



Snow Creek Christian Church

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May 2021

Reflections

For over a year now, I have been looking forward to writing the big grand re-opening newsletter article to announce that services will go back to normal. I know that as many of you have been vaccinated, this is certainly something that you have been looking forward to as well. As time goes on though it is looking like the resumption of indoor services will need to be more gradual and deliberate than I was hoping.

Currently, there are state restrictions in place that would require making some significant adjustments to a normal indoor worship service. According to those restrictions, everyone inside the building would need to be wearing a mask. We would need to space people out six feet apart. We would not pass communion or the offering plate. Singing is not expressly prohibited, but many congregations have discouraged it and it would, of course, have to be done while wearing a mask. The children's moment is also not expressly prohibited, but I think it may be prudent to keep the kids separate in Worship & Wonder throughout the service.

To my knowledge, these changes would be necessary to comply with state restrictions through at least the end of May. Some of the limitations for the general public, especially on the size of gatherings, will be relaxed in the middle of the month, but that will not have

much of an effect on those specific to religious services. As more and more vaccines are administered and the necessity of these restrictions lessens however, they will eventually be removed.

With that said, I feel like we are at a point where indoor services constitute a fairly low risk of spreading the virus and that we will not see another major surge in Covid-19 cases as we did this winter. My question then is whether everyone is comfortable continuing as is with how we have been conducting worship until more of these restrictions have been removed or if you all would like to look into resuming indoor services under the restrictions that I have mentioned? Give me some feedback either on Sunday morning or you can email me (soliver@vt.edu) or call the church (276-638-5272) and let me know what your thoughts are and what questions you might have.


In the meantime I would encourage everyone to do two things. First, is to go get vaccinated if you have not already. Vaccines are now open to everyone over the age of 16 in Virginia. It will go a long way to give people peace of mind in knowing that we are not putting anyone at risk as we work to transition to away from the limitations of the past year. Second, is to embrace a sense of gratitude that we are slowly but surely emerging from a

very difficult challenge. I am looking forward to hearing your feedback and, as always, I continue to be grateful for the patience and

support that you all have shown throughout my time at Snow Creek.

God be with you.

Scott.



"THE LORD WILL GIVE STRENGTH
UNTO HIS PEOPLE; THE LORD WILL
BLESS HIS PEOPLE WITH PEACE."
PSALM 29:11 KJV

May Lectionary Readings

Sermon topic in *italics*

May 2 (5th Sunday of Easter)

- Acts 8:26-40
- Psalm 22:25-31
- *1 John 4:7-21*
- John 15:1-8

May 9 (6th Sunday of Easter)

- Acts 10:44-48
- Psalm 98
- 1 John 5:1-6
- *John 15:9-17*

May 16 (7th Sunday of Easter)

- *Acts 1:15-17, 21-26*
- Psalm 1
- 1 John 5:9-13
- John 17:6-19

May 23 (Day of Pentecost)

- *Acts 2:1-21* OR Ezekiel 37:1-14
- Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
- Romans 8:22-27 OR Acts 2:1-21
- John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

May 30 (1st Sunday after Pentecost)

- Isaiah 6:1-8
- Psalm 29
- Romans 8:12-17
- *John 3:1-17*



Pentecost Offering

On May 16 and May 23, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will be taking up a special holiday offering to support their New Church Ministry. The purpose of this is to start and sustain new Disciples churches in the United States. Starting something new is often exciting, but also extremely challenging. This ministry seeks to provide new churches with the support they need to get off the ground and grow through those demanding early years. As Pentecost celebrates the birth of the Church through the reception of Christ's Spirit, the Pentecost Offering is a way to perpetuate that Spirit through the birth of new church communities. Half of the money raised by the Virginia Region will be allocated to new church plantings here in Virginia, while the rest will be distributed to new churches throughout the country. If you would like to donate, please make checks out to Snow Creek Christian Church and be sure to write on them **Pentecost Offering**. This offering will be taken up at the May 16 and May 23 worship services or you can mail a check to Snow Creek Christian Church, 4970 Snow Creek Rd., Martinsville, VA 24572. Thank you all so much for your generosity as the Disciples church looks to breathe new life into the Christian church.

