



LAUREL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Laurel Gazette

February 2023

FEBRUARY HAPPENINGS AT LAUREL



Back by popular demand, Laurel's Chili Cook Off! Please join us after worship service on Sunday February 19 at 11:00 am. Sign up in the narthex to enter the competition with your award-winning chili. For those not interested in making chili, sign up to bring a salad, cornbread/bread, or dessert. Have your taste buds ready to go and let's see who will be crowned Chili King or Queen in 2023! Any type of chili will be accepted: vegetarian, white chili, red chili, spicy chili, sweet chili, beans, or no beans. All are welcome!! Winner takes all!!!



On Shrove Tuesday, February 21 at 6:00 pm, please join us for a pancake supper to welcome the Lenten time of sacrifice starting the following day.

Ash Wednesday, February 22 at 12:00 Noon, there will be a service at the church followed by a soup and bread meal. All are welcome.

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Wednesday February 1
1:00pm Beloved Meets-*Hope A User's Manual*-new book begins.

Thursday February 2
5:30 pm Choir Meets

Sunday February 5
10:00 am Worship Service/Communion/Good Samaritan Offering
11:00 am Committees Meet

Wednesday February 8
1:00 pm Beloved Meets- *Hope A User's Manual*
2:30pm Wednesdays at Laurel Meet

Thursday February 9
5:30 pm Choir Meets

Sunday February 12
10:00 am Worship Service
1:30 pm Session Meets

Tuesday February 14
10:00 am Women's Circle Meets

Wednesday February 15
1:00 pm Beloved Meets- *Hope A User's Manual*

Thursday February 16
5:30 pm Choir Meets

Sunday February 19
10:00 am Worship Service
11:00 am Chili Cook Off

Tuesday February 21
6:00 pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Wednesday February 22
12:00 Noon Ash Wednesday service
Soup and Bread Meal immediately following.
1:00 pm Beloved Meets- *Hope A User's Manual*
2:30pm Wednesdays at Laurel Meet

Thursday February 23
5:30 pm Choir Meets

Sunday February 26
10:00 am Worship Service/Five Cents a Meal Offering
11:00 am Vision Task Force meets.

Tuesday February 28
5:30pm Uncorked meets



The **Shepherds on Call** for the month of **February are Marshall and Gladys Chamberlayne.** They can be reached at 804-755-6172. Please contact them if you know of anyone who needs some extra Laurel love or support.



HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY! MAY GOD BLESS YOU ABUNDANTLY THIS YEAR!

Emmett Roeder (3)
Alex MacRae (4)
Rick Short (27)
Margaret Fitch (28)



FEBRUARY SANCTUARY FLOWERS

February 5 – To the Glory of God.

February 12 – Diane & Eugene Jackson - To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Diane's grandmother Florence Green.

February 19 – Brenda & Pete MacRae – To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Brenda's father John Ruser.

February 26 – To the Glory of God.

**BELOVED LAUREL MEMBER CLAUDIA GRAY
STEPHENSON HICKS 1927-2023**



HICKS, Claudia Gray Stephenson, 96, died on January 24, 2023. She was formerly of Rockville, Virginia, and the widow of Harrison Merle Hicks.

Claudia was born in Warm Springs, Virginia to Clyde Stephenson and Fannie Hodge Stephenson. In addition to her husband and parents, she

was predeceased by her brothers, Carl M. and Tommy C. Stephenson. She is survived by her sister, Elizabeth "Ebu" Stephenson Brown of Rockville, Va.; and her children, Susan Tinsley (Wayne) of Rockville, Virginia. and Jimmy Hicks (Jim Smith-Parham) of Richmond, Virginia; grandchildren, Aimee Tinsley (Jay Nicholas) of Holly Grove, Va. and Brent Tinsley of Glen Allen, Va.; great grandchildren, Jayden and Chelsea Nicholas of Holly Grove, Va. She is also survived by nieces, nephews, and close cousins.

Claudia died on her and Merle's 75th anniversary and what would have been Merle's 98th birthday. After working as a stay-at-home mom, Claudia worked for the State Corporation Commission for 21 years. After retirement, she volunteered at St. Mary's Hospital and then enjoyed a 15-year career as volunteer secretary of Laurel Presbyterian Church, her home church.

