



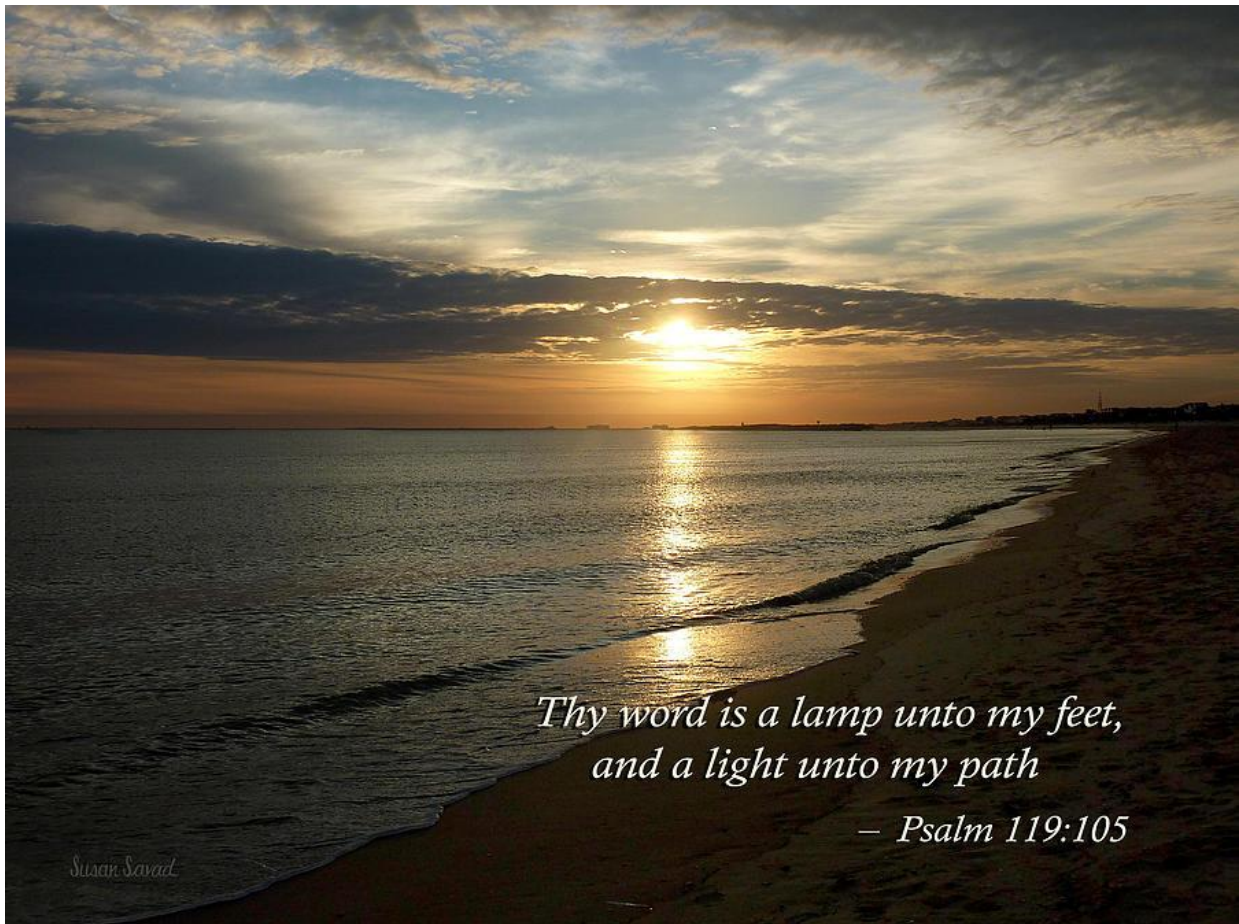
## **Snow Creek Christian Church**

**4970 Snow Creek Road  
Martinsville Virginia, 24112  
Phone 276-638-5272  
[www.snowcreekcc.com](http://www.snowcreekcc.com)  
Like us on facebook**



**July 2020**

## **Reflections**



*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,  
and a light unto my path*

*— Psalm 119:105*

*Susan Savad*

It has been great to see some familiar faces at Snow Creek this past month, even if I am seeing them through a windshield. I know that the parking lot church that Snow Creek has begun offering is not the ideal form of worship for anyone. I myself never thought I would have to preach over a lawn mower when I got into ministry. But I greatly appreciate how you all have so graciously made it work.

