

THE GOOD NEWS



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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ...

Jeremiah 29:11-12 is a favorite verse for many of us. It reads: ⁴¹*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. ¹² Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you."*

We tend to think about that verse as it applies to each of us personally and possibly our family too. But there is a broader application as well. Jeremiah was speaking on behalf of the LORD to the people of Israel, not as individuals, but as a group. They had suffered devastating loses and were feeling hopeless. But God assured them that they can go on, that God will rebuild them, and they will prosper.

I hear us often expressing concern about our loses in our congregation. Loses of people, finances, and ministries. It sometimes even feels hopeless, and we become discouraged. But God has a plan for us as a congregation. A plan to prosper into the future. But we can't get to that plan without making ourselves available to the Holy Spirit. We must put some time and effort into receiving God's plan. The Scripture says, *"Then you will call on me and come and pray to me..."* So, we need to spend some time calling upon God and praying for guidance.

I want to point out two potential ways we can do that. One is to attend the day-long retreat on August 27th at the church from 9-4. It's an opportunity for us fellowship, pray and receive a plan. We'll be led by

(Continued on the next page —>)



St. Marys UMC

Little Kanawha District
West Virginia Conference
Northeastern Jurisdiction

(continued from page 1)

Jennifer Crow who is trained in Healthy Congregations and will use her extensive training to facilitate some fun dreaming and visioning. I can't think of a more important church gathering to attend!

The second way you can help is praying for the retreat. Pray that we might find a way forward. Pray that we will use the time and Jennifer's skills to the best of our abilities. Pray that God will lead us.

You are an important part of the church! Your voice is needed, and I hope you will help us discover the plans the LORD has for us! Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Blessings & Love,
Clare

PLEASE JOIN US!

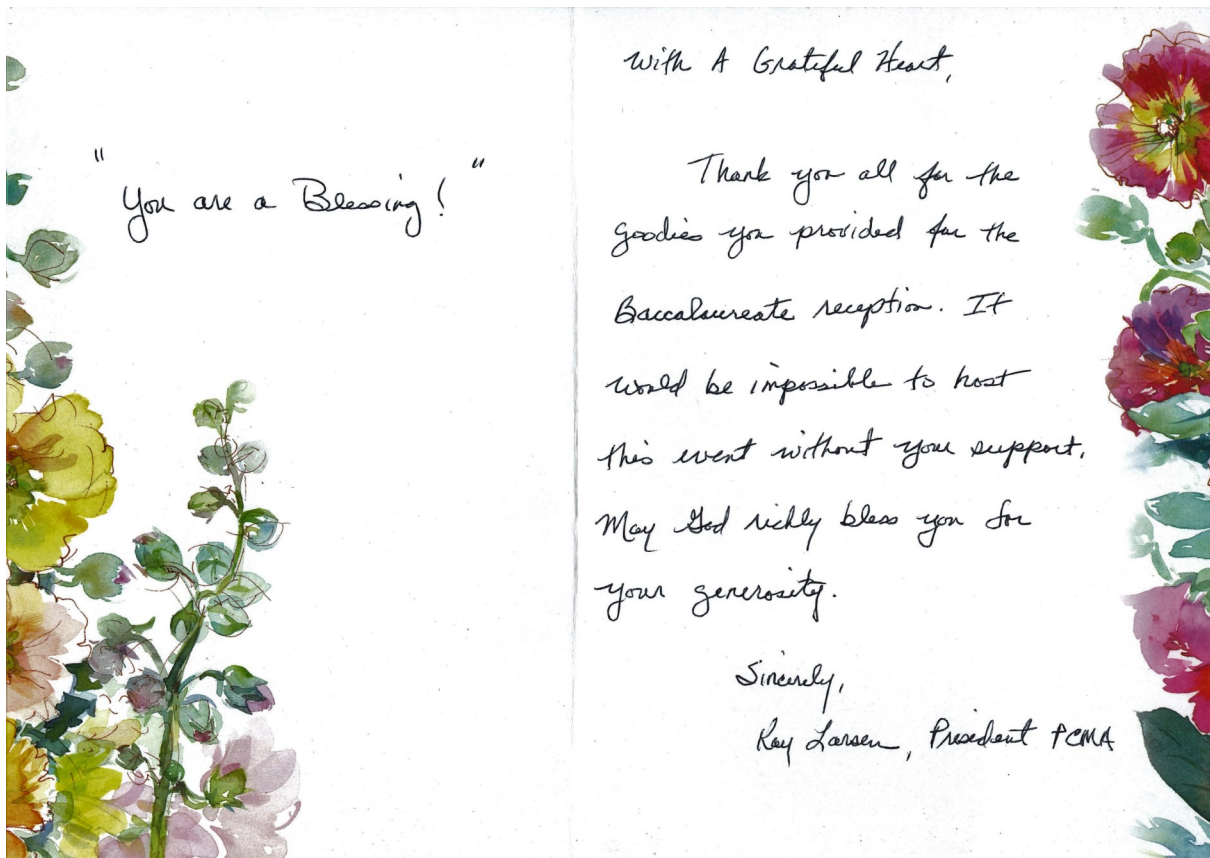
After a couple of postponements due to the Pandemic, our Retreat Day with consultant Jennifer Crow and helpers has been rescheduled for **Saturday, August 27th** from **9 AM - 4 PM**. Jennifer trained to become a facilitator of the Healthy Congregations workshops and looks forward to using that new information to further guide us.



