



THE FISHNET



October
2023



VBCC Family,

What a wonderful and unique first year we have had together!

From our pajama day back on Thanksgiving Sunday, to our visit from the Easter Bunny himself on April Fool's Day on to dance parties, movie nights, water slides, and plenty of fellowship, this community has remembered and exemplified the fun of Church, the joy of doing life together, and the enthusiasm that comes from being in a community who laughs and loves together.

With my joyous installation service, where we promised to love and care for each other, our Lenten Soup Series, where we created a space to share our stories and ideas with each other, our ongoing communal art project, and our many moments of friendship shared at bible studies, before and after meetings, and over lunches, this community has led itself to a space of intentional vulnerability, to an openness with each other and with God, and to a place where all folks can show up authentically and experience the love of God.

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**Virginia Beach Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**

2225 Rose Hall Dr.

Virginia Beach, VA 23454

(757) 481-3494

www.vbchristianchurch.com

Pastor Kelsey:

RevKelsey@vbchristianchurch.com

Office Hours:

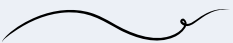
Tues - Thurs, 10:00am - 2:00pm

(or by Appointment)

Available By Phone:

Tues- Sun, Anytime

Mondays are her Sabbath Days



Secretary:

office@vbchristianchurch.com

Secretary Office Hours:

Mon - Thurs, 10:00am - 2:30pm

Available By Phone:

Mon - Fri, 10:00am - 4:00pm

Sunday Worship Services

10:00am In Person,

Facebook Live & YouTube

... *Cont. from Page 1*

And within all this, we've had Christmas fall on a Sunday and a Nor'easter over Easter weekend and we've dreamed with God so generously that we can do all we've felt God call us to do this year. We can say that we have faced some odd, though not unheard of, circumstances together, and that we are a community who strives to think creatively about the situations God gives us, who rises to the occasion, and who is willing to try new things together.

This month, we have the opportunity to do just that.

On October 29th, we will have a special worship service to pray over and discern together who God is calling us, Virginia Beach Christian Church, to become. It will be held in the fellowship hall, and there will be coffee, donuts, and intentional conversation led by Rev. Dr. Bill Spangler Dunning, our Regional Minister, and me.

This is a unique service curated by our Visioning Team, where we will dream about the impact God wants us to have on our neighborhoods and on each other. Since the service is rooted in conversation and dreaming together, it's important that as many of us are there as possible.

At this service, we will pray over and reveal the underpainting of our communal art piece, which we began at our Homecoming Service, as we celebrate the path God is revealing to us, built on the path God has already walked with us, and prepare ourselves for the work God has ahead of us.

I hope to see you at this important service, and I remain ever grateful for this joyful, authentic, and creative community that laughs, loves, and dreams together.

Joyfully yours,
Pastor Kelsey

Pastor Kelsey
(757) 903-8549 | revkelsey@vbchristianchurch.com

“And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. ... There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. We love because God first loved us first loved us””

Events this Month



The Parables

Weekly Bible Study
Mondays at 6:30 PM



TUESDAYS
9:30 AM



THE SPIRIT AND THE FOLLOWERS OF THE WAY

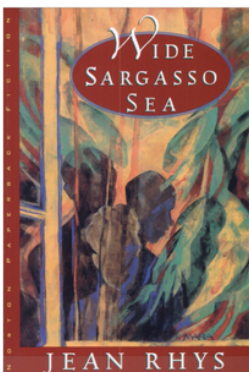
A Study on the Book of Acts



The Monday Book Club meets monthly (2nd Monday) at 1:00pm. All are welcome to join in. This is a book club that actually discusses the books. Meetings are held mostly on Zoom, but all are welcome. At some point, the club will resume gathering under the pavilion or in the library.

