

FORT LEWIS CHRISTIAN INFORMER

DECEMBER 2022

Established June 1926
FORT LEWIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
2931 WEST MAIN STREET
SALEM, VIRGINIA 24153
www.flccsalem.org
www.facebook.com/fortlewiscc

office: 380-4636 fax: 380-4522

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Matthew Cox (December 4, 2022)	Minister
Rev. Dr. Terry Elkins	Pastor Emeritus
Bobbie Morris	Church Secretary
(serving since March 1967)	e-mail: sec.flcc@gmail.com
Donita Moore	Minister of Music
Gary Baldwin	Minister of Drama
	Nursery
Dana Witt	Pre-kindergarten to kindergarten
Amanda Murphy	grades 1 - 5
Sid Witt	grades 6 - 12

WORSHIP PLANS

**ALL OF US THAT LOVE THE CHURCH ARE
NEEDED TO HELP BUILD IT BACK.
HELP WANTED - RIGHT NOW!**

Worship Service is being held in the sanctuary and on YOUTUBE and FACEBOOK. Before you enter the sanctuary, pick up your bulletin and communion.

*THE MISSION OF
FORT LEWIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
The Mission of this Congregation shall be to
glorify God's grace through the proclamation
of the Good News of Jesus Christ throughout
our Community and the World.*

WITHIN THE CONGREGATION



Jewell Epling, Richfield Living
Willow Cottage, 3719 Knollridge Rd.,
Salem, VA 24153

Bill Epling, the Oaks, Richfield Living,

Jackie Reynolds, Richfield Living, 3719
Knollridge Rd., Salem, VA 24153

Karen Shelor, Waddell Nursing and Rehab, 202
Painter Street, Galax, VA 24333.

Thelma Wilkes, Richfield Living - Willow Cottage,
3719 Knollridge Rd., Salem, VA 24153

HOME BOUND: Brandy Dickerson and
Mike Prillaman

ONGOING RECOVERY:

Continue prayers for the following:

Guy Jackson, Steven Brown, Cecily Morgan,
Joy Carter, Carol Oliver, Tom Cook,
Terry Wingfield, Betty Richardson,
Glenn Prather, David and Carol Brown,
Harvey Howell, Allen Moran, Marc Golden,
Bari Neighbors, Carol Duncan Esau,
Lance Brewer, Edith Good, Maxine Hance,
Don Dye, Cliff Whitley, Dana Witt, Dawn Grant,
Mark, Fredia, Larry and Debbie Blankenship,
Robbie Francisco, Wayne Craig, Kati Wright,
Sandy Mischianti, Esta Griggs, Helen Granger,
Chris Morris, Monique Carroll, Betty Rice,
Ryan Pry, Gary Baldwin, Heather Lawrence,
Pete Broughman, Pruitt family, Gale Blair,
David & Sharon Moran, Ernest Moore,
Patsey and Ortie Boyd, Debbie Thompson,
Jennifer and Indy Bradford, Jim Maxwell,
Terry McVey, Diana Smith, Susie Gipson,
Peggy Nixon, Dorothy Thompson, Lynn Meek,
Trish and Josh Hepler, Wayne Ayers,
Doris Harris, Daniel, Arin and Jack Lowe,

Jerry Cronin, Steve Jacobs, Dale Byington, Ricky Pinkerman and family, Lucy Prillaman, Joyce Lyons, Nastassia Huddleston family, Agnes Shores, Charlie and Guida Lefler, Larry Graham, Cochran family, Allen Watson, Susie Gipson, Dawn Derocher, Missy Richardson, Garland Humphrey's mother, Rebekka Dunstan, Maurie Sutton, John Sutton, Teacher, Olena Motsar and her students from Ukraine

- ~ Joy Carter continues with health issues. She will be having some kidney surgery later.
- ~ Sarah Wheeler fell and broke her wrist and is now at Richfield for rehab, room310.
- ~ Agnes Shores, mother to Debbie Repsher, is now with hospice.
- ~ Helen Granger is now with hospice.
- ~ Families and friends of UVA students

~ Our deepest sympathy to Jeff Vass on the loss of his uncle, Roger Vass, who passed away November 16, 2022. Also to the family of Eva Gordon who passed away November 21, 2022. Children: April Bennett and family and J. L. Gordon and family. Sister: Robbie Francisco.



