



1232 National Road
Wheeling, WV 26003
304-242-2455
christumcwheeling@gmail.com
June 2024, Issue 327

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

8:30 a.m. in the Chapel
11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

ONLINE SERVICE

christwheeling.org

Watch live Sundays @ 11 a.m.
or watch recorded services
posted after 12 pm on Sundays

Staff

Rev. Jake Steele
Pastor

Diann Nickerson
Family Life Coordinator
Director of Campus Ministries

Bill Stephens

Choir Director

Stephanie Gates

Children's Choir Director

Judith Allison

Organist

Carla Barris

Office Manager

Chelsea Young

Communications

Jamie Lafferty

Nursery Attendant

Ron Miller

Custodian

The Spire

Desperation

God—you're my God!

I can't get enough of you!

I've worked up such hunger and thirst for God,
traveling across dry and weary deserts.

So here I am in the place of worship, eyes open,
drinking in your strength and glory.

In your generous love I am really living at last!

My lips brim praises like fountains.

I bless you every time I take a breath;

My arms wave like banners of praise to you.

(Psalm 63: 1-4, MSG)

In preparation for the start of another teaching series (one that deals a lot with the life of David), I've been swimming in the Psalms and 1 Samuel quite consistently. After a mini, silent sabbatical I took over the course of last Monday, I came across Psalm 63, which invariably caused me to stop and take spiritual stock.

Go ahead. Review the verses above. Pour over each word on purpose. Make it your own: *"Lord, you're mine...and I can't believe it. I can't get enough of you. There's nothing and no one for whom I hunger and thirst more than you. Worship, therefore, isn't an option for me inasmuch as it's an obsession. Only out of your love do I know what it means to live. The movement of my lips and limbs are simply billboard displays of a love that runs deep."*

Can I ask a question that I hope you'll honestly consider? When's the last time Psalm 63 described your spiritual state? Now, obviously, we have our ups and downs; (David did too) The Psalmist wasn't always surging...(neither are we) But this word challenges us to chart our spiritual status. Turn the pages of the recent past and detail the descriptors you'd insert into your own psalm. What would you use?

"Disappointment with?"

"Disagreement over?"

"Discord between?"

"Division around?"

What about, *"desperation for?"* Mmmm. That's where Psalm 63 slapped me in the face. Oh, we've been *fervent* in stating our case or winning our side. When's the last time you've been *desperate* for God? That said, maybe our issue isn't discord or disappointment; perhaps the problem isn't a lack of disagreement or division; rather, could it be that we're devoid of desperation? What if the locus of our concern was on the latter and not the former? Have you felt distance? The Psalmist reminds us: the depth of our relationship *with Him* is proportionate to our desperation *for Him*.

In Christ,

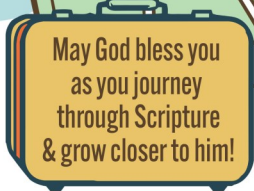
Pastor Jake

BIBLE READING PLAN:

Choose YOUR OWN JOURNEY



Head out on a month-long exploration through God's Word. Each day's quest comes with some options. Choose from a prayer, a parable, a gospel reading or an epistle reading. If you have more time or use this Bible Reading Plan more than once a day, read the rest of the passages too.



1. GRATITUDE

- Prayer: 1 Samuel 2:1-10
- Gospel: Luke 17:11-19
- Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

2. TRUST

- Prayer: Psalm 28:6-9
- Gospel: Mark 5:21-43

3. PRAISE

- Prayer: Exodus 15:1-18
- Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:54-57

4. LOVE

- Prayer: Philippians 1:9-11
- Gospel: Mark 12:28-33
- Epistle: 1 John 4:7-21

5. PRAYER

- Prayer: Matthew 6:9-13
- Parable: Luke 18:10-14
- Epistle: Ephesians 6:17-20

6. OBEDIENCE

- Parable: Matthew 21:28-32
- Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

