



# CROSS CURRENTS

June 2026



## FAITH, FELLOWSHIP & TEA

*“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”* Hebrews 10: 24-25

This lively theme set the tone for the Women’s Ministry Spring Tea, where more than 60 women gathered for a delightful, formal tea experience. Gracefully arranged with family-china tea settings generously provided by parishioners, the event was a charming celebration. Attendees energized the atmosphere by donning their finest hats in honor of Derby Day, adding to the festive spirit. The aim was simple: to enjoy each other’s company, foster fellowship, and lift one another up.

As the women and church prepare for a bustling spiritual summer—complete with Vacation Bible School, Navajo Mission trips, Teen Camps, and Good News Across Sports—this event served as the perfect encouragement.

## From our Senior Pastor: Open Homes, Open Hearts, Open Doors

June has arrived, and with it comes one of the busiest and most enjoyable seasons in our community. As a lake community, summer means family gatherings, grandchildren visiting, neighbors hosting cookouts, boats on the water, and friends coming from near and far to spend time together.



Rev. Adam Colson

Our roads become a little busier. Our restaurants are becoming a little fuller. Our neighborhoods become a little livelier. And while all of this activity brings excitement, it also presents something else: opportunity. The Apostle Paul writes, *“Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.”* (Romans 15:7)

Hospitality is one of the most beautiful expressions of Christian faith. Throughout Scripture, God’s people are called to welcome the stranger, care for the guest, and open their lives to others. The writer of Hebrews reminds us, *“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.”* (Hebrews 13:2)

As visitors arrive in our community this summer, what if we viewed every encounter as a divine appointment? The family sitting beside you at a restaurant, the neighbor you’ve waved to but never really met, the visitor attending church while spending a week at the lake or maybe the new family renting the house down the street. Each person is someone deeply loved by God. Hospitality is more than offering food or opening our homes. It

is opening our hearts. It is taking time to listen, to encourage, to invite, and to care.

Mother Teresa once said, *“Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier.”*

What a wonderful challenge for us this summer. At The Lake of the Woods Church, we have a unique opportunity to reflect the love of Christ to those who may only be here for a few days but may remember for years the kindness they experienced from God’s people. A warm greeting, an invitation to worship, a conversation after church, or a simple act of kindness. These small moments can have an eternal impact.

Jesus said: *“By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”* (John 13:35)

As we enjoy family visits, neighborhood gatherings, vacations, and all the blessings of summer, may we also embrace the ministry of welcome. Let us be known as a church and a community where people encounter the love, grace, and hospitality of Jesus Christ. May our homes be open, may our hearts be open, and may our doors be open. And may God use us this summer to make others feel welcomed, valued, and loved.

Grace and Peace,  
Rev. Adam Colson  
Senior Pastor

## Continued from page 1 Women’s Tea

It inspired everyone to participate actively, pray ardently, and support one another through these upcoming adventures. The sense of camaraderie and the Holy Spirit was palpable during heartfelt devotions and joyful songs, marking an exciting kickoff to what promises to be an inspiring season ahead.



Beautiful Table Settings



Marsha Metzzer leading in praise



CrossCurrents is a publication of  
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## Board of Elders, Teaching the Next Generation

As I write this article, I am sitting in the dining room at Camp Shenandoah Springs, where our annual Teen Camp is underway. The sounds of laughter, worship, and teaching drift in from every direction—a reminder that God is doing something meaningful in the lives of our youth.

But first, let me take you back to last week. We had just completed Kingdom Builders—one of the most intense and meaningful biblical training sessions I have ever participated in. As part of their practicum, the youth were asked to study and analyze the account of Noah, then identify where Jesus appears in the narrative through the themes of sin and redemption. Their presentations were biblically sound, thoughtfully prepared, and powerfully delivered. Watching them handle Scripture with such care and conviction was deeply encouraging.

Now, back to Teen Camp. The teens here are as serious about learning as they are about the activities, sports, and lake time. We often say that “our future is in good hands,” but that phrase alone doesn’t capture the significance of what is happening—or the needs of our youth program. For this vibrant ministry to reach its full potential, a call to action must be heard.

