

Announcements

FOR OUR GUESTS: We invite you to visit our Welcome Table today in the Narthex (Lobby) for information about the life and ministries of Rivermont. A member of our Hospitality Team will be there to greet you and answer your questions.

FLOWER CALENDAR: For those who wish to donate flowers for the Sanctuary, please sign up on the bulletin board beside the Library. If you have a special date in mind, be sure to place your name by your preferred date while it is available!

CHRISTMAS OFFICE HOURS & YEAR-END DONATIONS: Church offices will be closed through January 1 and will reopen with regular hours on Tuesday, January 2.

For tax purposes, year-end contributions must be received by today, December 31st to qualify for a tax deduction in 2017. Donations may be dropped in the locked black box at the end of the back entrance ramp until 5:00 pm today. For fast and secure online contributions, go to www.rivermont.org/give.

PARKING AND OUR NEIGHBORS: With the blessings of wondrous attendance on Sunday mornings, one practical challenge each Lord's Day is parking. We occasionally block a neighbor's driveway or damage a yard. Memphis Avenue, which runs parallel to Rivermont Avenue and perpendicular to Quinlan Street has become a recent concern. Graciously, Randolph College allows use of three parking lots: Maier Museum and the Upper Gym lot (accessed from Quinlan) and the Lower Gym Lot (accessed from Norfolk Avenue). Please serve one another in love and respect our neighbors by allowing a little extra time on Sunday mornings and by parking in designated areas.

CIRCLE 4: Ladies, join Circle 4 in Country Gardens on Tuesday, January 2nd, at 10:30 am.

COFFEE WITH THE PASTORS: All visitors and new attenders to REPC are invited to meet some of the pastors at our "Coffee with Pastors" on January 7th from 9:45 am to 10:30 am in the Cheatham Center.

EVERYDAY EVANGELISM will be presented by Matt Bradner (Regional Director of Campus Outreach) in lieu of High school and Adult Sunday School on January 7th from 9:45-10:40 am. The goal of this time is to inspire and equip us with fresh perspective and practices of evangelism as we engage our friends, coworkers and neighbors in the new year. All High school students through adults are encouraged to attend this training, which will be held in the Sanctuary. Club 56 and Middle School will have regular Sunday School as scheduled.

CIRCLE 1: Ladies, join Circle 1 in the Library on Tuesday, January 9th, from 10:00 am until noon.

WOMEN IN MINISTRY: The OASIS Thursday Morning Women's Bible Studies will begin January 11th at 9:30 am. We will start a new study on Philippians using an inductive study guide called Joy by Keri Folmar. Newcomers are welcome. Please call the church to sign up or just drop in. Questions? Email Andrea Adams: daadams@comcast.net or Eleanor Webb: etwebb@gmail.com.

LADIES' WINTER BRUNCH: REPC ladies, you are invited to attend a winter brunch on Saturday, January 13, from 10:00 - 12:00 pm in Country Gardens to meet and greet ladies from our EPC churches nearby. We will have a time of sharing, praise and worship and brunch. Please RSVP to Linda Paulson at 237-2407 for more information.

YOUTH NEWS:
Winter Retreat: All 6th-12th grade students will have the opportunity to attend our Winter Retreat at Eagle Eyrie, Sunday, January 14 through Monday, January 15! We will meet with other Central Virginia church youth groups for fun, friendship, and worship. Parents of students attending, be sure to give your \$50 payment per student to Shane or Josh. Don't miss this awesome weekend!

Announcements (continued)

GETTING TO KNOW RIVERMONT: Pastor Brett and Pastor Ron will host an eight-week introductory class about the life, mission and ministry of Rivermont EPC during the Sunday School hour - beginning January 14, from 9:45 am to 10:40 am in Room 203. This class is designed for the curious, as well as for those desiring to pursue formal membership at Rivermont EPC. Please call Janet at the church office (846-3441) for more information or to register. You can also register online at <http://www.rivermont.org/gtkr-registration>.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY: Save the date for the weekend of February 2-3, 2018 for a Women's Winter Weekend of study and fellowship. Details to follow.

