



Radiance Community Church

The Love of Dolly

Like many of you, I was heartbroken to hear the news of Dolly Parton's death. I read tribute after tribute, across political lines, musical genres, and from everyday folks like you and me. They spoke of Dolly's kindness, of the ways in which she was true to herself and encouraged others to be true to themselves. Everyone, it seems, loved Dolly. Rev. Cameron Trimble described it this way: "Country musicians and drag queens loved Dolly. Evangelical grandmothers and gay men loved Dolly. Appalachian families and Hollywood stars loved Dolly. People who might not sit together at Thanksgiving could still agree on Dolly Parton." Dolly, as her nephew said, lived in the Light. She seemed to delight in being alive - and was glad that we were here, too.

In a time when so much of our society is divided, Dolly Parton seemed to cross all those divides. As I think about her life, one of the things that stands out to me is that Dolly showed love to everyone and valued kindness, but that didn't mean she didn't stand on her principles. Her faith was central in her life, as was her love for Appalachia and the culture that shaped her. She also was open to learning and growing. When her actions hurt others, she listened and often changed - as long as the change meant being more inclusive and loving. She supported many people who felt outcast by others, either because of where and how they grew up, who they loved, or what life circumstances had led them to. As she said, "I always had a very open mind and a very open heart. I always look for the good in everybody and the God in everybody...and I just love people. I love the difference in people. I love getting to know people. I appreciate being accepted myself, because I know I'm unusual. And I love the unusual in other people." That is an example worth learning from. Rather than deciding who is worthy of our care, perhaps we can learn to hold to important values of our faith while still showing love to those with whom we disagree.

Dolly's generosity - through the millions of books distributed through her Imagination Library, through scholarships to countless east Tennessee students, through using her influence to support other artists, through millions of dollars given to those devastated by natural disasters and to develop medical treatments, and in countless other ways that we may never know - is an example of the generosity to which we are called. Most of us won't have the breadth of her impact, but we can pay attention to what we have and find ways to keep sharing it.

Bryan Sever, Dolly's nephew, said that Dolly was a farmer's daughter who "farmed songs and happiness." The Bible tells us that "a person will harvest what they plant." (Galatians 6:7) So today, put on a Dolly song and take some time to look at your life. What are you growing? As Dolly said, "We can't just hope for a brighter day. We have to work for a brighter day." May we all plant kindness wherever we are and work to bring that brighter day of God's will being done on earth as it is in heaven.

Blessings,
Pastor Melissa

pray for one another

- Those who are homebound or in retirement/nursing homes: Jim Bryant, Mary Durrer, Betty Heptinstall, Buddy Hawkins, Nadine Minnix, Cheryl Nicely, Betty Obenchain, Louise Parris, Betty Payne, Becky Peyton, Jack Pilcher, Evelyn Ragland, Alice Scogin, Vilas Secrist, Anna Mae Smith, Joe St. Clair
- Those with cancer including Betty Hall, Dalton Burgess, Charles Gray (friend of the Kinseys), Wyatt Hodges (friend of the Kinseys), Penny Long (Bob Crawford's sister), Mary Seithalil (friend of Lisa Baker), Caden Thomas, David Wyatt (friend of the Kinseys)
- Michael Whitt's sister, awaiting a liver transplant
- Linda Murray's sister-in-law, Hildy Getz, recovering from a fall that led to deep cuts & broken bones around her eyes
- Matthew Mitchell's aunt, Sonya, recovering from a stroke
- Duane Mooney, Joyce Waugh's brother in law, who has Parkinson's disease and is recovering from a fall

Missions Opportunities This Fall

- **Keystone Community Center Weekend Food Bags:** During the school year, we provide weekend food bags for 13 children at Keystone Community Center (a couple of options for breakfast, some snacks, fruit, and proteins for lunches and dinners, juice and milk boxes). We package the food in grocery bags and deliver them to Keystone by Wednesday each week. The cost for the food is usually around \$100. Sign up in the foyer to provide food bags for a week - even better, do it with a group of friends.
- **Blessing Box:** Our little food pantry has continued to be well used by our community. As you shop, please pick up a little extra to share with our neighbors. We are especially in need of proteins, rice, cereal, pancake syrup, fruit and vegetables and spaghetti and sauce.
- **Book and Magazine Collection:** The Evelyn Townsend Circle is collecting reading materials for the Roanoke City Jail library and for TAP. Please place your donations in the box in the foyer.

