

FORT LEWIS CHRISTIAN INFORMER

FEBRUARY 2023

Established June 1926
FORT LEWIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
2931 WEST MAIN STREET
SALEM, VIRGINIA 24153
www.flccsaalem.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
	grades 1 - 5
Sid Witt	grades 6 - 12

WITHIN THE CONGREGATION



Jewell Epling, Richfield Living
3719 Knollridge Rd., (223 Willow
Cottage), Salem, VA 24153

Bill Epling, Richfield Living, 3719 Knollridge Rd. (117
Honeysuckle Cottage), Salem, VA 24153

Jackie Reynolds, Richfield Living, 3719
Knollridge Rd., (208 Blue Ridge Cottage)
Salem, VA 24153

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

Thelma Wilkes, Richfield Living, 3719 Knollridge Rd.,
(219 Willow Cottage), Salem, VA 24153

HOME BOUND: Brandy Dickerson and
Mike Prillaman

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.*

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 and Larry Blankenship,
Robbie Francisco, Wayne Craig, Kati Wright,
Sandy Mischianti, Esta Griggs, Helen Granger,
Chris Morris, Monique Carroll, Ryan Pry,
Gary Baldwin, Heather Lawrence,
Pete Broughman, Pruitt family, Gale Blair,
Ernest Moore, David & Sharon Moran,

Patsey and Ortie Boyd, Debbie Thompson,
 Jennifer and Indy Bradford, Terry McVey,
 Diana Smith, Susie Gipson, Peggy Nixon,
 Dorothy Thompson, Lynn Meek, Wayne Ayers,
 Trish and Josh Hepler, Doris Harris,
 Sarah Wheeler, Steve Jacobs, Jerry Cronin,
 Daniel, Arin and Jack Lowe, Lucy Prillaman,
 Ricky Pinkerman and family, Joyce Lyons,
 Don Shores, Nastassia Huddleston family,
 Dennis Carter, Guida Lefler, Larry Graham,
 Allen Watson, Cochran family, Susie Gipson,
 Dawn Derocher, Missy Richardson,
 Garland Humphrey's mother, Rebekka Dunstan,
 Maurie Sutton, John Sutton, Jim Maxwell,
 Janet Epling Shaw, Debbie Bourne, Dan Oyler,
 Jerry Brittain, Brent Richardson,
 Leon Jarrett, Kenzie Richardson,
 prayers for mother and 3 children on the loss of
 husband/father, Teacher, Olena Motsar and her
 students from Ukraine

~ Dan Oyler had a bout with the shingles.

~ Brent and MacKenzie Richardson had covid

~ Our deepest sympathy to Scotti Hartman and
 family on the loss of her mother, Rosemary
 Boardwine, who passed away January 10, 2023.
 A memorial service will be held March 25, 2023
 at 11:00 AM at Church Hill Cemetery, Palmer
 Avenue, Salem. Also, sympathy to Cliff and Rick
 Whitley, on the loss of their aunt, Jean Bryant
 who passed away January 10, 2023.

***CONGRATULATIONS** to Matt and Leslie
 Donovan on the birth of Henry David Donovan.
 Proud great grandpa, Jerry Brittain.



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.

CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2023

- ~ Board Chair - Dan Oyler
- ~ Vice Chair of board - Diana Curtiss
- ~ Secretary of the board- Cindy Jones
- ~ Treasurer - Ron Prillaman
- ~ Financial Secretary - Bobbie Morris
- ~ Christian Education - Sid Witt &
 Vickie Richardson
- ~ Evangelism, co-chairs - Bobbie Oyler and
 Judy Oliver
- ~ Member Care, co-chairs - Sandra Brewer
 and Linda Craig
- ~ Property - vacant
- ~ Stewardship/Finance - vacant
- ~ Worship - Susie Sheppard
- ~ Outreach, co-chairs - Carol Brown
 and Pat Hales
- ~ Human Resources Designee (in
 constitution) - Kristi Prillaman