LOOKING AHEAD: On Saturday, March 17, 2018, Barb Bell will be our featured speaker at our Presbytery's annual WIM Women's Gathering in Greensboro, NC. We will meet at Buffalo Presbyterian Church at 9:00 am and finish by 2:30 pm. Plan to carpool and enjoy a great time together with ladies from all of our churches in the Presbytery of the MidAtlantic.

Concerns of the Church

RECUPERATING: Carl Coleman, Anna Wade

USHERS SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, January 7: **Head Deacon:** Jeff Griffith
Assistant Deacon: Todd Matthews **Morning Only:** Treasa Plude
8:30 am: Terry Beckloff, Sheree Britton, Chris Burch, Sherwood Day
11:00 am: Matt Bradner, Isaiah Bradner, Steve Cooper, Ray Ganthner

Calendar

Sunday, December 31
8:00 am Pre-service Prayer (Family Room)
8:30 am Worship
9:45 am College Hour
9:45 am Sunday School
10:30 am Pre-service Prayer (Family Room)
11:00 am Worship

Tuesday, January 2, 2018
6:30 am Dawn Patrol
9:00 am Preschool
10:30 am Circle #4 (Country Gardens)
12:00 pm Preschool Teacher Workshop (afternoon)
5:30 pm Relational Discipleship (Conf. Room)
6:45 pm No Walls Prayer Meeting (All Nations)

Wednesday, January 3
9:00 am Preschool
5:00 pm Building and Grounds Mtg (Conf. Room)
6:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Party (Bettchers')

Thursday, January 4
9:00 am CBS Coffee (Fellowship Hall)
5:30 pm ERC (Library)

Sunday, January 7 (Epiphany Sunday)
8:00 am Pre-service Prayer (Family Room)
8:30 am Worship with The Lord's Supper
9:45 am Bearing Burdens (Library)
9:45 am Pastors' Coffee
9:45 am Evang.Training. (Sanctuary)
(Sunday School will be held for infant through 4th grade)
10:30 am Pre-service Prayer (Family room)
11:00 am Worship with The Lord's Supper
3:30 pm CWMC
4:30 pm Youth Music Practice (Youth Center)
4:45 pm Rivermont Int'l Ministries Mtg. (Library)
6:00 pm SNL 6th - 8th graders (Youth Center)

Contact Us

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EMAIL: donna@rivermont.org

WEB: www.rivermont.org

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/rivermontepc

OFFICE: Monday - Friday 8:30 AM-5:00 PM
Saturday 9:30 AM-12:00 PM

MINISTRY STAFF

David Weber | SENIOR PASTOR
Ron Cox | EXECUTIVE PASTOR/HEAD OF STAFF
Brett Eubank | PASTOR OF OUTREACH AND ASSIMILATION
Mike Palombo | PASTOR OF RELATIONAL DISCIPLESHIP
Shane Whelan | PASTOR OF STUDENT FAMILIES
Peggy Bettcher | DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY
Ann Knight | DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES
Josh Dempsey | DIRECTOR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRIES
Matt Bradner | REGIONAL DIRECTOR, CAMPUS OUTREACH
Alisha Meador | CARE COORDINATOR

Rivermont Evangelical Presbyterian Church is a member of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, a group of churches whose beliefs are summarized in the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms. For more information, go to www.epc.org.



OUR MISSION

REPC SEEKS THE RENEWING OF LIVES THROUGH GOD'S COMPELLING LOVE
IN LYNCHBURG AND THE WORLD.

First Sunday in Christmastide | December 31, 2017 | 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Order Of Worship

The prelude is a time for the body of Christ to spiritually prepare to enter into His presence in worship. As the prelude begins, please assume a quiet, prayerful and reverent attitude of worship. (Please silence your mobile devices.)