The reality is that this is a compromise measure. Certainly, everyone would like to return to church as normal, but that is a difficult proposition right now for a variety of reasons. State regulations to control the spread of coronavirus have recently been loosened, but still mandate keeping people six feet apart throughout the entire service. Masks are also required for indoor public settings. This would make for some awkward accommodations for indoor worship.

More importantly, these regulations are for people's safety. Different places are experiencing very different levels of transmission with this virus and those levels can easily change from week to week. Being outside in individual cars is simply a less risky alternative health-wise to being in an air-conditioned building with a crowd of other people.

It is true that there is risk involved in everything that you do and it can certainly be debated as to whether the state's regulations are appropriate or what level of risk attending church poses. What is indisputable is that people in the congregation and in the community are at very different places in how comfortable they are with those risks. In order to fulfill our Christian calling to love others as ourselves, we are all tasked with being respectful of each other's concerns. Trying to provide both a parking lot and an online option for people to worship each week is an attempt to find the best compromise given these conditions.

So again, thanks to all of you for your patience and willingness to compromise. Thanks especially to Mike Doyle, his family, and the Spiritualaires for providing music each week. He has graciously spared you all from having to hear my singing. I hope that these services, imperfect as they are, have helped strengthen your faith in the face of anxiety and uncertainty. I hope that the addition of the parking lot service has helped energize those of you who have taken an interest in it. I hope that this can provide a small semblance of the wonderful community that is Snow Creek Christian Church. As with many plans right now, I am not sure how long we will pursue this compromise, so your feedback and ideas are certainly welcome. But already I have heard that I am a natural coming over the car stereo. At least I think that is what people meant when they said I have a face for radio.

Blessings,  
Scott.

## July Lectionary Readings

Sermon topic in *italics*

July 5 (5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)

- *Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67*
- Psalm 45:10-17
- Romans 7:15-25a
- Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 19 (7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)

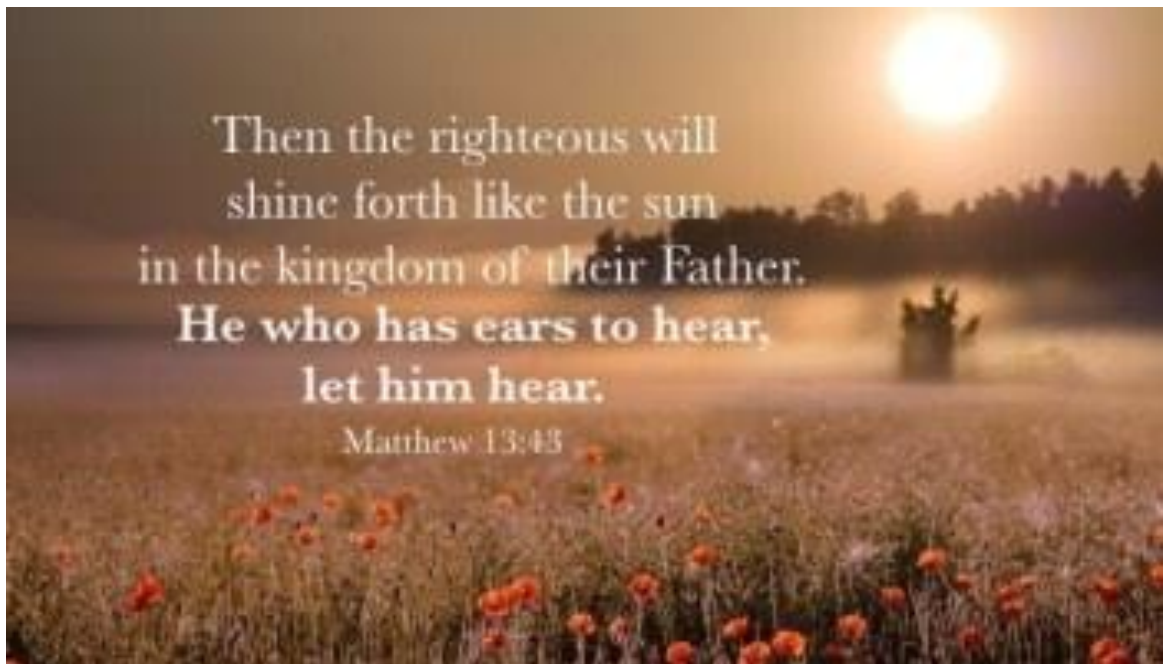
- Genesis 28:10-19a
- Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
- *Romans 8:12-25*
- Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 12 (6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)

