

January
LAMPLIGHTER

**"AND WHATEVER YOU DO,
WHETHER IN WORD OR
DEED, DO IT ALL IN THE
NAME OF THE LORD JESUS,
GIVING THANKS TO GOD
THE FATHER THROUGH
HIM." - COLOSSIANS 3:17
(NIV)**

God has a purpose for us on this earth. That calling is to be on mission for God where He has placed us. And since many people spend the majority of their waking hours on the job, we have to stop compartmentalizing life into “spiritual activities” and “work activities.” How are we living examples of the gospel while we work?

Work can be many things for us. You may have a job that is very fulfilling for you or a job that seems to be draining the life out of you. You may be beginning a career or well into your retirement. While work is a means of providing for our needs, of helping us to feel like engaged in meaningful work, and putting our abilities to use. These, and other reasons, can be good and valid reasons for work, but what if our work served an even greater purpose? What if our work was an additional way for us to serve God?

You are invited to the 2018 Work as Worship Retreat, where eleven influential business leaders and pastors will discuss what it looks like to connect faith and work. Taking place as a 1–Day Local Church Retreat on February 23, 2018, the live event in Dallas will be web-streamed to over 2,000 churches around the world. Central UMC will be one of the host sites for this event. This is not just for our congregation, and we are hoping that others in our community will join us.

Join Patrick Lencioni (Author, *The Five Dysfunctions of a Team*), Joel Manby (CEO, SeaWorld), Phil Vischer (Creator, VeggieTales

and Jellyfish Labs), Wendy Davidson (President, US Specialty Channels Kellogg Company), Matt Chandler (Lead Pastor, The Village Church), and others in a day filled with real-life stories, biblical teaching, and practical wisdom that will equip believers in the marketplace to see their work as an opportunity to care for their families, fulfill their calling, and bring glory to God.

You can learn more at www.workasworshipretreat.org or register for the Retreat. The QR code at the bottom of the page will take you to the registration page for Central. We hope that you will consider attending. Please share this information with your friends and family. We will also need people willing to serve on the hospitality team. Contact me if you have any questions or are interested in helping.

Happy New Year!

Pastor Tom



1. Open the QR Code reader on your phone.
2. Hold your device over a QR Code so that it's clearly visible within your smartphone's screen. If necessary, press the button.
3. Presto! Your smartphone reads the code and navigates to the intended destination, which doesn't happen instantly. It may take a few seconds on most devices.

Ponderings

from Pastor Curtis

Read Philippians 4:1-9. It has taken more than one year to get through this short letter! And it appears as though it might take a couple more months! A careful reader of the newsletter, might notice that this is the same passage on which the last article was focused. This passage has much more to tell us about the Christian life and I would be remiss if I didn't point it out! (Perhaps this is why it has taken us over a year!).

Particularly interested to me are Paul's words in v.8-9. He writes, "Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable— if anything is excellent or praiseworthy— think about such things." Paul's admonition here is to fill our minds with good things. He uses several phrases to describe exactly what he means so that there can be no doubt. It is to spend time thinking about the things of God. The assumed part of the admonition is to focus on these good and healthy things to the exclusion of unhealthy things. He wants them to spend their energy and effort focusing on good wholesome spiritual things and neglect those things which are unhealthy.

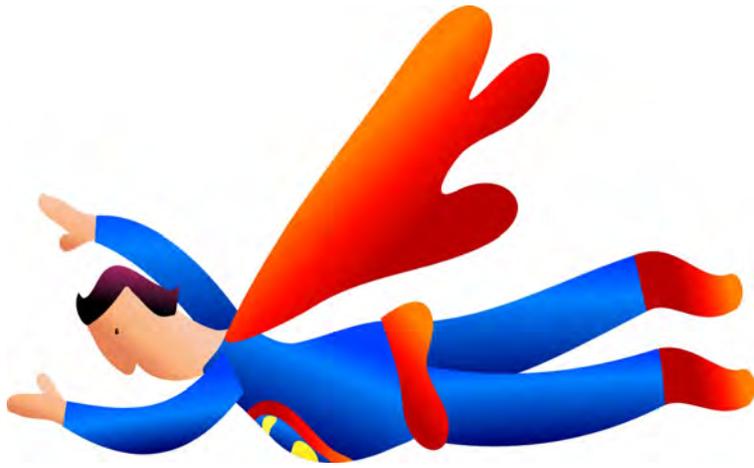
Why is this so important to Paul? It is because what we spend time thinking about, listening to, looking at, or watching, possesses a profound impact on our spiritual growth. The effect today is perhaps even magnified, given that we have the ability to take in far more than Paul could have ever imagined. What we put into our minds as well as what we allow room to grow there can take us in a very bad or very good direction. This truth is contained in the common maxim, "garbage in, garbage out." This refers to the fact that what we watch on TV, movies, video games, books we read, and more has a profound impact on our spiritual growth. This comes out in our lives. Other forms of "garbage" we can put into

our minds might be simply the types of conversations in which we engage. Do we gossip? Do we listen to or participate in off-color jokes?

