#### Our Vision

To be a faithful, growing church that demonstrates true community, deep Christian spirituality and a passion for justice. (Micah 6:8)

#### 1910

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing, with everlasting joy on their heads. . . . Isaiah 35:10

"Though battered by life, the patriarch Job declared that God is able to give us "songs in the night" (Job 35:10). When the Psalmist, Asaph, felt overwhelmed, he consoled himself with God's "song in the night" (Psalm 77:6). God is strong enough to keep us singing, even in the night seasons.

North Carolina native Luther Bridges began preaching at age seventeen while attending Asbury College in Kentucky. Afterword, he developed a reputation as an effective pastor/evangelist/church planter. The Lord gave him a wonderful wife and three precious boys.

In 1910, when Luther was twenty-six and the future seemed bright, he took his family to his wife's home in Harrodsburg, Kentucky, southwest of Lexington. They were going to stay with her parents while Luther was on a preaching trip.

One evening a nearby neighbor, unable to sleep, rose in the night and glanced out his window. He was horrified to see flames. Racing across the field, he gave the alarm, but by that time the house was fully engulfed. Luther's in-laws evidently escaped, but his wife and sons perished.

## -Pastor's Note-

He Keeps Me Singing Borrowed from Robert J. Morgan's "THEN SINGS MY SOUL"

During the long, slow recovery from overwhelming grief, Luther suffered deep and almost suicidal depression, according to some sources. But he recalled the Bible's promise of "songs in the night," and several months later he wrote both the words and the music for this gospel song about God's ability to keep him singing. Notice how he alludes to his tragedy in verse 4:

Though sometimes He leads me through waters deep, /
Trials fall across the way,
Though sometimes that path seems rough and steep. /
See His footprints all the way.

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, Sweetest Name I know, Fills my every longing, Keeps me singing as I go.

In 1914, Luther married again and became a general evangelist for the Methodist Episcopal Church South, a ministry that kept him occupied for the next eighteen years (with a brief interruption after World War 1 when he traveled to Belgium, Czechoslovakia, and Russia, doing evangelistic work).

After 1932, he served as pastor in churches in Georgia and North Carolina, and retired in Gainesville, Georgia, in 1945. He passed away in Atlanta in 1948."

Seems a fitting story to share during the Advent Season as we celebrate the birth (1<sup>st</sup> Advent) of Jesus Messiah and make our focus on (the 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent) the soon and coming King.

#### **Our Mission**

To be and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ,

witnessing, loving and serving from our doorsteps "to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

With celebration and anticipation in the air, too many folks find this time of year the most difficult to navigate. With all the tragedy that Luther endured he truly found a song in the night. Take notice of the first verse of this treasured hymn and it just so happens to be one of my most favorite.

There's within my heart a melody; / Jesus whispers sweet and low.

"Fear not, I am with you, peace, be still," / in all of life's ebb and flow.

Have you found a song in the night? Is there within your heart a melody?

Let it be said of us that He keeps us singing as we go. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

To God be the glory! Shalom and SHALOM.

**PDoug** 



He Keeps Me Singing



#### **Prayer Requests**



#### **Shut Ins**

Margaret Goodwin Pat Hartley George Brooks

#### **Health Concerns**

Nancy Neal Bill Fuzia Charlotte Dunahoe Ruth Stevenson Zack Carter Wavne Collins

Phyllis Fonda David Hines

Kimberly Duesing Mary Crigger Tom Farmer

Joanna Camacho Nolan Farmer

Betty Lou Gibberson

Shirley Hines **Buck Sowers** Mark Flippo

Mary Anne Collins Calvin Shoemaker

John Gibson Karen Beavers

Bobby Neal Don Dickerson Roger Mullins

Lois Comerose Tonia Russell Betty Williams

Jackie Rucker Doug McDaniel Sr.

