



ASHLAND CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)



301 S. James St. Ashland, VA 23005
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Website: ashlandchristianchurchva.org

April 2024



Pastor Bob Truths and Tales:

Every year, thousands of people travel to Niagara Falls on the Canadian border for the experience of a lifetime. Whether you witness the Falls from the largely commercialized observation areas of the U.S. side or the pristine, unadulterated views from Canada, it is an impressive sight to behold. Every now and again, you will hear of Thrill seekers who want to attempt going over the Falls and survive.

One of the individuals who survived her dive into the Falls was Annie Edson Taylor. She jumped into the Falls in 1901 inside a wooden barrel. She named her barrel "Queen of the Mist," a title she had given herself. Well, unlike most, she survived, but afterwards she was heard to say, "No one ought ever to do that again."

I'm a bit of a daredevil, but the idea of going over the Falls in Niagara has never been a dream of mine. I've gone sky diving, and lots of white-water canoeing and rafting but a barrel and a waterfall? Nope!

I must say however, we all make decisions that lead us to carelessly careen through the rapid falls of life with our own barrels in which we think are sure survival is guaranteed. Our barrels are fashioned from self-sufficiency, self-efficiency, and self-determination. But, why is it necessary to tempt fate in the rough waters of life, going it alone, if only to wind up beaten and battered by our insatiable desire only to survive?

This is how it works with those of us who "thrill" at navigating life in our own vessels, determined to survive solely on our ability to go it alone. First, we determine that looking out for our interests, instead of the interests of others, is the path to life satisfaction. Second, we insulate ourselves with "barrels" of our design created to shield us from any responsibility for irresponsible and careless choices. Third, when we fail or encounter turbulence on our journey, we either blame others or engage in denial of whether we created the mess of our lives at all.

Let's step back from the precipice of the dangerous Falls of life for a moment and examine a better and Godlier pathway to surviving life. A newer and more reasonable approach to life begins with the realization that none of us have all the answers or even know all the questions. Proverbs teaches us to "trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight". (Proverbs 3:5-6, NIV).

What does the wisdom of God teach us about how to "lean into" God's plan for our lives without feeling that we have to go it alone? "Many are the plans in a person's heart, but the Lord's purpose prevails" (Proverbs 19:21, NIV). When God charts our course, God provides wisdom to accomplish the greater good in our lives, and as a result, we give God the glory for divine handiwork. There's no need to create a "barrel," leap off the cliff, and hope for the best. Our great God will hold us in the palms of divine hands, when we hold God in our hands.

Hope To See You Sunday,

Pastor Bob



Family of John Carroll
 Bekah DeBell Scott Wisner
 Phyllis Jones Martha Jones
 Irv Kenyon Peggy LaFoon
 Henry Watson Greg Vaughan
 Regina Long

Prayer Scripture:
"Call unto Me, and I will answer you." (Jeremiah 33:3)



The Ministerial Profiles coming from the General Office in Indianapolis have been fewer and far between.

However, your Search Committee is continuing to diligently review each one in light of our church mission & ministry.

Thank you for continuing to keep the work of the committee in your prayers. Let us all keep focused on God's word from Proverbs 19:21

which says, ***"Many plans are in a person's mind, but the Lord's purpose will succeed."***



Hosanna Parade 2024



Richard Cameron for raking the front lawn.

Kathryn Hull for washing and cleaning the baptistry in preparation for the baptisms on Easter Sunday.

Andy Lynne for his behind the scenes work for Palm Sunday, the baptisms, and Easter Sunday.

The **A-Team** for a wonderful breakfast celebration on Palm Sunday.

Eagle Point Farm for bringing the donkeys, Petunia and Tulip, for our Hosanna parade on Palm Sunday.

Family TEAM

The "A" Team

The A Team hosted the Palm Sunday breakfast and Hosanna Parade with approximately 40 people attending.

The parade was led by Donna's donkeys from Eagle Point Farm.

A variety of delicious dishes were brought by everyone to share.



International Disciples Depot

Our Disciples Depot in March was very successful!
Thanks to all the volunteers that came and helped!

- Next Disciples Depot is Saturday, April 13, 2024 10-11:30am
- Set up on Thursday April 11th from 6:30- 7:30pm and Friday April 12th from 9:00-11:00am.
- Email Carroll LaHaye (clahaye@rmc.edu) or Lily (LilyCameronRVA@gmail.com) if you can help with set up or pack up or during the Depot.
- We are collecting donations in our new closet at First Baptist Church. (accessible from the door with the awning)
- We are trying to focus on getting diapers to give away for April.



The floors are done! The floors into and around Hunter Hall are clean and shiny once again. Thanks to each of you who contributed to this much needed and long overdue maintenance project. Let's keep 'em shiny.

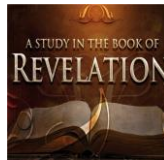


MONTH	BOOK	AUTHOR
MARCH	The Woman	Kristin Hannah
APRIL	Secrets of a Charmed life	Susan Meissner
MAY	The Red Tent	Anita Diamant
JUNE	The Keeper of the Stars	Buck Turner
JULY	Anxious People	Fredrick Backman
AUGUST	The Frozen River	Ariel Lawhon

Book Club meetings are at Casa Herradura on the last Wednesday of every month at 6:00pm. Hope to see you there!