7. PATIENCE

- Parable: James 5:7-11
- Epistle: Romans 8:22-25

8. WISDOM

- Prayer: 1 Kings 3:3-9
- Parable: Matthew 7:24-27
- Epistle: James 3:13-18

9. CALLING

- Prayer: Isaiah 6:1-8
- Epistle: 1 Peter 2:9-10

10. FORGIVENESS

- Prayer: 1 Kings 8:46-53
- Parable: Matthew 18:21-35
- Gospel: Luke 23:32-34

11. JOY

- Prayer: Psalm 16
- Parable: Luke 15:1-10
- Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9

12. RESTORATION

- Prayer: Psalm 51:10-19
- Gospel: John 2:19-22

13. STEWARDSHIP

- Parable: Luke 12:16-21
- Gospel: Luke 21:1-4
- Epistle: 1 Timothy 6:17-19

14. HUMILITY

- Parable: Luke 14:7-14
- Epistle: Philippians 2:1-11

15. REFUGE

- Prayer: Psalm 121
- Gospel: John 17:11-19

16. MIRACLES

- Prayer: Matthew 14:13-21
- Gospel: Mark 9:14-24

17. FRUITFULNESS

- Parable: Matthew 25:14-30
- Gospel: John 15:1-8
- Epistle: James 2:14-24

18. UNITY

- Prayer: John 17:20-23
- Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

19. PROVISION

- Prayer: Deuteronomy 28:1-14
- Parable: John 10:1-18
- Gospel: Matthew 6:25-34

20. PEACE

- Prayer: Isaiah 26:1-13
- Epistle: 2 Corinthians 13:11-14

21. JUSTICE

- Prayer: 1 Kings 8:56-61
- Parable: Matthew 20:1-16

22. PERSISTENCE

- Prayer: James 5:13-18
- Parable: Luke 18:1-8

23. EVANGELISM

- Prayer: Acts 4:23-31
- Epistle: Romans 10:9-15

24. FAITHFULNESS

- Prayer: Nehemiah 8:1-13
- Parable: Matthew 21:18-22

25. SUFFERING

- Prayer: Job 19:21-27
- Epistle: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

26. GROWTH

- Prayer: Colossians 1:9-14
- Parable: Mark 4:26-29

27. MERCY

- Parable: Luke 10:30-37
- Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-16

28. SALVATION

- Prayer: Acts 2:22-36
- Parable: Luke 16:19-31
- Gospel: John 3:16-17

29. READINESS

- Prayer: Luke 1:46-55
- Parable: Matthew 25:1-13

30. KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

- Parable: Matthew 13:31-33
- Gospel: John 14:1-4

31. BLESSING

- Prayer: Numbers 6:24-27
- Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24



Children's Church "Hands up, Hands on, Hands out"

Children ranging from 4 years through the 3rd grade are invited to attend this program which will follow "Children's Moments" during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. On the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, Stephanie Gates, "Ms. Steph", will offer music at this time to those children in Kindergarten through the 5th grade.

We are seeking volunteers to help with this program. A sign-up sheet is located in the Narthex for you to place your name.

June Collections for the HOC

We will be collecting spaghetti, spaghetti sauce & parmesan cheese for the House of the Carpenter for the month of June.

If you would like to donate but don't have time or can't get out to shop, Shelby can do the shopping for you. Please catch up with her during worship or contact her at 304-242-6127.

Thank you to everyone that donated for the month of May.

Thank You

The volunteers at the Gabriel Project would like to thank everyone who donated diapers, baby clothes and baby items. The donations will make the life of those in need much easier.

Summer Sunday School Schedules

Sunday School classes for our youth and children will break for a few months and restart on September 8, 2024. Adult Sunday School classes will decide for themselves when a

break in sessions is needed.

Christian Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers to Carol Carroll, her son Bob and granddaughters Ally, Jenna and Carly as they mourn the loss of their son, brother and uncle, David.

Summer Coffee Hour

Coffee hour for the summer will be held on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month. If you are interested in hosting, please sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

If you have a special occasion and would like to host another Sunday, other than the 2nd or 4th, please contact the church office.

Shopping Bags Needed

Elm Grove UMC is in need of plastic shopping bags. Bags that are donated will be cut into strips and crocheted into mats for the homeless.

If you are interested in donating, please drop off your flattened, plastic shopping bags to the church office.

You can also be supportive by lifting this ministry up in prayer.

