



Laurel Presbyterian Church
Enter to Worship. Depart to Serve



“FIND THE GOOD AND PRAISE IT”

Alex Haley, the writer of *Roots*, is credited with saying, “Find the good and praise it.” It is a memorable phrase, and like a good mantra, it can also serve as a honing device for savoring the presence of God, here and now. It is to go on a treasure hunt to see the good, and savor it, like we did at our *Trunk or Treat* event Sunday October 26 as we “oohed and awed” over Halloween costumes of our trick or treaters. And then it is to cherish it. To cherish God in our neighbors and ourselves and in the natural world. Like we did on Sunday as families from Coal Pit, Gingerbread Cottage and Forward Foundation graced our parking lot with lots of spirit.

“Finding the good and praising it” helps us to locate the goodness of God that surrounds us all the time and praise it with our attention. To notice the beauty in the cycles of life, as dying leaves manifest blazing colors, as they fall to the ground drawing our breath. Maybe we can recline into this dying joy and let “awe flow freely” as we see in plain sight, how something as scary as death, can be so transforming and beautiful, as it seeds new life. Maybe as the days turn colder and darker, we embrace this season by finding time for leisurely walks, or long gazes out windows. Taking time to breathe in the crisp air, catching the smell of the leaves, and the crunch of leaves under our feet. Being mindful to notice the rain falling or seeing the deep blue sky or the arduous work of squirrels gathering nuts for the winter ahead. Taking time to “find the good and praise it” as we put on more layers and begin nesting for the winter days ahead. For even in this dying season, God is surrounding us with fall joy and energy, so we might catch a glimpse of the unity of life underneath all of the cycles. This time of year, invites us to think deeply about how we might respond to this Love that refuses to let dying have the last word, and brings us to life throughout all of our seasons. We are so blessed by this awesome God, maybe the best way to signal that is to sing it out in “word” and our “deed” by “finding the good and praising it.”

As we enter deeper into the thick of fall, November is also our Stewardship Campaign Month. The time of year where we ask you to think about responding to God’s great outpouring of love to us, by pledging to the church. It is another way to “find the good and praise it.” You don’t have to be a member of Laurel to pledge a gift, either. It is just one way we can collectively notice God’s “good work and praise it” by investing in this epic love story as our beloved community. What matters most is your participation. It is not about the size of your gift but the size of your heart—your investment in our collective ministry. We could not make God’s love known without your gifts of time, talent, resources, and prayers. We could not be a church without your love. Your prayers, kindness, presence, and resources keep us grounded and loving. God has pledged to be our God for all time. As God’s forever people, thanking God as pledging units at Laurel, seems small and trivial, but it adds an “AMEN” to “seeing the good and praising it.”

“It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praises to your name, Most High;
to proclaim your loyal love in the morning,
your faithfulness at nighttime
with the ten-stringed harp,
with the melody of the lyre
because you’ve made me happy, LORD,
by your acts.
I sing with joy because of your handiwork.” (Psalm 92: 1-4, CEB)

Reverend Ann



Saturday November 1

9:00am Breakfast-Kitchen 33, 13155 Mountain Rd, Glen Allen.

Sunday November 2

9:00am Sunday School
10:00am Worship/All Saints Day
Celebration/Communion/Stewardship Kickoff/Good Samaritan Offering
11:15am Committee Team Meetings.

Wednesday November 5

1:00pm Beloved A meets.
3:00pm Beloved B meets.

Thursday November 6

5:30pm Choir Practice

Sunday November 9

9:00am Sunday school.
10:00am Worship/Veteran's Day Recognition/Announce Congregational meeting.
11:15 am Session meets.

Tuesday November 11-Veteran's Day

10:00am Women's Circle meets in Fellowship Hall.

Wednesday November 12

1:00pm Beloved A meets.
3:00pm Beloved B meets.

Thursday November 13

5:30pm Choir Practice

Sunday November 16

9:00am Sunday School
10:00am Worship/Communion Sunday
11:15 am Laurel Thanksgiving Meal

Monday November 17

Called Meeting of the POJ-Carolyn Stinger, Rep.

Wednesday November 19

At 1:00pm Beloved A and B will meet. Officer Megan Burts, guest.

Thursday November 20

5:30pm Choir meets.