Why is your participation important? The future of our church is coming. The reality for us (and many congregations) is what we are currently doing is not sustainable into the long-term future. We simply don't have new members in numbers that will sustain our missions and budget. And what our church does in the community and beyond is vital! So let's explore the future together proactively instead of just reacting to what comes! This is an opportunity for us to plan for the future of our church, so she remains strong and vital. Your voice in

that conversation is valuable and we hope you will mark your **calendars for a day of collaborative fun and visioning.**

THANK YOU



Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the many prayers and cards received after the death of Carol Brewer (Andy's Uncle) and also after the death of my brother Jim Hickman.

*In Christian Love,
Andy & Sheila Hicman*



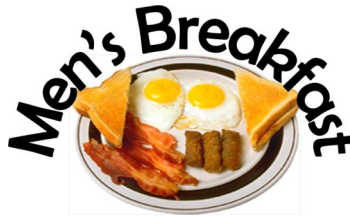
Debbie will be on vacation with her
family July 23rd - July 30th



United Methodist Men

Meet on the 3rd Sunday morning for breakfast
at 8 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

All men are welcome



The UMM have no meetings in June, July & August.
They will resume Sunday, September 18th at 8 AM.

2022 DATES TO REMEMBER

Church Council - 7 PM

July 12, September 13, November 8

Trustees - 5 PM

July 10, September 11, November 13

Finance Committee - 6 PM

July 13, October 11

Lay Leadership and Nominations - 6 PM

July 20

Staff-Parish Relations - 6 PM

September 14, November 9

United Methodist Women News



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

The unit meeting is the 1st Monday of each month at 6 PM
in the Chapel
(executive committee meets at 5 PM).

JULY

ALL CIRCLE PICNIC

Monday July 18th at 6 PM

Senior Citizens Pavilion

Bring a covered dish

AUGUST

Executive Committee - Monday August 1st at 5 PM

Circles - Monday August 1st at 6 PM

Program: ***For Everything There is a Season***

Collection for SMHS students -- see page 40 in your book.

(Have items by September 6th)

Begin saving personal size toiletries for EVE Women's Shelter.

(Bring them to the October meeting.)

2022 Spring Heights Camp Sponsors

Mike & Sharon McGee
Melissa Carder
Bill & Carol Carder
John & Eva Hill Family
Ruth Blauser

Mae Lewis
Gary & Liz Loughner
Beverly Stutzman
Margaret Elder
Mary Frances Park

SMUMC Women
SMUMC Men
SMUMC Youth Group

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Mike Wells, Superintendent of Pleasants County School. He was named the WV 2022 Superintendent of the Year!