Meghan McGuire

Allen Neal Melissa Carnett

Mary Ann Mover Judy Tabor

Ira Saltzman

Chad Eddy Ted Hinerman

Tana Miller Theresa Thomason

Jimmy Musser Don Hammond Yvette Thompson Grace Martin

Bernard Pauley

Pat Gomillan

Jeana Cury Lois Gibson Sarah McGee

Pam Yost Spracher

Sarah Neal Jav Woolwine Phyllis Willis

Nora

Sandy Cassidy Susan Alford Billy Howell

#### **Bereavement**

The Family of Donald Kidd The Family of Connie Taylor The Family of Paris Swisher The Family of Brenda Smith The Family of Ernie Mullins

#### **Praver Request**

Our Pastor Our Country Our Church Family Kairos Our First Responders

General Church Regional Church

Regional Minister & Staff

Celebrate Recovery Wade Center Fatima Sano

Boy Scout Troop 14 AL & Sonia Hancock

Gerv Piluso Zelma Aichel Pat O'Neal Gary Hendricks

#### **Unspecified Prayer Request**

Terri Dodson Wavne Pelts Belinda Tabor

#### **January Lectionary**

December 27: Psalm 148: Proverbs 8:22-31: 1 John 5:1-12 December 28: Psalm 148; Isaiah 49:13-23; Matthew 18:1-14 December 29: Psalm 20; Jeremiah 31:15-22; Luke 19:41-44 December 30: Psalm 20; Isaiah 26:1-9; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 December 31: Psalm 20; 1 Kings 3:5-14; John 8:12-19

January 1: Isaiah 63:7-9, Psalm 148, Hebrews 2:10-18, Matthew 2:13-23

January 2: Psalm 20; Genesis 12:1-7; Hebrews 11:1-12

January 3: Psalm 72; Genesis 28:10-22; Hebrews 11:13-22

January 4: Psalm 72; Exodus 3:1-5; Hebrews 11:23-31 January 5: Psalm 72; Joshua 1:1-9; Hebrews 11:32-12:2

January 6: Isaiah 60:1-6, Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14, Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12

January 7: Psalm 72; 1 Kings 10:1-13; Ephesians 3:14-21

January 8: Isaiah 42:1-9, Psalm 29. Acts 10:34-43, Matthew 3:13-17

January 9: Psalm 89:5-37; Genesis 35:1-15; Acts 10:44-48 January 10: Psalm 89:5-37; Jeremiah 1:4-10; Acts 8:4-13

January 11: Psalm 89:5-37: Isaiah 51:1-16: Matthew 12:15-21

January 12: Psalm 40:1-11; Isaiah 22:15-25; Galatians 1:6-12

January 13: Psalm 40:1-11; Genesis 27:30-38; Acts 1:1-5 January 14: Psalm 40:1-11; 1 Kings 19:19-21; Luke 5:1-11

January 15: Isaiah 49:1-7, Psalm 40:1-11, 1 Corinthians 1:1-9, John 1:29-42

January 16: Psalm 40:6-17; Exodus 12:1-13, 21-28; Acts 8:26-40

January 17: Psalm 40:6-17; Isaiah 53:1-12; Hebrews 10:1-4

January 18: Psalm 40:6-17; Isaiah 53:1-12; Hebrews 10:1-4

January 19: Psalm 27:1-6; 1 Samuel 1:1-20; Galatians 1:11-24

January 20: Psalm 27:1-6; 1 Samuel 9:27-10:8; Galatians 2:1-10 January 21: Psalm 27:1-6; 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13; Luke 5:27-32

January 22: Isaiah 9:1-4, Psalm 27:1, 4-9, 1 Corinthians 1:10-

#### 18 Matthew 4:12-23

January 23: Psalm 27:7-14; Judges 6:11-24; Ephesians 5:6-14

January 24: Psalm 27:7-14; Judges 7:12-,22; Philippians 2:12-18

January 25: Psalm 27:7-14; Genesis 49:1-2, 8-13, 21-26; Luke 1:67-79

January 26: Psalm 15; Deuteronomy 16:18-20; 1 Peter 3:8-12

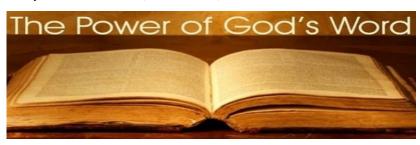
January 27: Psalm 15; Deuteronomy 24:17-25:4; 1 Timothy 5:17-24

