

THE GOOD NEWS



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St. Marys UMC

Northern District

West Virginia Conference

Northeastern Jurisdiction

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I know many of you are gardeners, as David and I are, and how we love our gardens! Starting in January when the seed catalogs begin to arrive, we begin to dream dreams, don't we? I want one of everything I see pictured. And this time of the year, the local farm stands, and Lowes, and Wal-Mart (and I could go on and on) are like candy stores to us, aren't they?

The ground that I garden is very special to me. I can spend a day, or an hour, or twenty minutes there. But that bit of land teaches me things. I care about it. I put myself into it. I draw from it. It is my little piece of God's earth.

Of special fascination to me is how the Bible speaks about the land. Care for the "garden" was the first assignment God gave us (Genesis 2:15) and is not just a random issue. You and I are a part of the land. Somewhere along the way we began to believe that we were separate from the land. Nothing could be less true. We are a part of the land, the soil, the earth.

But we are more, much more. We also are spiritual beings in these "clay pots." The Apostle Paul writes:

"But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us."

2 Corinthians 4:7

(Continued on the next page ->)

What a great verse for those of us who like to get their hands in the soil! Know both your earthiness and your uniqueness as a creation of God... and rejoice!

Perhaps you would like to pause just a moment and examine your hands as “flesh and bones.” Then clasp your hands together and give thanks for the miracle of God being with you.

Summer joy and blessing to each dear one of you!

Clare



Our local Cub Scouts are looking for adult volunteers to help with day camp on June 7, 8 & 9 at Broughton Nature Preserve in Marietta, Ohio. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Russell Loughner at 513-728-5096. Thank you.



Our own Administrative Assistant, Debbie Thomas will be having shoulder surgery June 21st. We are looking for someone or several persons who can help cover her office duties during her recovery for approximately 2 months. Specific skills needed include the computer programs Word, Publisher, PowerPoint and Excel, staffing the office from 9-1 daily, outlook email, and a willingness to post on social media. This could be done by one person or a group of people. The church would be willing to pay for services rendered and Debbie will be glad to train you. Please see Clare or Melissa Carder for more information.



The church office will be closed on:
Tuesday, July 4th
for
Independence Day

United Methodist Foundation of West Virginia, Inc.

Dear Friends,

The Foundation is hosting another in-person Foundation Academy of Faith and Generosity this year. We hope you will be able to attend. The Academy will take place September 25-27, 2023 at Pipestem Resort State Park. Our keynote presenter is Rev. Dr. Lovett Weems, Emeritus Distinguished Professor of Church Leadership and Senior Consultant, G. Douglass Lewis Center for Church Leadership. His topic is **From Paying the Bills to Serving God's Vision**. Additional sessions will be led by Ken Sloane, Director, Stewardship & Generosity at Discipleship Ministries; Karen Manzcko, Director of Institutional Relationships at Wespeth Institutional Investments; and Foundation Leadership, Rev. Jeff Taylor, President and Kim Matthews, Vice President.

Laity and clergy alike are welcome to attend. More information, including cost and a registration link can be found on our [webpage](#). If you have any questions about The Academy or how The Foundation can help you create a culture of generosity within your church, please contact us at info@umfwv.org or 304-342-2113.

We hope to see you soon!



Starting June 4th
Adult Sunday School at 8:30 AM
Children's Sunday School at 9:30 AM
Worship at 9:30 AM
(In the Chapel)

Clare & Beverly Stutzman at Annual Conference June 8th - 11th, please keep them in your prayers.

Keith White, our Lay Leader, is available to assist with any needs during that time. You can contact him at 304-684-3827 (home) or 304-684-2219 (office).



United Methodist Men

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

All men are welcome



**No Breakfast meetings in June, July & August
They will resume Sunday, September 18th at 8 AM**

The UMM still has lots of apple butter for sale

The price is \$6 per pint. Thank you!



2023 DATES TO REMEMBER

CHURCH COUNCIL - 6 PM

July 11 - September 12 - November 14

TRUSTEES - 5 PM

July 9 - September 10 - November 12

FINANCE COMMITTEE - 6 PM

July 12 - October 10

LAY LEADERSHIP & NOMINATIONS - 6 PM

June 14 - July 18 - August 16

SPRC - 6 PM

July 19 - November 15



United Women In Faith News

JUNE

Leadership Team - Monday, June 5th at 5 PM

General Meeting & Circles - Monday, June 5th at 6 PM

Program: ***Faith in Action Dismantles Oppressive Structures***

Program: Grace Circle

Flowers & Greeters: Peace Circle

JULY

ALL CIRCLE PICNIC

July 17th at 6 PM

At the Senior Citizens Pavilion

Bring a covered dish

Program: ***Vice President & Spiritual Life Leaders***

Donation

Christian Outreach Center, St. Marys, WV
Beverly Stutzman, Director

Bishop's Chalice Challenge

Golf Scramble



Sponsored by

**The United Methodist Foundation
of West Virginia, Inc.**

July 17, 2023

Sleepy Hollow Golf Club, Hurricane, WV

**The tournament is to raise funds for the
Endowment for Religious and Spiritual Life at West Virginia Wesleyan College**