Here's a little more information from an article on WTAP News:

"Wells obtained his undergraduate degree in health and physical education from West Liberty University, before moving on to obtain his master's degree in educational leadership from WVU and his Ed.S from Marshall University. He began his career in 1989 as a teacher/coach in North Carolina, obtaining his CDL to drive his teams to their sporting events. He returned to WV to teach in Wetzel County Schools where he taught at Short Line and Paden City Elementary Schools.

"Wells' administrative career began in Wood County, filling the role of both principal and assistant principal at Hamilton Middle School and Williamstown Middle/High School. He began his work in Pleasants County in 2005 as principal of Pleasants County Middle School, before moving on to Principal at SMHS. He has served in his current role as Superintendent since 2011.

"He has 'modernized' the county schools by overseeing the construction of a new high school as well as major renovations and security updates at all buildings for which he has brought \$44,000,000 into the county through grants, applications, and other means to support the facility upgrades. Upon the completion of the new St. Marys High School, Mr. Wells proudly held the title of "Superintendent of the oldest operating school in West Virginia (St. Marys Elementary School) and the newest school in WV" until another building opened in the state about six months later.

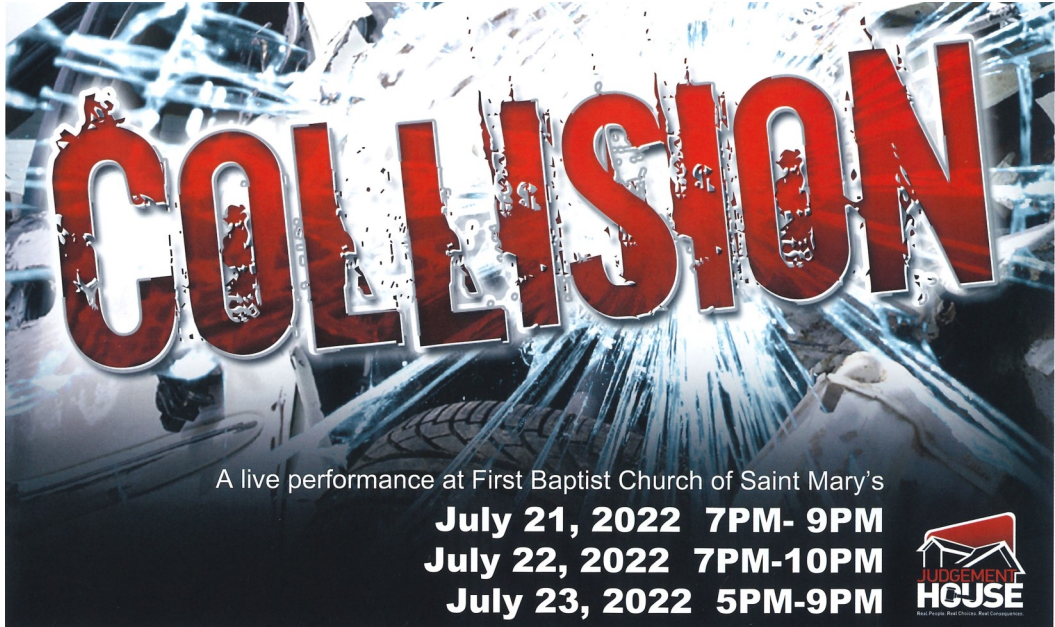
"Wells has also worked with legislators, advisory groups and various governmental organizations to provide insight from the ground level on the needs of the school system.

"Mike is married to his wife Helen, since 1991. Together they have two children, Catie and Drew. They make their home in Belmont, West Virginia, along with their dog, Maverick, and where they await the birth of their first grandchild in July."

Let's join in congratulating Mike on a fine achievement!

COLLISION

First Baptist Church of St. Marys is sponsoring: "Collision". It is a live performance, evangelism event designed for teenagers over the age of 10. All teens are invited and should make a reservation at 304-684-2873. More information can be found at www.judgementhouse.org



Christian Davis will be in concert on August 20th at the Marina. Sponsors are still needed. You can find out more at: Christiandavisonline.com

Did you know that our weekly radio broadcast airs on Sunday mornings at 9 AM on 93.9 FM. Our weekly worship video posts at 10:30 AM on our 2 Facebook pages and on YouTube. These are outreach ministries the church supports through its budget. Please share this information!