The first call is for true, dedicated prayer warriors—those who will faithfully cover our youth and children in prayer. Second, we need men and women who will ask the Lord to raise up leaders and volunteers, including a Youth Director. And third, we need those who will pray for the resources required to sustain and strengthen this ministry. These youth and children are Jesus’ younger brothers and sisters, and we must answer His call: “*Whatever you do for the least of these, you*

*do for Me.*”

I also want to make you aware of a physical plant concern that requires immediate attention. We have been dealing with water intrusion through the cinderblock walls into the stairwell leading to the Youth area, the former Treasurer’s office (now a storage room), and one of the youth rooms. This week, the water has been significant enough that the carpet is wet. This is not an issue that can wait for a five year plan—it must be addressed now to prevent further costly damage. To move quickly and wisely, we have contracted with the firm that oversaw the Jubilee Enhancement Project to provide an assessment and guidance on the proper way forward.

In June, we also have our largest outreach to children—Vacation Bible School. This is one of the most outstanding events of the year for both the children and the volunteers. The team has worked diligently to complete decorations, set up stations, organize the church, and prepare to receive about 140 kids and train 100 adults. These are sacred opportunities to shape lives, form disciples, and introduce children and teens to the transforming love of Jesus Christ. The need is real. The call is clear. And the moment is now. We still need a few more volunteers—perhaps the Lord is calling you to be one of them.

*“Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” — Galatians 6:9*

John R Gingrich  
Chairman, Board of Elders

## Living Water Community Clinic – 10 Years Serving Our Communities

For the past 10 years, the Living Water Community Clinic (LWCC) has remained dedicated to one mission: serving people with compassion through free medical, dental, mental, and spiritual care. What began as a vision of our Senior Pastor, Pastor Adam Colson, has grown into a trusted source of hope and healing for individuals facing financial hardship, illness, loneliness, and emotional struggles.

Over the last decade, countless volunteers, healthcare professionals, counselors, and faith leaders have come together to make quality care accessible to everyone, regardless of income or background. Free medical clinics have helped patients manage chronic illnesses, receive preventive screenings, and access life-saving health education. Dental services have restored smiles and improved confidence for adults who otherwise could not afford treatment.



Mental health support has also played a vital role in our mission. Through counseling and compassionate listening, many individuals have found strength during difficult seasons of anxiety, grief, depression, and stress. Alongside physical and emotional care, spiritual guidance has offered

encouragement, prayer, and hope to those searching for peace and purpose.

These 10 years have been a powerful reminder that true community is built through kindness,

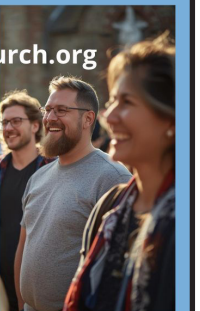


service, and unity. Every patient served, and every life touched, reflects the impact of people working together for the good of others. We could not have achieved this without the generosity of many of you. As we celebrate this milestone, we look forward to continuing our mission and expanding our reach for many years to come – we are the hands and feet of Jesus.

### LEADERSHIP NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

The Nominating Committee is seeking your recommendations for upcoming leadership positions within our church. Help us identify faithful members who can serve our community.

Email [elder.missions@lowchurch.org](mailto:elder.missions@lowchurch.org) with potential names



## Mission Partner for March Child Evangelism Fellowship

Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) of Virginia is a church-assist organization focused on evangelizing and teaching children ages 4-14. Simply stated, CEF Virginia trains ministry teams who volunteer to conduct evangelistic events outside the church walls. Churches and CEF give every child the opportunity to hear and respond to the gospel of Jesus Christ. CEF seeks to assist churches in fulfilling the Great Commission through building Ambassadors of the good news. CEF reaches the children with the Gospel so that “not one of these little ones should perish.” (Matthew 18:14)

Since 1937, CEF has offered a high-quality, biblically sound, and Christ-centered curriculum to help churches evangelize and disciple children. Every CEF Bible lesson clearly explains the Gospel on a child’s level, with the message of salvation woven through each verse, song, story, and even the games. Each Bible lesson also focuses on applying God’s Word to everyday life and presenting a spiritual growth challenge. CEF training, materials, and methods increase the participation of church members as ambassadors for Christ, enhancing the fabric of evangelism across major church functions, including evangelism, outreach, discipleship, youth, children, missions, and prayer.