Sgt. Marisa Baumann,
First Lt. Tom F. Faucher 111,
Kaleb Gallimore, Zack Setchel,
Lindsey Roop, Jordan Griffin,

Jason and Melissa Gilley, Airman Jocelyn Baumann and all other Military Troops

'Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us...bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. In Jesus Name, Amen'

***Reminder** - when leaving the church, be sure all doors are locked, lights off and check air and/or heat.

*On the bulletin board, see sign-up sheets for: moments with children, lighting altar candles, reading scripture and there is a sheet for congregation members to suggest songs they would like to sing during worship service. Also, we are needing people to help and get more involved with our young people. We ask that you prayerfully consider helping with and be a part of the rotation of teaching and planning things with our youth/children programs as a whole, bringing new ideas and thoughts. Together this will hopefully expand our program and allow the church to build more unity and since of community across all age groups.

***SEEKER'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS**
Sunday, 9:30 AM, meeting in the Hearts and Souls Sunday School Class.

***YOUTH/CHILDREN CHURCH** inside at 10:30 AM on Sunday morning.



**FORT LEWIS WILL BE
ENTERING
THE SALEM CHRISTMAS
PARADE**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2
(see Paul Murphy for
detailed information)**



Thank you to all who donated blood on our last drive on October 3, 2022. 16 pints of blood were donated. The Red Cross had established a goal of

20 pints. Thanks to all who donated snacks for that drive. **Our next blood drive is scheduled for Monday, December 5, 2022, from 1 - 6PM.** You can schedule your appointment now at redcrossblood.org. There has been a severe shortage of blood and has been for 2 years due to the impact of Covid. Please donate if you are able. If possible, encourage your coworkers, friends and/or relatives. If anyone would like to bring sandwiches/cookies, etc., please have them in the kitchen area by noon on December 5, 2022. Thanks, George Hales

**COME ONE
- COME ALL
DECEMBER 10, 2022
PANCAKES WITH
ST. NICK
9:00 AM - 12 NOON
DISCIPLE HALL
FORT LEWIS
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Nelson & Donna Prillaman 12-4-1999
Jerry & Gayle Widener 12-28-1991

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Terry Elkins (2), Israel Sheppard (2),
Moses Sheppard (4), Mandy Otey (10),
Sierrah Morris (13), Pat Prillaman (14),
Jo Ann Mitchem (15), Chris Morris (17)
Paul Murphy (18), Helen Granger (21),
Caelan Morris (23), Parker Pry (25),
Lauren Watson (26), Susie Sheppard (27),
Eddie Jones (28), Hayes Huddleston (29),
Annis Eaton (30), Pat Hales (31),

***ANNUAL CANLELIGHT REMEMBRANCE SERVICE** at John Oakey & Son Chapel, 7PM, Tuesday, December 6th. Guest speaker, Pastor Mike Lauridsen, from Parkway Church on the Mountain.

***DISCIPLE WOMEN** will meet Wednesday, December 7, at 10:00 AM at the home of Jennie Sue Murdock for program and potluck lunch.

Those who are interested, Church Women United World Community Day celebration meeting will be held Friday, December 2, from 10am until noon at Central Church of the Brethren, 416 Church Ave., SW, Rke. Registration begins at 9:30 am.

~ **NEW PRICES:** Pecan halves \$10.75, Pecan pieces \$10.50, black walnuts \$11.50, 15 different flavors of Imitation flavoring (7 oz) \$3.00 each, natural flavoring (4 oz) strawberry \$10.25, \$8.25 each for maple, cherry, raspberry, brandy, blueberry, peach - dish cloths \$1.25 each.

*ELDER'S meet - December 12, 5:00 PM

*CHURCH BOARD MEETING - December 12, 6:00 PM

*SENIOR SOCIAL SOCIETY will meet on Wednesday, December 14, at 9:00 AM at Famous Anthony's for breakfast.

*JOAN DORSEY CLOTHING CLOSET at South Colorado and Seventh Street in Salem is open each Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9AM to noon. Clothing is free and does not require a referral from a social service agency. Some household articles such as bedding and kitchen utensils are available.

"GET OFF YOUR CAN!"



We're talking about exercise with a twist. Picture it . . . Get your body movin', listening to contemporary Christian music, while helping the food pantry. How is that possible you ask?

