

November 17, 2024



## Orchards

**Genesis 1:11** Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so.

**Revelation 22:2** On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

Smile and say of prayer of thanksgiving today as you think of orchards. Peach orchards, cherry orchards, and apple orchards. Rows and rows of trees, all standing in lines, as far as the eye can see. I grew up around orchards – the peach orchards in Crozet and the apple orchards near Michie Tavern which is near Monticello where ole Tom Jefferson lived. I could see Monticello from my childhood home in Charlottesville. My best friend, Arthur, and I would play all over those hills and mountains. I would often play in my grandmother’s apple orchard. She didn’t have many apple trees, maybe a dozen, but I used to play in them. She was constantly telling me to not climb the apple trees. An apple tree is easy to climb – it was also easy to damage one of its branches, too. Thus my grandmother’s stern warning: “You may climb any tree on the farm, but the apple trees, thou shall not climb!” ...Ha! I knew her routine – it was all in the timing.

Near those apple trees my grandmother kept bee hives. And their residents were busy – these little honey bees. I can’t think of her apple trees without thinking about those bees. I have forgotten how many times I’ve been stung. Funny thing though, I’ve never had any sort of reaction to them. A little pinkness around the stinger site on my hand or arm or foot, a little pain at first, but in 30 minutes all was well. Those busy little bees were essential to the life and yield of the apple trees. But I

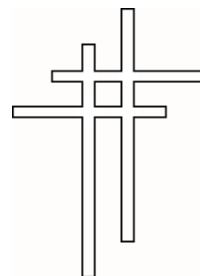
didn’t think about that at the time. I thought granny placed those bee hives in the orchard so that little buzzing, flying air force would keep me away from her apple trees.

An orchard is a very special place. It whispers of God. It reminds us of God’s conversation with Adam and Eve about bringing the earth into creative relationship with the primal couple. They were assisting God bring order out of chaos. There are very few things on earth more orderly than a well-tended orchard: the land is cleared, the trees are planted, and the orchard is tended. I remember, especially, the sweet fragrance of the fruit tree blossoms. The bees buzzing, the delicious honey my grandmother collected. I don’t know whether or not I actually thought about God in those days as I played among those gnarly old trees – but I do now. God seemed much closer and immediate to me then – God, through the love of my grandmother, tended me as a precious living thing. God was always close, thick like the air of the orchard itself – a place where bees, trees and a little boy could thrive. It was a good place for the soul, a very early garden in my life where experiences, thoughts and ideas that were planted so long ago have ripened and my life matured to its proper fruition – all under the watchful eye of the consummate gardener.

*Shalom,  
Jim Sprouse*

## Please Celebrate Sunday’s Message

Huguenot United Methodist Church is inviting you to our Sunday Morning Worship Service. This in-person service begins at 11 a.m. Please join us and take part in our worship and praise of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!



Pastor Jim Sprouse will provide us with the message

**“The Earth Is Crammed with Heaven”**

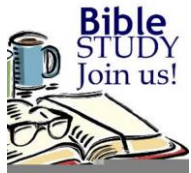
*We hope you will join us!*

Audio recordings of our HUMC Sunday Morning Worship Services are available at HuguenotUMC.org under the Worship tab. We hope you will find these recordings beneficial and will share them with your family, friends and neighbors.

TUNE IN

## HUMC Nursery

Our nursery caregiver, Rosalie Koch, is at church every Sunday and ready to welcome children in the nursery during worship from 10:45 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. Thank you to volunteer Wenda Singer for assisting Rosalie this Sunday.



## Adult Bible Study / Sunday School

Our Adult Bible Study/Sunday School class begins at 10 a.m. Our class meets in the Fellowship Hall.

The title of our lesson for Sunday, Nov. 17, is "Hidden With Christ." The focal passage is Colossians 3: 1-17. The background text is 1 Corinthians 13. The purpose statement is "to explore Paul's idea that we are hidden in Christ."

We look forward to your participation in our class. If you have any questions, comments, or feedback regarding our HUMC Adult Bible Study please do not hesitate to contact me.

Gerry Flinchbaugh

804.314.4817 [gflinchb@gmail.com](mailto:gflinchb@gmail.com)

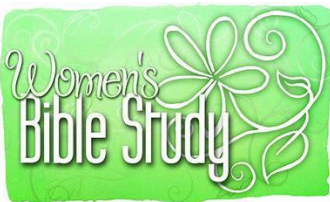
## Women's Bible Study

All women are welcome to join the Women's Bible Study. We meet in the Fellowship Hall of the church at 10 a.m. on Thursdays. We are using the Adult Bible Study from Cokesbury and the emphasis in this particular series is Finding Balance. This series offers Bible

references and a study of the suggested references. The emphasis of the study will be Finding Balance through work, spiritual practices, rest, and celebration. These Adult Bible Studies offer a lot of

truth, Bible study, and direction on better ways of living. Study booklets will be provided and a DVD will be used to enhance discussion with each lesson. If this is of interest to you, please join us.

-Sarah Coffey



## STEWARDSHIP

I am pleased to tell all of you that at this point in time we have cut into the budget deficit somewhat. Thank you to all who have pledged for next year. However, I should tell you also that we have a way to go, and that even with any cost cutting that Finance can do we are still going to be in a deficit spending mode. The only reason I am reporting this now is that should anyone still want to pledge, it is not too late to do so. Please mail or drop off your pledge cards at the church office, or I would be happy to accept them on Sunday. Thanks to everyone.

-Wayne Taney



## Christmas Poinsettias

Our church is beautiful when the sanctuary is decorated with poinsettias and we look forward to seeing the flowers at Christmas time. If you would like to donate a poinsettia in memory of a loved one or for another special person, please fill out the poinsettia form and

place it in the church office on or before **December 1**. The cost for each poinsettia is \$10 and please include your donation with the poinsettia form. The church will be gorgeous again with lovely poinsettias.