January 28: Psalm 15; Micah 3:1-4; John 13:31-35

January 29: Micah 6:1-8, Psalm 15, 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, Matthew 5:1-

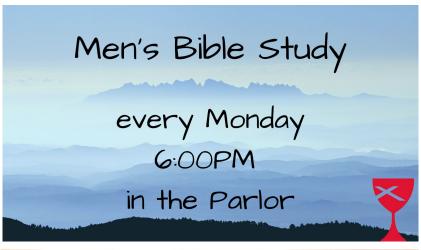
January 30: Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 1:1-18; Philemon 1-25

January 31: Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 2:1-16; James 5:1-6



## facebook LIVE

Join us each Sunday morning at 10:00AM for our Worship service You don't have to have a Facebook account to be able to view the live video! If you are unable to watch it live, no worries you can always go back and watch the service from the beginning. Just go on the link to the church's Facebook which is: https://www.facebook.com/bluefieldfcc







Greeting Church Family,

The Christmas Season is upon us. As we celebrate with our family and friends, let us remember the true meaning of Christmas. The birth of JESUS!!! Although Santa, the decorations and the presents maybe nice, it is not the real reason we celebrate. We celebrate because our Savior was born on Christmas day, and because of this we have eternal life in heaven if we accept Jesus into our heart. So as we get consumed with the hustle and bustle of the holiday, let us not forget the true meaning of CHRISTmas. Jesus Christ.

We have Mid-winter retreat coming up February 10-12, 2023. This is for youth in the 3rd—12th grade. If your youth would like to go please let Sarah Neal know so she can get you the information to sign up. The sign up deadline is Sunday January 8, 2023.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve, God Bless, and Happy New Year!

Sarah Neal





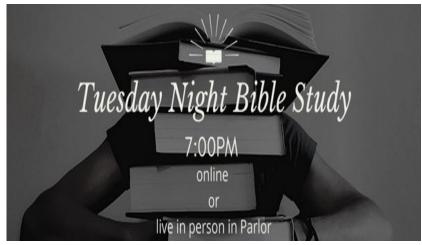
Dear friends and church family,

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for all the love, comfort and prayers that you gave us during Paris' illness and passing. Paris was such a beautiful example of unwavering faith, and a joy to all who knew her. Thank you so much for loving her and loving us.

There will be a Celebration of Paris' Life on January 21, 2023, at 11:00AM at: Church of the Holy Spirit 6011 Merriman Road Roanoke, VA 24018

We are so blessed to be a part of such a wonderful and loving Church family, and we love each and every one of you.

Ronnie & Gale Hypes and Family









#### November 2022

#### TREASURER'S REPORT



#### Treasurer's Report



Below is the financial report for November 2022. God is good, all the time!! I just remind everyone to be faithful with your offerings and God will be faithful to us, His Church. You have been so faithful to keep up your gifts to God and His church. Praise God for His faithfulness to His church!

We continue to raise funds to replace two HVAC units. The total cost will be approximately \$20,000. If you would like to donate over and above your regular giving to help with this project, just mark your donation for HVAC repair and it will go toward the project.

E-GIVING CHANGE: E-giving!! You can continue to make gifts to FCC online at the church website, <a href="https://www.bluefieldfcc.com">www.bluefieldfcc.com</a>, just click on the GIVE button and follow the directions. We have a new mobile app, VANCO MOBILE. Sarah has more detailed instructions for the transition that she will send to you via email. Just contact her if you need help. There is a charge to the church for gifts made by debit or credit card, but you can also adjust your gift to help cover that cost as well.