**EVERY MONDAY - 10:00 AM
IN THE DISCIPLE HALL**

MONDAY MADNESS

9:00 AM - SIGN CHOIR

9:30 AM - LINE DANCE AROBICS

10:00 AM - GET OFF YOUR CAN
EXERCISE CLASS

11:00 AM - DRUM CIRCLE

(for more detailed information, see Gary)

Instead of weights, each person is asked to bring 2 cans of beans, or soup, or corn (the list goes on). - OR - 2 bags of beans, or rice, etc. After class, the cans, bags of food are collected for the FOOD PANTRY.

*All ages accepted - chairs provided, however, if needed, you can use the whole time - work at your own pace - bring water - dress comfortable wear comfortable shoes for movement



Requests have increased and donations have decreased, so anything you can help with will be greatly appreciated. Place in the baskets when entering the church.



**POINSETTIAS GIVEN IN
MEMORY and HONOR
OF LOVED ONES**

Judy Oliver
Mark and Diana Curtiss
Roger and Margaret Lacy
George and Pat Hales
Steve Huffman
Mark and Heather Burnette
Pat Byrd
Carmel and Susie Sheppard
Cliff Whitley
David and Iona Holland
Brent and Vickie Richardson

**FORT LEWIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
FINANCIAL REPORT GENERAL FUND**

BEGINNING BALANCE \$74,612.50
(includes general fund, outreach, reserves)

September 2022 deposit \$8,408.00
Givelify deposits \$1,388.88

Disbursements: \$12,114.56

ENDING BALANCE \$72,290.82
9/30/2022

**FORT LEWIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
BUILDING FUND FINANCIAL REPORT**

BEGINNING BALANCE \$49,261.69

September 2022 deposits \$1,325.00
(pledges, givelify, memorials, Kroger)

Disbursements \$4,465.20

ENDING BALANCE \$46,121.49
9/30/2022

My first car. It needed a lot of work and I needed to get a new clutch system to be able to change the gears. Well, my dad took me to a junk yard and as we looked around for a VW to pull our parts from my dad said, "it is a good thing to find new life for an old part." Finding new life for an old part. I guess for me I feel like that is what is happening here. I know for myself I am kind of an old part....

Many of us have been following Christ for many years and we tend to get complacent in how we walk in our faith but as the Proverb says, "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." We can find new life even if we are older and have been on our journey with Christ for many years.

Something NEW! Innovative ideas - New visions as we consider what Paul says in 2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! More than anything a *New Excitement* is about our walk with Christ to re- examine His Vision of what HIS body (Church) should be? And I cannot think of a better time than Christs

Birth celebration to start "Something New".

As we consider Hope - Hope for a new beginning! Celebrating the Love, Peace, and the Joy of Christ as we anticipate His birth and Him bringing Salvation to Mankind I pray that you are as excited as I am to get to know everyone and to start this journey together, something new something hopeful!

God Bless - Looking forward to December 4th - Pastor Matt



Something New:

As I contemplate on starting this new journey with my new family at Fort Lewis Christian Church, I can't help but think of my youth, going to a new community, new school and being a Preachers Kid (which happened many times). I remember one time in particular because I had saved enough money to buy a car and on the way into the new town, I spotted a VW Bug for sale. I "bugged" my dad for several days to take me up to the persons house to look at it. He did and I bought it.

"GIVELIFY PROGRESS"

This past October Givelify celebrated 5 years as an alternate giving opportunity for Fort Lewis Christian Church.

That same month we passed a milestone of a total of more than \$100,000.00 being given using this option. There were a total of 1,117 separate donations given to reach this amount.

If anyone would like to use Givelify, please contact Roger Lacy for details. Also, if you are now receiving your quarterly FLCC contribution reports by mail and would like to have theme-mailed to you instead, please contact Roger and give him your e-mail address.



~ Thanks to all who helped with Pak the Pantry

~ Thanks to all who helped with the moving of Pastor Matt and family

~ Thanks to all who helped with the Thanksgiving dinner

~ Thanks to all who helped with the ELFS project for Fort Lewis Elementary School (see attached sheet with needed items) And thanks to George and Pat Halles for heading up this project for 2022

~ Thanks to all who bought gifts for the Angel Tree



ELDERS ECHO:

It's CHRISTmas

December 25th, or April 3rd, or September 5th, nobody knows when Jesus Christ was born - and it doesn't matter. Christmas is a relatively new event. For years, nobody celebrated Jesus' birth. Now, we don't either.

Santa Claus is even newer. St. Nicolas was real and a genuine act of Christianity. Gary Baldwin used to dress up and tell the true story about St. Nicolas. It was wonderful how he made it alive.