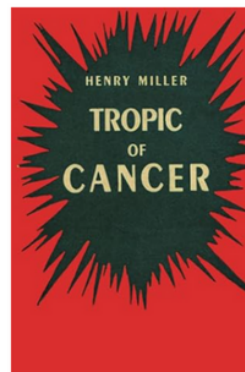
*If you want to be included, please contact
Susie Sumnick to be put on our Zoom list.*

With good weather we may be meeting at the gazebo, so if you are new to the group, be sure to check on whether the meeting will be Zoom or in person.



October 9
Wide Sargasso Sea (1966)
by Jean Rhys

November 13
Tropic of Cancer (1934)
by Henry Miller



Diaconate Schedule

October 1 - Team 4
October 8 - Team 5
October 15 - Team 1
October 22 - Team 2
October 29 - Team 3

Elder Schedule

October 1 - Pat Molnar
October 8 - Martha Beacham
October 15 - Francis Wiedeman
October 22 - Jack Mallery
October 29 - TBD

Sunday Worship:

October 1st

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 17:1-7
Matthew 21:28-32

October 8th

Guest Speaker:
Rev. Fred Rothermel
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Philippians 3: 2-21
Matt. 21:33-46

October 15th

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 23
Philippians 4:1-9

October 22nd

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 33:12-23
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10


October 29th

Guest Speaker:
Rev. Bill Spangler Dunning
Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost
Scriptures TBD



Events this Month

October 9th
**Indigenous
People
Day**



October 15th
**Pastor
Appreciation
Sunday**



You are Invited to Attend Our

Tuesday Tea



THE LIBRARY AT
VIRGINIA BEACH CHRISTIAN CHURCH
OCTOBER 10, 2023 | 3PM ONWARDS

We are happy to provide rides to this event if needed.
Simply contact the Church Office by October 8th to
let us know if you will need a ride.



Upcoming Events:

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



Sunday, October 15 at 4 PM

Join us at 4 PM on Sunday, October 15 with your furry, feathered, or scaled friend to receive a special blessing as we offer thanksgiving to God for our pets.



MOVIE NIGHT

OCTOBER 25
06:00 PM



LOCATION:
VBCC
MOVIE:
COCO



WorldCafé

Come join us in the Fellowship Hall **October 29** with guest speaker, Rev. Bill Spangler Dunning, for our worship service. There will be coffee, conversation, & concrete opportunities to think creatively together about God's unique call for VBCC.



Homecoming Sunday



VIRGINIA BEACH CHRISTIAN CHURCH
THE CHURCH THAT LOVE IS BUILDING



Sunday, September 17, we gathered for a Homecoming Sunday full of good food, good fellowship, and good fun! Together, during worship, we painted onto a canvas, letting go of our fears and letting God's faithfulness and love guide our dreams for the future. There is still time to add to the canvas if you missed it! Simply see Pastor Kelsey after Church any Sunday in October. This is Virginia Beach Christian Church. We are the Church that Love is Building.



WBCC Happenings:

Recycling Update

Our current total is **393 pounds** of recyclable plastic collected since **June 1!** We need **107 pounds by December 1** so please make a concerted effort to get the remaining poundage to the church. We only collected 47 pounds for the month of August. One large plastic bag from the box stuffed full is usually 8 pounds. I love it when the white box is overflowing and there are bags on the floor around it. Working together = a new park bench!

For the beauty of the earth,

Patti Watters



JCOC Dinner

Our next JCOC dinner will be on Tuesday, October 17th.



Acolyte Schedule

October - Luke Elena and Aubrey Griffin

November - Audrey Ellison and Luke Elena

December - Aubrey Griffin and Audrey Ellison

Diaconate Schedule

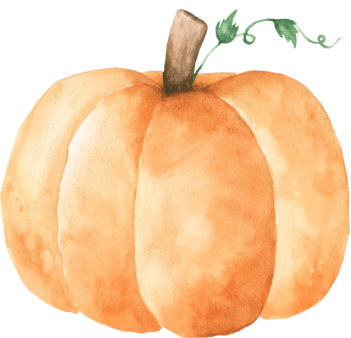
October 1 - David and Pam McEwen (**Team 4**)

October 8 - Jim Melvin, Bill Hayden, Phyllis Marshall (**Team 5**)

October 15 - Barb and Jim Iman, Jo Ann Bishop (**Team 1**)

October 22 - Mary Ann Stubbs, Sydney Davis, Ellen Turman (**Team 2**)

October 29 - Susie Drew, Brenda Mallery, Mary Graham (**Team 3**)





Department News:

Worship



*Appreciate
you!*

Sunday, October 15, at the 10 AM service we will celebrate Pastor Appreciation Sunday and the anniversary of Pastor Kelsey's first year at VBCC.