Reading this passage in Philippians, it should remind us of Jesus' words that "out of the overflow of the mouth, the heart speaks" (Matthew 12:34). What we allow into our lives has a profound effect on us that will eventually come out in the way we live, either positively or negatively. Are there unhealthy things that you are allowing into your mind, either through what content you absorb through your ears, your eyes, or the thoughts on which you choose to dwell? Here at the beginning of the brand new year is there anything that you need to take out of your life?

What practices might you be able to add? In what ways can you add healthy inputs to your usual routines? Last year, during Lent, I gave the challenge to give up one hour a day of TV watching in exchange for something from RightNow Media. Perhaps that could be a good idea. Could you listen to the Bible on CD in your car or Christian music? Something else? If you did that what would it do for your spiritual life? Decide on something and give it a try! If you want to take it a step further, tell someone what you're removing from your life and what you're putting in it! This year, together let's fill our minds and hearts with the things of God and see what He might do in our lives and in the lives of those around us!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Curtis



“I TEACH SUNDAY SCHOOL! WHAT’S YOUR SUPER POWER?”

Do you have a heart for God and a love for people? When children are baptized, we agree to nurture them in the Christian faith and life and include them in our care. We are in need for people to serve the children’s Sunday School class in a variety of ways. We need people who will teach prepared curriculum and people who will assist the leaders. This can be a once in a while commitment, shared among a larger group, so that you can still participate in the adult education offerings of our church. Even better, there are donuts available during the Sunday School hour when you arrive at church! Contact Pastor Jen if you’d like to learn more about raising up future generations in the life of our church.

Thank you!

Thank you for the donations of goodies that you provided for the preschool open house, Christmas Pageant, and birthday party for Jesus. So many children and families were overwhelmed by your hospitality. Whether you shopped or baked alone, with family, or with a group from the church, we pray that you were blessed as much as those who enjoyed the treats!

ARROW

New opportunity for 5th graders!

Join us on Sunday, January 21st from 4:30pm-5:30pm for Arrow! Arrow is going to be a time to get excited about moving up into youth group. From 4:30-5:00 Pastor Jen will lead a devotion and games. From 5:00-5:30 we will join the Sheri and the youth group to play games and have a snack with them. Then they will continue with their normally scheduled youth group time after Arrow has ended. Please contact Pastor Jen with any questions.



The Souper Bowl

The Super Bowl will be here before we know it! Would you like to be a part of the excitement? On Sunday, February 4th, the children of CUMC will help us to support those who are hungry through the Souper Bowl of Caring. We are going to help people by collecting money and soup cans. Soup cans will be collected by the children before the service in the parlor and brought forward during the service. Money will be collected during the communion offering

Cantus Choir

Thank you to all the 3rd-7th graders who have participated in Cantus Choir this fall! They are Shelby and Preston Bolser, Caleigh Collins, Noa Cox, Masson Heiny, Kate Holthouse, Anna Claire Ream, Grace Stewart & Mia. We are always looking for more singers and practice for only about ½ hour after church on Sundays. We’ll start back up on Sunday, Jan. 7th! Please join us! Alisa Clapp-Itnyre, director.



When you see this sign, what do you do? Hopefully, you stop and are watchful and aware of the surroundings. If other cars are coming, you let them go by. If you don't, it is possible that you could have a collision with other vehicles in the right of way. Furthermore, you assume that other drivers will stop for you if you don't heed the sign. Not yielding is often a sign of arrogant character. Now think of this sign/term in your relationship with God. Spiritually, when we don't yield, we assume that we know better than God. We put ourselves on an equal plain with the Holy God. We think we don't have to wait on His plan or purposes. Sometimes we just don't want to wait. We are not naturally patient. Instead of waiting on God to answer, we take matters into our own hands. And this can cause a collision! How many times have we moved and discovered later that God already had it worked out, had we just yielded to his timing. Sometimes that yielding is an opportunity to rest in Him, rather than struggle against the world.

When we let God go ahead of us, we find that He fulfills all His promises. The way He fulfills those promises may not look the way we imagined them. We might even be called upon to grow in our walk with Him during this time of yielding. We should never take the lead from God or want to be at his side, like an equal. He is God alone, he is the leader, the answer, our only source. Will you allow God to go first today? Will you yield to His timing and purposes as you continue your journey?

Even in my aging years, I am still learning to trust in His ways. I still struggle with allowing Him to go first. I want to be one who yields. I simply ask that you join me in this process of yielding as we grow together for the Kingdom.

Kim Lewis

Creative Hands

We will meet Thursday, January 11th, and Thursday, January 25th. We will be getting ready for an "antiques and other bargains" Pop-up in early February. Join us for fun and fellowship.

Pop-Up

Creative Hands is busy working on an " Antiques and other bargains" Pop-up for February 3rd, 10 till 2. And there may be some items for the season. Come see what you can't do without.