There are several different CEF ministries for children, such as the Good News Club, 5-Day Club, and Christian Youth in Action (CYIA). CEF Virginia hosts several events through these ministries, thereby serving the churches with proven children’s ministry training, materials, and methods. The Lake of the Woods Church has the privilege of sharing Bible lessons and praying with children in the Locust Grove schools through the



Good News Clubs. This is just one example of how CEF has equipped the local church to be ambassadors for Christ.

The following information was provided by Rita Beale, CEF VA State Director. Rita recently hosted the CEF table at the Missions week program in January and spoke at the 9:45 Sunday Berean Bible Study.

### CEF OF VIRGINIA – PURSUING OUR 5-YEAR PLAN

After CEF of Virginia’s State Board approved of our 5-Year Plan last year, with a goal of having 1,000 Good News Clubs by 2030, we have seen the Lord do great things. For us to start more clubs, we have planned and prayed for more staff. Here is how we have seen the Lord answer those prayers:

- We had been pioneering in the Shenandoah Valley, but we really wanted a local coordinator to get more ministry and a committee up and running there. CEF Headquarters let me know that a young lady, who had completed CEF courses at Calvary University in Kansas City,

*Continued on page 7*

#### Prayer for Child Evangelism Fellowship

Father God, your Son told us that whoever welcomes a child in his name actually welcomes the Lord Jesus himself. And whoever welcomes him welcomes you, the one who sent him. Please help us to protect and care for all children everywhere. And we ask you to bless and direct the ministry of Child Evangelism Fellowship in bringing the Good News to children in our community and around the world. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

## CEF

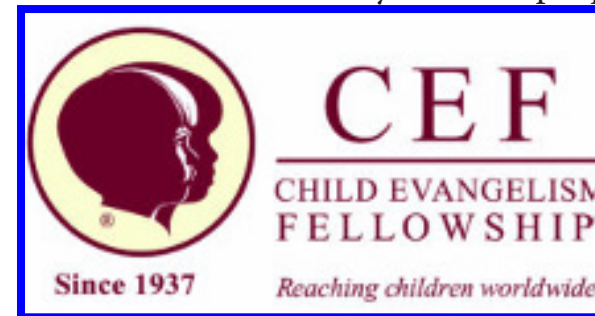
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Missouri, told them that she felt God was calling her into CEF ministry. She also said that she was moving to Harrisonburg, Virginia, after getting married, and so she asked if there was a staff position there. She said that if there was not, she would help pioneer the area! Genna Golightly became the answer to our prayers, has engaged in party club ministry, and is forming a Shenandoah Valley committee.

- We have wanted a Director of Development to help spread the word about CEF ministry and to help us fund the additional work we are planning. Before we even posted a position, the Lord sent Cheryl Simmons to us! Cheryl helped us put on three concerts in December, and she is now helping our chapters and the State Office with various events.

- To help our chapters engage in greater ministry, the State Board agreed we needed to hire more staff at the state office to handle much of the administrative work the chapters have been performing. The Lord has now sent us a Director of Personnel, and we just hired a Director of Training. We are also looking to hire a few additional staff members to support the chapters’ work.

Please pray with us that the Lord will continue to provide CEF with chapter staff, State Board members, and committee members to grow the ministry so that we may reach our Good News Club goal. We believe the 5-Year Plan is God’s plan, and we want to do it His way with His people.



## LWCC GOLF RESULTS

Living Water Community Clinic held its 6th annual Golf tournament on May 15, 2026. Sixty-eight golfers enjoyed perfect weather for a round of 18 holes.

The Clinic netted approximately \$14,000 to use for the care of our patients. Thank you to all who played, donated, and volunteered to make this day a success.



Putting Contest



**Sports camps for kids!**  
**July 6-10**  
**9 a.m. - 11 a.m. &**  
**1 p.m. - 3 p.m.**  
[lowchurch.org/events](http://lowchurch.org/events)

## Scouting News

It's been said that the only constant in life is change. Scouting units at Lake of the Woods Church were pleased to recognize Michael Holder at the Pack Blue and Gold dinner for his countless hours of cheerful service in leading Pack and Troop 197 as Cubmaster and Scoutmaster. Mike and his family moved out of Lake of the Woods last July and the commute for Scouting from Mechanicsville proved too lengthy. We will miss Mike and the rest of the Holder family...Blair, Jackson, Brantley, and Reid.



