



THE SPIRE



Centenary United Methodist Church, 1501 Rivermont Avenue Lynchburg, VA 24503
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April 2017

Raymond Weidner to the Rescue!

By Mari Smallshaw, *SPIRE Contributor*

Many of you are well aware of our challenges over the past few months to find fill-in musicians as we search for a permanent organist. Since many organists were already committed to other churches or reluctant to come out of retirement, our congregation usually saw a different face in the choir loft each week.



With that in mind, we are thrilled and grateful to welcome Raymond Weidner as our interim organist. Ray is a nationally recognized composer of instrumental, choral, and organ works. His compositions have been performed by such prestigious choirs as the Westminster Choir in Princeton, New Jersey and the Gloriam Dei Cantoris in Orleans, Massachusetts.

Ray holds degrees from Westminster Choir College (B. Mus.), Western Michigan University (M. Mus.), and Michigan State University (Ph. D.), and has performed under such notable conductors as Leonard Bernstein, Leopold Stokowski, Roger Wagner, and David Willcocks. He has over forty years experience in the field of church music, having served churches in Pennsylvania, Michigan, Oklahoma, Maryland, and Virginia.

As an organist, he has performed throughout the United States, at Salisbury Cathedral of England, and on the famous Wanamaker organ in Philadelphia.

Ray teaches composition at Lynchburg College and recently retired as Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church.

Ray has slipped effortlessly into this new role at Centenary. He can now add working with our crazy choir members to his long list of accomplishments!

Ray Weidner will be with us through April 30th. Please take a moment to thank him for his beautiful contribution to our worship service.

New Minister of Music May 1

It is exciting to announce that a new Minister of Music has been hired and will start on May 1. David Williams is a native of Appomattox who received his Bachelor of Arts in Music from Averett University in Danville. He received his Masters of Church Music degree from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. with a Major in Organ. David served as Minister of Music in Harrisonburg, VA, with his most recent position being organist and choir director at New Hope United Methodist Church. David has also worked in the real estate industry as a sales agent and property manager. David has a real passion for music ministry, leading congregations in worship that is inspiring and uplifting. David enjoys reading, traveling, playing golf, baseball, and most of all spending time with his two children, Jonathan, age 12, and Elisabeth, age 11.



April 2017 Spire

Mission Trip Planning

Our Mission Team is starting to finalize plans to travel to Baldwin, LA to work in the UMCOR Warehouse and assist in community projects. We ask that as our church you begin keeping us in your prayers. We will leave Saturday morning October 14 and return on October 22. We will work with several other Mission Teams, usually about 65 volunteers in all each week.

All team members are responsible for raising funds for the trip (about \$350 for 3 nights on the road and the week at Sager/Brown). You may mark any donations for "Sager Brown Mission Trip". With 12 of our 15 slots filled, we would like everyone interested to be able to go. Just contact paulahowell44@gmail.com

Chief Diaz to Visit JIFF

By Ida Powell and Paula Howell, *SPIRE Contributors*

In a presentation soon after arrival in Lynchburg, the city's new police chief, Raul M. Diaz, stated that getting out into the community is what he likes best. He will have that opportunity when he visits with Centenary's JIFF kids on April 27.



Chief Diaz declares, "Working with people, working with the community, I'd probably have to say that's the thing I enjoy the most." He summarizes his conviction, "It boils down to the Golden Rule - so you treat people the way you want to be treated. Well, that's the way we, the police, need to treat every citizen."

Formerly of Florida, Diaz began work here in November 2015 with nearly 30 years of law enforcement experience. He is a first generation Cuban, Lynchburg's first Hispanic police chief, and father of three children.

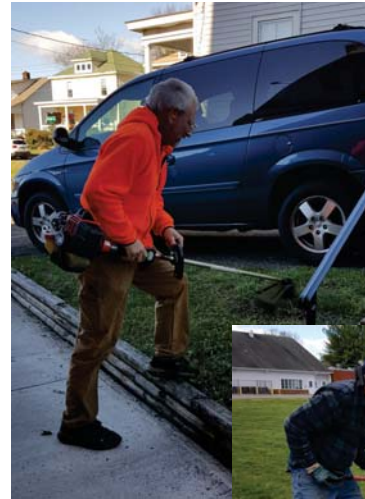
JIFF has been enjoying a varied group of presenters this year. Recently Lauren Peake presented a delightful program about healthy eating, bringing only green veggies and fruit. Some of the kids were reluctant to try some of the veggies they said they had not had but each tried a small piece and some of them returned for more. Looking forward to see what is in store the next couple of months. Come see us any Thursday evening!

Work Day Fun!

About a dozen people participated in the April 1 work day (and some projects worked on ahead of time). The next work day is scheduled for April 22, 8am. Come join!



Weeds don't stand a chance with Pastor Doug (above) and Rodney Bell (left).



Garland Harper (right) hard at work!



Thanks to Lee Boyd (left), the trash in closets is outta here! Mike Reeves and Carl Howell admire a job well done (below). Photos courtesy of Smallshaw family



The Rivermont Emergency Food Pantry has been bombarded with requests for food this past winter, but it will not see any relief this spring and summer because when kids are out of school the need is much greater. Please remember when shopping to pick up a can or two of food for this community need.

