberlayne
- 9 OPEN
- 16 OPEN
- 23 Duane Berger
- 30 OPEN



THREE CAPTAINS NEEDED:

- (1) Online Community
- (2) Online Giving
- (3) Stewardship

We need a captain to nurture and shepherd our online community; we need a captain to research and spearhead our online giving platform; and we need a captain to run point on our stewardship season. If any of these positions piqued your curiosity, please reach out to Ann Cherry.

OPERATION AFGHAN WELCOME

We are working with First Presbyterian Church to supply additional needs for our Afghan refugees at Fort Lee. The following items are needed: gently used men's belts (size 36 and below), shoes, sneakers of all sizes and genders, winter coats of all sizes and genders, rollable luggage, and approved car seats. All donations will be accepted at Laurel church in the narthex until Sunday November 7.

Mary Searce

+++++

MEMBER FOCUS: MICHAEL WHITBY

What drew you to Laurel Well, I was 7 I believe, so, my mom.



Your favorite thing so far about Laurel My favorite thing was back when Flash would give me and Shane a butterscotch before church every Sunday.

Favorite food: My Mom's lasagna.

Favorite book: *The Maze Runner*.

Favorite movie: *Surfs Up*.

Favorite thing to do: Go out to eat with friends.)

What is on your bedside table an alarm clock that isn't plugged in and a lamp

What is your favorite TV show to binge *Friends*.

One thing we might never guess about you I actually own a pair of pants, believe it or not, I don't always go out in 10-degree weather with shorts.

The motto you live by: Just do what seems right.

A favorite way of making love known: Talking to strangers, I love talking to strangers.

Favorite bible passage: Psalm 23, it was my grand ma's favorite.

Your dream for Laurel: To have our greeters back, so my dream has already come true!

How you know when love is spoken: When everyone can be themselves, to know that they're loved so much that there is no need to hide.



USHER LOVE...

Thank you to these wonderful Ushers who served in October!

Carolyn Stinger
Bernie Cheatham
Jim Clark
Ann Whitby
Denis Ramdas
Michael Whitby

If you would like to greet our congregation on Sunday morning, please sign-up in the hallway.

MEMBER CARE AND MISSION

Operation Christmas Child is underway. Carolyn Stinger will head up the project this year. October 17 was kick-off Sunday. It will run through November 14.

Due to Covid we will not have our Thanksgiving luncheon. However, we will have a family which we will support by providing food items. We are all encouraged to participate by sharing our blessings with others.

For Christmas, MC&M has decided to support a member within our congregation who needs our help. In addition, we may have a Christmas family.

Please, as you hear of folks who need our love, prayers, and help, please let us know. If you are inspired and would like to serve on this team, we would love to have you join us.

Mary Jane Bowlin



The Session of Laurel Presbyterian Church approved the following actions:

Approved the minutes

I.) By consent, the Session approved the minutes of the Congregational Meeting on September 29, 2021, without changes.

II.) By consent, the Session approved the minutes of the Corporation of Laurel Presbyterian Church Glen Allen VA. Including the Roster of officers without changes.

III.) By consent, the Session approved the minutes of the Stated Meeting of Session, September 12, 2021

A. Worship & Education:

1. Lay Reader Training – October 3—was held and we will be collaborating with participants.
2. Usher sign-up sheet in Hall, closing after worship.
3. Facebook Site—Looking to consolidate into one page.
4. Lay Led Worship when Ann is away November 14—Worship and Education will coordinate with David Clatterbuck. Theme will focus on Vacation Bible School Songs

B. Member Care & Mission

1. Church Picnic—October 30—trying to increase participation.
2. Will review having a meal at Cantata instead of Thanksgiving due to COVID 19 concerns.
3. Working with Mount Vernon Baptist—will do Shoebox program. Boxes are due November 15, 2021
4. We will coordinate with Virginia Randolph to get a family that needs food assistance.

