



**Riverlawn Presbyterian Church**  
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**JUNE**



**JULY**

Hello Riverlawn family and friends! May the joy, love and life of our Savior be with you! We are on the brink of summertime. Some activities wrapping up, others just beginning, but still plenty to keep us busy. I'm curious ... what plans do you have this summer? Vacations? Get-togethers? Explorations?

The thing about summer is that many choose to "unplug." And while some unplugging can be healthy and good, it can also be dangerous. For instance, we do not cease being the family of God during the summer. We do not cease being servants to those in need during the summer. We do not cease being ministers of the gospel during the summer.

Love doesn't call off for the week. Light does not stop being light. We do not put the work of the Kingdom on pause. Our life in Christ, in shared ministry as His Body, persists! You're probably familiar with the phrase: "Keep calm and carry on." That's all well and good. But that's not the end of it. Keep the faith and carry on! Keep vigilant and carry on! Keep being the Church of Jesus Christ! How will you do that this summer? In your worship & witness?

One way I would encourage you to do this is through your prayers. And I ask for your prayers this summer! Pray for our Colombia Mission Team as they travel to Medellin to serve alongside of the Open Arms Foundation and share life with the boys on the farm.

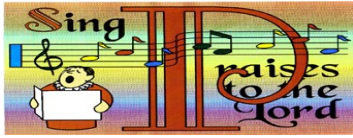
Please pray for me and the many others who will be traveling from all parts of the country to serve as Commissioners to the 226 th General Assembly in Salt Lake City – for the extensive preparations beforehand; for humility, energy, wisdom, and faithfulness during the days we prayerfully discern what the Lord would have us do and be; and for the time that follows as I return with new insights and opportunities for us to be part of the larger Church charged with carrying out the Kingdom work that He has for us.

Pray for the gifted members of our Riverlawn family who will be leading worship and proclaiming the Word on the Sundays while I am away. Pray for our first VBS in years (July 26-28) – for the volunteers, and if you would be able to bless others in this way.

Pray for the opportunities to showcase the love and life of Christ in our worship and in our daily life. Pray for God to be glorified in all of it, and for you to be a part of it. And you can start right now.

Let's not "unplug" this summer ... or ever!

Pastor Chris



## MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS JUNE/JULY 2024

Summer is quickly approaching and I'm sure most of us are looking forward to a slow-down in activities plus making plans for some vacation time. Our son, Chris, and his family will be joining Parry and me at Surfside Beach, SC June 7-15. We always look forward to time with the grandkids. We enjoy beach time, rides in the golf cart and trips to get ice cream. {BTW....Carlee will be in the 5th grade this coming school year and Nate will be a 3rd grader}. Our son, Dave, will not be able to travel to the states this summer. His wife is having some back problems and she will not be able to tolerate such a long trip. We will really miss seeing them this year.

The choir's rehearsal schedule for June: No rehearsal on the 6th or 13th / Rehearsal on the 20th and 27th . There will be no rehearsals during the month of July or the first two Thursdays in August. They will, however, be sharing anthems several Sundays during their time off.

I do want to thank everyone who participated in the special program on May 19th . It was great having the instrumentalists join the choir that afternoon. The anthems, piano selections, solos and the instrumental selection, Gabriel's Oboe, were beautiful.

The past 2 months I have been including information about the instrumentalists who have joined us this year. This month I want to introduce you to Anita Stonestreet who has accompanied the choir on occasion for about 9 months. Anita played for me when I was on vacation last August. The pianist that was scheduled to sub was in the hospital and thankfully Anita was able to fill in at the last minute. She lives in Cross Lanes with her husband, Dr. Greg Stonestreet who joins the tenor section when she plays at Riverlawn. They have 4 grown children. In the past Anita has served as choir director and pianist at Perrow Presbyterian Church and also been the accompanist for womanSong Chorale in Charleston. Currently she plays occasionally for church services around the area and will substitute for me June 9 and again in August. I look forward to having her join us as choir accompanist about once a month in the future.