With one chapter closing, another exciting new chapter for Scouting America Scouts at Lake of the Woods Church begins! We are pleased to announce that Lake of the Woods Church has a new Scouting America Troop 97 for girls to complement Troop 197 for boys (ages 11-18). The Cub Scout Pack 197 has blasted into the Spring with a successful bake sale. Thank you, LOW Fire and Rescue, for the use of your prime parking lot visibility, and Clearwater Restaurant for lending us tables for the Pack 197 bake sale.

With a smooth transition, new leadership has been recruited in all three (3) Scouting units, and we appreciate volunteers who have stepped up:

- Pack 197 – Cubmaster: Paul Indelicato  
Assistant Cubmaster: Checotah Price  
Pack Committee Chair: Karyn Frack
- Troop 97 – Scoutmaster: Christine Porter  
Assistant Scoutmasters: Carrie DeNicola  
Amber Pannell
- Troop 197 – Scoutmaster: Jason Pannell  
Assistant Scoutmasters: Dana Bell  
David Bell  
Troop Committee(s) Chair: Jack Simons

THE SCOUTING GAME IS AFOOT with the Pack is racing toward their annual Rain Gutter Regatta. Troop 197 is planning for summer camp fun in June at T. Brady Saunders camp, located in Goochland VA. Troop 97 is planning fun summertime activities. An annual program planning will commence thereafter for the new program year starting in August.

If your family would like to be a part of Scouting America, please check out BeAScout.org for our units, or hit the QR Codes shown on page 8.

The Adventure of Scouting is GREAT FUN for the whole family! COME JOIN US !!

Calendar for church activities for the next 90 days...See [lowchurch.org](http://lowchurch.org) for latest information


June	July	August
1-5 Teen Camp	3 - OFFICE CLOSED Independence Day	1 - Tables oif Eight
13 - 8am Mechanics' Ministry LWOC	5 - 12:30 GNAS Training	8 - Mechanics' Ministry LWOC
15 - 19 VBS	6-10 - GNAS	
21 - Father's Day	11 - Mechanic's Ministry LWOC	
22 Jeneteenth Observed OFFICE CLOSED	19-26 Navajo Mission Trip	
	30 - Stuff the Bus Distribution	

## Scouting - Fun for the Whole Family


For more information on LOW Church sponsored Scouting America Programs please scan the QR codes or find us on [BeAScout.org](http://BeAScout.org)



**Pack 197**  
For Families with  
Kindergartners to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade



**Troop 97**  
for girls ages 11 to 18



**Troop 197**  
For boys ages 11 to 18

## Living Water Outreach Center

The Living Water Outreach Center continues to serve as a welcoming place of fellowship, outreach, education, and community connection during the first months of 2026. From January through May, the Outreach Center hosted several meaningful activities designed to strengthen both spiritual and practical support throughout the surrounding communities. These represent just a few activities within this “living” space.

One of the most impactful outreach efforts has been the Mechanics Ministry, held on March 14, April 11, and May 9. With support from a dedicated volunteer team, multiple vehicles were repaired and serviced at each event. Through maintenance work, repairs, and encouragement, the ministry has provided practical assistance to individuals and families facing transportation challenges. Chaplains are also in attendance.

In addition, the Outreach Center hosted a successful series of family-friendly movie nights. Featured films included Prince of Egypt on January 23, Ee-Taow! I and II on February 6, The Ten Commandments on March 20, and the May 22 showing of Moses, highlighting the Sight & Sound Theatres live stage experience. Guests enjoyed a large-screen viewing experience with excellent sound, popcorn, snacks, and beverages sponsored by Lake of the Woods Church.

The Outreach Center also partnered with LOWLinc to host “Matter of Balance” weekly classes from March 6 through April 24. These sessions focused on improving balance, mobility, and wellness, helping participants build confidence and maintain active, healthy lifestyles. The classes were well attended and provided another opportunity for community engagement and encouragement.

The Living Water Outreach Center looks forward to continuing its mission of outreach, compassion, and service throughout the remainder of 2026. Movies will continue, and the Living Water Outreach Center will be utilized as a working base for our Stuff the Bus back-to-school activity, as well as the Thanksgiving Basket Ministry.



## MUSICAL NOTES: Battle Hymn of the Republic

Psalm 33:12 Solomon 2:1 John 15:13 Rev 14:14-19  
Thessalonians 4:16 Deuteronomy 32:41  
Isaiah 6:1, 27:1, 63:1-6

We are in the season of patriotism, with declarations of loyalty to and love of country, decorations hung, parades marching with bands playing stirring music. Some of that music, as is our topic here, is appropriate for church use.

