Music and Drama Week of Camp, which will include some of our CACC Youth, will present their program, Lukewarm Coffee, here at Cherry Avenue on Sunday morning, August 2. They will present their musical drama at both the 8:15 and 10:45 services. We encourage you to come out and support both our kids and the Oak Hill Camp Program.

Plan to come share the 60th Anniversary Homecoming of Cherry Avenue Christian Church on October 2, 4. On Friday night, October 2, we will hold our Barbeque at 6:00 p.m., with a Music Concert to follow featuring our Choirs, Praise Team, Mike Morris & Quartet, Troy Durrer, and more. Sunday, October 4, will be a combined worship service (all three services) at 10:45 a.m., with a fellowship lunch to follow. Dave Cuthbertson will be our guest speaker.

On Sunday, August 9, the Youth Group will be going on a Kayak Trip on the Rivanna River. We will meet at Darden Towe Park at 5:00 p.m. Stay tuned to your email for an update on exactly where we will meet up. For anyone that can not get there on their own be at the church at 4:30 to ride the van. Don’t forget to bring your permission form. It is downloadable from the CACC website. These are open kayaks—dress to get wet, wear water shoes or protective footgear. We will paddle a section with very light current and no rapids, put in and out at the same location. We will eat a meal afterwards at a shelter location in the park and have our lesson during the meal.

August 30: Youth Group will participate in a local river cleanup project led by a mentor from Rivanna Conservation Society. Location will be determined closer to the date, based on where RCS has identified areas that need attention from volunteers. More details to follow. Please come dressed in comfortable work clothes. You may wish to wear shoes or boots you do not mind getting wet and bring a change of clothing for afterwards. You may wish to bring work gloves as well. Start time for the cleanup will be 2:00 p.m., followed by a lesson and meal. For more information about RCS log on to: http://www.rivannariver.org/

The Hand Bell Choir will resume practices on Tuesday, August 25, at 7:00 p.m. The choir meets in the Hand Bell Choir room—just off the fellowship hall. New members are welcome to come join. You do not have to read music to play. If you have any questions please contact Dorothy Ayers.
8:15 SERVICE  SCRIPTURE  PRAYER
AUGUST  2  Boyd Knott  Wendell Howell
AUGUST  9  Bob Archer  Wendell Howell
AUGUST 16  Johnny Parks  Wendell Howell
AUGUST 23  Roscoe Faris  Wendell Howell
AUGUST 30  Eddie Harlow  Wendell Howell

10:45 SERVICE  SCRIPTURE  PRAYER
AUGUST  2  Boyd Knott  Boogie Hill
AUGUST  9  Bob Archer  Ken Jones
AUGUST 16  Johnny Parks  Billy Marsh
AUGUST 23  Roscoe Faris  Bill Gibson
AUGUST 30  Billy Marsh  Bob Archer

SERVING THE LORD’S SUPPER FOR AUGUST:
Ray Bishop  Boyd Knott  Jim Miller
Bill Gibson  Billy Marsh  Bill Weigold

PRAYER FOR OFFERING:  10:45 SERVICE
AUGUST  2  Johnny Parks
AUGUST  9  Billy Marsh
AUGUST 16  Bill Gibson
AUGUST 23  Bob Archer
AUGUST 30  Boogie Hill

CLOSING PRAYER
8:15 SERVICE  10:45 SERVICE
AUGUST  2  Allen Bingler  Bill Weigold
AUGUST  9  Mike McCollister  Boyd Knott
AUGUST 16  Mario Biazon  Ken Jones
AUGUST 23  Eddie Harlow  Johnny Parks
AUGUST 30  Allen Bingler  John Lang

SERVING COMMUNION TO SICK & SHUT-IN
Communion is taken to the sick and shut-in per the request of those at home, in a nursing home, or in the hospital. Call the office (977-1515) if you wish to receive home communion.

AUGUST:
2  Bob Archer
9  Johnny Parks
16  Boogie & Mitzi Hill
23  Donna Marshall
30  Bob Archer

VITAL STATISTICS
AVERAGE WEEKLY ATTENDANCE FOR JULY:
SUNDAY SCHOOL  122
MORNING WORSHIP  210
3 WEEKLY AVERAGE OFFERINGS:  $10,902.48

GREETERS FOR AUGUST:
Denise Lynn  Sherry Archer
Mike & Debbie McCollister

USHERS FOR AUGUST:
Butch Dalton  Ken Jones
Larry Drumheller  Mike Robertson

COMMUNION PREPARATION & BUILDING SECURITY FOR AUGUST:
Mike Robertson and Mario Biazon

WASH COMMUNION CUPS FOR AUGUST:
Ann Graham

The Van Committee provides transportation each Sunday for those who need it. If you are in need of a ride the driver’s schedule is:

AUGUST  2  Mike Lynn  295-7761
AUGUST  9  Bill Weigold  296-1565
AUGUST 16  Bill Gibson  973-8184
AUGUST 23  John Grady/Billy Marsh  979-2494
AUGUST 30  John Grady/Billy Marsh  979-2494