Register to Golf

You can register at www.umfwv.org/golf. Foursomes are encouraged to register together. If you register a team prior to John Wesley's birthday, June 28th, the cost for a team of four people is \$300. Team registrations after June 28th are \$340 per team of four. Individuals can register for \$85. We ask that everyone register by July 10th. Registration covers golf fees, cart, a meal, an Amazing Grace package of muligans, and entry into the event competitions.

Generosity Opportunities

Your registration cost will directly benefit the Endowment, but you also have the opportunity to donate additional funds at www.umfwv.org/give (Select Other. Indicate Religious and Spiritual Life Endowment) or by mailing a check to The Foundation.

Sponsorship Opportunities

The Foundation is asking for sponsors for the event. If you or your organization (or church) would like to learn more about sponsorship or register as a sponsor, contact The Foundation. Think about sponsoring in honor or memory of someone.

Sponsorship Levels

- Event Partner - \$2,500
- Major Sponsor - \$1,000
- Hole Sponsor - \$250

To register to golf,
to be a sponsor,
or to learn more,
visit www.umfwv.org/golf
or call 304-342-2113

John Wesley's Early Life...

John Wesley was born on 28 June [O.S. 17 June] 1703 in Epworth, 23 miles (37 km) north-west of Lincoln. He was the fifteenth child of Samuel Wesley and his wife Susanna Wesley (née Annesley). Samuel Wesley was a graduate of the University of Oxford and a poet who, from 1696, was rector of Epworth. He married Susanna, the twenty-fifth child of Samuel Annesley, dissenting minister, in 1689. Ultimately, she bore nineteen children, of which nine lived beyond infancy. She and Samuel Wesley had become members of the Church of England as young adults.

As in many families at the time, Wesley's parents gave their children their early education. Each child, including the girls, was taught to read as soon as they turned five years old. They were expected to become proficient in Latin and Greek and to have learned major portions of the New Testament by heart. Susanna Wesley examined each child before the midday meal and before evening prayers. The children were not allowed to eat between meals and were interviewed singly by their mother one evening each week for the purpose of intensive spiritual instruction. In 1714, at age 11, Wesley was sent to the Charterhouse School in London (under the mastership of John King from 1715), where he lived the studious, methodical and, for a while, religious life in which he had been trained at home.

Apart from his disciplined upbringing, a rectory fire which occurred on 9 February 1709, when Wesley was five years old, left an indelible impression. Some time after 11:00 pm, the rectory roof caught on fire. Sparks falling on the children's beds and cries of "fire" from the street roused the Wesleys who managed to shepherd all their children out of the house except for John who was left stranded on an upper floor. With stairs aflame and the roof about to collapse, Wesley was lifted out of a window by a parishioner standing on another man's shoulders. Wesley later used the phrase, "a brand plucked out of the fire", quoting Zechariah 3:2, to describe the incident. This childhood deliverance subsequently became part of the Wesley legend, attesting to his special destiny and extraordinary work. Wesley was also influenced by the reported haunting of Epworth Rectory between 1716 and 1717. The Wesley family reported frequently hearing noises and occasionally seeing apparitions which they believed were caused by a ghost called 'Old Jeffery'.

GIVING

TOTAL GIFTS RECEIVED

May 7	\$5,262.00
May 14	\$2,919.00
May 21	\$1,973.00

ATTENDANCE

IN PERSON

ONLINE

May 7	47	119
May 14	80	110
May 21	65	92

YTD Gifts received for our Budget - \$76,508.04

YTD needed for our Budget - \$72,072.00

Custodial Account Balance - \$1,479.00

Thank you for your continued support of ministries at St. Marys United Methodist Church. Your support helps make it possible for us to have in person worship, online worship and worship on 93R on Sunday mornings. It also helps make our building available for community meetings such as: Boy Scouts, Habitat for Humanity, 4-H, AA and AlAnon. All of those ministries are important and make a difference! You can continue to give your tithes and offerings by mailing them to the church (P.O. Box 100, St. Marys, WV 26170), dropping them by the church office during the week, setting up bill pay on your personal bank account or going to the church's web page (smwvumc.com) and using the green "give" link to Tithe-ly where you can give a onetime or reoccurring gift. However you give, it is appreciated and helps further the Kingdom of God by blessing our community and beyond.