2017 Operating Budget Through February 28

Receipts:

Offering	22,398
Loose Plate Offering	186
Church School Offering	287
Miscellaneous Income	629
Easter/Christmas Offering	255
Total Receipts.....	23,800

Expenses:

Support Staff Expense	14,199
Pastor Expense	11,548
Trustees	22,932
Apportionments	0
Office - Admin	1,921
Programs/Worship	722
Total Expenses.....	51,322

Benevolence Receipts 2017

Sager Brown	100
Fellowship Fund	70
JIFF	370
Pennies with a Purpose	62
Local Benevolences	93
Operation Teddy Bear	5
TOTAL \$	700

Exterior Painting Project

Total Receipts

\$16,560

MEMORIALS



In Memory of Clif Hawkins

Barry and Dawn Arrington
 Dave and Vickie Shackelford
 Joe Reed
 Lewis and Shirley Moorman
 Gene Maddera
 Alpha Beta Master
 Bill and Ida Powell
 Rich Products Corp.,
 Consumer Brands Division
 Barbara Dieterman
 Katherine Sasser
 Virginia Saville

In Memory of Linda "GiGi" Porter

Rodney and Karen Bell
 Robert and Reba Gurdal
 Garland and Peggy Harper
 Melva Shelor
 Charles and Carolyn Campbell
 Bill and Ida Powell
 Katherine Sasser
 Dave and Vickie Shackelford
 Belva Shelor
 Betty Wooldridge
 Sonny and Janice Martin
 Kathleen Nuckles
 Jae Clebourne
 Blake and Katherine Miles
 and Family
 Lewis and Shirley Moorman
 Sue Pitts

**Submissions to *The Spire*
are welcome! Email to
centenaryspire@hotmail.com
by the 20th of each month.**

Youth Happenings!

by Bill and Lisa Roseveare

On Sunday March 9th, our Centenary Youth made an afternoon outing to the Lynchburg Humane Society and then to Heartland Health Care



Center. Participating were Kirstin, Xoe, Jasmine, Charlie, Jimmy, and youth leaders Lisa and Bill. Wow, were the dogs and cats cute and cuddly! Our one hour stay was not nearly long enough for our youth or for the dogs, but before we knew it, it was time to leave. After checking the van for any four-legged stowaways, we went to Heartland to visit with one of all our favorite persons, Linda Porter. Gigi was sleeping most of the time while we were there, but left our love with a bouquet of flowers in her room.



On Sunday April 2nd, Jasmine, Xoe, Kirstin, Lisa, and Bill made the trek to Spy Rock in Nelson County. While our trip to the summit was supposed to be a 1.8 mile "moderately difficult" hike we quickly

realized that we would not measure the distance in miles. We would measure our distance traveled in rest stops taken. After about eight to ten water/snack breaks we finally reached the base of the rock. All I could hear from the youth was "Wow!" once we were on top. The view from Spy Rock was truly amazing! Our 45 minutes of snacking, resting, exploring the rock and all its little critters, and marveling at the beauty that God has created flew by. Our journey back to the car was only three breaks! They'd love to return weekly to record the progress of the newt eggs found in pools of water at the summit! What a wonderful group of kids. We continue to be amazed at all that God has created.

Stewardship - March 2017

	Operating	Painting	Other
March 5	7,305	10	355
March 12	1,969	60	220
March 19	2,310	60	1,447
March 26	2,745	60	1,062

Lectionary Readings for April 2017

April 2: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45
April 9: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14-27
April 16: Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18:1-19:42
April 23: Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31
April 30: Acts 2:14a, 35-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35

**Centenary United Methodist Church
1501 Rivermont Avenue
Lynchburg, VA 24503**

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Return Service Requested



April 2017

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
2 Chat & Chew with Bishop Sharma Lewis @ Peakland UMC 2pm Clergy Session Only 4:30-6 pm Dinner 6:15-8:15 pm Laity Only	3 10 am Art Class (FH) 7 pm Church Council	4 6:30 pm Lenten Bible Study (Parlor)	5 11:45 am Lenten Service @ Court Street UMC	6 5:30 pm JIFF 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	7	1 Church Work Day 8
9 Palm Sunday 5 pm Youth Group	10 10 am Art Class (FH) Holy Week	11 8:30 am Centenary Breakfast @ Famous Anthony's 6:30 pm Lenten Bible Study (Parlor) Holy Week	12 10:00 am Frances Allen Circle 11:45 am Lenten Service @ Court Street UMC Holy Week	13 7 pm Maundy Thursday Service Holy Week	14 Good Friday Holy Week	15 Holy Saturday Holy Week
16 Easter Sunday Pennies with a Purpose After Service: Easter Egg Hunt	17 Church Office Closed	18	19	20 5:30 pm JIFF 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	21 May SPIRE Deadline Email: centenaryspire@ hotmail.com	22
23 5 pm Youth Group	24 10 am Art Class (FH)	25	26	27 5:30 pm JIFF 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	28	29
30 12:15 pm Stephen Ministers						

Each Sunday:

9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Fellowship Time 3rd Floor 11:00 am Worship in Sanctuary 12:15 pm Centenary Ringers