

**WE EXIST TO GUIDE PEOPLE TOWARD THEIR  
NEXT STEP IN CHRIST.**



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Charlotte Elliott was born on March 18, 1789. Though weak and feeble in body, she possessed a strong, intellectual mind. Her love of poetry and music were unsurpassed. As a young woman, Charlotte was not sure of her relationship with Christ, not sure of how to be saved, even though she had been raised a minister's daughter. When she asked a visiting evangelist what could she possibly bring to God, he replied that she need not bring anything but herself. She gladly accepted Christ as her Savior.



Crippled by illness and constant fatigue, she felt saddened by her inability to help a local church's cause. Remembering her conversation with the evangelist, she took out pen and paper and wrote a song to encourage others who felt perhaps they too had nothing to give.

***"Just As I Am, without one plea, but that Thy blood was shed for me,  
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee, Oh, Lamb of God, I come."***

Her song lyrics were published and she discovered later that some copies were being sold to raise money for the very cause she felt helpless to assist! After her death in 1871, thousands of letters were found in her home written by people whose lives had been pointed to the Savior after reading the words to the song. It was translated into hundreds of languages, and has reached billions around the world.

Sixty years later in 1931, a young man riding in the sidecar of his brother's motorcycle in England came to the end of his internal struggle against whether Christ was indeed the Son of God. He finally knew in his soul that indeed Jesus was just who He said He was! He realized that God calls us to Him "just as we are". When C.S. Lewis stepped out of the sidecar, he was a new man, saved by grace! Three years after Lewis' conversion, the 16-year-old son of a dairy farmer listened intently as he heard the message of salvation preached at a revival service in Charlotte, NC. When the song, "Just As I Am" was sung, young Billy Graham went forward to accept Christ as Savior. Later he was introduced to a kind man named C.S. Lewis who encouraged him to disregard his critics and nervousness. He later would preach to thousands at crusades around the world closing the event with the same song that God used to bring him to Christ, "Just As I Am."

If you are struggling with frustrations like Charlotte's, or skepticism like Lewis', or nervousness (hard to fathom!) like Billy Graham's, take heart! God can take the smallest of efforts and multiple them beyond imagination to reach a world without Christ. What can you offer today? Do you have gifts and talents that lay hidden? Do you **see clearly a world that needs Jesus?**

Pastor Larry

Illustration adapted from STEM Publishing

### Happy Thanksgiving!

Family. Food. Football. We have so much for which to be thankful. We should be thankful for everything (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Interestingly this includes being thankful for people as 2 Thessalonians 1:2 tells us: **"We give thanks to God always for all of you. . ."** We may feel like Lucy in the comic strip "Peanuts." "I love mankind! It's people I can't stand." But the Scriptures tell us people should be objects of our gratitude. Do you make it easy for people to be grateful for you?

This year around your Thanksgiving table, give thanks for the food, give thanks for your salvation, your blessings, and give thanks for PEOPLE!



**Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM**

AWANA re-opened in October with 67 kids registered! Health & safety protocols are followed. For more information, visit our RC3 Kids page on our website or church app.

**November 11th: Veterans Day Theme Night**  
kids wear camouflage or red, white, & blue

### Small Groups

Biblical Theology | Community | Outreach

Most of our Small Groups have resumed meeting in person. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, groups will have to adapt to the changes necessary to provide a safe environment for everyone. At this time there will be no childcare offered for groups. (When the C-19 spread decreases, restrictions may be relaxed cautiously and safely.)

Leaders will be in contact with you to give the latest update on your particular group.

### Upward Registration NOW OPEN



Due to COVID-19 restrictions & protocols, Upward of Huntington will only offer K5-sixth grade for the 2021 season. Registration is online only with limited availability in each grade division. Registration will close November 29<sup>th</sup> or once we reach maximum capacity.

For more information or to register, visit  
[upwardofhuntington.com](http://upwardofhuntington.com)

Variations or a halt to our plans will be implemented based on counsel from medical professionals & leaders from our sponsoring churches.



The 2021 proposed budget and nominations for officers will be presented for approval on December 6<sup>th</sup>.

In order to accommodate our current health protocols, we are planning three Christmas Eve services: 4 PM (face coverings required), 5:30 PM, & 7:30 PM.