Chair of Elders: Jerry Brittain

Chair of Deacons:

An installation service was held after
 worship on Sunday, January 29th. (If you
 are a committee chair and would like to have
 a Christian Church (DOC) annual planning
 guide and calendar, let Bobbie Morris know)

*On the bulletin board, see sign-up sheets for: Bible Study on Wednesdays, 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.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Collin Murphy (1), Terry Criner (3)
Fentress Boley (4), Jeff Vass (5),
Samathan Cook (6), Jewell Epling (8)
Becky Elkins (8), Vickie Richardson (8),
Paige Eaton (10), Callen Brown (13),
Valerie Johnson (14),



Harper Agner (16), Tobie Eaton (18),
Joy Carter (18), Rebekah Sheppard (23),
Ashley Agner (25), Makena Witt (26),
Lucille McMillan (27), Ron Prillaman (27),
Mike Prillaman (28),

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Dave and Myra Barger 2/24/1990



Due to staffing limitations at the American Red Cross the February 6 blood drive is cancelled. The next blood drive at Fort Lewis will be

Monday, April 3, 2023 from 1:00 - 6:00 PM. 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 April 3, 2023

***LOA SOUP FOR SENIORS -**

Help provide a hot meal on a cold day and remind thousands of seniors in need that the community has not forgotten them. We will start collecting food items NOW through the month of January and will be delivered on February 6th and 7th. We can also collect monetary contributions- (make your check out to the church and mark if for LOA soup) **SUGGESTED ITEMS NEEDED:** Soup, crackers, ramen noodles, canned meats such as tuna, chicken, Vienna sausages, canned vegetables, canned fruit, peanut butter, jelly, oatmeal or cream of wheat, cereal or cereal bars, carnation instant breakfast, ensure or boost. (low-salt, nutritious items are preferred)

***ELDER'S meet - February 13, 2023, at 5:00 PM**

***CHURCH BOARD MEETING - February 13, 2023 at 6:00 PM**

***SPECIAL WEEK OF COMPASSION OFFERINGS WILL BE TAKEN FEBRUARY 19 AND 26**

***SENIOR SOCIAL SOCIETY** will meet on Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 9:00 AM at Famous Anthony's for breakfast.

***DISCIPLE WOMEN** will NOT meet in February - will resume in March.

FOR SALE = 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.

JUST WOMEN is our Bible study for women by women.

***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.



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.

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

BEGINNING BALANCE **\$70,407.49**
(includes general fund, outreach, reserves)

December 2022 deposit \$10,624.50
Givelify deposits \$982.26

Disbursements: \$18,288.62

ENDING BALANCE **\$63,723.63**
11/31/2022

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

BEGINNING BALANCE **\$41,041.20**

December 2022 deposits \$193,832.81
(pledges, givelify, memorials, Kroger)
Disbursements: \$2,581.00

ENDING BALANCE **\$232,293.01**
12/31/2022

ELFS PROJECT= 16 families got 2 boxes each



"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

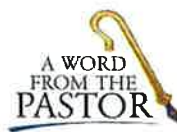
**10:00 AM - GET OFF YOUR CAN
EXERCISE CLASS**

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



Three of the sweetest words we ever hear are

"I love you!"



These might come from your children or your spouse as for me and my household we say it often every time we call each other we do not say "goodbye" we say, "I Love You!"

Yes, those three words, "I love you" have meant so much to us over the years and brought warmth to our heart so many times.

But the greatest "I love you" comes from God Himself. Over and over in the Bible, from cover to cover, He tells us "I love you!" In John 13:34, Jesus says "I have loved you."

Then He says, "Love one another as I have loved you."

Rejoice in the love of Jesus Christ this Valentine's Day and then love one another as He has loved you.

As we prepare for LENT and move forward to Jesus Christ's Resurrection Sunday (Easter) I hope many will join me in the new Wednesday Night Bible Study on the Feasts of Israel which are actually "the Feasts of the Lord" this is an important study about our God and His Son Jesus.