Upcoming Meetings

- Evelyn Townsend Mission Circle: Monday, September 14, 12 pm, at the home of Ellen Scot
- Ministries Council: Monday, September 14, 6 pm
- Deacons: Sunday, September 20, 2:00 pm
- Administrative Council: Monday, September 28, 5:30 pm

Featured Dates

Sunday, Sept. 6

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 AM
Worship	10:30 AM
Choir Practice	11:30 AM
Youth Dinner & Discipleship	5:00 PM

Wednesday, Sept. 9

Midweek Spiritual Formation	12:00 PM
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Sunday, Sept. 13

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 AM
Worship	10:30 AM
Choir Practice	11:30 AM
Youth Dinner & Discipleship	5:00 PM

Monday, Sept. 14

Evelyn Townsend Circle	12:00 PM
Ministry Council Meeting	6:00 PM

Wednesday, Sept. 16

Midweek Spiritual Formation	12:00 PM
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Sunday, Sept. 20

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 AM
Worship	10:30 AM
Choir Practice	11:30 AM
Deacons	2:00 PM
Youth Dinner & Discipleship	5:00 PM

Tuesday, Sept. 22

CBF VA Assembly	9:00 AM
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Wednesday, Sept. 23

Midweek Spiritual Formation	12:00 PM
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Sunday, Sept. 27

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 AM
Worship	10:30 AM
Choir Practice	11:30 AM
Kids' Families Meeting	11:45 AM
Youth Dinner & Discipleship	5:00 PM

Monday, Sept. 28

Admin Council Meeting	5:30 PM
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Wednesday, Sept. 30

Midweek Spiritual Formation	12:00 PM
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Fall Sermon Series: Hungry

When Radiance was formed, we discerned that our mission in this season is to feed the hungry. We know that along with physical hunger, we also have emotional and spiritual cravings and desires. Beginning on September 20, we will spend a few weeks focused on what we can learn from the life of Elijah about what we - and the world around us - are hungering for, how God fills those cravings, and what we are called to do to join God in feeding the hungry.

- **Sept. 20:** Fed by God (1 Kings 17:1-16, Matt. 6:25-34)
- **Sept. 28:** Feeding on the Wrong Things (1 Kings 18:20-46, John 4:23-26)
- **Oct. 4:** Hungry to Hear (1 Kings 19:9-18, James 1:2-5)
- **Oct. 11:** Hungry for Justice (1 Kings 21:17-20, Luke 4:14-21)
- **Oct. 18:** Hungry for More (2 Kings 2:5-14, Acts 1:6-8)

Who Do I Call?

Have you ever needed to ask a question or make a suggestion and not known exactly who to call? Our church leadership consists of two Councils and our Deacons. The Administrative Council is responsible for guiding the church in the areas of finance, personnel, and properties. The Ministries Council works with the staff on the programs of the church, including worship, faith formation for all ages, fellowship, missions, and outreach. Our deacons are responsible for assisting the pastor with spiritual leadership of the church and offering care for our church families. Here are the members of those groups for this church year. Feel free to call on them and on our church staff with any needs or ideas!

- **Administrative Council:** Bob Crawford, Debbie Foutz, Mary Harris, Neal Kinsey, Cindy Poff, Susan Pollard, John Pruitt, Ginny Smith, Joyce Waugh
- **Ministries Council:** Steven Harris, Steve Light, Glenda Pollard, Ellen Scott, Ric Scott, Susan Snyder, Brennon Viele, Emily Whitt, Debbie Williams
- **Deacons:** Anne Andrews, Becky Beard, Janice Deyerle, M.J. Fanning, Donna Kester, Linda Murray, Glenda Pollard, Joyce Short, Gordon Williams

Faith Formation Survey: The Ministries Council has prepared a survey to help us determine what faith formation opportunities to offer this fall. Surveys are available on the table in the foyer. Completed surveys can be placed in the tray on the table. You can also fill the form outline at <https://bit.ly/rccformationsurvey>.

Looking for a place to serve? It's time for us to put together the schedule for leading worship this fall. If you would like to help by reading scripture, praying, greeting, collecting the offering, leading children's church and the PrayGround, singing in the choir, or working with audio/video, please sign up on the sheet in the foyer, or e-mail Pastor Melissa at melissa@radianceroanoke.org. If you worship with us online, we would be happy to have you record the scripture reading or offertory prayer so that you can also participate in leading worship. If you have previously been on the schedule and wish to continue, there's no need to sign up; we will include you in the schedule unless you tell us otherwise.

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Virginia General Assembly, September 22, 9 am-3 pm:

The annual meeting of CBFVA is in Roanoke this year, hosted by Melrose Baptist Church! The General Assembly is a time for worship, learning, and connection as we celebrate God's work among us and imagine new ways to join in it. We'd love for you to attend and learn more about CBFVA. Register by September 14 at <https://cbfva.org/general-assembly/general-assembly-registration/>. If you are unable to register online, let Pastor Melissa know, and she will help you get signed up.