VBS Help Needed

The church still needs help with Out-the-Pike Vacation Bible School, including crafts in the Market Place and Set-up and Tear-down.



Be a VBS Volunteer!

The craft material is provided and is not difficult. It just takes a little patience from the table leader. We try to have two people working on a craft.

Set-up is on Saturday, July 13, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., and tear-down begins in Fellowship Hall at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 18, 2024.

A sign-up sheet is attached to the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Please consider supporting this outreach opportunity.

HOC Blood Drive

The House of the Carpenter Give Blood & Give Back Blood Drive will be held on Thursday, June 27, 1:00 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Tony & Nancy Bedway Center for Youth Gym, 200 S. Front Street, Wheeling.

To schedule an appointment to donate:

- Go to vitalant.org and search with account code UG0110172
- Call 1-877-25VITAL.

Chair Yoga

Women's Chair Yoga - Every Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), 1343 National Road, Wheeling.

Chair yoga is a gentle form of yoga that can be done while sitting. It is especially good for seniors and people who sit in a chair at work.

Chair yoga can help with the following:

- Reduce joint pain
- Balance
- Flexibility
- Well-being

Be sure to wear comfortable clothing. Class fee is \$7.00.

CARE FACILITIES

•Good Shepherd

Jack Kerr 320
Mildred Posey

•Peterson

Jane Friebertshauser 520

•Sienna Skilled Nursing & Rehab (Wintersville)

Donald Bowman

Flesh on Faith

At the spring United Women in Faith’s Spiritual Growth Retreat our guest speaker, Janet Wolf (elder in the UMC – look her up!) spoke about the importance of putting flesh on our faith and the idea really resonated with me. The women from WLU Campus Ministry did just that when we traveled to Wilmington, NC to do some service work. We worked with the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina helping neighbors in need. The Food Bank sorts all the bulk vegetables from local farmers that grow food for them and re-packages it into smaller amounts to be handed out by local agencies such as social service groups and churches. We packaged carrots, sweet potatoes, and the biggest heads of cabbage you’ve ever seen!! They also have a self-service pantry that allows people to shop for things they like and need, in a friendly, market environment. We also received a tour of the warehouse where all the produce and non-perishable items are stored. It was meaningful to work with the agency and other volunteers knowing this organization is vital to so many in the community.



In New Hanover County in Wilmington, NC all second graders get to learn to swim! What a fantastic opportunity for kids, some of which don’t have access to swimming attire, let alone a swimming pool. Local agencies work with the school district and the YWCA to provide the swim suits, towels, and lessons needed for the children to learn to swim. We jumped into the pool and helped several groups of kids start to learn the basics of swimming. We provided support and encouragement to the little ones who were just learning to get their faces wet, float, and learn some swimming strokes. There are populations of kids who simply don’t have access to swimming. It could be a transportation issue, training isn’t always available in some locations, and cost is often an impediment to learning to swim. These local agencies and churches have committed to this program and everyone involved gets splashed with the love and joy of learning a new skill, giving of ourselves, and showing kindness to others.



Experiences like this help us to put flesh on our faith. Our students came away from the week thankful for the opportunity to serve and appreciating a new bond with the other sisters of Campus Ministry.

During the summer I will be meeting with potential students, attending new student orientations, and planning programs for the 2024-2025 academic year. I ask for your prayers as we move into a new phase of Campus Ministry for the upcoming year.

Family Life Coordinator

The school year is coming to an end and with that there are a few changes happening within the church.

Summer Housing

Our students from Wheeling University that worship with us have encountered some housing issues for the summer so we were able to secure housing for them in Elm Grove. Several of them also got jobs so that will help them with their finances too. One of the students has a car so they will be able to continue worshipping with us this summer!

Faith @ Home Bulletin Board

We suspend Sunday School for the summer, so this provides a new opportunity to reach our families. There will be a new bulletin board, "Faith at Home" in the hallway across from the Sunday School classrooms. The board will provide ideas and resources for our families during the upcoming summer months. Please feel free to share these resources with your children, grandchildren, or any young family you encounter this summer.

Messy Church

Do you know someone who has been thinking about coming to church but can't quite commit? Afraid to take those first steps?

Are you friends with someone you'd like to introduce to Jesus?