Clare will be on vacation
Thursday, June 22nd - Sunday, June 25th.

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!

Neighbor Network Highlights for the Month of April

Total Donations: 166

Total Customers: 738

Total Families receiving services: 292

(Gabriel Project - 10, total of 10 children)

(food - 282 individuals)

(utility assistance - 1)

Total Thrift Store Transactions: \$7,306.81

Total Donations to NN: \$14,401.41

Total Expenses: \$10,415.05

Number of Volunteers this month: 20+

**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.

*Our next giveaways are June 9th, July 14th,
August 11th, September 8th, October 13th,
November 9th, December 8th*



The June 9th Neighbor Network Food Distribution will be held at St. Marys High School in the back parking lot. Volunteers are ask to be there by 10 AM. This is only for the June food distribution. Thank you.

Birthdays

JUNE

Judy Roden	6/1
Kohner Loughner	6/3
Terry Carpenter	6/4
Sue Morgan	6/4
Brett Colyer	6/4
Bill Maiden	6/5
Mary Hooper	6/7
David Henline	6/7
Pat Mays	6/7
Donald Dearth	6/8
Evelyn Neely	6/10
Merle Rouse	6/11
Tammi Nichols	6/13
Adam Bennett	6/14
Blakelyn Mote	6/15
Jim Henegar	6/15
Gregory Arnott	6/17
Randy Nutter	6/18
Liam Loughner	6/21
Rick McCullough	6/22
David Robey	6/23
Becky Arnott	6/23
Ashleigh Bonner	6/23
Wilma Bailey	6/24
Deena Hatcher	6/27
Casey Barron	6/28

JULY

Justin Scadden	7/2
Josh Pickens	7/5
Michelle Maiden	7/6
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

MEETINGS

JUNE

24 Lay Leadership &
Nominations - 6 PM

JULY

9 Trustees - 5 PM

11 Church Council - 6 PM

12 Finance - 6 PM

18 Lay Leadership &
Nominations - 6 PM

19 SPRC - 6 PM

EVERY MONTH

First Mon. - UWF - 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 / AI-Anon 8 PM



Do we have your
birthday listed?
Please call Debbie at
304-684-3018
if we do not have it!

PRAYERS FOR:

Paul Tallman
Betty Moorhead
Ginger Poling
Suellen Simonton
Caroline Hill
Shirley Seaboy
Carolyn Ashkar
Avery Clickenger
Debbie Bailey
Matthew Beard
Joe & Thomasine Troisi
Benny & Ruth Wagner

Philip Starks
Dwight Davis
Maddie Collins
Dave Taylor
Art Smith
Terri Gellner-Hulls
Mike Davis
Johnna Cochran
JD Williamson
Evelyn Neely
Duane Larsen
Dwaine Barnes

Smitty Smith
Sheila Scadden
Jennifer Furr
Webb Carpenter
Greg Hill
Mary Brewer
Nancy Forrester
Eleanor Pierce
Merle Rouse
Bev Fitzpatrick
Kohner Loughner
Betty Wilson

Martha Hoyt
Janet Nutter Matheny
Gayle Hakki
Larry Barnhart
Adam Mallett
Liz Loughner
Linda Birkhimer
Martha Poling
Jennifer White
Bob Gessner



I want to thank everyone for the bag of goodies I received on Wednesday, April 26 for Administrative Assistant Day. It was so nice to be thought of and made me feel very special. I love the work that I do and the people that I do it for. Thanks so much for everything!



Love ya all,
Deb



Thank you to my church family for your cards and prayers at the recent passing of my mother Emma Jean Dobbins. I also want to thank the ladies of the Peace Circle for the beautiful flower arrangement. The white lilies and roses were a symbol of peace at this time of mourning.

*In Christian Love,
Karen Wilson*

The 2023 Church Information Guide and
The July/August Upper Room are 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

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Upcoming Dates

<i>June 2</i>	NN Board Meeting at 1 PM
<i>June 5</i>	UWF Leadership Team at 5 PM UWF General Meeting/Circles at 6 PM
<i>June 8-11</i>	WV Annual Conference (Buckhanon, WV)
<i>June 9</i>	NN Network Food Distribution at 9:45 AM
<i>June 14</i>	Lay Leadership & Nominations at 6 PM
<i>June 20</i>	Parish Meeting at 9 AM Ministerial Association at 10 AM
<i>June 22-25</i>	Clare's on Vacation
<i>July 4</i>	Church Office Closed
<i>July 7</i>	NN Network Food Distribution at 9:45 AM
<i>July 17</i>	All Circle Picnic at 6 PM
<i>July 18</i>	Parish Meeting at 9 AM Ministerial Association at 10 AM Lay Leadership & Nominations at 6 PM
<i>July 19</i>	SPRC at 6 PM