The Biblical references are allegedly those Julia Ward Howe used when writing the lyrics. But what caused her inspiration in the first place?

You may remember Julia as a suffragette and abolitionist. She was born into a wealthy NY family and married Dr. S.G. Howe. A physician and humanitarian, he sometimes joined her in her crusades in the moral and political arenas of the time.

In 1861, the Howes visited our area. Julia toured a Union army camp on the banks of the Potomac. She was accompanied by The Rev. James Freeman Clark. There she heard soldiers singing about John Brown. He was hanged for leading the insurrection of slaves at Harper's Ferry. You are possibly familiar with the song, i.e., "John Brown's body lies a'mould'ring..." Rev. Clark suggested to Julia that she could perhaps write better lyrics.

They retired to the Willard Hotel in DC. When she woke at dawn the next day, she found the words arranging themselves in her mind. She quickly got up, wrote them down, and went back to bed!

There is a verse that is hardly ever sung:

I have read a fiery gospel writ in burnished rows of steel,  
As ye deal with my contemners, so with you my grace shall deal,  
Let the hero, born of woman, crush the serpent with his heal,  
Since God is marching on.

In her original manuscript, the final verse was:  
He is coming like the glory of the morning on the wave,  
He is wisdom to the mighty, He is succor to the brave,  
So the world shall be His footstool and the soul of time His slave,  
Our God is marching on.

In February 1862 it was published in the Atlantic Monthly, for which she received a check for \$5.00. It was also used as a broadside at abolitionist rallies. - Donna Freeland



## June Birthdays

Debbie Beisheim	Debbie Lamb
Kevin Cole	Betsy Marcum
Barbara Coyle	Stephen McInnis
Nancy Doseff	Marsha Metzger
Scott Durnin	Lee Nance
Bruce Edwards	Thomas Northam
Myles Embrey	Olga Nicholson
William Fetzer	Debra Owen
Judy Flynn	Sherry Payton
Warren Gage	Cheryl Phillips
Cynthia Garegnani	June Romedy
Charles Handy	James Ryan
Gail Hardin	Ann Sawyer
Joyce Hetrick	Pamela Shaver
Joyce Hite	John Sellers
Noah Hoffman	Kathleen Smith
Thomas Hood	Robert Stumpf
Kathryn Hughes	Samuel Thomsen
Gene Koepfler	Toni White
Cathy Kutz	Michael Zello

## June Anniversaries

David & Donna Blackistone	Harold & Kathy Pellegreen
George & Krista Breuninger	Patrick & Selena Rave
Tom & Kristen Browne	Michael & Janis Rieley
Carl & Luanne Coffee	Tom & Joan Schafer
Dave & Jeannie Dietz	John & Diane Sellers
Danny & Tonya Dorton	Samuel & Judith Thomsen
Bruce & Barbara Edwards	Darrell & Ann Turner
William & Bobbie Fetzer	
Melvin & Judith Hall	
Thomas & Wilma Hood	
Brenda Lackey	
Rodney Lackey	
John & Renee McCalla	
Charles & Janice Mincey	
Troy & Eileen Moore	
Dominic & Heather Naples	
Harry & Olga Nicholson	



Please pray for members of our church family who are ill, recovering, homebound, or grieving:

Heather Austin	Silvana Babikow
Janet Bocook	Laurel Buongiavanni
Lindsay Cole	Millie Davis
Danny DeLongis	Jim Divelbiss
Nancy Doseff	Susan Dyer
John Eckman	Steve Gaines
Phil Harris	Betty Herron
Andres Idrovo	Olivia Knights
David McCune	Herbert McKittrick
Lee Moore	Ann Nadwodny
Tom & Lois Northam	Barbara Rakes
Selena Rave	John & Ann Sawyer
Bob & Ellen Schwartz	Wes Seaman

Shelly Seymour	Normajeane Solebello
Martha Somerville	Bobbie Stone
Greg Soukenik	Beth Sundberg
Darrell Turner	Pat Watterworth
Newt Wilson	

Bereavement ~ Family & Friends of:  
John Hines ~ Service Sat. 6/6/26 11a.m.

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