God created divine appointments with His people throughout the Old Testament. It is important to understand that Israel did not have the constant indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit like we New Testament Christians do. Instead, they had to meet with God at specific times, in specific places, in specific ways. These ways were the biblical feasts (or Feasts of the Lord) God gave specific instructions regarding these holy days and how to observe them and honor Him. These biblical feasts were opportunities for deeper communion and blessings where God could interact with His children more intimately. They were special occasions or God's own "holy days"—His appointments (Moedim) built around the cycles of worshiping Him. Also foreshadowing things to come how GOD would save not just the Israelites but all humankind "Christ picture" are in these feasts its amazing to see them with this perspective.

I hope you have a wonderful and blessed month

~ Pastor Matt



To My Church Family,
 "Thank you so much for
 thinking of me at this time of year. The gift
 was appreciated". In Christian Love,
Carol Oliver

**SERMON TITLES AND SCRIPTURES FOR
 FEBRUARY 2023**

(sign up, on bulletin board, if you are
 interested in reading scripture)

FEBRUARY 05

Scripture: Malachi 3:1-4
 Sermon: "A refiners fire"

FEBRUARY 12

Scripture: Romans 8:1-14
 Sermon: Why We Can't Fix It!

FEBRUARY 19

Scripture: 2 Peter 1:16-21
 Sermon: Never Forget

FEBRUARY 26

Scripture: Genesis 2:15-17
 Sermon: Adams Bad Day

To the Disciple Women, "Mike and I want to
 thank each of you for your thoughtfulness in
 sending that delicious box of all type
 goodies for our enjoyment. We also want to
 thank the Oylers for delivering the package
 to us in the hospital while covid was rampant
 on our floor". God bless you all!

Christian Love, Mike & Pat

***CORRECTION FOR YOUR CHURCH
 DIRECTOR:**

Cell phone number for Pat Prillaman
 540-566-8426



***WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 1**

Rev. Matt will begin an 8 week

BIBLE STUDY - 6:30 PM

Feast of Israel

sign up to attend

Fort Lewis Christian Church
Board Meeting
At Church
January 9, 2023

The board meeting of Fort Lewis Christian Church was held on Monday, January 9, 2023 at 6 p.m. Dan Oyler called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Members present:

Dan Oyler, Diana Curtiss, Pat Hales, Iona Holland, & Susie Sheppard.

Non-voting members present:

Pastor Matt Cox, Cindy Jones, Donita Moore, Judy Oliver, Ron Prillaman, Sid Witt.

Also in attendance were Barry Booher, Sandra Brewer, Tom Brewer and Valerie Johnson.

Absent were voting members: Jerry Brittain and Brent Richardson.

Minutes: Minutes of the November were approved.

Trustee: Chair Trustee Sid Witt advised that Barbara and Jim Hawks willed \$185,000 to our church with it to be directed to our Building Fund. This has been deposited. Trustees have met and are working on recommendations that will be presented to the board.

Treasurer: Ron Prillaman presented the financial information for December and the 2022 year.

Minister: Pastor Matt Cox presented his report. Filed in church office.

Elders: No meeting or report due to chair Jerry Brittain being sick.

Deacons: No chair selected.

Stewardship/Finance: No chair selected.

Worship: Susie Sheppard – report filed with church office.

Christian Education: Sid Witt reported with hopes that warmer weather would bring events such as hiking and possibly movie nights to be held in the parking lot.

Property: Dan reports that although no chair has been selected there are 4 people willing to be a part of the team.

Pastoral Care: Sid Witt reported that he, Dan Oyler and Elders would continue regular meetings with Pastor Matt.

Music: Donita Moore reported and report filed with church office. Discussed involving youth/children with music, drama and leading the church service.

Old Business: continuing to look into different communion cups.