PRELUDE: **Julia Sansone, organ and piano**
"He Is Born" French Carol, arr. Sansone

He is born, the holy Child. Play the oboe and bagpipes merrily!
He is born, the holy Child. Sing we all of the Savior mild.
Through long ages of the past, prophets have foretold His coming;
Through long ages of the past, now the time has come at last!
O how lovely, O how pure is this perfect Child of heaven;
O how lovely, O how pure, gracious gift to humankind.
Jesus, Lord of all the world, coming as a Child among us.
Jesus, Lord of all the world, grant to us Thy heavenly peace,

THE SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION:
God of all grace, we ask that You will engage our minds, open our eyes, fill our hearts, and free our wills that we might behold Your glory. Grant us strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that we might be filled with all the fullness of God. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen!

THE GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: **Pastor Whelan**

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 29 (responsively)**
*Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name.
Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.*
The voice of the Lord is powerful.
The voice of the Lord is full of majesty.
May the Lord give strength to His people.
May the Lord bless His people with peace!

***THE HYMN OF PRAISE: #207 "Good Christian Men, Rejoice"** IN DULCI JUBILO

***THE PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION**

***THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***THE ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE:**

"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven" (vs. 1) LAUDA ANIMA

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to His feet your tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Who, like me, His praise should sing?
Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, praise the everlasting King.

***THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*"Grace to you and peace from Him Who is and Who was and Who is to come." (Rev. 1:4)
Even as the Lord greets us in His Word, let us greet one another.*

SPECIAL TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

THE INTERLUDE:

Children pre-K through first grade may be dismissed for Children’s Church.
8:30 and 11:00: All children meet in the ORANGE room, #115

THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE: 1 Timothy 4:1-16 (pg. 992)

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON: "Training for the New Year" Pastor Palombo

THE PRAYER FOR A RIGHT RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

***THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

THE APOSTLES' CREED (responsively)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

***THE GLORIA:** *Gloria Patri"* GREATOR EX

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end! A—men, A—men!

THE PASTORAL PRAYER, concluding with

THE LORD’S PRAYER (in unison):

Our Father, Who art in heaven: hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come;
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE RECEPTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM:

Rachel Love, soloist

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

arr. Jay Althouse

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plain.
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strain.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherd, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav’nly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing.
Come adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plain.
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strain.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria. For Jesus Christ is born. Alleluia!

***THE DOXOLOGY:**

OLD HUNDREDDTH

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***THE OFFERTORY PRAYER: (in unison)**

We praise You, our Lord, that You have welcomed us into the kingdom of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is Yours. You have provided all our heart desires in times of plenty and in times of need. Bless and multiply these gifts for the expansion of Your kingdom so that the lost may be found, the hungry may be fed, the hurting may be helped and the disciples may grow. We pray this in the name of our God and King, the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen!

***THE HYMN OF RESPONSE: #66o** *"O God Beyond All Praising"* THAXTED

***THE BENEDICTION**

***THE CONGREGATIONAL AND CHORAL AMEN (sung by all):**

"A-men, A-men, A-men!"

***POSTLUDE:** *"Joy to the World"* arr. Michael Burkhardt

*The congregation standing. Please feel free to be seated if you need to do so.
Lyrics and music reproduced under CCLI#64526.

SERMON NOTES

Be devoted to the Scriptures . . .

1. For the greater enjoyment of the good life.

2. For the greater promise of godliness.

3. For the greater hope of the gospel.

**PRAYING FOR OUR MISSIONARIES: JOHN AND CARLENE
(LAST NAME WITHHELD FOR SECURITY PURPOSES)**

John and Carlene are EPC World Outreach Missionaries working in a closed country in South Asia. John has established a thriving sea cucumber business there and it not only employs local workers but also provides opportunities for John and his team to reach out with the love of Christ to these workers, many who are Muslim. They have two hatcheries that are being run by two villages on small islands near his home base. Pray that these two hatcheries will thrive and that gospel relationships and conversations will continue to bear fruit. Pray that God will guide them as they seek to start a third hatchery. Pray also for continued favor with the government, wisdom in expanding the growing business and health for the family.

Prayer Usher Ministry - Prayer Ministry teams are available after each morning service for those who would like someone to pray with them about a personal need. The Prayer Ushers will meet you at the Family Room off the Cheatham Center. They will be identified with name tags. This ministry is available to visitors as well as members. All prayer requests are confidential.