Are you aware of a family that is so busy they just can't seem to devote time to coming to church every week but want to get back into a church family?

If you answered yes to any of these questions – we have an opportunity for you - Messy Church!! It's an all-age worship service that combines learning about God, sharing a meal, and doing all kinds of fun activities with each other.

Messy Church will meet on the second Wednesday of every month beginning on June 12th from 6:00-7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

I'm sure your next question is – how can I get involved? A couple of ways: first, pray for this new opportunity to reach new people and everyone involved with it; second, invite a friend or family to attend (registration forms are on our church website); and third, volunteer to help – we have lots of choices (see the sign-up sheet).

Peace Crane Tree

For six weeks our congregation, along with students from West Liberty and Wheeling University, folded origami cranes as a reminder of the struggle for peace around the world. We created over 1,500 cranes that will be used at Annual Conference in the next few weeks. A blessing was held in church for these cranes on Peace with Justice Sunday. Please continue to keep praying for peace – for everyone that has been impacted by the wars around the world. Here is the prayer (on page 6) offered during our worship service that you can add to your own prayers for peace.



Our Small Difference by John van de Larr

We may not be able to confront queens,
or challenge presidents;
We may not have the capacity to divert resources,
or uplift communities;
We may not have the voice to silence the noise of war,
or the words to negotiate peace between armies;
But, as we follow you, O Christ, we are able to do something.

And so, we pray that you would inspire us
to commit to and act on
the small difference we can make:

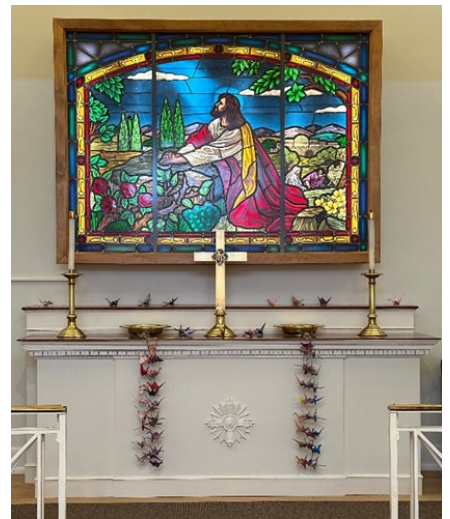
May we bring peace
through small acts of gentleness
and reconciliation;
May we bring wealth
through small contributions
and collaborations;
May we bring safety
through small acts of consideration
and acceptance;
May we bring wholeness
through small acts of care
and service.

And in the small ways, O God,
may our small difference make a big contribution
to your saving work in our world.

Amen.

If you have questions about Messy Church, resources for children and families, WLU happenings, or anything else – please contact me. I'm in the office most days from 9 am until 4 pm or I can be reached by cell phone or email.

Grace and Peace,
Diann Nickerson
304-312-0347
Nickerson246@gmail.com



CHURCH
picnic
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, BETHLEHEM COMMUNITY PARK

A picnic basket filled with a water bottle, grapes, and apples.

June Birthdays & Anniversaries

Kitt Bandi	June 1
Celia Kiedaisch	June 2
Bree* Wiley	June 2
Deborah Hatton	June 3
Danell Morris	June 3
Gretchen McCardle	June 4
Krysta Frye	June 6
Jakob Bedway	June 7
Martha Hon	June 7
Ricky* Onishi	June 7
Mila Smith	June 8
Nicholas* Barbeau	June 9
Crystal Clatterbuck	June 9
Bruce Grover	June 9
Addilyn* Ellwood	June 10
Daniel Knight	June 10
Sarah Allen	June 11
Jill Bandi	June 11
Robert Matzke	June 11
Brandon Bandi	June 12
Cole Lindsay	June 12
Lowell Collins	June 14
Tracey Eberling	June 14
Lilyana* Fullerton	June 14
Joy Dyer	June 15
Adalen* Jefferson	June 16
Cameron Broadwater	June 17
Richard Brown	June 17
Stephen* Mills	June 18
Jonathan* Willson	June 18
Robert Gregg Barker	June 20
Kevin Collins	June 20
Barbara J. LaRue	June 20
Judith McNabb	June 20
Cheryl Arensberg	June 21
Charlene Goodwin	June 21
Deborah Hofmann	June 21
Benjamin* Roberts	June 21
Jonathan Kepner	June 24
Ashley* Clatterbuck	June 25
Allie* Ellwood	June 25
Paul Thompson	June 25
Wesley McConnell	June 26
Olivia Simons	June 26
Emily* Steele	June 26
Seth Storch	June 26