- Genesis 25:19-34
- Psalm 119:105-112
- Romans 8:1-11
- *Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23*

July 26 (8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)

- Genesis 29:15-28
- Psalm 105:1-11, 45b OR Psalm 128
- Romans 8:26-39
- *Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52*



Then the righteous will  
shine forth like the sun  
in the kingdom of their Father.  
**He who has ears to hear,  
let him hear.**

Matthew 13:43



*SPECIAL THANKS TO MIKE, PAM, AND VERONICA DOYLE, AND THE SPIRITUALAIRES, FOR PROVIDING SUCH BEAUTIFUL AND INSPIRING MUSIC EACH WEEK.*

*SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR KIDS AND YOUTH FOR SENDING CARDS TO THE CHURCH FAMILY DURING THESE DIFFICULT TIMES. YOU LIGHT UP OUR DAY AND WARM OUR HEARTS.*

*A BIG THANKS TO MINISTER SCOTT FOR CONTINUING TO PROVIDE CREATIVE SERMONS AND BE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST THE CHURCH FAMILY IN SO MANY, MANY WAYS. WE TRULY APPRECIATE YOU.*

*OUR CHURCH IS REALLY BLESSED TO HAVE A TALENTED AND GIVING CHURCH FAMILY.*

## CHURCH OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Snow Creek Community Church faithfully partners  
with not-for-profits in our community.

This month we highlight, **STEP Inc.**

**STEP Inc.**

(Franklin County Central Office)

200 Dent Street Rocky Mount, VA 24151

540-483-5142

Monday through Friday 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

[www.stepincva.com](http://www.stepincva.com)



Pastor Scott Oliver presents our church's donation to Marc Crouse,  
Executive Director of STEP, Inc.

(Marc retired in April and has been replaced by Ms. Sammi Rader)

**STEP (Solutions That Empower People)**

STEP is a community action agency that provides programs and supportive services in Franklin and Patrick counties and also to Bedford, Martinsville and Danville.

**Programs supported by STEP include:**

**Head Start and Early Head Start** programs serve low-income families with focus on education, health and nutrition, beginning with the pregnant woman and continuing with the child from birth through age five.

**LIFES Academy** (Lessons in Fundamental and Essential Skills) provides alternative education and life skills for teenage students with special needs, whether emotional, intellectual, or behavioral.

**Project Discovery** encourages high school students to stay in school long enough to graduate and provides tools and resources to interested students that can help them transition to further education (college or trade school).

**Senior Services** include Meals on Wheels; Senior Cafes (seniors gather for a nutritious meal in a social setting at various locations in the community); Senior Transportation to congregate lunches, medical appointments, and grocery shopping.

**Supportive Services** are also provided by STEP and include:

- **re-entry assistance** for individuals following incarceration. Services may include housing, clothing, support groups (substance abuse, conflict resolution, etc.), finance education, or temporary transportation assistance.
- **Housing solutions** for individuals at risk for homelessness.