New Business:

- There doesn't seem to be any reason to continue Zoom. Facebook and YouTube is being utilized.
- Dan wants to see us initiate church goals. Goals are to be very specific so that they can be addressed.
- Pat Hales says that she is so appreciative of the CWF and their contributions to the church. Also, that the church is so open and appreciative of any contribution to the church. Re: when Judy Oliver & Valerie Johnson wanted to distribute gift bags to those at worship one Sunday before Christmas.
- Dan says there is probably a need to have another AED and CPR training class.
- Discussion about trying to combine a light evening meal with a class or bible study.

Meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Next meeting February 13, 2023 at 6 p.m. at Church



Fort Lewis Christian Church

2931 West Main Street, Salem, Virginia 24153 | 540.380.4636

To: Whom It May Concern

From: Ron Prillaman, Treasurer

Date: January 8, 2023

Re: Treasurer Report, December 31 Financials

The Church's financial performance for 2022 ended on a positive note. The estate of a late family that attended the Church left a considerable sum of money designated solely for the Building Fund (BF). This generous gift, by itself, would not allow the Church to payoff the outstanding mortgage, but it does put the BF in a better position. Donations to the BF and General Fund (GF), in absence of the recent estate settlement, have not been sufficient to cover expenses, and reserves have been relied upon to offset shortfalls.

Contributions to the GF for December were \$7,609 while expenses were \$11,168, and the use of cash reserves to cover the shortfall of \$3,559 was required. Contributions for this fund in December were near a historic low, there was only one other month since 2016 with contributions this low also occurring this year. Expenses for the month are in line with expectations and consisted largely of personnel, utility, and administrative expense. Contributions for the year totaled \$138,622 with expenses of \$149,337 and a realized net loss of \$10,715. While performance of the GF this year is cause of concern, unrestricted cash reserves were around \$40,000 at year end.

The table below shows the longer-term impact of the pandemic on the GF and that the Church has not fully recovered financially. Contributions in 2022 are around \$30,000 less than what was realized just prior to the pandemic in 2018 and 2019 and about \$20,000 less than 2016. A decline in personnel expense associated with changing preachers did offset declining contributions beginning in 2020; however, general rising costs did impact performance and required the use of cash reserves.

	Jan - Dec 16	Jan - Dec 17	Jan - Dec 18	Jan - Dec 19	Jan - Dec 20	Jan - Dec 21	Jan - Dec 22
▼ Ordinary Income/Expe...							
▶ Income	158,414.22	167,580.19	171,288.10	172,971.72	152,714.65	142,334.01	138,622.29
Gross Profit	158,414.22	167,580.19	171,288.10	172,971.72	152,714.65	142,334.01	138,622.29
▶ Expense	131,644.71	160,848.70	153,850.77	159,625.36	153,980.18	146,280.10	149,337.46
Net Ordinary Income	26,769.51	6,731.49	17,437.33	13,346.36	(1,265.53)	(3,946.09)	(10,715.17)
Net Income	<u>26,769.51</u>	<u>6,731.49</u>	<u>17,437.33</u>	<u>13,346.36</u>	<u>(1,265.53)</u>	<u>(3,946.09)</u>	<u>(10,715.17) ▶</u>

The BF received contributions of \$189,827 in December, of which \$185,000 came from an estate settlement previously mentioned. The monthly mortgage payment of \$4,680 remained the primary cash expense of the fund. Contributions received for the BF in 2020 and 2021 were around \$5,000 less than what were needed just for mortgage payments. This trend would have held for 2022 if not for the estate funds. Cash reserves



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have also helped sustain the BF since the pandemic. The mortgage was around \$428,000 at year end, and monthly payments will need to continue. Options are being investigated on how best to use the funds.

Outreach and Committee activity was moderate in December. Outreach funds received were \$1,955, and \$845 was remitted. Outreach for 2021 totaled \$20,529, and the four largest ministries were Elf & Wee Care Baskets, Good Samaritan, Week of Compassion, and Disciples Women Blankets.

If I can answer any questions, please call me at (540) 761-1998 or email at xkrpx@yahoo.com.