The family will receive friends at the West Chapel of Bennett Funeral Home, 11020 W. Broad Street, Glen Allen, Va. on Sunday, January 29, 2023, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. A graveside service will be held on Monday, January 30, 2023, at 11:00 A.M. in Signal Hill Memorial Park in Hanover County, followed by a memorial service at Laurel Presbyterian Church, 9675 Staples Mill Road, Glen Allen, Va., 23060 at 2:00pm. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to The Music Fund of Laurel Presbyterian Church, 9675 Staples Mill Road, Glen Allen, VA 23060.

LINGERINGS AT LAUREL!

It's back! Our monthly time of fellowship and food after worship has returned! The Stewardship & Property Team kicked off this Laurel tradition on Sunday, January 15 in grand style with sandwiches, sweets, and veggies. Thanks S&P for the excellent Lingerings!

Duane Berger

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST LAUREL MEMBERS!



SUSAN DAMERON:

I am returning to Laurel after almost 40 years as a Methodist. I am recently widowed. My family consists of two children, Will and Deanna, and five grandchildren. After raising my family, I worked in day care for 15 years. When I retired from that, I helped my husband with his insurance business. I enjoy cooking and attending the

small groups at Laurel. Everyone has been very friendly and welcoming to me at Laurel.



BILL AND BEVERLEY SHEPHERD:

Beverley Wheeler was born in Richmond Virginia on October 6, 1947. I attended Longdale Elementary, Brookland Junior High and Henrico High School. I graduated in 1966. I was a member of Biltmore Baptist Church until I moved my membership to Lakeside Presbyterian before our wedding in 1967. We remained there until the church closed at the end of 2020.

Our daughter, Susan, who graduated from Hermitage High School in 1988, Radford University in 1993. She has been a dedicated elementary teacher and librarian for 27 years.

Our son, Andrew also graduated from Hermitage High School in 1992. He is a glazer and installs all sizes of windows. He is married to Debi and they have a 19 year old Drew and 16 year old Keira.

In my work career I was a teacher's aide and library secretary with Henrico County Schools. A secretary in the Virginia Transplant Center at Henrico Doctors. I retired from the Bon Secours College of Nursing where I had many support titles as the collage grew from 100 to over 500 students.

We began retirement taking care of my mother who lived with us and being grandparents to Drew and Keira by providing after school and summer childcare, which we enjoyed. We are in transition now as Drew is at JSR and their family has moved from the area to Powhatan County. We are ready for our next chapter which so

happily includes all our friends at Laurel. I enjoy reading and all forms of needlework and crafts.

Billy Shepherd was born in Richmond Virginia on September 10, 1947, to Bill and Mary Shepherd. He grew up in Lakeside and attended Lakeside Elementary School, Brookland Junior High School and Hermitage High School. He graduated in 1965. He attended Smithdeal-Massey Business School and graduated in 1967. Instead of being drafted he enlisted in the U S Coast Guard. After boot camp he married Beverley Sue Wheeler also in 1967. We have two wonderful children Susan and Andrew (Andy): we have two grandchildren Drew and Keira and a wonderful daughter in law Debi. I was born into Lakeside Presbyterian Church where I was married and both children were christened. It was difficult to be there when the doors closed for the last time, but it was inevitable.

It is good to know that the Lakeside Presbyterian Church preschool is still operating and that the pews are being filled on Sundays with another group of younger Christians.

Besides the coast guard Billy worked for VEPCO and the state of Virginia's Health Department as well as working at Parker Field taking tickets for the then Richmond Braves minor league baseball team on a part time basis.

Billy retired in 2013 and still resides in the Lakeside area with his wife and 4 cats. Susan is a librarian at Cardinal Elementary School and Andy is a window installer for a Richmond based window company. Debi works for Bank of America.



Your Voice Needed in Worship: If you have a passion for serving in worship, please reach out to Reverend Ann. She is putting together the Spring Liturgist schedule from February through May.

"Beholding with Spirit": We are looking for "Beholders" – those interested in learning how to actively "see and behold" Christ in the other. The goal is to equip "beholders" with "seeing" and "listening" skills to walk alongside others in our church. We are trying to move from a pastor centered church to the Body of Christ – where we can care for one another in the name of the Church. If this interests you, please reach out to Reverend Ann or to Chris Rhoden. More information forthcoming in February.



