



*We are Disciples of Christ,
a movement for wholeness
in a fragmented world.*

**Gayton Road Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
Ministers: Every Believer
Pastor: Jonathan Kruschwitz**



*As part of the one body of
Christ, we welcome all to
the Lord's Table as God
has welcomed us.*

*September 16, 2018
Ordinary Time: Proper 19*

*Please use the Narthex for conversation, gathering and visiting,
so that the Sanctuary may be used for quiet reflection and preparing for worship.*

GATHERING

Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

"I have to see myself basically as aligned with Pharaoh, Nebuchadnezzar, and Caesar.

In that case, what does the Bible ask of me?"

(Brian Zahnd)

PRELUDE

"Andante Tranquillo"

Felix Mendelssohn

During the prelude you are invited to the prayer table in the back of the sanctuary, where you may write your prayer concerns/joys. These will be lifted up during the Prayer of the People.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

(Luke 4:16-19)

The Spirit of the Lord is upon us.

The Spirit of the Lord is within us.

Humbling us,

Helping us;

Anointing us;

Sending us.

To bring good news,

To bind up old wounds.

To proclaim forgiveness,

To drop unsettled debts.

To enter into needs of others,

To enter into their joy! Amen.

***OPENING HYMN 666**

"The Voice of God Is Calling"

MEIRIONYDD

***OPENING PRAYER**

(Luke 4:16-19)

God of the losers,

Whose good news

Is for the poor:

Bring us

To where your gospel

Is most alive—

Where love relieves debts

And liberates the oppressed.

In Christ, who shares life with the lowly. Amen.

ANTHEM "Blest Are They" David Haas

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER 310 (SUNG) HAAS

SCRIPTURE Luke 4:16-19

SERMON "Where Am I in the Good News?"

*HYMN OF AFFIRMATION 470

"When the Church of Jesus" KING'S WESTON

During this song, all are welcome to come forward to become members of Gayton Road Christian Church by transfer of membership or baptism.

Deacons gather in the back of the sanctuary to prepare for the offering.

OFFERING INVITATION (Luke 4:16-19)

OFFERTORY "Cuando el Pobre" arr. Alvin Schutmast

*DOXOLOGY 50 "Praise God" LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*OFFERING BLESSING (Luke 4:16-19)

**Jubilant God,
Whose joy comes to life
In the blind given sight,
The captive given freedom,
The hungry given food—
Receive our gifts
And draw us and others
Into your jubilee,
The kingdom of God. Amen.**

CONFESSION (Luke 4:16-19)

Lord, you bring good news. Christ, you enter into the needs of others. Lord, you drop the debts owed you.

When we spread hurtful and divisive rumor:

When we compete with others:

When we demand our due, to the detriment of others:

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(Luke 4:16-19)

THE PEACE

(Luke 4:16-19)

The peace of Christ is not won. It is a gift that is shared.

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

COMMUNION HYMN 391

“These I Lay Down”

LAYING DOWN

(Elders and Deacons gather in the back of the Sanctuary to prepare to serve)

Communion is celebrated each Sunday. As a Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) congregation, we practice an open table where all are invited to the table. There is no barrier that prevents participation in the Lord’s Supper. The bread and the cup are taken in unison; hold each in your hands until you are signaled to partake. This communion bread is gluten free.

You are invited to bless the bread and the cup for your neighbor. As you pass the element, you may say, “The body of Christ, broken for you,” and, “The blood of Christ, shed for you.”

PRAYERS OF THE ELDERS

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION

***CLOSING HYMN 662**

“When the Poor Ones”

EL CAMINO

***BLESSING**

**May the good news of God,
The compassion of Christ,
And the joy of the Spirit,
Usher us and others
Into the year of the Lord’s favor.**

**We go now where Christ leads,
Loving and serving others. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

“Fanfare”

Jacques Lemmens

***Please stand if able.**

As a courtesy to other worshippers, please silence phones. Bibles (electronic or book) are most welcome!

Scheduled to serve today:

PastorJonathan Kruschwitz
 Director of Music..... Jack Fox
 Intern Emily Croxford
 Lay Leader Anna McFarlane
 Elders Gracie Tingle and Debbie Cook
 Deacons Garrett Carlton, Chris Carlton,
Holly McGinnis, and Julie Round
 AcolytesMcFarlane Family
 Children’s Message Anna McFarlane
 Nursery Darrah Davis & Tatum McFarlane

Welcome to Worship: *Whether you are a member, friend or visiting with us today, may God bless you during worship this morning. You ARE welcome and we’re very blessed that you are worshiping with us today!*

Communion is celebrated each Sunday.

GRCC NEWS AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Homeless Ministry: We are currently supplying **water and Gatorade** to Rhonda Sneed’s Blessing Warriors homeless ministry. Anyone who wishes to help can bring these items to the outreach area of the narthex.

Fall Schedule: Beginning **today**, Sunday Schools will resume meeting at 9:45 am and worship will resume meeting at 11 am.

Brunswick Stew: The tradition continues! We are making Brunswick Stew again this fall, **Saturday, Sep. 22**, with chicken-picking after church **today**. If you are able to help in any way, your assistance is greatly appreciated! There is a help and donation sign-up list in the narthex, as well as a pre-sales sign-up list...this year all orders must be in and paid for by Sunday, Sep. 16, and your name will be on each of the quarts belonging to you. Try to pick up your quarts on Sep. 22 as there is limited room to store them in the church freezer. Cost will be \$7 per quart this year. This is a great opportunity to spread the Word to others through the work of our hands.

