

**Immediate prayer requests:**

Hazel Sallee Family, Mike Lowry, Teresa Flannery Family

**Continued Prayer Requests:**

Caroline Bogie, Rick Brown, Charles Denton, Janet Harris, Marsha Harris, Pat Hensley, Chris Howis, Carole Huffman, Wes Lee Jones, Billy Jean Judd, Coy Judd, Katie Marionneaux, Lois Marionneaux, Drew McKinney, Woodrow McKinney, Dawn Owen, Jenna Owen, Von Parke, Stephanie Rose, Thomas Skidmore, Terry Spears, Felicity Spicer, Diana Tingle, Mae Tudor, Susie Untereker, Freda Vaughn, Ralph Walton, Delmo & Emma Woosley

*Prayer Requests*



Mel Gibson's 2004 film, *The Passion of the Christ*, received a great deal of attention for its graphic depiction of the beating & crucifixion of Jesus. Claims were made that the film was antisemitic, because of the handling of the Jewish leader's role in the arrest, and death of Jesus. The film received an **R rating**, although some felt it was deserving an even greater restriction in its rating due to its unpopular and politically incorrect subject.

Although highly influenced by Catholic tradition, Gibson's presentation of the suffering of Jesus, coupled with the humanity portrayed by Jim Caviezel's acting, landed far closer than any previous attempts by directors. To the surprise of many skeptics, *The Passion of the Christ* was highly successful in theaters, and has impressive sales statistics on DVD.

What, if anything, does this prove?

**First**, it shows that a large number of people are interested in the crucifixion account. Not all who attended the theater were believers. In fact, many Churches used this film as an outreach opportunity by renting entire venues & giving away tickets.

**Second**, it affirms that people **do not** need to have the cross cleaned up. Although no one is comfortable with the scenes of torture, they are fairly accurate & underscore the depth of love God has shown for man through the cross. Everyone is comforted by this type of love.

**Finally**, this film reminds us of our need for courage in sharing the Gospel. How sad it is that Hollywood beat the Church to the opportunity yet again. No one can say that this was a money making venture for Gibson, he claims it was only an attempt to share the truth. And, if the truth be told, Gibson took some serious knocks for his film, yet he recognized that people are interested in truth. I pray that we show this same resolve & courage as we invite guests & as we share the Gospel.

*CHIP*



Our new outreach/youth program will begin on June 2nd at 6:30 PM.

Some have asked, "Why would a Church offer archery?" Many people are unaware that Archery & the message of Christ cooperate very well. In fact, the Holy Spirit inspired the use of an archery phrase in the description of sin... it literally means "to miss the mark".

It was with this truth in mind that we have chosen the name "**On the Mark**" for this new program.

Our goal is to equip youth to be able to hit the mark & follow Christ.

I must say, response to this program has exceeded my expectations. In the conversations that I have had with folks in our community about the program I've been pleased & somewhat reaffirmed by their response. We will continue to employ the mechanism of appealing to people with relevant methods & programs in order to share the Gospel message.



**VBS**  
**June 21-25**  
**6 to 8:30**

Vacation Bible School is only a few weeks away and we are very excited about our theme this year. Evan has written & designed the entire program, recruiting many of our people to assist with its presentation.

Centered around the Apostles Peter, James & John, our VBS characters (Pecos Pete, Jimmy & John Boy) present the teachings of Jesus in a fun filled way. Make plans for your children to participate. See Evan for VBS details.



Richmond Cinemark  
Saturday, June 19th  
See Evan  
for event details

Adult Bible Study  
Wed nights @ 6:30PM

Brand new program of  
Adult topical studies!



**Coming Events: Here's what's happening @ UCCC**

- **ABS & On The Mark** programs each Wednesday night @ 6:30 PM.
- Young Ladies Bible Study, June 3rd & 17th, See Contessa or Kelli Steele for location.
- Men's Bible Study, June 10th & 24th in the fellowship hall, 7PM.
- Sunday, June 6th: Ray Holliday concert during the PM service.
- Saturday, June 12th: Big Summer BBQ for the youth, 5 PM at the Church building.
- Sunday, June 13th: Board meeting at 4:30 PM.
- Saturday, June 19th: Toy Story 3 viewing at Richmond Cinemark. (See Evan to preorder.)
- VBS: June 21-25. "**Pecos Pete & the Sons of Thunder**" from 6 to 8:30 PM nightly.
- Saturday, June 26th: Men's breakfast @8 AM, Richmond Cracker Barrel.
- Monday, June 28th: Builders for Christ area men's fellowship @ Salem Christian.

# Connections

Newsletter  
Union City Christian Church

What an exciting summer we have planned here at Union City!

Our ministry teams have been working hard to provide creative new programs and events to create connection points and to assist in the spiritual development of our families. Some of these programs have the added benefit of appealing to folks outside the Church and helping us to achieve our outreach goals.

Barna Research Group did some very interesting research on why some people are not interested in faith, or active involvement in a community of faith. Analysis of their data reveals some compelling facts, and this data has underscored what many in growing congregations have known for years. When the Gospel is veiled by dated methods or programs, people view the Gospel as no longer relevant to them.

Many congregations struggle just to maintain the status quo simply because they are unwilling to employ more relevant methods. Change poses too great a challenge for some congregations, and, in their unwillingness to change, death follows. Some congregations show such resistance in the belief that change in methods equates a lowering of doctrinal beliefs. Actually, the opposite is quite true.

Acts 2 records God's presentation of the Gospel for the first time, following the outpouring of His Holy Spirit upon the Apostles at Pentecost. Here, in this historic & miraculous event, God provides for us a timeless rule... methods must speak to the audience before the message can bear impact. God employed never before seen methods in order to communicate His timeless message of Grace. The results? Well, no need to debate the incredible results.

Failure to embrace creative, relevant methods actually elevates all methods by ascribing a false sense of sacredness to them. Only the message of Christ is worthy of being recognized as sacred, and we must never prevent this message from accomplishing its purpose by holding it back with dated, non-relevant methods.

This summer provides unique ministry opportunities to effectively share the Gospel and we trust you will want to be involved in these programs.

Union City Christian Church  
2473 Union City Road  
Richmond, KY 40475  
*return address service requested*



As a part of the sermon series "**UnChristian**", Bro. Chip is challenging everyone to accept a 30 Day Challenge.

This sermon series addresses some of the misunderstandings in our culture about Christian faith, and our task is to turn the perceptions from negative to positive by our actions and interaction with other. During the month of June, we are challenged to smile more, and to think/pray before speaking so that we are not saying negative or critical things about others.

*"Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone."*  
Colossians 4:6, NIV

### **June Birthdays:**

Tiffany Tackett (2), Rita Denief (4), Jimmie Murphy (6), Ray Burns (7), Emily Steele (9), Michael Colligan (10), Lucy Pumphrey (18), Lemetta Dause (19), Chip Denief (22), Isaiah Lynn (24), Rebecca Colligan (26), James William Harris (29)

### **June Anniversaries:**

Royce and Geneva Murphy (3), Chip and Rita Denief (6), David and Tonya Tipton (7), Mike and Phyllis Renfro (11), Matthew and Kim Hensley (17), Rick and Gail Wallace (24), Jep and Jean Fortney (28), Tyler and Lauren Cain (30), Tom and Melba Land (30)