C. Stewardship & Property

1. Session Approved a resolution brought by Stewardship and Property to adjust Gingerbread Cottage rent to \$1,000/month through June of 2022. This was a concession made to GBC as they will assume their unique cleaning needs.
2. Laurel will hire our own cleaning service for the church office, pastor's office including bathroom and sanctuary.
3. Steve Searce and Carl Carpenter will function as Liaisons with GBC from S&P committee

D. Vision Task Force

1. Ann Whitby's Coffee Bar—Session approved allowing members to voluntarily contribute to defray the cost of operating the coffee bar.
2. Outside lingering possibility per COVID team. We will consider this depending on COVID 19 statistics.
3. Online giving option – will explore with website developer.



New Coffee Bar

E. Personnel

1. Schedule annual reviews with David and Reverend Ann Cherry—this is in process. Carl Carpenter has joined as the congregational representative.



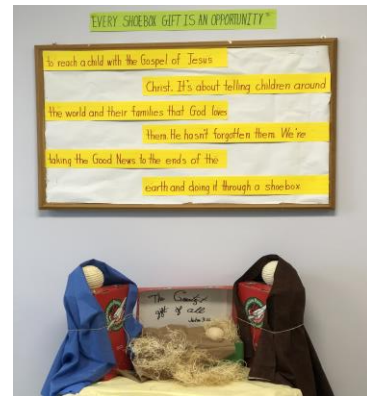
F. Nominating Committee

1. Elected at the congregational meeting to serve with Duane Berger as chair, and committee members: Gladys Chamberlayne, Rudy van't Riet and Judy Smith.

G. Old Business

1. Steve Searce will request a quote for cleaning services to be reviewed and approved by e-mail by session.
2. Session was unable to recruit a representative to go to Presbytery meeting.

Christmas shoebox display



H. New Business

1. Stewardship program kick off—All committees will work together on a challenge budget. We will also identify projects that members can support that will enhance the church.
2. Next called meeting date: December 12, 2021



Pete MacRae working hard to keep the yard looking good.

Respectfully submitted:
Michael L. Henderson, Acting Clerk of Session

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

Thank you for your gifts toward the Peace and Global Witness Offering of the Presbyterian Church (USA). We raised \$278 a portion which was retained to support peacemaking ministry in our area.



Performance Dates are Sunday, November 14 and Monday, November 15 at 7 p.m. at The Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen and the cost is only \$10!

Join **Henrico Theatre Company** and **The Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen** for Music Theatre International's *All Together Now!* - a global event celebrating local theatre! Join us for an evening of some of your favorite Broadway songs, performed by some of your favorite HTC performers! Songs will include such hits as **Be Our Guest** from *Beauty and the Beast*, **Somewhere That's Green** from *Little Shop of Horrors*, **Children Will Listen** from *Into the Woods*, **Take a Chance on Me** from *Mamma Mia!*, **Sit Down, You're Rockin' the Boat** from *Guys and Dolls* and many more!

Performers for this special event include Kyle Billeter, Shannon Gibson Brown, Tara Callahan Carroll, Jenny Fralin, Kenny Holley, Jim Morgan, Dan Stackhouse and Tony Sharpenstein with direction by Amy Perdue and music direction by David Clatterbuck.

This exciting musical revue is part of a national effort to raise recovery funds for local theaters. As of September 13, 5200+ performances were scheduled at 2300 schools and theatres from 44 countries/tributaries and all 50 states! We are so happy to be a part of this effort!

Contact us at www.artsglenallen.com or 804-261-2787 to purchase your tickets for only \$10 each!!

DEADLINE FOR GAZETTE – 19th OF EACH MONTH

Consider going paperless and receiving the Gazette via email. Just send me a message at the below address and I will take care of the rest.

Gazette email: pamacrae@comcast.net

Laurel Presbyterian Church
9675 Staples Mill Road
Glen Allen, VA 23060

NOVEMBER