Ken Dunbar	June 27
Doug* Liston	June 28
Kara Barkley	June 29
Giavonna* Loccisano	June 29
Clark Sambuco	June 29
Fred E. Groux, Jr.	June 30
Walter F. LaRue	June 30
Kathleen Palmer	June 30

Mike* & Jean Bailey
June 6

Gary & Linda Bryant
June 6

Doug* & Judy* Liston
June 7

Dennis & Martha Hon
June 8

Don & DeAnna Taylor
June 8

Michael & Charlene Frazier
June 9

George & Laurie Ruberg
June 13

Gary & Cheryl Sprague
June 14

Mike* & Belinda Austen
June 19

Ken & Robin Dunbar
June 19

Walter & Barbara LaRue
June 21

Jason & Amber Smith
June 26

Dave & Mimi
June 30

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please take a minute to re-view the list, and let the church office know if there are any names to be removed from the list.

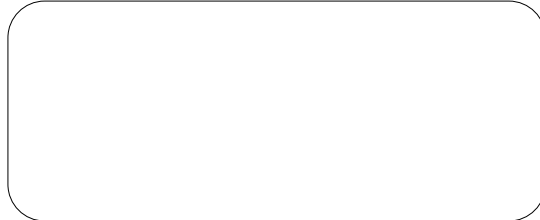
Gary Galbreath; Craig; Justin; Randy Jones; Clem & Nancy Schutler; Kim & Buddy Bowman; Roxie Derheimer; Charlie Palmer; Parker Fox; Katie Histing; Kevin Barton; Frank Gilbert & Family; Richard Gilliam; Logan; Barbara Buckwack; Harry; James Gyer; Brittany Yoho; Bob & Debbie Becker; Lee; Suzanne; Ruth Wade; Jeff Winslow; Addison Stephans; John Lendon; Travis Ellis; Bill; Sony and Gary; Josh Chaplin; Melissa; Breanne; Karen & Jim Bruhn; Sandy Thames; Leslie Heldreth; Glenn Balla; John Witzberger; Freda Blake, Sherry Curry; Barb Wotojwicz; Family of Anya Robertson; Joan McClelland; Joanne Taylor; Randy Austin & Family; Miller Family; Jason Broadwater; Betty Dent; Bob McDonald; Paul & Kim Weber; Carol Pattim; Pat Staton; Jim Bowman; Donald Bowman; Rosemary Leicet; Terry; Linda & Jack Kerr; Kenny Nickerson; Dawn Walker Schemp; Jessie; Cathy Pavlock; Zach Henry; Harold Tharp; Randy Straub; Scott Morris; Michael Selick; Sara Madison; Sherwood Dobbs; Lauren Robinson; Harriett McCardle; Ted Allen; Gary Haught; Betty Hissom; Brad King; Jim Jones; Jenn; Gail; Jeff; Sara Staley; Cody McAvoy; Kristen Smith; Betty Love; Jonathan Chance; Elizabeth Carson; Connie Macek; Bill Harr; Mr. P.; Linda Moffit.



Christ United Methodist Church
1232 National Road
Wheeling, WV 26003

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Out the Pike Vacation Bible School

**Sunday, July 14 - Thursday, July 18, 2024
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

Age groups:

3 & 4 year olds, 5 year olds, 6 & 7 year olds, 8 & 9 year olds, and 10 & 11 year olds

The Out the Pike Vacation Bible School is a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together. We are proud to collaborate with Christ United Methodist Church, First Christian Church of Christ, St. Michael's Church, and Vance Presbyterian Church. This joint effort is a testament to our shared commitment to spreading the word of God.

A sign-up sheet has been placed in the Narthex for members to indicate where they would like to help with this community outreach service. Join us in making this outreach a special event to spread what being a child of God is like.