Cake and punch will be provided in the Fellowship Hall after the service so that all may extend their gratitude for her many wonderful talents and blessings to our church family. Cards, special drawings, poems, gift cards, or monetary gifts are all lovely ideas for individual thank-yous. A large box for these cards will be provided in the church office during the week and in the front of the church during Sunday services for early deposits.

For questions, contact Patti Watters or Pam McEwen

October is an inspiring, busy month for our Worship at VBCC.

October 1 - World Communion Sunday

October 8 - Chaplain Fred Rothermel will fill our pulpit while Pastor Kelsey is the Keynote Speaker at the Women's Retreat in Lynchburg. Old timers at VBCC might remember Fred and his wife, Dana, who often worshipped with us while Fred was a Navy Chaplain in Norfolk.

October 15 - Pastor Appreciation Sunday and celebration of Pastor Kelsey's First year Anniversary as our minister. Cake and punch to follow in the Fellowship Hall with a short presentation.

October 22 - Regular Service

October 29 - World Cafe Sunday led by our Regional Minister Bill Spangler-Dunning with coffee and donuts served throughout. VBCC art work to be revealed!

We hope to see you each Sunday as we welcome fall fellowship and worship together.

Nancy, Pam, and Patti
Worship Co-Chairs



Department News:

Membership

"We are FAMILY..."

"Membership" is not only about numbers, or new members, or new contact information, or reaching out to visitors. Although all of these things are very important aspects, "Membership" is overall, about nurturing our church "family." Membership means helping ALL feel cared for, appreciated, and loved...like FAMILY. When there's a major celebratory event, we help celebrate. When there's illness or loss, we reach out and show support.

We have a fund called the "Sunshine Fund", which exists to help us communicate our support during both joyful times and emotionally stressful times. A new goal of the Membership Dept. is to more effectively utilize this account; and to ensure that all VBCC family members experiencing identified support situations, are recognized and receive benefits. Thank you, in advance, for helping us help our family!

**** Remember to pick up new Directory pages as they are updated!!**

Rhonda Skaggs



Outreach

During the stewardship campaign, many of the outreach projects were presented. Now it's time for you to decide how you can best share in the outreach fun. One project that generated numerous comments was the possibility of providing dinner to homeless children at the Beach. There are 15-25 children who are provided dinner at 5:00 Monday through Thursday during the school year. Various groups sign up to provide food. Gourmet cooking is not required. Mac and cheese with cut up hot dogs is the favorite. Outreach is looking for two or three teams of three people who would be willing to consider this worthy outreach project. If you want to get your own team of three, or if you would like to be involved with a team, please let me know. ssumnick@gmail.com. There will be a short meeting to discuss the details once sufficient interest has been established.

Another project presented was helping homeless families with furniture when they move from motel stays to apartments. As a beginning to this project, we will collect a master list of those items you are willing to part with when they are needed. These are not items you need to get rid of immediately. Items that are most often requested are twin, double and queen beds, dressers, lamps, apartment sized tables and chairs, end tables, bed linens, dishes, pots and pans and cleaning supplies. Outreach will maintain a master list and facilitate pick up when needed.

Outreach is always looking for needs within our community.
If you have an idea, please let us know.

Susie Sumnick



Department News: Eldership

During the recent Elders' Retreat, the Elders discussed the reestablishing of Care Groups. These groups are created by dividing the members of the Congregation into Six units with an Elder assigned to each unit as its shepherd, and they give us opportunities to develop a supportive relationship with an identified elder and a small group of fellow church members.