NURSERY WORKERS – 10:45 A.M.
AUGUST  2  Pat Durrer / Jackie Daniel
AUGUST  9  Pat Carter / Amy Hill
AUGUST 16  Sandy Taylor / Mitzi Hill
AUGUST 23  Kim Buck / Alice Taylor
AUGUST 30  Becky Parks / Rosalyn Dalton

TODDLERS/RED BARONS TEACHERS
Thea Gibson / Lila Robertson
As I write this ESPN is about to give Bruce Jenner its Arthur Ashe Courage Award at its annual ESPYs. Now I despise award shows—always have. Even back in the days when there were just a couple of them they always seemed haughty and self-congratulating to me. From my childhood I believed that people voted with their wallets as to what was the best movie or song. And even that was just a matter of taste. How can you determine what’s best in something as subjective as acting or singing? I mean, at one time Walk Like an Egyptian, Rock Me Amadeus, and the theme from 9 to 5 were at the top of the charts! Awards shows seemed to be a matter of elitists telling the rest of us what was really good, because we really had no idea of such things. So I hate awards shows to start with.

Now my heart aches for people who are struggling with same-sex attraction and/or gender confusion. They deserve and need our compassion and our prayers. But forgive me for not understanding how someone going public with his desire to change his sex is courageous—especially in a time when our society is so rapidly shifting in favor of pro-gay views that not only has the Supreme Court redefined marriage to include same-sex couples, but it’s now illegal for a business to refuse to participate in a gay wedding, even if it violates the deeply-held religious beliefs of the business owners. It seems to me to be more like jumping on the bandwagon. It would be like giving an innovation award to Apple if they were to put a USB port or an SD card slot in iPads and iPhones. [NOTE TO THE NON-TECHIES: Many non-Apple products have had these for years, if you couldn’t sense the sarcasm…]

In this day and time it would seem to be far more courageous for an athlete or high profile sports figure to say, “While I am committed to loving my brother as I love myself, and to treating others the way I want to be treated, I cannot view as right actions God has said are wrong.” That would be courageous—because within seconds the Twitterverse would explode and he’d be a national pariah.

Now before we Christians all dislocate our shoulders trying to pat ourselves on the back for being on the right side of this issue, the truth is that we are partially responsible for the culture being in the state it’s in. For one, we vote with our wallets by going to movies, watching TV shows and buying music that promotes values and behaviors that are opposed to the things of God. I know—I’ve been guilty of it. Even now I’m still weeding out songs and movies from my library that had no business being there in the first place.

(Continued in column 2)

Another reason we bear some responsibility is because God told us through Paul to speak the truth in love, and we’ve not been very good at that. Some have done really well at the love part, but in doing so compromised truth. And so, we’ve come to accept cultural changes in morality to the point that they creep in to the church without anything being said. It’s hypocritical to shout about the immorality of homosexuality if you’ve turned a blind eye to sexual sin among straight people just because they may be friends or family. It’s hypocritical to rail against gay marriage while tossing your own marriage aside for less than biblical reasons.

Others have done great at the “speaking truth” part, but have shown about as much love as the Ayatollah at a Jews for Jesus rally. We’ve allowed righteous anger over cultural rot and our national descent from Godly principles to come out as not-so-righteous condemnation, without any sign of compassion. Jesus told the woman caught in adultery to go and leave her life of sin, but after showing her compassion as she faced the condemnation of the religious leaders. That example of compassionate truth is the kind of balance we have to strike.

I pray that Jenner will find the love of God that can help him sort out these issues. I also pray that we Christians will do a better job of both speaking the truth and showing love.

With August here kids start hearing those dreaded words – “school begins.” A time to get the summer daze out of their heads – a time to study – a time to learn – no more sleeping in.

As Christians and believers in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior we study, we learn, and we read God’s word daily. For our school is 365 days a year! And Bible School helps us learn through fellowship with our brothers and sisters every Sunday morning. We learn from our teachers. We learn from each other of God’s love, His mercy and His faithfulness to us and for us through His gift to us – His Son Jesus Christ. With all the evil throughout our world today, church Bible School is the place to be! For with faith to believe what our eyes cannot and hope to look forward to a joy yet to be – Heaven!

See you in Bible School.

In Christ,

Johnny Parks
In 1814, Ivan Andreevich Krylov, poet and fabulist, wrote a fable entitled “The Inquisitive Man” which tells of a man who goes to a museum and notices all sorts of tiny things, but fails to notice an elephant. The phrase became proverbial. “Elephant in the room” or “Elephant in the living room” has become an English metaphorical idiom for an obvious truth that is either being ignored or going unaddressed. The idiomatic expression also applies to an obvious problem or risk no one wants to discuss. It happens all the time in almost every level of life. (Well maybe not in Hollywood, they seem to be willing to talk about almost everything.) We usually ignore something because it is something difficult to talk about or perhaps we hope it won’t affect us, or maybe we just hope it will go away.

For instance, you have that annoying relative that always happens to show up unannounced right at dinnertime. But you don’t want to say anything because you don’t want to cause a rift in the family; or that person who has bad breath or body odor. You just don’t want to hurt their feelings but it gets difficult to be in the same room with them.