Sunday November 23

9:00am Sunday School.
10:00am Worship/Christ the King Sunday.
11:00am Vision Task Force meets.
11:00am Set up Advent wreath
11:15 am Deliver meal to Thanksgiving family.

Thursday November 27

Happy Thanksgiving!

Saturday November 29

Forward Foundation meets. (? holiday)

Sunday November 30

9:00am Sunday School.
10:00am Worship/Dedication of Pledge offerings/Advent Wreath lighting/5 cents a meal offering.
11:00am Congregational Report of Nominating Committee.
11:15 am Decorate the church for Christmas-all welcome!

Shepherd on Call: The Shepherds on Call for the month of November are Margaret & Reggie Fitch. They may be reached at 804-755-7201. Please call Margaret or Reggie if you know of someone who needs a call or visit.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS
AND FRIENDS OF LAUREL! MAY YOU BE
ABUNDANTLY BLESSED THIS YEAR!**

Bob Anderson (1)
Madeline Clore (3)
Jacob Searce (15)
Iris Lannetti (15)
Colleen Lannetti (17)
Eugene Jackson (20)
Mary Lawrence (21)
James Sudbury (23)
Paige Nobles (29)



FLOWERS FOR NOVEMBER

November 2 – Joan McArthur & Denis Ramdas – To the Glory of God and in memory of Malcolm McArthur's birthday November 3rd.

November 9 – Open

November 16 –The Miller /Roeder families – To the Glory of God and in honor of Mary Lawrence on her birthday.

November 23 – Open

November 30 – Open

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**SAVE THE DATE...LAUREL THANKSGIVING MEAL.
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 16th at 11:15am**

MCM team will be providing us with our Laurel Thanksgiving meal on Sunday November 16th directly after church service. They will provide the turkey, gravy, rolls, cranberry sauce, and dressing. We



ask Laurel members to bring either side dishes or a dessert. Look for a signup sheet in the Narthex at the beginning of November. All are welcome! Come join us and let's give thanks for this wonderful community we are in.

ALL SAINTS DAY

On Sunday, November 2nd, we will remember all the saints and, in particular, our saints through a special worship and communion service. That is another beautiful thing about God, that through God, we are all connected with the great cloud of witnesses, all gathered at the table. Please plan to join us Sunday to light a candle and celebrate this forever love of our forever God.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DONATION...

Check the Sunday Bulletins for information on donations for a Thanksgiving meal to a needy family in the area. Member Care and Mission are securing a family from Virginia Randolph School.



Enjoy breakfast? Join us at Kitchen 33 for some good southern cooking at 9:00am on Saturday, November 1st. All are welcome!

**Meet
for
Breakfast**

**COME HELP US DECORATE
THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS!**

Help us decorate Laurel for the holidays on Sunday November 30th after worship service. We need wreath raisers and tree assemblers and crèche creators and light stringers and... you get the idea! It's always a fun time of fellowship!



GINGERBREAD COTTAGE VOLUNTEER READER...



I read a book for the children at Gingerbread Cottage recently in Mrs. Levy's class. The book was titled *Spooky Bus*. We all had a fun time, and I highly recommend volunteering to read at Gingerbread preschool. Please contact Gingerbread Cottage if you are interested in volunteering.

gingerbreadcottagepreschool@gmail.com

Tel: 804-755-1667. Mary Searce



UNITED STATES ARMY:

Jake Anderson, Korea

Tod Balsbaugh, Vietnam

Jim Clark, H&HC 4th Psych Operations Group, 1968-1969

Jim Smith, Colonel 1959-1989
82nd Airborne Division
2nd Airborne Battle Group
503rd Infantry Combat Team

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE:

Mary Searce, Captain 1989-1996
Served State-side during Desert Storm

Rick Short, Sergeant/E4 1966-1970 Vietnam

Eugene L Jackson, Sergeant, 1969-1973

UNITED STATES NAVY:

Larry Runyon, Petty Officer First Class, 1964-1971 Submarine Division

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS:

Bernie Cheatham, Sergeant/E5 1963-1967

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR LAUREL VETERANS!



NEW MEMBER JOAN MCARTHUR...