GIVING

TOTAL GIFTS RECEIVED

June 5	\$6,525.00
June 12	\$3,315.00
June 19	\$2,807.10
June 26	\$2,741.00

ATTENDANCE

IN PERSON ONLINE

June 5	52	144
June 12	39	205
June 19	36	132
June 26	44	136

YTD Gifts received for our Budget - \$87,696.95

YTD needed for our Budget - \$89,539.80

Custodial Account Balance - \$1,508.00

WAYS TO GIVE?

Thank you for faithfully supporting ministries here at St. Marys United Methodist Church. We have several ways you can give your tithes and offerings. You can put a check in the mail to PO Box 100; you can drop off your tithes at the church office when we are open during the week; you can set up bill pay on your personal checking account or you can go to the church's web page (smwvumc.com) and press the green "give" button that takes you to Tithe-ly.

Tithe-ly is a secure online giving platform you can use for a onetime offering or a revolving donation. It is directly deposited into the church's account. It automatically adds the service fee to your offering, but you can opt out of that if you'd prefer. The church is notified of each donation so the counters know to credit it to your giving for the year. Again, thank you for your faithful giving of tithes and offerings. It is making a difference in the world!

**Clare will be on a Clergy Retreat
Monday, August 8th - Friday, August 12th.**

Neighbor Network Highlights for the Month of May

Total Donations: 177

Total Customers: 688

Total Families receiving services: 104

(Gabriel Project - 8, total of 9 children)

(food - 210 individuals)

(utility assistance - 5)

Total Thrift Store Transactions: \$6,567.12

Total Donations to NN: \$1,265.00

Total Expenses: \$9,094.26

Number of Volunteers this month: 15

**Volunteers are
always needed,
please call the store
at 304-684-3990 if
you can help.**

NEIGHBOR NETWORK **FOOD DISTRIBUTION**

Our Neighbor Network partners with Mountaineer Food Bank for a monthly food giveaway. It is held at the Marina beginning at noon. Volunteers are always need and ask to be at the Marina by 9:45 AM. You may also know someone who would benefit from the distribution. Pleasants County residents only please.

Upcoming dates are:

*July 8th, August 12th,
September 9th, October 14th,
November 16th (Wednesday), & December 9th*

It is the Spirit that sheds the love of God abroad in their hearts, and the love of all mankind; thereby purifying their hearts from the love of the world, from the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life. It is by Him they are delivered from anger and pride, from all vile and inordinate affections.

--John Wesley

Birthdays

JULY

Justin Scadden	7/2
Josh Pickens	7/5
Michelle Maiden	7/6
Tom Braun	7/8
Addie Cronin	7/9
Randy Shingleton	7/11
Sharon Hupp	7/11
Jean Smith	7/11
Taylor Pickens	7/12
Matt Hickman	7/13
Sheila Smith	7/18
Anne McKnight	7/19
Andrew Hooper	7/19
Lori Barnhart	7/20
Max Powell	7/22
David Carpenter	7/24
Tyler Johnson	7/27
Yvette Kiggans	7/27
Terry Wilson	7/30

AUGUST

Carol McFadden	8/3
Diane Braun	8/4
Jacob Lemley	8/5
April Braun	8/5
Karen Wilson	8/6
Suzanne Rouse	8/6
J.R. Simonton	8/7
Kayellen Ferrell	8/8
McKenna Ferrell	8/8
Allie Carpenter	8/8
Grant Barnhart	8/8
Paul Nichols	8/12
Bill Carder	8/13
Mark Barnhart	8/14
Webb Carpenter	8/15
Lee Ogdin	8/15
Rodney Johnson	8/16
John Carpenter	8/17
Ginger Poling	8/18
Kyle Davies	8/18
Margaret White	8/18
Drew Poling	8/19
Rebecca Davies	8/23
Matt Simonton	8/24
Joette Fetty	8/24
Myron Rolston	8/24
Susan Armstrong	8/24
Courtney Colyer	8/25
Bill Norman	8/27
Sally Bogard	8/28
Nancy Carpenter	8/28
Steve Barksdale	8/28
Lee Ann Shingleton	8/30
Tad Light	8/31
Melissa Johnson	8/31
Clare Sulgit	8/31



Do we
have your
birthday
listed?
Please call
the office
if we
don't have it!

