



# THE MESSENGER

As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" Romans 10:15

MAY 2024 EDITION

BLACKSBURG CHRISTIAN CHURCH 240 Watson Avenue Blacksburg, VA 24060 540-552-4810



Spring appears to have finally sprung. Each year as the leaves bud out, the flowers bloom, and the seemingly never-ending pollen

makes our cars green with each new day, I am reminded of Revelation 21:5 "He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making all things new!" Then he said, "Write this down for these words are trustworthy and true"" From the barrenness of winter to the new life of spring, God is making all things new. On Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup>, we will recognize our high school and college graduates. They, much like the flowers of the spring, will all be embarking upon a new way of life - leaving the old behind and embracing whatever new plans God has for them. They all have some idea of what the future holds, but God ultimately holds their future; and I'm confident their parents and this church family have prepared them to always look to God in their times of uncertainty just as the flowers look to the light of the sun with each new day. Making things new is what God does. Each of us experiences something new with each day, and when we come into relationship with God, we are made new in heart, mind, and soul.

We as a church family are also being made new with the additions of Linda McMurray as our new church administrator and Kerby Dalton as our new youth minister. With new things come new opportunities and new ways of doing things. Sometimes folks are nervous about new things, mainly because anything new is unknown, and as humans the unknown makes us uncomfortable. These ladies, just like the flowers of spring, will be a beautiful and valuable addition to our church family here at Blacksburg Christian Church because they have the most important qualification - they are kind, compassionate, and love the Lord. I encourage each of you to embrace and love these ladies, just as you have me, as they learn about us and as we learn about them.

As with all new relationships, communication, grace, and love are required for all to thrive. God has blessed us with new opportunities and wonderful partners in ministry and as the scripture says, all things that come from God are trustworthy and true. Embrace the new things here at Blacksburg Christian Church, just as you embrace those beautiful spring flowers and the new life of a new season.

Peace,  
J.B.

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:22-23)

## YOUTH NEWS

### Youth Group May schedule

- Sat May 4<sup>th</sup> - Middle & High to Craig Springs  
Workday 8:30am - 3pm
- Sun May 5<sup>th</sup> - Sunday school 10am  
Worship 11am  
Graduation Recognition 11am  
Taco Fellowship Lunch noon  
Elementary Youth 6pm
- Sat May 11<sup>th</sup> - Trip to Carowinds 7am - 7pm
- Sun May 12<sup>th</sup> - Sunday school 10am  
Worship 11am  
No Youth Meeting - Mother's Day
- Sun May 19<sup>th</sup> - Sunday school 10am  
Worship 11am  
Middle & High Youth 6pm
- Sun May 26<sup>th</sup> - Sunday school 10am  
Worship 11am  
No Youth Meeting - Memorial Day

## Summer Camp

- Nature Camp - June 23rd - 28th
- New Covenant - June 23<sup>rd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>
- Special Camp – June 30<sup>th</sup> – July 5<sup>th</sup>
- CAMPDD (Culinary, Art, Music, Photography, Dance, Drama) July 1st – 6th
- Triple 1 Camp - July 7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>
- Triple 2 Camp – July 14<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>

Campers from BCC will attend New Covenant Camp and Triple 1 Camp.

**Craig Springs Camp Registration is now open!** Please go to the following link. When prompted, make sure to indicate that Blacksburg Christian Church will pay 100% of your camp fee. **Please let JB know when you have registered for camp.**

[Click here to register for camp](#)

→ **Registration Deadline is May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

## Rescue Mission

Nine youth and two adults from BCC went to the Rescue Mission on Sunday April 14<sup>th</sup> where we served around 200 people dinner. Thank you to all who served like the hands and feet of Jesus we are called to be. The trip was a blessing as always and we enjoyed a pizza dinner on the way home.

## Vacation Bible School

It's time to register for Vacation Bible School on **Tuesday June 11<sup>th</sup> – Friday June 14<sup>th</sup> in the evenings.** Our theme this year will be "Breaker Rock Beach – God's rock-solid truth in a world of shifting sands".