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

The Bowles family

Carl Carpenter

Reverend Ann Cherry and family

Vin Cibbarelli, father of Pastor Ann

Gladys Chamberlayne

Vickie Chaplin

Helen Clark

Jean Cole

Matt and Nancy Cross and family

Wayne & Marcia Deisher

Carrie Dickerson

Alice Dunbar-Michelle McBane's mother

Donna Edwards

Emily, Matt, and Vivian Godon

The Hicks Family

Sherrie Kolb

Beth Lanier Wood and Family

Howard Lawrence

Mary Lawrence

Ann Leveridge

Eddie Ann Mathewson

Joan McArthur

Ann McDermott

LaVerne Miller

Muriel-neighbor of Michael Henderson

Eugene Peterson

Phyllis Perross

Ann and Leroy Roeder and family

Chris Rhoden and family

Barbara Rose

Nana Sarfo-Kantanka

Steve Searce and Family

Dot and Page Shepherd

Autumn Waddell

Becky Zolnai

Prayers for the World

Prayers for the people of Afghanistan

Prayers for Ukraine

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 need prayers, please call Gladys Chamberlayne at 755-6172

MEMBER CARE & MISSION
January 8, 2023

-Prayer Concerns: Barbara R., Becky Z., Carolyn S., Carrie D., Choir, Claudia H., Gladys B.'s family, Ginger L.'s family, Helen C., Howard L., Jean C., Vin C., Wayne D., Nana S., Search Committee for Music Director, John & Kathy H., Gladys C., Vickie C., & Carl C.

-It was reported that on December 20th Pete & Brenda MacRae, Diane Jackson, & Margaret Fitch visited the Virginia Randolph family selected for the church to sponsor for Christmas. A supply of food items, as well as a turkey, ham, and \$100 worth of gift cards were provided to the family who was extremely appreciative and thankful.

-The first lunch of the new year is scheduled for February 19, 2023, right after worship at 11:00 am and will be a Chili Cook-Off hosted by MC&M. A sign-up sheet will be posted in advance of the event for those to sign up for preparing chili for the competition, as well as the side dishes of cornbread, salad, & desserts. A prize will be awarded to the winner.

-A list of Member Care responsibilities was divided up among all team members for the 2023 year.

Linda Coulson

WORSHIP AND EDUCATION

Christmas 2022-Thanks to everyone for participating! Mention was made that we missed it being a candlelight service. Due to the prior wedding, the sanctuary Chrismon tree was missed. People liked the battery-operated window candles.

Lent 2023-Begins February 22 with Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday service to be at Noon on Wednesday the 22nd with a soup and bread meal following.

Shrove Tuesday-the 21st at 6:00 pm pancake supper with real maple syrup!

Sunday School-Michael continues to provide thought-provoking topics for Sunday School. Come join us at 9:00 am!

De-Decoration of Christmas-A dedicated group of people got the job done in two hours. Thanks to all who participated!

Projection System-Research has begun to find a suitable projector and computer.

Lighting in the Sanctuary-We discussed the present lighting in the sanctuary and decided to pursue replacing the current bulbs with warm white LED bulbs.

Choir- Howard Lawrence is leading the choir into the new year. Please thank him when you see him!

Duane Berger



DE-DECORATING THE CHURCH

Thanks to all who helped on Saturday, January 14 to de-decorate the church. We accomplished three things— we took down the Christmas decorations and carefully packed them away, we brought unused Christmas items up from storage and went through them to save, re-purpose or pitch, and we cleaned up the boiler room in the process. Next year we should have an easier time of decorating because of your hard work!

The Worship & Education Team

FEBRUARY IS HEART MONTH!



You don't have to make big changes to reduce your heart attack and stroke risk. Here are 7 healthy habits that could save your life.

Get active.



Live smoke-free.



Watch your cholesterol.



Maintain a healthy weight.



Control your blood sugar.



Monitor your blood pressure.



Eat a heart-healthy, low sugar diet.



rbc life

Building Healthier Lives.

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

February