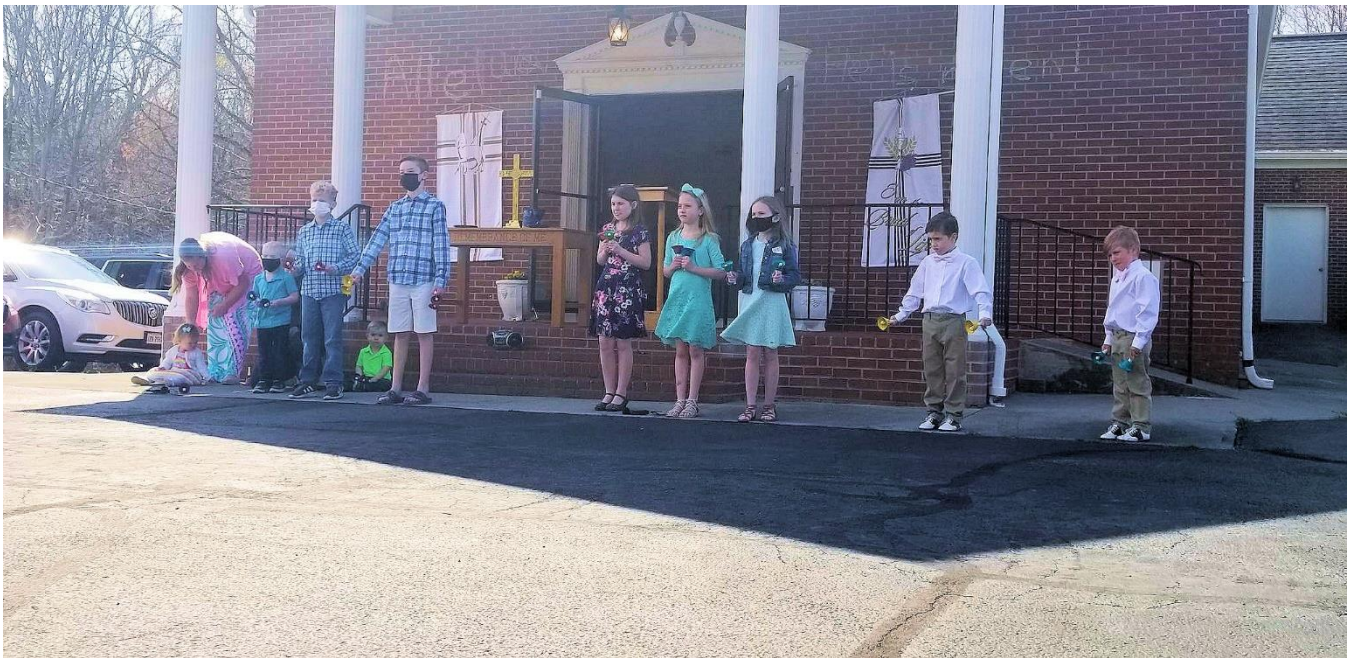


Easter Sunday Service

The Easter Church Service was amazing. Minister Scott gave an inspirational Sermon. The Church Youth and Children assisted with the scripture and music. They provided beautiful handbell music with the leadership of Debbie. Thanks to all of those that assisted with the service. A big Thanks to Debbie, Mike, Pam, Veronica, the Church Choir, and the Spiritualaires for continuing to provide beautiful taped music for the Church Services.







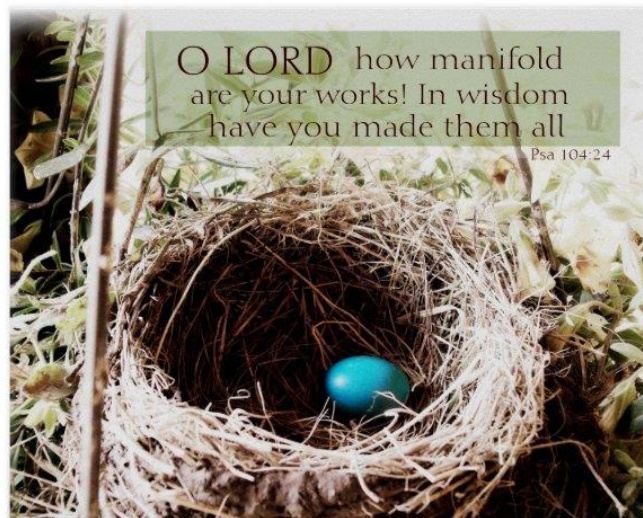
**THE CHURCH YOUTH ENJOYING WORSHIP, FUN, AND
FELLOWSHIP IN SUNDAY SCHOOL**



GRADUATES

Please email me names, photos, honors, and future information plans on our Church Family Graduates. Include Kindergarten, Elementary School, Middle School, High School, College, Trade School, etc.

This is an unusual year for the Kids and Youth that are graduating but we definitely want to show them how proud the Church Family is of their achievements. Please email to barbsmith@b2xonline.com by **May 25** for the June Newsletter. THANKS



Congratulations

*Andrew and Amy Mitchell were wed on
April 4, 2021*



HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH TO OUR PAST MINISTER JIM COMPTON. HE SERVED OUR CHURCH MANY TIMES AS AN INTERIM MINISTER. THANKS, JIM, FOR ALWAYS BEING WILLING TO ASSIST OUR CHURCH FAMILY IN MANY WAYS.





LET'S CELEBRATE



MAY BIRTHDAYS

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

3 Carsen Haynes
4 Sam Oliver
9 Jadie Carter
9 Laurie Oliver
10 Jim Compton
12 G. B. Washburn
17 Addison Brown
18 Morgan Via
22 Jane Arrington
26 Vivian Doyle
27 Lynn Mitchell
29 Terry Mitchell

6 Doug & Janet Perdue
7 Doug & Ruth Davidson
24 Del & Barbara Smith

If you have information for the newsletter on our church family please email me at barb-smith@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.