The kids will study Bible stories like the stories of Adam and Eve, Daniel, the Rich Young Ruler, and the Apostle Paul while they learn that "Truth Comes from God", "God's Plan is Best", "Everyone Needs Jesus", and to "Speak the Truth in Love". **Each evening will feature supper served promptly at 6pm, music, a Bible story, games, and a craft.**



See Cindy Dowdy soon to volunteer your time, gifts, and talents to serve during the week of VBS!

[Click Here to register](#)

**Registration Deadline is Sunday June 2<sup>nd</sup>**

## VBS Planning Meeting

Calling all Parents, Volunteers & folks who want to help with crafts, games, music!!



**Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup> 5pm**  
**VBS Planning Meeting**  
**Let's see how we can help our director, Cindy Dowdy**

**Spring Trip to Carowinds**  
**Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**7am – 7pm**

Well, we have **over 50 people** planning to head to Carowinds Amusement Park in Charlotte on Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup>! Registration

is now closed, and the tickets have been bought. We'll meet in the church parking lot to caravan and carpool together at 7am. **We are leaving promptly at 7am – don't be late!** We'll stop for a group photo before heading into the park for the day. We'll head home around 4pm and should return to Blacksburg by about 7pm.

Please bring:

- **Money for lunch and supper (note the park is cashless)**
- **Money for parking**
- **Sunglasses and sunscreen**
- **Raincoat (just in case!)**
- **Cellphone (camera) (we want pictures!)**
- **Bathing suit for water rides**

[Click here for park information - lockers/cabanas/rides/dress code etc.](#)

## WORSHIP NEWS

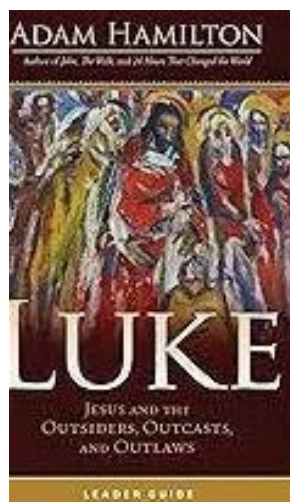
Next Board meeting:  
**Sunday May 19th**  
**@ noon**

Elders' Meeting  
**Monday July 22nd**  
**6:30pm**

### Notes from April 21st Board Meeting

Bank Balance as of 4/17/2024	\$ 122,256.54
Edward Jones Account 3/28/24	\$1,380,610.03
Total Membership	402
Participating Membership	329
Non-Participating Membership	73
Average worship attendance in Mar	141
Average worship attendance in Apr	127

## Brown Bag Bible Study



Our current study is “Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws” by Adam Hamilton which will run through Wednesday May 22nd. **There are still 4 weeks left of the study – so please join us!** After May 22nd, we'll take a break over the summer and begin again with a new study in September.

## Graduate Recognition Sunday Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup> at 11am



Plan to join us for worship on Sunday May 5th as we pray over our 10 graduates and wish them Godspeed.

**We are celebrating 4 high school graduates – Lucas Beeler, Braelynn Butler, Darah Mitchell, and Brody Shealor.**

**Lucas Beeler** will graduate from Radford High School, and he plans to attend Radford University.

**Braelynn Butler** will graduate from Blacksburg High School, and she plans to attend Coastal Carolina University.

**Darah Mitchell** will graduate from Blacksburg High School, and she plans to attend New River Community College.

**Brody Shealor** will graduate from Blacksburg High School, and he plans to attend Roanoke College.

**We are also celebrating 6 college graduates – Abbie Erwin, Stephanie Valencic, Jade Bennett, Sam Helton, Logan Vance, and Eliza Coté.**

**Abbey Erwin** will graduate from Virginia Tech with her Ph.D. in Higher Education. Way to go Abbey!

**Stephanie Valencic** will also graduate from Virginia Tech with her Masters in Public Health. Good work!

**Jade Bennett** will graduate from Virginia Western Community College with her Associates.

**Sam Helton** will graduate from Chatham University with his Bachelor's in International Business

**Logan Vance** will graduate from Virginia Tech with his Bachelor's in Human Nutrition, Food and Exercise.

**Eliza Coté** will graduate from University of Mary Washington with her Bachelor's in English Literature.

## Congratulations Class of 2024!!

### Congregational Meeting Sunday April 14th

There was a Congregational Meeting on Sunday April 14<sup>th</sup> after worship. The congregation voted to approve the board's recommendation of Kerby Dalton as our new Youth Minister. Kerby will officially begin on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Welcome Kerby!