## A Peculiar Legacy

Grandma Cotton was a peculiar lady. Not peculiar as in “eccentric” (although I always thought it unusual that she would get home from the grocery store and empty her bags of baking flour straight into a drawer in the kitchen cupboard). Rather, she was peculiar as in “set apart,” as it is used in 1 Peter 2:9: **“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people. . .”**

Grandma didn’t blend with the crowd. She had her priorities in order and understood what was eternally significant and what was wood, hay, and stubble. She had been a teacher before marrying Grandpa and settling down to raise a family, and her home became her classroom.

We lived just down the road from Grandma and Grandpa on the family farm in rural northern Michigan. From the time I was born until we moved away when I was in the ninth grade, more days than not were spent with Grandma.

She loved to tell stories and I was an eager audience; from Grandma I learned about Noah’s ark and Jonah’s big fish, Johnny Appleseed and Paul Bunyan, and all about our family’s history. As I grew older she taught me how to add fractions and tried to explain the Pythagorean Theorem, and I taught her how to figure batting averages and tried to explain the infield fly rule.

Some of my earliest memories are going with Grandma to visit people in the hospital and those who couldn’t leave their homes. I think we delivered a casserole to every funeral dinner in the county. She never did quite grasp the infield fly rule, but Grandma was an expert on the Golden Rule.

She was teaching me even when she was nearly 90 years old and rarely left her house except to go to church or visit family. Just a few months before she died I spent a week with her at the farm, and shortly after returning home I received a check in the mail for one dollar and fifty-four cents. Scribbled on an enclosed scrap of paper: “You left your pocket change on the dresser. I don’t take tips.”

A normal person would have scooped it up and tossed it in with the rest of her loose coins without thinking twice, but Grandma wasn’t normal. That money didn’t belong to her, and she was going to return it to the rightful owner though she knew I never would have given it another thought.

Even if I had noticed, the ledger was balanced infinitely in her favor. How could you possibly place a price tag on the time spent and lessons learned over 36 years with Grandma? Every paycheck I deposit is due in part to the love of storytelling, born in that white farmhouse, that led me to a career in radio.

On the day she passed away her bank balance was probably off by \$1.54 because I never cashed that check. A magnet holds it to my refrigerator door, a reminder of my peculiar grandmother. Every time I grab a soda she tells me to be different, to make sure people see Christ in my life. I know she was a good teacher. I hope I’m a good student. And, I hope people say “Steve, you are a peculiar guy.” sc

***We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.***

1 Thessalonians 1:2-3



### STRETCH

If your faith were a muscle, how flexible would it be? Could it stretch to your knees? Your shins? Your toes? Or are you not sure you even have any faith to stretch in the first place? Just like your body, if you want a faith that is strong, growing, and capable of carrying you through difficult challenges, you’re going to need to stretch it. It might be fun. It might be challenging. But it will definitely be worthwhile.

Our new series, STRETCH, began in October. We are learning ways to stretch our faith from the book of Romans. Thanks to Paul’s words, we know we can stretch our faith by making a commitment, by starting something new, and by letting something go. We can even stretch our faith when we feel like we’ve failed.

#### **Christmas Party - Tentative Date: December 16<sup>th</sup>**

In addition to our annual white elephant gift exchange, we will collect gifts to share with others who may not otherwise receive a gift this Christmas. This will help us live out our theme verse from Philippians **“looking out for the interests of others.”**

The **Purity Retreat** at Snowbird is scheduled for February 19-21. Registration is now open. Your \$50 deposit can be given to Pastor Bryan until the retreat is at capacity and registration closes.

**Pastor Bryan Hagley**

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### Operation Christmas Child



**EVANGELISM, DISCIPLESHIP, & MULTIPLICATION!**

The journey of a shoebox begins with you and results in the gospel being shared. This WORLDWIDE ministry reaches people groups that we may never meet this side of heaven, but we can have an **eternal** impact by sending a shoebox filled with gifts and the message of hope for a world without Jesus.

Our goal is to ship 250 boxes from RC3 this year. *Will you help us meet that goal?* Bring your boxes and/or your green bottle filled with \$9 for shipping to the main lobby. If you want to add an additional \$6, your box will also include discipleship materials for a child. We will accept donations until November 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Contact Mike or Jo Carroll for more information @ [mikec41447@gmail.com](mailto:mikec41447@gmail.com).**

If you prefer to read this newsletter on our website or if you prefer to not receive this publication in the mail, please let us know by emailing [mary@roundchurch.net](mailto:mary@roundchurch.net) or call the church office @ 304.736.8197.