Garage Sale

On March 24th, we will be having a Garage Sale. That means, if you have garage sale items, you can bring them in starting in January. Put them outside the church office at the basket. (We will have a drop off day March 10th. More info later.)

Primetimers

Please join us Wednesday Jan. 17th at noon in the Fellowship Hall. You must reserve a seat to attend. To reserve your spot, please call the office at 765-962-8543 or email Christin at christin@richmondcumc.com

Thank You

John Turner's family would like to thank you for the many expressions of sympathy extended to us. We appreciated the prayers, the calls, the cards, the food, the flowers and all the outpouring of support from our wonderful church family.



Altar Flowers

If you would like to give flowers to be placed on the altar for Sunday Worships, please contact Christin at 765-962-8543. The cost is \$25 per order and will be billed through Jack Daggy Flowers.

THE TRIBE NEWS

“FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE GATHER IN MY NAME, I WILL BE WITH THEM” - MATTHEW 18:20



Conundrum on the Crackerjack Cruise

If you are unable to make it, or would like to help in some other way, you may simply offer a donation or can donate one of the following food items:

- 20 bags of frozen chicken breast tenders (not breaded)
- 10 boxes of orzo pasta
- 3 bottles of olive oil
- 3 containers of minced garlic
- 5 bottles of white cooking wine
- 20 bags of romaine lettuce
- 10 boxes of croutons
- 10 bottles of Caesar dressing
- 30 packages of frozen garlic bread
- 20 bags of shredded parmesan cheese
- Pies
- Cakes/cupcakes
- Cookies

TRIBE IN JANUARY and FEBRUARY

Sunday, January 7 and 14:

Regular Youth from 5-7pm at Central (Mystery Cast from 3-5pm)

Sunday, January 21:

Mystery Dinner Prep with food and play rehearsal using crew from 5-7pm. (All youth planning on camp or mission trip needed!)

Sunday, February 4:

Superbowl 1st half gathering at Sheri's house. Watch for details

Sunday, February 11, 18, 25:

Youth Sunday prep during Youth 5-7pm

Please let Sheri know if you would like to sing, play an instrument, or be in a skit. SENIORS GET FIRST PRIORITY FOR SINGING AND SPEAKING ROLES. The theme this year is YOUR STORY, OUR STORY, GOD'S STORY. Each church will have some members that are interviewed regarding their faith story. These testimonies will be woven into the service.

REMEMBER IF YOU SIGN UP:

Youth Sunday is Sunday, March 4th at Centerville and First Methodist AND Sunday, March 11 at Central UMC. Your role in the service will be needed both weeks!

Calendar of Events

1/1	OFFICE CLOSED	
1/2	Preschool Board Meeting	6:00pm
1/8	Medical Monday	1:00pm
1/9	Trustees Meeting	6:30pm
1/18	Lunch Bunch	11:30am
1/11	Creative Hands	9:00am
1/11	Soup Kitchen	9:00am
1/13	Bread Baking	8:00am
1/16	Bread Basket	4:30pm
1/17	Primetimers	12:00pm
1/18	Friendship Circle	9:30am
1/20	Disciples Hand	8:30am
1/25	Creative Hands	9:00am
1/25	Ad Council	6:30pm
1/31	Lamplighter Assembly	10:00am

Planning an event?

If you are planning on an event you would like to be held here at the church, please contact the church office at 765-962-8543 at least a week before the event to make sure the date and time are available. Please make sure to fill out a church event form, located in the office, so we know how you would like your event set up and where you would like to have it. If you have any questions, please call Christin at 765-962-8543 or email christin@richmondcumc.com

Greeters

TBD

Acolytes

TBD

Scripture Readers

1/7	Jan Hibner
1/14	Pat Heiny
1/21	Karis Koyles
1/28	Barbara Harper

Children's Message

1/7	Pastor Tom / Pastor Curtis
1/14	Sheri Koyles
1/21	Pastor Jen
1/28	Alisa Clapp-Itnyre

Ushers

1/7	Rick Eyer, Phil Scott, Jackie Scott, Roger Clark, Beryl Wesler, Ned Toms
1/14	Rick Eyer, Phil Scott, Jackie Scott, Roger Clark, Beryl Wesler, Ned Toms
1/21	Lowell Robinson, Sam Willman, Jim Puckett, Jamie Puckett, Dylan Puckett
1/28	Lowell Robinson, Sam Willman, Jim Puckett, Jamie Puckett, Dylan Puckett

Altar Guild

Sally Sayre

-- conundrum on the --
CRACKERJACK CRUISE
MYSTERY DINNER SHOW FUNDRAISER



A "Who Dun it?" audience participation
mystery play performed by TRIBE
youth group members

Can your table solve the mystery of the
stolen "Rose" Diamond?

Tickets:

\$10 per adult, \$5 children ages 3-10

Since this is our main fundraiser for camp and
missions, extra donations will be accepted as well.

Saturday, January 27 at Centerville UMC

at 6:30pm **60 tickets available

Sunday, January 28 at Central UMC

at 12:00pm **80 tickets available