## OUTREACH NEWS

During April, the Disciples Women's Ministry and the church family collected diapers and children's underwear and socks for the **Valley Interfaith Childcare Center**. The total collected was \$746.00. Thank you to all who donated!

During the **Spring Red Cross Blood Drive** on April 19th, we collected 32 units of blood. Thank you to all who donated. And thank you to those who volunteered to work the drive, those who prepared and brought yummy food

and snacks, and a special thanks to Robert Metz for organizing the drive!

The **Disciples Mission Fund Pentecost Special Offering** will be collected on Sundays May 12th and May 19th. The Pentecost Offering supports Disciples new church development. Planning, nurturing and Sustaining new congregations is part of the Disciples' vision. This offering supports the specialized ministry of new church development through both regional and general programs. Gifts for this offering are divided equally between the region in which they're given and the New Church Ministry.

### Collecting T-shirts for jump ropes for Operation Christmas Child



Glenda Patton and Joann Miller are asking the church family to donate old (in good condition) T-shirts which they will make into jump ropes to be included in our 2024 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes! These ladies will be working on Christmas projects this summer, let's help them out with some T-shirts! There is a box in the narthex for your T-shirt donations!

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

### Craig Springs Workday Saturday May 4th 8:30am - 3pm

It's time to get our cabins ready for the summer camping season. We need to sweep, clean, wash windows, rake leaves etc. There are plenty of jobs for everyone! Middle and High Youth and

any interested adults are invited. We'll leave the church at 8:30am. Lunch will be provided. Please sign up at the link below if you plan to attend so we can know who needs a ride and we can plan lunch for everyone.

[Click here to sign up](#)

## April Bus Trip to WVTF Radio

On April 18<sup>th</sup> a dozen of BCC's finest traveled to the WVTF radio station in Roanoke. We received a first-class tour by Roger Duval the station's general manager and learned how all things work at this public radio station. Afterwards we headed to K&W for lunch and Robert finally got to get a piece of German Chocolate Pie since we missed out last month. This trip was both educational and fun and was enjoyed by all who attended.



## April Old-Fashioned Potluck

On April 14<sup>th</sup> we had about 88 folks stay for the Potluck Fellowship Meal. We had everything from Caribbean Jerk Chicken to Meatloaf to Banana Pudding and everything in between. It was quite a spread and if you went hungry it was your own fault. Good food and fellowship were enjoyed by all, and we can't wait until we can break bread again together.

## May Bus Trip

### Paint Bank State Fish Hatchery & Swinging Bridge Restaurant

Friday May 17<sup>th</sup>  
9:30am – 3pm



On Friday May 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am, we will journey to Paint Bank State Fish Hatchery for a tour at 11am of this state-run trout hatchery nestled in the beautiful valley of Paint Bank, Virginia. Following our tour, we will go to the Swinging Bridge Restaurant for lunch, and we'll do some shopping in their store. We will return to the church by 3pm.

[Click here to sign up](#)

## May Taco Lunch Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup> at noon



Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup> is the date for our May fellowship lunch. The menu will be tacos! The church will provide taco meat (beef and chicken), hard taco shells, soft tortillas, cheese, and drinks. YOU

BRING, sour cream, salsa, guacamole, shredded lettuce, diced tomatoes, tortilla chips, or dessert.