Can somebody explain to me how buying a gift you can't afford, for your rich Aunt Sue you don't like, and she doesn't want, has anything to do with Christmas? Historically, yes, there were men following a bright star. They weren't kings. They were Persian astronomers and followed it for about two years. They were never in the stable. If you can afford gold, frankincense and myrrh, and want to give presents to your kids, wonderful. As long as you don't forget those who can't.

Jesus was born in a stable for a reason. It didn't say Joseph and Mary couldn't afford a room. There just wasn't any place. The message is, Christ is for everyone, rich or poor. Joy that there is a new life. Peace inside of you. Shout to others to know Him. Have compassion for others. Celebrate, His life, and our new life. That's what Christmas is all about.

Christmas morning, when your children are still sleeping, look out a window. If there is snow, think, how when it's melted, a new life will arise on the earth. Give a prayer that your children will follow you with time. And, you have given them the greatest present they can get - your presence, and the present of our Christ.

Christmas this year is Sunday. Take time to go to church, to praise Him.

Joy, Peace, and Love - Have a Merry Christmas.

~ Jerry Brittain, elder

Again this year we will continue our Christmas ELFS outreach project. For several years, our congregation has provided Angel Tree gifts and family food boxes for 16 Fort Lewis Elementary School children. Our members have been most generous in contributing food items and monetary donations. A list of requested food items and the quantity needed is posted here and on the bulletin board at the church. The list will be updated weekly. Monetary gifts will be used to complete the list and ensure that each family receives the same amount of food.

We have already begun accepting donations. The deadline for receiving food/money will be December 11, 2022. If anyone would like to help with this project, please contact Pat or George Hales. Thanks

Pat: lwlady71@gmail.com or 540-529-3756

George: gshalesjr@cox.net or 540-529-3755

Sharing Our Abundance	As of
Item	11/20/2022 Quantity Needed
Breakfast Cereal or Oatmeal	16
Bread or Muffin Mixes	14
Dry Pasta	14
Spaghetti Sauce	15
Noodle or Rice Mixes or Macaroni and Cheese Dinners	16
Instant Mashed Potatoes or Box Potato Mixes	0
Box Stuffing Mix	15
Canned Beans or Dry Beans	16
Canned Green Beans or Canned Corn	0
Canned Tomato Products	16
Canned Fruits or Apple Sauce (in plastic jars or individual cups)	0
Granola Bars or Raisens or Canned Nuts & Trail Mix	16
Canned Soups or Chili or Stews	0
Canned Chicken or Tuna	14
Peanut Butter	0
Jelly	16
Crackers & Graham Crackers	16
Cake Mix & Frosting or Brownie Mixes	16
Shelf Stable or Powdered Milk	16



Your help with the ELFS project is appreciated. To avoid duplicate items, please put your name by the item(s) you wish to donate. An updated list will be posted weekly in the Gathering Area.

Thanks

**Fort Lewis Christian Church
Board Meeting at Church
and via Zoom
November 14, 2022**

The board meeting of the Fort Lewis Christian Church was held on Monday, November 14, 2022 at 6:05 pm at the church and via zoom. The meeting was called to order and Ellen Richmond opened with prayer.

Members present:

Paul Murphy, Roger Lacy, Ellen Richmond,
Vickie Richardson, Jerry Brittain,
Donita Moore, non-voting
Pastor John Dunstan, non-voting
Sid Witt, non-voting
Dan Oyler, non-voting
Ron Prillaman, non-voting
Linda Willis, non-voting

Absent:

Judy Oliver, Carol Brown, Diana Curtiss,
Cindy Jones, non-voting

The minutes of the meeting held October 10, 2022 were approved.

Treasurer, Ron Prillaman presented the financial information for October, 2022.

Stewardship/Finance - Report presented and filed in the church office.

Elders - Roger Lacy reported that the group had met, compiled a listing of church families that had not returned since COVID. They had been able to contact 9 of the 17 names/families.

Pastoral Relations - Sid Witt reported the new minister will be arriving this weekend. Everyone was encouraged to come on Saturday and help unload furniture.

Trustees - Sid Witt reported this group will meet during the first quarter of 2023 with the new minister.

Music Ministry Report - Donita Moore/Paul Murphy - report filed with the church office

Old Business:

Funeral Committee Replacement - In need of a chairman for this committee.

New Business:

Vickie Richardson asked if there could be another type of communion cup used. The minister asked her to order a small amount of the cups.

The next meeting will be held on December 12, 2022 at the church and via zoom.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Willis