One of the things that churches like ours need to address is not just the dwindling numbers and fewer young faces we find in traditional services but the shrinking influence that the church has on society in general and the millennials in particular.

I know that as we move towards changing our services in October that not everyone is going to be happy about the changes. It is going to inconvenience some and I know that those are not minor inconveniences. The Board has tried to minimize those inconveniences as much as possible but still there will be some. I personally wish that we could hold enough services that every person could have the kind of service they wish to have. But the elephant in this room is that we are simply not a large enough church at this time to do that. Our commission on earth is to reach as many people for Christ as possible. We are not given specific instructions on how to reach others, but we do need to utilize everything we have available to accomplish that commission. It is my prayer that we as individuals and as a congregation would say, “It is not about me but it is about Christ and reaching young people so that the influence of His Body will grow.” It is my prayer that many of you will say “I not only will sacrifice my desires but I will participate in new things so that I might show others how the love of Christ reaches across generational lines. The elephant in the room is just that, how willing are we to give up our preferences to expand the kingdom of God?
Can you believe it’s August already? Summer is quickly coming to an end, and if you haven’t taken time to relax with a good book yet, now is the time. While you’re by the pool or the lake or the shore, try one of these books new to our library:

We have quite a few legal thrillers by lawyer author Robert Whitlow. These are really gripping, so try one out.

For men, I’ve picked up *Exodus*, by Cliff Graham. This is a fictional story of Caleb. In the story, he starts out as one of the elite fighters in the Egyptian army. If you love fighting and war, this is a good one.

We have a new series in the Young Adult section; it’s apocalyptic fiction with a science fiction feel. So far only adults have read it, so maybe we should share. The books are *Swipe*, *Sneak*, *Storm*, and *Spark*, by Evan Angler.

This librarian is lucky enough to have a friend who is an author: Siri Mitchell. She writes historical romance, and has been kind enough to donate some of her books, as well as a few by other authors, to our church library.

_Miracle in a Dry Season_ by Sarah Loudin Thomas is an award-winning romance novel set in West Virginia in 1954.

New children’s books, *The Knight and the Firefly* and *The Pirate and the Firefly* by Amanda Jenkins, are fun stories to share with your family.

And for the thinkers in our midst, we have new Christian living titles as well: _Killing Christians_ by Tom Doyle and _Defying ISIS_ by Johnnie Moore are just two of them.

So make time to check out a good book. We are just swimming in them!

On September 9 we have the opportunity to host Serena Dalton, a British singer with a great voice. This concert will benefit Remember The Children Ministry, founded by Andy Baker. In connection with this, we will be collecting Christmas Shoeboxes, called Boxes of Hope, for the Children in Romania. We are asking you to come that night with a shoebox prepared and filled for these children. Age forms and preparation instructions are at the information centers. After the concert, you will also have the opportunity to buy the CD of original music for $10 with 100% of the profits going to support House of Hope in Satu Mare where Remember the Children Ministries is currently developing and supporting Christian homes for orphans.

Here is a list of items for shoeboxes:

**Something Fun:** Match box cars, yo-yo, puzzles, balloons, doll, coloring book, crayons

**Something Hygenic:** toothpaste, toothbrush, washcloth, soap, comb, brush, hair accessories

**Something Warm:** hat, gloves, scarf, socks

**Something Educational:** colored pencils, pencils, pens, calculator, ruler, notebook

**Something Yummy:** candy, crackers, gum **Make sure it won’t melt or spoil!**

**A Small Message or Picture:** Jesus Loves You = Isus te lubeste Merry Christmas = Craciun Fericit

**Do NOT include:** scissors, money, glue

If you can provide it, the cost of shipping each box is $7.00.

The International Conference On Missions will be held at the Richmond Convention Center from October 29 - November 1. This is a conference for missionaries worldwide to gather and be uplifted. You are invited to go and meet missionaries and see displays of their work along with worshipping with Christians from across our world. Make plans now to attend.
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<td>2 8:15/10:45 am Morning Worship — Music/Drama Camp presentation 9:30 am Bible School 5:00 pm Youth Groups</td>
<td>3 6:00 pm Thelma Carter Circle Picnic</td>
<td>4 10:00 am Sr. Bible Study 7:00 pm Celebrate Recovery</td>
<td>5 7:00 pm Praise Band</td>
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<td>11 10:00 am Sr. Bible Study 7:00 pm Celebrate Recovery</td>
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<td>16 8:15/10:45 Morning Worship 9:30 am Bible School 5:00 pm Youth Groups</td>
<td>17 6:00 pm Elders Meeting 7:00 pm Board Meeting</td>
<td>18 10:00 am Sr. Bible Study 7:00 pm Celebrate Recovery</td>
<td>19 6:30 pm Special Night Out</td>
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<td>23 8:15/10:45 am Morning Worship 9:30 am Bible School 5:00 pm Youth Groups</td>
<td>24 10:00 am ESP Meeting</td>
<td>25 10:00 am Sr. Bible Study 7:00 pm Celebrate Recovery 7:00 pm Hand Bell Choir</td>
<td>26 7:00 pm Praise Band</td>
<td>27 6:15 Chancel Choir</td>
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August 2015