



**EPIPHANY WORSHIP SERVICE**, featuring mixed medium artist, Billie Wills – **January 7, 11:00 a.m.**

Watch as our service of God is translated into a stunning and emotional visual of pastels on canvas by mixed medium artist and member of Seventh Street, Billie Wills.

**FAITH, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS – January 26 at 6:30 p.m., Hanover Hall**

Embrace the power of fun on Friday, January 26, and learn how to make a pie!

- Pie Making Workshop led by Jessie Kelley
- Pie Auction to support mission projects of Outreach and Seventh Street Youth

Potluck dinner, songs, and sharing the love of pie! *More details to follow soon.*



Want to make beautiful pies like this one? Jessie will show you how its done!

**ANNUAL INFORMATION MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION – January 28 at 12:15 p.m., Hanover Hall**

Potluck lunch and congregation meeting: Installation of new officers and committee chair recaps.

**VIRGINIA CHORISTERS' VERISMO – January 28 during worship service**

Verisimo consists of members of Chamber Choir and Cambiati. This auditioned ensemble performs challenging repertoire that includes Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts. Students continue to grow in their understanding of vocal technique as well as their ability to read music. Members are expected to practice their music outside of rehearsals and are often given assignments with regard to the music history, performance, and style of their repertoire. Verisimo also participates in national and international tours with The Touring Choir.



## Looking Ahead

Lent Starts – Wednesday, February 14

- Pancake Supper (6 p.m.) and Ash Wednesday Service (7 p.m.)
- Lenten Study: "Faith and Fermentation" date and time TBA

**Faith and Fermentation Series:** Fermentation, a metabolic process in which an organism converts a carbohydrate, is the creative space between fresh and rotten, preserving foods until they come around again the next season. Foods like bread, sauerkraut, cheese, beer, kombucha and even chocolate go through a fermentation process that help replenish and provide good bacteria for our gut! (Let's not underestimate their taste too!)

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## Message from Rev. Hollie



A couple weeks ago I was standing outside the west entrance of our church building. I was talking to Academy of Music parents and waiting for my dog, Stone, to finish sniffing around the bushes. Suddenly I noticed something in the window left of the door - it was the stringer of an imaginary stairway to the back inside, noting where the landing for the second floor would start, I stared at a brick wall. My imagination started working overtime as I considered the metaphor of tearing down this brick wall to co-create with God. What ministries are needed in our community? I am well aware that this building was built with the intention of a second floor and

I wonder what it looks like to live into the vision and hope of this congregation's ancestors and God's call.

I know there is much work to be done before physically building on to our church. I'm not a fool. But what an exciting consideration! As we enter 2018 with a world of possibilities ahead of us – what will we build? What can we build? I know there are a million and one excuses of why we can't: too small, too old, too tired, checked out, retired. But God is not interested in what we can't do. If we are blessed with another day, if we are blessed with another year, then let us use our prophetic imagination to be a blessing!

I am thrilled to be on this journey with you.

Blessings,  
*Hollie*

## Message from Jayme Babczak – Young Hands & Hearts

How might Seventh Street Christian Church strive to make worship accessible and inclusive to all ages in 2018? I believe one of the ways we can do this is involving everyone in the beloved community, especially young hands and hearts, in worshipful experiences!

Carolyn C. Brown, author and certified Christian educator in the Presbyterian Church (USA), writes, "In the congregation's worship we take our place among all of God's people. Simply being in the room and walking through the rites and rituals connects us to people of all ages in our community. Children see the youth and adults that they know as teachers, coaches, and the "big kids" singing and praying. Families worshiping together claim the faith for the entire family. In some families it may be the only time they see their parents express their faith in a visible way. The stories told and songs sung by people of all ages have a different importance than those same stories and songs told and sung with only other children. Finally, worship is not an activity a child expects to outgrow moving on to another group. Instead it is a mysterious way of coming into God's presence with people of my community. I may not understand it fully now, but I do expect to understand it more fully later and to be part of that community for my entire life."

What steps can we take to include young people in the love and nurture of God's beloved community? In 2018, we will continue to engage, pray and seek answers to this question together. May we begin to think in new and creative ways to offer God's radical hospitality to all ages!



Jayme Babczak,  
Children & Youth Coordinator

## Lenten Series: Faith & Fermentation

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As we enter Lent, a forty day period between Ash Wednesday and Easter, we will explore the unique parallels between fermentation and our faith. How do we sustain ourselves spiritually when new life isn't here yet? How do we create the conditions to sustain our faith? How do we prepare ourselves for the new life that is in front of us? Each week we will explore the metaphor of food and spiritual fermentation by making or tasting a fermented food, observing a long-standing monastic practice and sharing what is fermenting within our own spirits during this season of deep reflection.

## Outreach



Feeding those in need in our community does not end at Christmas. More than ever families struggle to put food on their tables. Your gift of generosity is vital to families here in Richmond.

**Please donate:**

- NonPerishable Food Items for FeedMore
- Travel size toiletries for Meals On Wheels' hygiene kits

**Baskets on the Outreach Table to collect these items**



**\$5/  
container of  
soup**

Soup Sale to benefit Fisher House: a compassionate care facility located on military bases throughout Virginia.

Give the gift of warmth to your body and support this important organization for military families of Virginia!  
**Hanover Hall every Sunday  
after church  
January & February**

Special Thanks to all our Volunteers!

**Liberation Veteran Services:**

Olivette Cox (donated hygiene kits)  
Janet Morris

**FeedMore/Meals on Wheels:**

Carole Chaffin, Pat Mays, Olivette Cox, Nancy Garver  
Janet Morris and Tush Metcalf (subs)

**Kimote Foundation:**

Sarah Anderson

**Giving Tree Mission Project:**

Stewart Shotwell

Thanks to you all at Seventh Street for your amazing support!

Want to donate your time to one of our many Outreach Ministries? Contact Liz Hulette (794-9219)

## The Arts

### Calendar of Art Events

**January 7 – Billie Wills, mixed-media artist,** captures the emotion of the worship service on canvas.

**January 28 – Virginia Choristers' Verismo:** musical guests during worship service: 11 a.m.

**January 28 – Collage Concert and Open House** of the Academy of Music: featuring the talents of the Chamber Music Institute ensembles, the Virginia Choristers, and American Youth Harp Ensemble. 2-4 p.m.



Harp the Herald Angels Play! 2017

Thank you AYHE, AoM, and Virginia Choristers for two extraordinary nights of music at Seventh Street! We are blessed!