**COVID-19 notice:** All STEP lobbies are closed to the public and all congregate meals are temporarily discontinued; however, most anti-poverty services will continue to be available. The main office of STEP can be contacted for assistance and for further information concerning changes due to the impact of the pandemic.





## ***HOMECOMING***

*The Church will celebrate **148 years** this month. We may not be able to celebrate the traditional way but we can still be thankful that our Church has been in the local community so long. We are a friendly and welcoming Church. We continue to spread the word of the Lord, provide assistance to others in need, and enjoy fellowship. The Church has a long history. Below is written information regarding the history of the Church over the years from past and present Church Members*

## *HISTORY OF THE CHURCH*

### **A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SNOW CREEK CHRISTIAN CHURCH BY PAST CHURCH HISTORIAN GLADYS WASHBURN in approximately 1967.**

The Church was organized March 13, 1872, and twenty-five charter members purchased one square acre of land from Dr. Ben Tatum for the sum of \$20.00.

Silas Garrett Bernard was the first Trustee of the Church. Some members when the Church was first built were Coopers, Waltons, Bernards, George and Charlie Brodie, Giles, Hundleys, Doyles, Parkers, Stocktons, Cox family, David Davis family, Martins, and Gravelys. Only one daughter, Mrs. Annie Martin, of the George Brodie family is still living, though many descendants still live in the Snow Creek Valley and are members of the present Church.

Organists in the old Church were Cenia Brodie, Annie Brodie (Martin) and Miss Estelle Stultz. T.J. Stone was the first minister. Rev. William C. Clark was a long time minister, having served forty years.

The first wedding in the old Church was that of Miss Elizabeth Brodie to Mr. William G. Lester of Abingdon on November 25, 1910.

The original Church building was torn away and the new Church was built in 1953 and was dedicated June 13, 1954. An addition was made to the present Church, and we are planning another addition this July.

The first person baptized in the baptistry of the new Church was Daphne Virginia Washburn on the second Sunday in August 1954. The first wedding in the Church was that of Nancy Lee Perdue to Allen B. Cooper.

The parsonage was built in 1966-1967. Then we went to a full-time pastorate and called Rev. Berlin G. Hanks, a graduate of Lexington Theological Seminary, to our pastorate in 1967. We thank God he is still with us.



### ***MEMORIES OF CALVIN MARTIN***

As mentioned in a previous article, Calvin began attending Snow Creek Christian Church when he was very young. He attended Church with his parents and siblings. He lived most of his life across from the Church. He remembers going to Sunday School when he was young in the 1930's. The Church was a two story building at the time. He says William Cutler Clark was the preacher at the time. According to Calvin, Minister Clark drove a car to Church from another area and he joined families of the Church for meals.

Calvin joined the Church and was baptized in 1966.

He remembers when the new Church building was completed in 1954.

He states one of his fondest memories of the Church is when he and his brother, Harold, gathered wood from the land surrounding the Church for firewood for the Church stove. The land was owned by his family at the time. His Uncle Burwell Washburn (married to Calvin's Aunt Molly Martin) took collections at the Church for the wood. He gave the collections to Calvin and Harold. He was around 10 years old at the time..

### ***MEMORIES OF CURTIS WASHBURN***

In remembering back many years ago, probably 1948, the Church Youth Sunday School class went on a picnic trip to Mrs. Fanny Cooke's home on Turkeycock Mountain. We were riding on a 1 ½ ton truck when we found the road blocked by an automobile. My cousin went to check on the car. The keys were in it, so he moved it off the road. The car was loaded with moonshine. We saw no one, so we continued on our journey and enjoyed a wonderful afternoon on the mountain.

During those years, the Christian Youth Fellowship was very active with large numbers of youth. My wife was a member of another church but she joined our Christian Youth Fellowship before we were married. I think Reverend Boswell was our minister at this time.