We are planning a new church directory with photos of those interested. Yes, you can include your dog in the photo! Two Sundays in May, Alex will take pictures in Hunter Hall. (Those dates to be determined). The goal is to have a new directory printed by mid-June!



Tuesdays at 12noon
Beginning April 9th.
Join us as we take the fear out of this book called the Bible.



Baptisms

We rejoice in welcoming our newest members into the church family through the baptisms of Ericka, Lexi, Addy, and Ayden Sasser on March 31st.

Let us each remember and rejoice in our own baptism as we join together in the ministry and mission of Christ's church.



April's Birthstone: Diamond
April's Birth Flowers: Daisy and Sweet Pea



April 8th at 7:00pm



April 7th-
Wandering Hearts - Pt 8 "Here's My Heart"- John 21: 1-19

April 14th-
Let's Change the Name of Our Church- Acts 4: 32-35

April 21st-
"A Little Space Please"- Psalm 4

April 28th-
Repeat After Me- "I'm Not a Sheep"- John 10: 11-18



Please bring ONLY canned goods for the food pantry basket. There is a large plastic container in the narthex for your donations.

ACES is in need of the following food items: canned beef stew, canned meats, canned fruits, peanut butter, pork & beans, and cereal.

At Home Communion Visit

Would you like to receive communion at home? If so, simply call the church office (804-798-7083) and let our Administrative Assistant, Kara Murray, know. You will be contacted by Rev. Brooks, Rev. Hull or an Elder to schedule a day and time.

January- June 2024- Diaconate Serving Schedule

MONTH	PREPARE COMMUNION/CLEAN UP	DATE	SERVE COMMUNION & OFFERING
JANUARY	Kathryn Hull	JAN 21	Regina Long and Scott Jones
JANUARY	Kathryn Hull	JAN 28	Annie Brooks and Karen Godsey
FEBRUARY	Carroll LaHaye	FEB 4	Marcie Moyer and Caleb Jones
		FEB 11	Regina Long and Stacey Wilson
		FEB 18	Cathy Crews and Annie Brooks
		FEB 25	Shannon Cameron and Jennifer Sydnor
MARCH	Sarah Byrne	MAR 3	Logan Cameron and Tyler Cameron
		MAR 10	Karen Godsey and Alex Sydnor
		MAR 17	Regina Long and Scott Jones
		MAR 24	PALM SUNDAY: Shannon Cameron and Jennifer Sydnor
		MAR 31	EASTER SUNDAY: Marcie Moyer and Caleb Jones
APRIL	Judy Jones	APR 7	Cathy Crews and Scott Jones
		APR 14	Regina Long and Stacey Wilson
		APR 21	Karen Godsey and Marcie Moyer
		APR 28	Annie Brooks and Alex Sydnor
MAY	Cathy Crews	MAY 5	Shannon Cameron and Jennifer Sydnor
		MAY 12	Cathy Crews and Caleb Jones
		MAY 19	Logan Cameron and Tyler Cameron
		MAY 26	Regina Long and Stacey Wilson
JUNE	Anne Littlefield	JUN 2	Annie Brooks and Karen Godsey
		JUN 9	Jennifer Sydnor and Alex Sydnor
		JUN 16	Shannon Cameron and Cathy Crews
		JUN 23	Stacey Wilson and Marcie Moyer
		JUN 30	Caleb Jones and Scott Jones

**If you cannot be at church on the Sunday you are supposed to serve, please find a substitute and let us know.

COURT RULES HUNTER HALL

-  **NO dark/black soled shoes**
-  **NO soccer, football, baseball, softball, or volleyball**
-  **NO skating, skateboards, or bicycles**
-  **NO flying objects**
-  **NO dunking, hanging on rims, or pulling nets**
-  **NO throwing, kicking, or batting of balls with bats or other objects**

Free, On-Demand Public Transportation Launches in Ashland



Connecting Your Community
Ride to these places and more within the zone:

-  Home
-  Work
-  Medical Care
-  Groceries & Errands
-  Schools
-  Libraries



On March 18th, 2024, public transit in Ashland became available via GRTC's LINK Microtransit service!

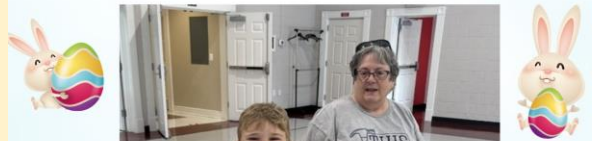
What is Microtransit?

Microtransit is a convenient new transit service that provides point-to-point connections across your community and ties in easily with GRTC's high-frequency fixed-route bus network. No matter where you are, you'll simply open up the GRTC "On the Go app" or make a phone call, and a vehicle will arrive within 20 minutes to take you where you want to go! LINK will launch fare-free, like the rest of the GRTC network. Fast, Flexible, and Fare-Free, just put in your drop-off and pick-up locations and wait for your ride.

Map coverage area link is below:

<https://ashlandva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5454/GRTC-LINK-Ashland-Zone-Map?bidId=>

2024 Easter EGG HUNT



March 30th, 2024