



October 2025

INSIGHTS

The Newsletter of Mitchells Presbyterian Church

Looking ahead:

- OCT. 11th** - CAR SHOW - 10 AM - 3 PM
OCT. 12th - PAVILION SERVICE
- COMMUNION
- PET BLESSINGS
OCT. 26th - PACKING DISASTER BUCKETS
NOV. 30th - THANKSGIVING LEFTOVER
LUNCHEON - 12 PM



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Pastor's Corner

When October rolls around and neighborhoods fill with pumpkins, costumes, and the playful excitement of children, many Christians wonder: What do we do with Halloween? For some, the holiday feels suspicious, too tied to the eerie or the unknown or even satanic practices. For others, it's simply a lighthearted time for candy, laughter, and community. But what if, instead of seeing Halloween as a point of conflict, we as Christians could see it as an opportunity to live out their faith in harmony with the season?

To begin with, the roots of Halloween are more connected to Christian tradition than many realize. The very word "Halloween" comes from "All Hallows' Eve," the night before All Saints' Day. All Saints Day has been celebrated for centuries, as the Church sets aside November 1 to remember those faithful men and women who lived before us. October 31, then, is the evening of preparation—a time of watchfulness and reflection. While cultural practices around this night have changed over the years, the Christian foundation should remain as Halloween is not something "outside" of our faith but historically tied to it.

Father Michael Bruno, dean and professor of church history, observes that "All Hallows Eve, All Saints Day, and All Souls Day form the brief season of All-hallow-tide...their traditions serve as a reminder of personal mortality and the importance of spiritual vigilance...remembering the saints is important also for our own spiritual life. We are not doing this alone, but ultimately, we're accompanied by the Church, both here on Earth and in heaven."

Even the themes often associated with Halloween, such as death, darkness, and mystery, have a place in Christian thought. The gospel itself proclaims light breaking into darkness, life overcoming death, and hope transforming our fears. So perhaps when we see skeletons, tombstones, or spooky imagery in the coming spooky season, we can be reminded of Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 15: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." For Christ has triumphed where fear once held sway.

(Continued on page 2)

Pastor's Corner Continued

On a more personal and practical level, Halloween can be one of the best days of the year for building connections with our neighbors. Rarely do we have another time when people walk from door to door, smiling, laughing, and knocking just to say hello. It is a unique chance for us as Christians to embody hospitality! A warm welcome at the door, a kind word, even a cup of hot cider offered to weary parents; and in a fragmented world, Halloween can create a moment of community, without suspicion or division.

So instead of framing Halloween as a battle between faith and culture, we as followers of Christ can see it as a shared story that allows participation in deep rooted traditions of remembering the saints, acknowledging life's mysteries, and celebrating community. And at its most practical, it offers a golden opportunity for front-porch hospitality. So as we go into the month of October (Spooky-Season) Christians and Halloween need not be at odds. For the holiday can become a space where joy, hope, and light shine all the brighter, reminding us that wherever we go, and in whatever season we find ourselves in Christ goes with us.



A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

At the January 2025 Session meeting, I advised the Session that I would be willing to serve as Treasurer through Dec. 31, 2026. I will be retiring from practice as of Dec. 31, 2026 and in conjunction with that retirement I will no longer have access to either the hardware or software that I have utilized to maintain the Church's financial records. In addition, and more importantly, I am ready to step aside as Treasurer.

If you, or anyone you know, are interested in serving as Treasurer, effective no later than Jan. 1, 2027, please contact Patrick (moderator of Session) or Steve Hicks (clerk of session).

I will obviously be available to assist with any transition.

I appreciate your assistance and support.

--Ron Evans

SECOND ANNUAL AUTUMN AUTO EXPO

We're just a few weeks away and things are coming together quite well.

Volunteers, we will have a quick meeting on the 6th after worship service. If you haven't signed up to volunteer yet, or unsure about your availability until the day of event..... just come on down the day of event. We can't wait to see you there!!

Invite your car, truck & motorcycle enthusiasts to the event @ 10 A.M. **Saturday, October 11th** for a day of fabulous vehicles, food, fun and fellowship.

All proceeds from event will go to missions and outreach in the community.