[Click here to bring a dish to share](#)

*Dear Blacksburg Christian Church family,  
The words "Thank You" seem like not enough to express my appreciation for the lovely send-off you gave me on Sunday April 28<sup>th</sup>. What a wonderful day! My corsage and flowers were gorgeous! The breakfast spread was wonderful and so fancy - complete with tablecloths! The handmade pottery bowl is something I will truly cherish forever! Your financial gift was extremely generous. All your hugs, kind words, cards, and gifts mean so very much to me. I so appreciated the opportunity to see you all and to say goodbye in person! It has been the joy, honor, blessing, and privilege of my lifetime to be a small part of the wonderful ministries here at Blacksburg Christian Church. I will miss you all very very much, but I know that God will continue to do great things here. Pastor J.B., Linda and Kerby will continue to carry out the big dreams God is dreaming for this church family.  
With my love,  
Your sister in Christ,  
Sarah St. Jean*

Please keep in prayer those who have recently lost loved ones

Charlotte Polly's partner Christopher Stump lost his father, Dale Stump  
Kevin Sharp who lost his dad, Kenneth

Folks in our church family who need our prayers:

Joe Albert Heritage Hall Villas #208 3610 S. Main Street Blacksburg, VA 24060	Fleta Dowdy Commonwealth Sr Living Room 112 201 Wheatland Court Christiansburg, VA 24073
Phyllis Blevins English Meadows Sr. Living Apt. #230 3400 Southpoint Drive Blacksburg, VA 24060	Mary Jane Early Highland Ridge Rehab Ctr Room #302 5872 Hanks Ave Dublin, VA 24084
Bonnie Boatwright English Meadows Sr. Living Apt #104 3400 Southpoint Drive Blacksburg, VA 24060	Tony Kohler Waddell Nursing & Rehab Room 11 Main Floor 202 Painter St. Galax, VA 24333
Jane and Scott Carr English Meadows Sr. Living Apt. #108 (Scott) Apt. #H-115 (Jane) 3400 Southpoint Drive Blacksburg, VA 24060	Vivian Long Kroontje Health Center The Cove #310B 1000 Litton Lane Blacksburg, VA 24060
Anna Mae Croy Spring Oak Assisted Living A Hall Room #3 1140 West Main Street Christiansburg, VA 24073	Ira and Joan Manross 1608 Hawthorne Ridge Blacksburg, VA 24060
Iris Cruise Kroontje Health Center Cove 314B 1000 Litton Lane Blacksburg, VA 24060	Louise McCoy 16 Patriot Way Christiansburg, VA 24073
	Annette Perkins Springtree Health & Rehab Room 505B 3433 Springtree Drive NE Roanoke, VA 24012

## Disciples Women's Ministry

DWM next meeting  
Tuesday May 21st  
10 am



The DWM had a successful bake/plant sale and received \$595. Thanks to all who contributed. Members will be considering which organizations would benefit from the donations.

Stay tuned for more information about their vendor & hotdog sale on September 28. Our thanks to Lin Martin for managing the vendor portion.

## Save the Date

### We Are Stronger Together Regional Assembly of the Christian Church in Virginia

May 31<sup>st</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup>  
University of Lynchburg  
Friday pre-assembly  
Saturday 10am – 3pm

[Click Here to register](#)

Let J.B. know if you plan to attend

You are invited to a  
Pampered Chef  
Grilling Freezer Meal Workshop  
Hosted by Jennifer Kennelly

Tuesday May 21<sup>st</sup>  
6pm  
BCC Fellowship Hall

All attendees will arrive by 6pm with their groceries, and will leave with seven marinated meaty recipes ready for the grill - 5 chicken & 2 beef.

Recipes we're making:  
Garlic Soy Grilled Steak  
Chimichurri Skirt Steak  
Chimichurri Chicken

Yogurt Marinated Chicken Thighs  
Ginger Garlic Marinated Chicken  
Garlic Citrus Grilled Chicken  
Camping Chicken Thigh Fajitas

Call or Text Jennifer at (540)250-5596 to register.