Hi there! My name is Joan Meezan McArthur. I am a new member of the Laurel Presbyterian Church, Glen Allen, VA. The LPC Session cleared me for acceptance, and Reverend Ann Cherry did the necessary ritual of membership including an anointing on August 16, 2025. I feel renewed in spirit in my new church home; I am truly happy to be here.

My husband and I emigrated from our native land: The Republic of Guyana,

South America to live and work in New York in mid-August 1974. As retirees, we relocated to Glen Allen at the end of year 2019.

My husband, Malcolm, departed this life in June 2021. I now live daily with spiritual strength in awe and wonder in this lovely corner of God's earth. I would welcome visits from members of my LPC church family. You will find my address and phone number in the most recent Laurel Directory.

TRUNK OR TREAT WAS A SUCCESS! ...

Thank you everyone for participating in the Trunk or Treat!! It was a great event thanks to you all. We had over 70 kids come through. Thank you to the Fitch grandkids and friends for staffing the games. There was a constant stream of kids playing.

We had a few kinks in the awards department that we will iron out for next year. But I give all of you the award for the best church participation. From setting up trunks to clean up you all were fantastic. You truly made it an event the kids loved. Families stayed to get candy, play games, eat, run around, and laugh. What a gift to be able to give families that.

AND NOW FOR THE AWARDS... <drum roll>

- **Most Creative Trunk**-Stephanie Jarvis from GBC for her Candyland!
- **Most Honorable Mention** to the full-on campsite of the MacRae's.
- **Scariest Trunk** to the Mummies of Alisa Mustian
- **Most Creative Costume**-Margaret Fitch with her hoop skirt!

Looking forward to next year! If you have thoughts on anything we could do better or differently, let the Vision team know. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!

Ann Whitby



TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR

MEMBER CARE AND MISSION TEAM MINUTES October 5, 2025

Members' concerns were discussed. We have three members who have been in the hospital recently-they are all doing better.

The church picnic was a success. Thank you to everyone who contributed and helped.

The collection of food items for Lambs Basket is ongoing. Carolyn said several members worked there recently, and the requests for assistance by the public were constant.

New business:

The church Thanksgiving dinner will be Sunday, November 16. Margaret agreed to order the turkey, gravy, and rolls from Glen Allen market. Committee members will make the stuffing. We will ask the congregation to bring other side dishes and desserts. There will be a signup in the Narthex.

We usually provide a dinner for a needy family each year, provided by Virginia Randolph Education Center. Margaret will obtain the name of the family, and we may also be assisting the same family at Christmas.

Rebecca will contact Coal Pit to get the names of their students this year. We decided to put the tree up earlier and have a sign-up sheet to make certain that all the children have gifts.

Rebecca Owen

STEWARDSHIP & PROPERTY TEAM MINUTES OCTOBER 5, 2025

Replace two Fluorescent tubes in Gingerbread Cottage Office: Ballast is bad and will replace.

Replace two lens covers for fluorescent lights in classroom: Need to replace fixtures.

Replace locks to Pastor's office: Need more information.
Remove or relocate coat rack: Will remove one half.
Obtain quotes to convert bathrooms to ADA compliant: Will get quote from A +

Request for approval sent to session for replacement of outside awnings.

Subject of cell tower: Team voted No

Exterior faucet: Will have A+ look at it.

Request from Gingerbread Cottage about a Charity Night at Bruster's Ice Cream: Team did not discuss. I overlooked it.

Wayne Alvis

WORSHIP AND EDUCATION REPORT

10/05/2025

Plan for Communion in Fall. Session voted to have Communion twice a month.

Everyone was grateful to Linda Patterson for suggesting the precut strips of bread. A concern was raised regarding the use of silver trays with the earthen communion set. It reflects light and the visual is wrong. A suggestion was to cover the trays with cloth.

Greeter Schedule—A new greeter schedule was posted in the hallway. Michael will make announcements for more greeters.

Begin to recruit Advent Wreath lighters—for 5 services.

- 1.) November 30
- 2.) December 7
- 3.) December 14
- 4.) December 21
- 5.) December 24

Request to get projector fixed in Sanctuary. Vision TF can help financially.

Sunday School—Thomas Miller teaching on poetry in the Bible

Michael Henderson

COMMUNITY EVENTS COMING UP...