Radiance Kids

On Sunday, September 27, children and their families are invited to join Pastor Melissa and members of the Ministries Council for a pizza lunch in the fellowship hall. After lunch, the children will enjoy a fun activity while the adults have a conversation about how Radiance can best meet the faith needs of our children and families. We'd love to have your voice be part of this conversation!



Radiance Youth

- Join us for Dinner and Discipleship on Sundays from 5-7. This month, our Bible study will focus on anxiety, mental health, and hope. We'll gather at 5 for games and fellowship, followed by dinner at 5:30 and Bible study from 6-7. (We will not meet on September 13.)
- Church family, if you can provide dinner for our youth on a Sunday evening, please sign up at: <https://bit.ly/rccyouthdinner>. Please prepare for about 10 people. We eat at 5:30 on Sundays, and we always love for you to stay and eat with us!!

Faith Formation Opportunities

- **Sunday Morning Bible Study, 9:30-10:15 am:** This month, our adults are beginning a new study of the book of Colossians. Have you ever felt like you need a fixed point in a world that is spinning out of control? Colossians shows us how following Jesus gives us purpose and stability. We also have classes for our children and youth, so there is something for your whole family.
- **Midweek Spiritual Formation, Wednesdays at noon:** During September, Rev. Steven Harris is leading a study of some of the "tough love" found in the gospel of Matthew. We'll look at some of Jesus's most challenging teachings, the kind that overturn our expectations and push us toward a deeper, more costly love. Join us in person or by Zoom: bit.ly/radiancebiblestudy.
- **Faith Lending Library:** We have new resources for fall and Ordinary Time on the bookcase in the foyer. Please feel free to borrow books and return them when you are done so that others can enjoy them as well!

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP SCHEDULE



September 6

- **Greeters:** Bobbie Hawkins, Neal Kinsey
- **Scripture Reader:** Joyce Waugh
- **Offertory Prayer:** Kathy Kinsey
- **Children's Worship Leader:** Kathy Kinsey
- **Offering:** Janice Deyerle, Jonathan Melson, Cara Sutherland, Ray Templin

September 13

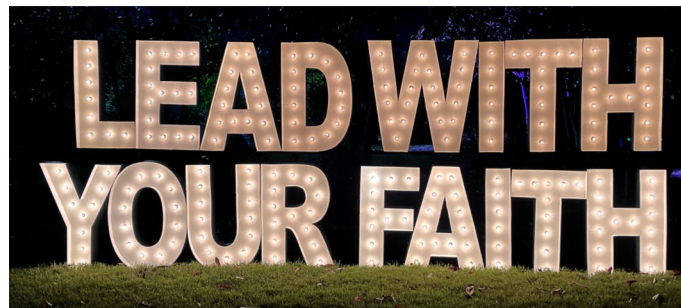
- **Greeters:** Lisa Baker, Nancy Vest
- **Scripture Reader:** Brennon Viele
- **Offertory Prayer:** Nancy Burgess
- **Children's Worship:** Donna Kester
- **Offering:** Jenna Dillon, Alyssa Viele, Kathy Kinsey, Brennon Viele

September 20

- **Greeters:** Mary Shirley, Gordon Williams
- **Scripture Reader:** Ellen Scott
- **Offertory Prayer:** Ric Scott
- **Children's Worship:** Glenda Pollard
- **Offering:** Gerri Mills, Ric Scott, Mark Smith, Gordon Williams

September 27

- **Greeters:** Bobbie Hawkins, Vicki Wray
- **Scripture Reader:** Cindy Poff
- **Offertory Prayer:** Janice Deyerle
- **Children's Worship Leader:** Nancy Vest
- **Offering:** Becky Beard, Jonathan Melson, Cara Sutherland, Ray Templin,



Radiance Community Church

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Roanoke, VA 24018
540-774-2084

Our Church Staff:

Rev. Melissa Scott
Pastor

Rev. Steven Harris
Minister in Residence

Karen Viele
Church Administrator

Bill Lininger
Music Director



Betty	Payne	September 03
Neal	Kinsey	September 13
Rita	Bryant	September 14
Becky	Peyton	September 14
Mia	Viele	September 16
Cason	Krawchison	September 17
Bill	Lininger	September 19
Lisa	Baker	September 20
Cathy	Howell	September 23
Glenda	Pollard	September 23
Julie	Wood	September 23
Sarah	Howell	September 24
Ashley	Krawchison	September 27
Bobbie	Hawkins	September 28
Brad	Dillon	September 30