MEETINGS

JULY

- 10 TRUSTEES - 5 PM
- 12 CHURCH COUNCIL - 7 PM
- 13 FINANCE - 6 PM
- 20 LAY LEADERSHIP &
NOMINATIONS - 6 PM

EVERY MONTH

First Mon. - UMW - 6 PM

Third Sun. - UMM - 8 AM

Other Groups Meeting at our Church

- 2nd Mon. Habitat for Humanity 6 PM
- & Middle Island Ramblers 4-H 7 PM
- Every Tuesday Boy Scouts 7 PM
- Every Thursday AA / Al-Anon 8 PM



The Church Office
will be closed
Monday, July 4th
for
Independence Day.

PRAYERS FOR:

Paul Tallman
Betty Moorhead
Ginger Poling
Joan Robey
Suellen Simonton
Caroline Hill
Margo Ingram
Shirley Seaboy
Carolyn Ashkar
Larry Dew
Avery Clickenger
Debbie Bailey

Martha Hockenberry
Joe & Thomasine Troisi
Benny & Ruth Wagner
Emma Jean Dobbins
Philip Starks
Dwight Davis
Bev Fitzpatrick
Maddie Collins
Dave Taylor
Art Smith
Terri Gellner-Hulls
Eddie Nutter

Mike Davis
Jennifer Furr
Johnna Cochran
JD Williamson
Kym Holdren
Evelyn Neely
Duane Larsen
Dwayne Barnes
John Hess
Smitty Smith
Sara McKnight
Bob Archer

Sheila Scadden
Kenneth Carder
Fran Higgins
Merle Rouse
Bill Carder
Webb Carpenter
Greg Hill
Mary Brewer
Denise Vandenberg
Rob Wilson
Nancy Forrester



*Christian Sympathy
is extended to the
friends & family of
Jim Hickman
(Brother of Andy Hickman)*



Active Military
Nate McHenry



*Christian Sympathy
is extended to the
friends & family of
Patricia Hawkins
(Mother of Karen Conaway)*

The 2022 Church Information Guide is available at the church.
The July/August Upper Room is available at the church.
Want one mailed to you? Just let us know.

Outreach Ministry Opportunities

- Neighbor Network food pantry needs:
Boxed Mac. & Cheese, small pkgs. of Hamburger & Hot Dogs, Soup Beans, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Syrup, Soup, Instant Potatoes, Crackers, Pork & Beans, Canned Milk, Complete Pancake Mix, Jiffy Cornbread Mix, oil for cooking
- Size 5 diapers for Neighbor Network

Upcoming Dates

- July 4* **Church Office Closed**
- July 8* **NN Food Distribution (Marina) at 9:45 AM**
- July 10* **Trustees at 5 PM**
- July 12* **Church Council at 7 PM**
- July 13* **Finance at 6 PM**
- July 18* **UMW All Circle Picnic Senior Citizens Pavilion (Bring a Covered Dish) at 6 PM**
- July 20* **Lay Leadership & Nominations at 6 PM**
- July 23* **Debbie's on Vacation (7/23 - 7/30)**
- August 1* **UMW Exec. Committee at 5 PM
UMW at 6 PM**
- August 8* **Clare at Clergy Retreat (8/8 - 8/12)**
- August 12* **NN Food Distribution (Marina) at 9:45 AM**
- August 18* **NN Board Meeting at 3 PM**
- August 20* **Christian Davis Concert (Marina)**
- August 27* **Church Retreat at 9 AM - 4 PM**
- September 4* **Return to Regular Services in the Sanctuary - Sunday School at 9:30 AM
Worship at 10:45 AM**

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