Jennifer will give you a shopping list (chicken and beef). There is a \$35 fee to participate that will cover all the seasonings that Jennifer will provide to you along with the recipes and 3 Pampered Chef Products you will use in the

workshop and take home with you. Contact Jennifer for more information and to register.

Come and make new friends, enjoy fellowship and fun and laughter, learn new recipes, and go home with freezer meals ready for the grill!

### Upcoming dates:

#### June:

1<sup>st</sup> – Regional Assembly in Lynchburg  
2<sup>nd</sup> – VBS Registration deadline  
11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> – VBS  
14<sup>th</sup> - Church family Cookout  
18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> – J.B. and Dannette out of town  
24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> – J.B. at Nature Camp  
30<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Breakfast 9:30am

### Prayer for our Graduates

*As your classes and grading are now complete, may you strive toward excellence in all you do. As the speeches conclude, may your voices rise up to pronounce justice and peace in the world. As the fanfares cease, may you sing of joy, even in the dark and lonely places. As the applause quiets, may you celebrate and lift up those around you. As you graduate, may your achievements grow and cause growth in your communities. And may we all know of the overwhelming blessings of the One who created all things. Amen.*

Linda McMurray, our new Administrator, will be in the office in the afternoons. You may reach her at the same office email:  
[blacksburgchristian@gmail.com](mailto:blacksburgchristian@gmail.com)

Find us online at [www.blacksburgchristian.org](http://www.blacksburgchristian.org)

or on Facebook at  
[www.facebook.com/blacksburgchristian](http://www.facebook.com/blacksburgchristian)

Pastor – J.B. Beane  
[blacksburgchristianpastor@gmail.com](mailto:blacksburgchristianpastor@gmail.com)

Administrator – Linda McMurray  
[blacksburgchristian@gmail.com](mailto:blacksburgchristian@gmail.com)

Social Media/Website – Sarah St. Jean  
[sbstjean@gmail.com](mailto:sbstjean@gmail.com)

**BLACKSBURG CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

**MAY 2024**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <b>Brown Bag Bible Study 6pm</b> <b>Choir 7pm</b> <b>Scholarship Deadline</b> Matt Johnston James Shealor	2 Katherine Barkley Chris Dowdy Randy Flippin	3 Chris Curtis	4 Celia Hardwick Ben Helton  Craig Springs Workday 8:30am – 3pm
5 <b>Sunday school 10am</b> <b>Worship 11am</b> <b>Graduate Recognition</b> Taco Lunch noon VBS Planning Meeting 5pm Elementary Youth 6pm Mitchel Lowe	6 Marshall & Vicki Linkous Jeff Beeler	7 Bowman Beane	8 <b>Brown Bag Bible Study 6pm</b> <b>Choir 7pm</b> Roy Hughes Marian Moore	9	10	11 Trip to Carowinds 7am – 7pm
12 <b>Sunday school 10am</b> <b>Worship 11am</b> Malachi Firestone  <b>Mother's Day</b>	13	14 James Hungate Gracie Slusser	15 <b>Brown Bag Bible Study 6pm</b> <b>Choir 7pm</b> Wayne & Angela Patty	16 Gracie Slusser	17 <b>Fish Hatchery Bus Trip 9:30-3</b> Nelson Price	18 Heidi Stansfield
19 <b>Sunday school 10am</b> <b>Worship 11am</b>  <b>Board Meeting noon</b> <b>Middle &amp; High Youth 6pm</b> Tommy McMahan	20	21 <b>DWM 10am</b>	22 <b>Final Brown Bag Bible Study</b> <b>Choir 7pm</b> Mary Sue Dohoney	23 Amanda Osborne Christian Vance Jimmy Hypes	24 Richard & Mary Ann Graham Kevin & LeAnn Sharp	25 Johnny Cox Nelson & Amanda Price
26 <b>Sunday school 10am</b> <b>Worship 11am</b>	27 <b>Memorial Day</b> <b>Office closed</b> Jane Carr Roy Hughes	28 Julie Beeler Jennifer Flippin Jay Hardwick	29 <b>Choir</b>	30 Gini McCoy	31	