As a reminder, please continue to check for LIGHTS, RUNNING TOILETS, A/C OR HEAT, etc. following all meetings at the church. Don't assume someone else will lock up or turn off. This really helps to hold down utility costs. Also, if you become aware of maintenance issues with the property, please bring it to the attention of the Property Ministry Team or the church office. Delayed repairs can be more expensive than when they are caught early. Thanks to Scott, Allen, George and all the rest of the guys who selflessly give their time to keep our facilities in great condition!!!

Our Church is truly blessed!

Ronnie Hypes, Treasurer

### First Christian Church Financial Information for November 2022

_	Month-to-date	Year-to-date	
Total GF offerings and			
other sources	\$ 13,739,67	\$ 160,333.03	
Total expenses	14,024.40	174,080.13	
Excess (deficit) of offerings			
to expenses	(284.73)	(13,747.10)	
Transfers from (to) savings	0.00	0.00	
Increase (decrease)	\$ (284.73)	\$ (13,747.10)	
Balances on hand			
November 30, 2022			
General Fund		\$ 3,751.49	
Memorial and Special Gifts Property Repairs and		16,418.48	
Replacement		5,853.55	
Scholarship		6,364.08	
Bequested Funds and other			
savings	_	108.693.95	
Total	_	\$ 141,081.55	





Join us each Sunday morning at 9:00AM for our Family Breakfast. All are invited to attend. We hope to see you there.









Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
10:00AM Worship 6:00PM Teen Believers	2 6:00PM Men's Bible Study 6:00PM Women's Bible Study	3 6:00PM Prayer Gathering 7:00PM Bible Study	7:00AM Prayer 6:00PM Praise Band	5 6:00PM Celebrate Recovery	6	7	
8 10:00AM Worship 6:00PM Teen Believers	9 6:00PM Men's Bible Study 6:00PM Women's Bible Study	6:00PM Prayer Gathering 7:00PM Bible Study	11 7:00AM Prayer 6:00PM Praise Band	6:00PM Celebrate Recovery	13	14	
15 10:00AM Worship 6:00PM Teen Believers	16 6:00PM Men's Bible Study 6:00PM Women's Bible Study	17 6:00PM Prayer Gathering 7:00PM Bible Study	18 7:00AM Prayer 6:00PM Praise Band	19 6:00PM Celebrate Recovery	20 Newsletter Submissions Due 11:00AM	21	
22 10:00AM Worship 6:00PM Teen Believers	23 6:00PM Men's Bible Study 6:00PM Women's Bible Study	24 6:00PM Prayer Gathering 7:00PM Bible Study	7:00AM Prayer 10:00AM Newsletter Assembly 6:00PM Praise Band	26 6:00PM Celebrate Recovery	27	28	
29 10:00AM Worship 6:00PM Teen Believers	30 6:00PM Men's Bible Study 6:00PM Women's Bible Study	31 6:00PM Prayer Gathering 7:00PM Bible Study	1	2	3	4	
5	6	Birthday's  Lamont Edwards - Jan. 10 Trentin Swauger - Jan. 11 Chris Boerboom - Jan. 19 Christian Bailey - Jan  21 Randy Bailey - Jan. 27 Tanaya Smith - Jan. 28 Ann Taylor - Jan. 28					

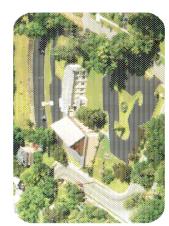
May you be blessed today. We heartily welcome all

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 am -1:00 pm www.bluefieldfcc.com

# Welcome To Our Church

10:00 am Combined Worship Service

9:00 am Bible Study



Bluefield, WV 24701 Disciples of Christ 2200 Bland Road



Non-Profit Organization Bluefield, WV 24701



Sunday Teen Believers 6:00PM

**WOWZZA** Wednesday 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month

\*Youth Outreach Ministry

If you have any questions concerning youth events please contact Darrin Coe, Youth Minister at 276-245-8374