LEWIS GINTER BOTANICAL GARDEN:

Dominion Energy GardenFest of Lights November 17, 2025 – January 4, 2026. A favorite holiday tradition featuring lights, decorations, model trains, holiday dinners, hot chocolate (for purchase); & more. Voted the Best Botanical Garden Holiday Lights Show two years in a row! Reserved tickets are required.

CULTURAL ARTS CENTER GLEN ALLEN

DEADGRASS

Wednesday, November 12, 2025,
7:00 pm
\$35



Attention all lovers of Americana, bluegrass, and The Grateful Dead!! You don't want to miss Deadgrass - a string band

jamgrass adventure through Jerry Garcia's musical world. Matt Turk and C Lanzbom join forces with bassist Dave Richards, banjo player Boo Reiners, and fiddler Kensuke Shoji to complete this fine group of seasoned pros exploring the life works of Jerry Garcia on the instruments that first inspired him. Deadgrass celebrates and artfully interprets the music of Jerry Garcia with authenticity and passion. Drawing material from Old & in the Way, Jerry Garcia Band, Jerry's Jug Band days and, of course, the Grateful Dead, Deadgrass is sure to provide an unforgettable evening of melodic music and psychedelic jams! Returning to CACGA for one night only!

ONCE UPON A MATTRESS

by Dean Fuller, Jay Thompson, and Marshall Barer

\$12 Adults / \$10 Seniors and Students

November 7, 2025, at 7pm
November 8, 2025, at 7pm
November 9, 2025, at 3pm
November 13, 2025, at 7pm
November 14, 2025, at 7pm
November 15, 2025, at 7pm
November 16, 2025, at 3pm
November 20, 2025, at 7pm
November 21, 2025, at 7pm
November 22, 2025, at 7pm
November 23, 2025, at 3pm

Presented by Henrico Theatre Company! This delightful show is a comedic musical retelling of the fairytale "The Princess and the Pea". In a kingdom where a curse has silenced the king, Queen Aggravain rules with an iron fist, forbidding marriages until Prince Dauntless finds a princess who can pass her sensitivity test. Princess Winnifred tries to woo the prince while navigating Queen Aggravain's schemes and a sensitivity test involving a pea under twenty mattresses. Songs include Shy, In a Little While, Sensitivity, Spanish Panic, Happily Ever After, and many more of fun and frivolity! Directed by Amy Perdue.

NEW! GALLERY SHOW - FREE EVENT

Thursday, November 13, 2025, 6:00 pm

Don't miss this fun night full of art and discovery - perfect for date night or a fun outing with friends. Meet the artists at this November 13th gallery show and hear the stories behind their exhibit. Plus, this is a great opportunity to mingle with other local art enthusiasts, make new friends, and enjoy a wine/beer cash bar that benefits our ArtReach programs. Mark your calendar and invite a friend!

New exhibits unveiled will include:

SYMPHONY OF COLOR A celebration of the vibrant, dynamic energy that color brings to our world by artists of the Metropolitan Richmond Arts Association. The exhibit explores how color, like music, can evoke emotions, tell stories, and create deeper connections to

the viewer.

THE LAWRENCE OLDS BAND

Tuesday, November 18, 2025, 7:00 pm

\$25

Indoor 2nd Stage Show! Few singers could match the charm and talent that Lawrence Olds brings to the stage every time he performs. For more than 20 years he has entertained audiences along the east coast from New York City to Key West, lending his rich vocals and warm personality to the standards of the Great American Songbook. He has been featured at the Richmond Jazz Festival, TV 6 morning show, and The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, and he has become a staple here at The Cultural Arts Center. Don't miss the smooth vocal styles of Lawrence Olds and his wonderful band!



TRUNK OR TREAT TRUNK WINNERS:



SCARIEST TRUNK-Alisa Mustian (friend of Ann Whitby's)



MOST CREATIVE TRUNK Stephanie Jarvis (Director at Gingerbread Cottage)



HONORABLE MENTION TRUNK-Pete and Brenda MacRae



MOST CREATIVE COSTUME-Margaret Fitch

TRUNK OR TREAT



DEADLINE FOR GAZETTE – 19th OF EACH MONTH

Consider going paperless and receiving the Gazette via email. Just send me a message at the address below and I will take care of the rest.

Gazette email: pamacrae@comcast.net

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