Thank you all for your support,

- PATRICK, BRETT, KATHY



Did you know the monthly newsletter isn't just for committee news? If you have a favorite verse, quote, joys, announcements, shout-outs, etc., please email to mस्कaffy2@gmail.com by the 25th. Please state in the email if your submission is to remain anonymous.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Seth and his roommates recently moved into a new apartment to accommodate a fourth friend. If you would like to drop him a note of encouragement, his new address is:

Seth Massey
1023 Domain Drive
Morgantown, WV 26501

USHERS:

Charles
&
Brenda
Crist

Actions taken by Session at their September 7, 2025 Meeting

- Accepted the Letter of Transfer from Trinity Church, Columbia, SC, for Lynn Craycraft.
- Adopted the final version of the Sexual Misconduct and Harassment Policy as required by the Book of Order
- Moved Lord's Supper from Sunday, October 5 to Sunday, October 12.
- Charles Crist has joined the Safety and Security Committee.
- Approved the Adult Sunday School class using a study on the Book of Romans.
- Children's Teachers will be signing the Child Protection Forms
- Adopted the 2026 Budget, except for the Pastor's Terms of Call, which will be presented to the Congregation at the September 28, 2025 Congregational Meeting following Worship. The election of elders for the Class of 2028 will take place at that meeting. Nominees are Linda Brooks and Crystal Settle. New members will also be recognized during the meeting.
- The next Session meeting will be held on Sunday, November 2 following Worship. This will be the last scheduled Session meeting for 2025. The first meeting for 2026 will be held on Sunday, January 4.

Pavilion Worship Service

October 12th, 11am

Blessing of the Pets and Sacrament of Communion



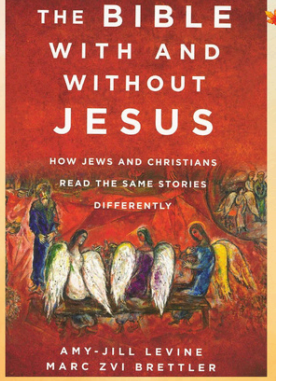
All types of pets are welcome,
or you can bring a photo of your pet

Fall Book Study

Thursday Mornings

6 Sessions

October 9th
October 16th
October 23rd
October 30th
November 6th
November 13th



Please sign up for a participant book

If you'd like to help cover the cost - participant books are \$18

DEMENTIA CAREGIVERS

SUPPORT GROUP



IF YOU ARE A


- Spouse
- Child
- Relative
- Friend

CARING FOR A LOVED ONE WITH DEMENTIA

JOIN US

1st and 3rd Monday each month
159 West Nelson St | Orange, VA
10:30 AM - 12 PM


[Orangevanaz.org/DCSG](https://orangevanaz.org/DCSG)



Powerful Tools for Caregivers

Caregivers will learn to: reduce stress, build confidence, find balance, communicate, and find resources.

For family caregivers of adults living with chronic conditions.

Sponsored by:
 Cornerstone Cares

6 weeks to invest in you!

LOCATION:
Generations Central
Culpeper Baptist Church
318 S. West Street
Culpeper VA 22701

TIME:
6 weeks: Wednesdays
2:00-3:30pm
(in person)
Begins August 13th
Ends September 17th

COST:
Free
Must register in advance at cornerstoneva.org and click on Events

For more information or questions please email caregiving@cornerstoneva.org or call 540-349-0880



MONTHLY CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Free support group for anyone with a cancer diagnosis. All cancers and genders are welcome!




LAST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH @ 6PM

Elevate Culpeper, 107B E Davis St
Questions? Call/text 571-606-0026

Stop in for some Theolo-Tea

Mondays 3:30pm

at Mitchells Presbyterian Church



Come by for tea time, where you can chat with the pastor, pray for what's on your heart, discuss theological topics, or just sip and sit.

The Culpeper Baptist Church 2025 Concert Series. All concerts are free and take place in the church sanctuary.



American Youth Harp Ensemble

Saturday, December 6
4:00 p.m.

October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Bonnie Scott	4
5	6 Ann Walker	7 Meredith Gyory	8	9	10	11 Mike Proulx
12	13	14	15 Jimmy & Ann Walker	16	17	18 Steve Hicks
19	20 Ronnie Settle	21	22 Scarlett Tidman	23 Gale & Eloina Gibson	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 Kaye Inskeep Patrick Inskeep	

MITCHELLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SPONSORED BY



REGISTRATION

\$20



CAR SHOW

SATURDAY OCTOBER 11, 2025

10AM - 3PM



DASH PLAQUES FOR FIRST 50 REGISTERED

TROPHIES/RAFFLES/PRIZES/MUSIC - BURGERS, HOT DOGS & MORE

CONTACT: 540-825-1079 ~~ mitchellspresbyterian@gmail.com

PROCEEDS BENEFIT MITCHELLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH & MISSIONS IN THE COMMUNITY

12229 MITCHELLS ROAD, MITCHELLS, VA 22729