In the past, these care groups would sit together on occasion at fellowship events, so they can develop intentional relationships with each other and their elder. With these relationships as the foundation, members then would contact their Elder whenever there was a need for prayer or a visit due to health problems or a request for communion. In turn, the Elder might reach out to a member if they become concerned by a member's absence from Church activities for a considerable period of time.

You'll find the breakdown of care groups below, and if you find that your name is missing, please let me know and we'll get you assigned to one of these care groups.

Jack Mallery

Care Groups

Aida Barnette

The Anderson Family
The Austin (Bill & Karen) Family
The Austin (Maggie & Mitch) Family
Aida Barnette
Jo Ann Bishop
Jeff Bodenhamer
Suzanne Genz
The Faust Family
The Kelly Family
The Montgomery Family
Anne Myers
Kelly Robinson
Olivia Rodrigues

Jack Mallery

The Carroll Family
The Decipulo Family
The Drew Family
Steve Eggleston
The Ellison Family
The Graham Family
The Harrell Family
The Mallery Family
Nancy Nelson
Lindsay Nichols
The Ramsey Family
The Robertson Family
The Smith Family

Frances Weideman

Martha Dennis
The Elena Family
The Evans Family
Vince Hutchison
Dot Ryan
Fran Scott
The Senchack Family
Mary Ann Stubbs
Ellen Turman
Bill Watters
The Watters (Patti & Jim) Family
The Watters (Nancy & John) Family
Frances Weideman



Martha Beacham

The Beacham Family
E. Murray Beacham
Mercedes Brenneman
Helen Burns
Claire Carbone
Ginger Courtney
The Davis Family
Em Davis
The Farley Family
Juanita Felton
Helen Jackson

Jennie Palacios

The Goodwin - Mudge Family
The Hase Family
Connie Hooker
The Howard Family
Phyllis Marshall
Jennie Palacios
The Rogers Family
Rhonda Skaggs
The Sumnick Family
The Sumnick - Cardwell - Suh Family

Pat Molnar

The Ford / Scarbrow Family
The French Family
The Frey Family
The Griffin Family
The Hayden Family
The Hogendobler Family
The Iman Family
The Ivory Family
The McEwen Family
Jim Melvin
The Molnar Family





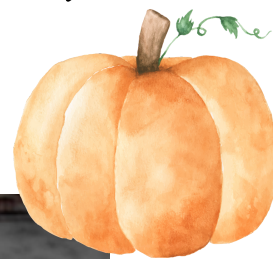
Recipe Corner

Frosty Ginger Pumpkin Squares

From: TasteofHome.com

PREP TIME: 30 Mins + freezing

SERVINGS: 15 Servings



Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 1 cup crushed graham cracker (about 16 squares)
- 1 cup crushed gingersnaps (about 18 cookies)
- 2 cups canned pumpkin
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 to 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1 cup chopped walnuts
- 1/2 gallon vanilla ice cream, slightly softened



Directions:

1. In a large bowl, combine the butter, graham crackers and gingersnaps. Press two-thirds of the crumb mixture into an ungreased 13x9-in. dish.
2. In a large bowl, combine the pumpkin, sugar, cinnamon, salt, ginger and nutmeg. Stir in walnuts. Fold in softened ice cream. Spoon into crust. Sprinkle remaining crumb mixture over top. Freeze until firm, about 3 hours.

Pastor Kelsey:

RevKelsey@vbchristianchurch.com

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(or by Appointment)

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Mondays are her Sabbath Days

Office Secretary:

office@vbchristianchurch.com

Secretary Office Hours:

Mon - Thurs, 10:00am - 2:30pm

Available By Phone:

Mon - Fri, 10:00am - 4:00pm



Sunday Worship Services

10:00am In Person, Facebook Live & YouTube

Website www.vbchristianchurch.com

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/VBChristianChurch>

Facebook Private Group (for VBCC Families only)

www.facebook.com/groups/vbchristianchurch/