Have a wonderful summer!

Pam



## Camp Firelight VBS 2024

### Riverlawn Presbyterian Church Camp Firelight Vacation Bible School July 26-28—6-8pm

Mark your calendars for July 26-28 this summer for Riverlawn Presby's own miniversion of Vacation Bible School – Camp Firelight 2024 – three action-packed evenings of Bible-based fun for kids!

Join camp counselor Sam and Lumen, "Lu," the lightning bug puppet, for an adventure each evening as they face the fears and challenges in learning to trust

God each day. The brief learning experience will be interspersed with music, singing, crafts, and games. A light meal will be served at the beginning of the first two evenings, Friday and Saturday, and a family campfire with s'mores will be provided on Sunday evening.

Children pre-K through 5th grade are invited and welcome to attend free of charge. Through their fun experience with Camp Firelight 2024, children will understand they can connect with and trust God no matter what the situation brings, and that God is always be with them. (Psalm 56:3 "Whenever I'm afraid, I put my trust in you.") Information on pre-registration will be provided at the church as time for the camp approaches. In addition to enrolling children, you are encouraged to join the youth and adults who have already volunteered to serve in making this experience a success for participants and a pleasant offering for our Lord!

For additional information contact Sharon Herndon (304)444-2071 or Jamie Albert (681)340-1128

### Celebrating Pastor Chris' 20th Anniversary at Riverlawn

On July 3, 2004 Pastor Chris began serving as our pastor. He had recently graduated from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and headed to WV to begin his first pastorate. On August 4 following the morning worship service there will be a reception to celebrate his 20th anniversary. Plan to attend as we honor and express our appreciation for Pastor Chris. There will be a table in the gym if you would like to bring a card or gift.



Deadline for information for the August Newsletter is July 24, 2024.



June

July

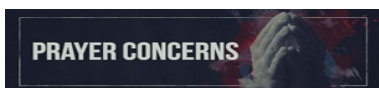
- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 2 Susan Bryan     | 7 Susan Bryan     |
| 9 Jane Lothes     | 14 Jane Lothes    |
| 16 Beckie Croghan | 21 Beckie Croghan |
| 23 Susan Bryan    | 28 Susan Bryan    |
| 30 Beckie Croghan |                   |



June

July

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Shelby Sherman | 9 Hannah Marcum   |
| 6 Yilmar Moreno  | 16 Jason Barnes   |
| Janet Young      | 19 Ron Nestor     |
| Courtney Keller  | 22 Joyce Ryan     |
| 16 Randy Dodrill | 24 Bill Bryan     |
| 17 Janet Wehrle  | 25 Emily Wandling |
| 20 Pam Johnson   | 26 Jamie Albert   |
| Lakyn Kilbert    |                   |
| 21 Dennis Emmett |                   |
| 28 Brody Sneed   |                   |



Connie Campbell; Rick Wolford; Nancy Young; Linda Monday; Renee (Pastor Chris's niece); Lynn Priddy (Susan Bryan); Brian Barton (Susan Bryan); Caroline Dodrill; Ernie Powell; Bethany Pauley (Wanda Smith); John Mangus (Jennie Jividen); Travis Keller (Ray Keller); Abby Goff (Wanda Smith); Pam Mullins; Arlis Miller (Joe Lothes); Ted Mullins (Susan Bryan); Lori Goodwin (Brenda Petry); Betty McAdam; Sherry Ellis; Elizabeth Thompson (Bill Bryan); Laura Cottrill; Andre Felipe (Open Arms Foundation); Kathy Barnes; Elbert Taylor; Missy Sneed; Hannah Bowman; Beverly Day (Wanda Smith); Dave Ryan; JB Recknagel; Janet Young; Mick Hughes (Caroline Dodrill); and for the Global Church that we may embody the gospel to all.

### CHOIR REHEARSAL

Thursdays at 7:00 pm.

**No rehearsals June 6 & 13**  
Rehearse June 20 and 27  
**No rehearsals in July**



Wednesday Family Night is taking a break for the summer, but will meet again sometime in September.