“The Bias of the Bible?”: “I have a problem with the Bible...I’m an ancient Egyptian, a comfortable Babylonian, a Roman in his villa. See, I’m trying to read the Bible for all it’s worth, but I’m not a Hebrew slave suffering in Egypt. I’m not a conquered Judean deported to Babylon. I’m not a first century Jew living under Roman occupation. I’m a citizen of a superpower. I was born among conquerors. I live in the empire. But I want to read the Bible and think it’s talking to me. This is a problem.” (Brian Zahnd)

Beginning **today**, we will diverge from our normal lectionary readings for a five-week series of scripture readings and sermons that wrestle with the problem of reading the Bible from above rather than below.

Reconciliation Ministry Special Offering 2018: On Sundays September 30 and October 7, the church will collect a special offering for the Disciples' Reconciliation Ministry. Gifts to the Reconciliation Ministry contribute to faith-based projects across the nation that promote a pro-reconciling/anti-racist church through experiential education, inclusive worship, and intentional dialogue. For more information, please see www.reconciliationministry.org.

District VII Annual Assembly: This year, Gayton Road will be hosting the District VII Annual Assembly on **Sunday, October 7, at 4 pm!** As this is World Communion Sunday, our gathering will celebrate the communion of our district churches and the universal church. Our joint worship will feature music from a district choir; an address by Dr. Richard Voelz (professor of preaching and worship at Union Seminary); a collection of personal care items to be donated to Safe Harbor, which provides shelter for human trafficking and domestic violence victims; and a shared supper. Please see the flyers in the narthex for more information.

As we will be hosting this year's event, we will be helping with registration and meal preparation. Stay tuned for more information on how you can volunteer.

The church continues to collect used eyeglasses and hearing aids to help children learn and parents maintain their jobs; tab tops from drink cans, soup cans, & cat/dog food cans, etc. to support Ronald McDonald house; and box tops found on cereal boxes, soup cans, Kleenex, etc. to support our educational system. The collection boxes are in our narthex.

From Where I Sit: Faith is an experience. As a community of faith, we share our faith experiences to encourage and inspire each other, and to learn about the ways that God is moving among our community and our world. We invite you to write and share an experience of your own, however great or small. Please send any entries to grccdoc@verizon.net. These will be shared with the church through email.

Lectionary Scripture

Proverbs 1:20-33

Psalms 19

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

CALENDAR

TODAY

Fall Schedule Resumes
Sunday School @ 9:45 am
Worship @ 11 am
Chicken-Picking for Stew (after Worship)

THIS WEEK

9/19 Choir Rehearsal @ 7 pm
9/22 Brunswick Stew (Pickup from 3—5 pm)

COMING UP

9/26 Girl Scouts @ 6:15—7:15 pm
Choir Rehearsal @ 7 pm
9/29 AA Corrections Workshop in Fellowship Hall @ 7 am—6 pm
10/2 Symphony Manor: Memory Care Gathering @ 10:30 am
10/3 Choir Rehearsal @ 7 pm
10/7 Elders Meeting (after Worship)
District VII Annual Assembly @ 4 pm
10/8 Youth Apple-picking Outing

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER...

Our GRCC family: Mollie Caiella, Tom and Candice Nguyen, Debbie Derr, and Ivan and Julie Round.

Those who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis: Jim Harris, Stuart Wilkinson, Anna Lee Werner, Marion Stinnett, June & Bubba Galbraith, and Marion Paitsel.

Friends of GRCC:

Carol Sharp, mother of Julie Round

Lillie May Slaven, grandmother of Julie Round

Joan & Doug Borden, parents of Jeremy Borden

Valerie McCarry, sister of Jeremy Borden

Don Campbell, father of Cliff Campbell

Keel Family (esp. Hunter), friends of June and Bubba Galbraith

Donna Bell, sister-in-law of Barbara Chapman

The Allen Family, friends of Barbara Chapman

Cherie Holberg and Abby, friends of Daniela

Larew

Ken and Liz Carpenter and family, friends of Anne Waring

Joe Butler, father of Carrie Wingo

*During the month of **September**, please be in prayer for these Mission Personnel of the Global Ministries for our church.*

Sep 2-8: Jeanette Salley, Nicaragua

Sep 9-15: Jeffrey Mensendiek, Japan

Sep 16-22: Emmanuela Loccident, Morocco

Sep 23-29: Tom Liddle, East Timor

Sep 30-Oct 6: Robert Breckenridge, Zambia

For more information and weekly prayers for these specific areas please visit www.globalministries.org

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*Together with other churches in Richmond, we pray this **September** for schools and educational institutions of metropolitan Richmond.*

For the week of September 16, 2018: We pray for all universities, colleges, seminaries, trade, technical, graduate, and professional schools; for the students, faculty, and staff of these institutions.

(www.metroprayrva.org)

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**People listed in bold added this week.
Please email or call the church with updates.**

**Gayton Road Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**

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Intern: Emily Croxford
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Elder Chair: Debbie Cook
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GAYTON ROAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH

“Where everybody is welcome”

Gayton Road Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is a family of friendly, accepting, God-centered people. With our come-as-you-are attitude and non-judgmental philosophy, we believe we are called to love and care for one another and share the Good News of God’s love and grace with the community through our words and actions.