## **NOTES OF RUBY MARTIN PLYBON**

**NOTES FROM THE FIRST SERVICE IN THE NEW CHURCH IN JANUARY 1954.**(The notes were from the files of RUBY MARTIN PLYBON. ( She was the Church Treasurer at the time. The author of the notes is uncertain. Ruby may have written the notes but did not indicate the name of the author on the notes.)

At the 11:00 a.m. worship service on the second Sunday in January 1954, the dreams of many people were realized. On this day, the congregation of Snow Creek Church held their first service in this New Church, with Mr. Carl Howard, student pastor, bringing the message.

About 13 years ago, a need was felt on the part of several Members of the 82 year old Church for a new Church building. However, nothing was done and the idea lapsed for several years. Later, a Building Fund was created but the idea of a New Church just remained an idea. In the winter of 1953, final plans were made for a new building and in the middle of June of the same year, actual work on the building was started.

The Church that we worship in today was built through cooperative thoughts, efforts, and hard work with both Methodist and Disciples congregations, not to build a Methodist nor Christian Church, but to build a Church where any man, regardless of his denomination affiliation, could come and worship God.

There was courage, efforts, insight, and continuing prayer before and during the construction of this edifice. We were only able to erect it through the strength received from God, who has so greatly blessed us.

## OUR GREAT CHOIRS OVER THE YEARS



Adult Choir













Youth Choir





# FAMILY NEWS

**Carlton and Bernice Oakes** recently celebrated their 72th wedding anniversary on May 29. They are long time members of the Church and Snow Creek Community. Carlton will celebrate his 94th birthday on July 8. **Congratulations to both of you!!**





KayLee Joanne  
Gardner

Born June 9

7lbs 13 oz

23 inches long

She is the daughter of Josh & Heather Gardner, granddaughter of Susan Gardner, and great granddaughter of Doug and Ruth Davidson..



## ***IN MEMORIAM***



Nancy Wingfield Wingfield, 90, of Martinsville, Va., passed away on Friday, June 26, 2020. She was born on February 18, 1930 to the late Thomas Otis Wingfield and Bessie Davis Wingfield. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Earl Wingfield; sisters, Lottie Eanes and Della Barbour, Fairy W. Smith, and Henrietta Cooper; and brothers, Fred Wingfield, Jim Russell Wingfield, and Lewis Wingfield. Mrs. Wingfield worked as a seamstress for Lacy Manufacturing, and during her retirement as a CNA for Private Duty Nursing. She was also a member of Snow Creek Christian Church for over 50 years. She is survived by her daughter, Barbara W. Blankenship of Snow Creek, Va.; son, Timothy W. Wingfield and wife, Claire Leeann of Huntersville, N.C.; grandchildren, Jennifer K. Reynolds of Snow Creek, Va. and Casey Scalf of Rocky Mount, Va.; and also surviving are three great-grandchildren.

I visited Nancy in December to deliver a fruit basket from the Church Outreach Program. She was extremely glad to see someone from the Snow Creek Community that she knew. She was all praises for our Minister Scott and the Church. We had a long discussion about our families and the Church family. She smiled a lot and seemed to be content with her circumstances. I was glad I visited with her. Barbara



LET'S CELEBRATE



## JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Casey Eanes
- 1 Conner Amos
- 8 Carlton Oakes
- 12 Brodie Eanes
- 14 Gusta Morris
- 16 Jarret Amos
- 21 Erica Pruitt
- 25 Terry Doyle
- 27 Troy Washburn
- 31 Scott Oliver

## JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 10 Scott & Laurie Oliver
- 28 Mark & Pam Gabriel

If you have information for the newsletter on our church family please email me at [barbsmith@b2xonline.com](mailto:barbsmith@b2xonline.com) or call me at 540 352 4535 or relay in person.

If you are currently not receiving a Newsletter by email and would like to receive one, please email me to add you to the email mailing list at [barbsmith@b2xonline.com](mailto:barbsmith@b2xonline.com).