-Sarah Coffey



## Mission Moment

Thank you all very much for your generous support of our Veterans Liberation Services outreach. We appreciate your participation in this outreach.



For the next several weeks before Thanksgiving and Christmas, in addition to our **Blessing Box**, our mission outreach will be focused on the **Bainbridge Community Food Bank**. The Bainbridge collection cabinet is located at the end of the hallway past the Fellowship Hall. We are requesting your donations of canned meats and particularly canned ham along with canned vegetables. We want to do our part to reach out to families in need especially during this holiday season. Thank you in advance for your support of this outreach. **"Whoever refreshes others will be refreshed." Proverbs 11:25.**

# HOLIDAY Bazaar

## Joy of Crafts

Please plan to drop by the annual **Holiday Bazaar** next **Sunday, Nov. 24**, after worship in the Fellowship Hall. The sale of handmade gifts will fund all the comfort items we make over the coming year. Your support is greatly appreciated. The Bazaar will continue through the next few Sundays.

Meanwhile, Joy of Crafts continues to make and donate comfort items to local nursing homes, hospitals, dialysis center and homeless shelters. The donations go to From the Heart, a local clearinghouse for many needs in the community.

The items we've been making include activity mats and marble mazes for Alzheimer's patients, fleece mittens for dialysis patients, wheelchair totes, chemo port shirts, drain bags and neck pillows. In addition, a shipment of 30 handmade t-shirt dresses will go out this month to Dress a Girl Around the World. Special thanks to Judy Anderson, who sews so many of these treasures.

Check out the display in the hallway to see what the donated items look like. ALSO, there are many projects that knitters and crocheters can submit to From the Heart, including a recent call for white handmade blankets for newborns. For more information, contact Molly Sprouse at [mollysprouse@gmail.com](mailto:mollysprouse@gmail.com).

## Save the Date – December 11 Fellowship Pot Luck Dinner and Program

We will resume our Wednesday Fellowship on the second Wednesday of the month through the end of the year. As a reminder, this is Pot Luck and begins at 6 p.m. **All are welcome!** I intend to send an email reminder the morning of Fellowship.



– Shirley Bradshaw 804-240-1240

### December 11

Join us for a joyful holiday celebration! (Program to be determined)



Please contact Pastor Jim if you are interested in joining the Usher Team.



Pastor Jim will be forming a **Confirmation Class** to begin in early January. Any youth 12 years and older, please let him know of your interest!

## Please Check it Out!

Please check the bulletin board for **Mission Connection Updates**. Updates are made frequently. The latest updates include Hams' Happenings and Henderson Settlement. Check it out, please!



## Preschool Pizza Fundraiser

Our preschool has an ongoing fundraiser with Marco's Pizza. Just use the code: **HUMCPSAF** when ordering over the phone or online and the school receives a portion from each sale all year long. Participating locations include the Marco's Pizza on Sheila Lane and on Midlothian Turnpike.



To my Huguenot UMC friends,  
I would like to express my heartfelt thanks for the calls, cards and prayers during my recent surgery and recovery. Your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated.

Frank Grinnell

What a thoughtful congregation HUMC has! Your love and sympathy over the course of my mother's decline and passing is greatly appreciated. I am very grateful for your kindnesses.

Elaine Grider and family

Our family appreciates Huguenot United Methodist Church allowing us to host mom's (Anne Bartee) birthday event after church on Sunday, October 20.

Jessica (Bartee) Thompson



**Frank Grinnell**  
**Cameran Henderson**  
**Chad Jarvis**  
**Dan Jarvis**  
**Ellie Jarvis**  
**Linda Pomfrey**  
**Jon Smith**  
**Judith Westerhouse**

In an effort to keep the prayer requests current, names posted will be removed after 30 days unless requested otherwise.

**THE UPPER ROOM**  
 DAILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

**Where the World Meets to Pray**

Copies of the **November-December** edition of The Upper Room are now available on the greeting table at the front entrance. Please consider making a donation in the labeled box.



**Happy Birthday**  
 Carol Ames (Nov. 17)  
 Judge Cardwell (Nov. 22)  
 Kate Southward (Nov. 22)

If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please call, leave a note or send an email to Elaine so she can include you!

**Newsletter News**

If you have an article for the next *pulse* newsletter, please email it to Elaine by **Wednesday at 10 a.m.**

Please know that submitted articles may be edited to provide clarity and increased inclusion. This newsletter and the Sunday Bulletin are posted on the church website by Friday evening.



**Sunday, Nov. 17 – 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time**  
 10 a.m...Adult Bible Study (FH)  
 11 a.m...Worship

**Wednesday, Nov. 20**  
 10 a.m...Preschool Chapel Time with Pastor Jim  
 7 p.m...Choir Rehearsal (CR)

**Thursday, Nov. 21**  
 10 a.m...Women’s Bible Study (FH)

**Friday, Nov. 22**  
 9 a.m...Library Work Session (L)

**Sunday, Nov. 24 – 34<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time**  
 10 a.m...Adult Bible Study (FH)  
 11 a.m...Worship  
 12 p.m...**Holiday Bazaar** (FH)

**CR** – Choir Room    **FH** – Fellowship Hall  
**K** – Kitchen    **L** – Library    **PR** – Puppet Room



- Sun., Dec. 1 – Last day for Poinsettia orders
- Wed., Dec. 11 – Pot Luck Fellowship Dinner and Program at 6 p.m.

**Church Office Hours:**

Pastor Jim is in the office on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Elaine is in the office every Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. These hours are subject to change on occasion.

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