Bible Study titled, "How to Pray," lead by Brenda Petry will start on June 2.

\*Pastor Chris's bible study on The Book of Romans will continue meeting on Wednesday nights at 6:00 in the cottage.

### Visitation Teams/Schedule

#### JUNE

- 2nd Paul Mullins/Steve Wilson
- 9th Linda Monday/Parry Johnson
- 16th Pastor Chris
- 23rd Jason Barnes/Kathy Barnes
- 20th Mary Reppert/Sharon Herndon

#### JULY

- 7th Mimi Albert/Jamie Albert
- 14th Paul Mullins/Steve Wilson
- 21st Linda Monday/Parry Johnson
- 28th Pastor Chris

### Riverlawn Strives To

*Purge ourselves of pride by focusing on glorifying God*

*Teach the truth through fellowship & discipleship*

*Demonstrate a life of love through service to others*

*Share the gospel of Jesus Christ with those in need*

**Purge Pride, Teach Truth, Live Love**

**ST. ALBANS FOOD PANTRY**



We took in 16,000 pounds of food from the Post Office Food Drive! This was one of our better years!

We are in desperate need of people to help sort and date the food. Please contact Beth Sturgill at 304-415-1150 if you have some people who can volunteer.

We currently serve 55 low-income seniors with a food box monthly.

We are in great need of egg cartons. Our top needed items are:

- Laundry Detergent
- Dish liquid
- Deodorant
- Razors
- Any type of all purpose cleaner

**2024 Riverlawn Elders and Board of Deacons**

**Elders:**

- Kathy Barnes, Clerk of Session/Stewardship*  
304-444-3058; Kabgmrl@comcast.net
- Parry Johnson, Building/Grounds/Security/Finance*  
304-926-4745; Parryjohnson1@gmail.com
- Steve Wilson, Missions*  
304-741-7890; stevewillie@suddenlink.net
- Paul Mullins, Worship/Fellowship*  
304-741-5914; nascarmemberswva@yahoo.com
- Sharon Herndon, Christian Nurture*  
304-444-2071; Polecat818@hotmail.com
- Jamie Albert, Evangelism/Family & Community*  
681-340-1128; James.macd.albert@gmail.com

**Session meeting July 23 at 2:00 pm via Zoom.**

**Deacons:**

- Jason Barnes*  
304-205-3315; jasonbarnes@yahoo.com
- Mary Reppert*  
304-419-2755; Reppert.mary@gmail.com
- Mimi Albert*  
304-546-6547; Mimialbert72@yahoo.com
- Linda Monday*  
304-541-4927; lindamunday@gmail.com

**Deacons will meet on June 9 after worship service.**

**BUILDING SECURITY**

After church lock-up for June is Mimi Albert. July is Linda Monday

After hours security check for June/July:

**June**

- 02 Butch and Sharon Herndon
- 09 Pat Croghan
- 16 Ron Claar
- 23 Jamie Albert
- 30 Joe Lothes

**July**

- 07 Dennis Emmett
- 14 Larry Hyatt
- 21 Randy Dodrill
- 28 Brenda Petry/Rosie Rhodes

If you are unable to cover the security check on your scheduled week, please let Pat Croghan know (304) 989-1894. Thank you.



**June**

- 2** Mission Team Commissioning
- 8-15** Colombia Mission Trip with Open Arms Foundation **16** Father's Day
- 23 at 2PM** Session Zoom Meeting

**June 29-July 4** Pastor Chris serving as the Minister Commissioner of the Presbytery of WV to the 226<sup>th</sup> General \*Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in Salt Lake City, UT

**July**

- 21** Communion will be celebrated during worship on instead of the 1st Sunday of the month
- 21** Sherry Marcum, Authorized Lay Preacher and Commissioned Pastor in Training, will be preaching at Riverlawn

**Friday 26-Sunday July 28** Riverlawn's Vacation Bible School.(Please contact Jamie Albert or Sharon Herndon for details on theme, times, etc.)