

THE GOOD NEWS



Inside this Issue:

Pastor's Post	1-2
UMM	4
UMW	5
Church Leaders	6
Announcements.....	7 - 9
Camping Info	9 - 11
Giving/Attendance	12
Neighbor Network.....	13
Birthdays	14
Prayer List	15

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ...

"Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful."

-Hebrews 10:23

It's Spring! And even though the temperatures are fluctuating frequently, we see the bright green grass, the yellow daffodils and the butterflies and we know it's here. Because of those signs, we have hope that warm temperatures will be with us to stay soon.

The same can be said of God's love: we know it's here. Yes, we feel the strength of our faith and hope fluctuate on different days, but God's love does not change or decrease. How fortunate we are!

But there are days, much like the weather, when our faith feels like cloudy, rainy skies. It's dreary and difficult. The writer of Hebrews reminds us that:

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible." Hebrews 11:1-3

Then the author of Hebrews goes on to talk about the faith of our spiritual ancestors, such as Abraham, Moses, Noah, Rahab and many more. I commend the 11th chapter to you to read.

(Continued on the next page —>)



St. Marys UMC

Little Kanawha District
West Virginia Conference
Northeastern Jurisdiction

(continued from page 1)

The writer of Hebrews (who is anonymous, but sometimes attributed to Paul), is addressing a group of readers who share a Christian commitment. They are experiencing persecution and may have become disappointed that God’s promised kingdom had not yet come. Some may have even abandoned hope and the community. The author implores them to keep the faith and hope, and remember the commitment of those who shared a covenant with God in the past.

We too have days when we feel disappointed with God and his promises as we interpret them. We consider abandoning hope and our community of faith. It’s dark and rainy in our souls. But take heart, we are neither betrayed or abandoned. God is faithful. Spring is here. We are blessed. May we blossom and grow in hope and faith!

Blessings and Love,
Clare
* * * * *

Clare will be on vacation with her family May 30th - June 4th
and at Annual Conference June 9th - 12th. 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).

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!

A Brief History of Mother's Day

Mother's Day is set apart every year in honor of motherhood. On the second Sunday in May, many families and churches make a special point of honoring mothers.

A day for honoring mothers was observed many years ago in England. It was called Mothering Sunday, and came in mid-Lent. Yugoslavs and people in other nations have observed similar days.

Anna M. Jarvis (1864-1948), founder of Mother's Day, was born in Grafton, West Virginia. She began a campaign for a nationwide observance of Mother's Day. She chose the second Sunday in May, and began the custom of wearing a carnation. On May 10, 1908, churches in Grafton and Philadelphia held Mother's Day celebrations. The service at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton honored the memory of Anna Jarvis' own mother, Mrs. Anna Reeves Jarvis.

At the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Minneapolis, Minn., in 1912, a delegate from Andrews Church introduced a resolution recognizing Anna Jarvis as the founder of Mother's Day. It suggested that the second Sunday in May be observed as Mother's Day.

Mother's Day received national recognition on May 9, 1914. On that day, President Woodrow Wilson signed a joint resolution of Congress recommending that Congress and the executive departments of the federal government observe Mother's Day. The next year, President Wilson was authorized to proclaim Mother's Day an annual national observance.

*"I learned more about Christianity from my mother than from
all the theologians in England."*

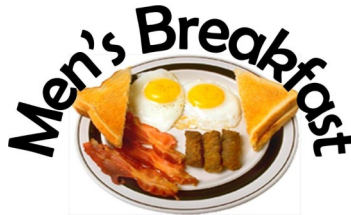
--John Wesley



United Methodist Men

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

All men are welcome



UPCOMING BREAKFAST MEETING

May 15th

No meetings in June, July & August

2022 DATES TO REMEMBER

Church Council - 7 PM

May 10, July 12, September 13, November 8

Trustees - 5 PM

May 15, July 10, September 11, November 13

Finance Committee - 6 PM

July 13, October 11

Lay Leadership and Nominations - 6 PM

May 25, July 20, August 10

Staff-Parish Relations - 6 PM

June 15, 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).

MAY

Executive Committee - Monday May 2nd at 5 PM

Circles - Monday May 2nd at 6 PM

Program: ***Celebrate the Little Stuff***

JUNE

Executive Committee - Monday June 6th at 5 PM

Circles - Monday June 6th at 6 PM

Program: ***Reaching for the Garments of Healing***

YOUR INVITED

West Virginia has the nation's highest per capita rate of children in foster care. We invite you to become part of a church-led foster care movement that is bringing new ideas and practices to West Virginia.

The **All In Foster Care Summit**, features national and state child welfare leaders.

Summit Featured Speakers

Neal Brown - Head Football Coach, West Virginia University

Jason Johnson - Director of Church Mobilization and Engagement at
Christian Alliance for Orphans

Lynn Johnson - President and Founder, ALL IN Fostering Futures;
Former Assistant Secretary for U.S. Health Services'
Administration for Children and Families

Chestnut Ridge Church - Morgantown, WV

Wednesday, May 18, 2022

8 AM - 4:30 PM

Register and find additional information at cmvww.org

AN UPDATE FROM THE TRUSTEES

You may have noticed new intercom systems on both the Educational Wing doors. We have installed an Access Control system that keeps folks in the church safer. On normal weekdays, during office hours, you can press the intercom by the door to talk to Debbie or Clare. They can then let you in by releasing the door. If you have a key, you can still gain access using it at the Parking Lot door. Please re-lock the door when you enter. The Washington St. door will no longer be accessible with your key. You can, however, enter with your key using the stairwell door. Please re-lock the door when you enter.

The Washington St. Sanctuary door and the alleyway Chapel door will not be affected by this. They are not open during normal office hours. On Sundays, all doors will be open and accessible.

The Trustees have also upgraded the security system.

These are exciting upgrades to our building that will keep us and the building more secure. If you have questions, or want to know more, feel free to ask Gary Loughner (304-305-0386) or George Little (304-684-2272).



“Sweet Breath of Spring” Vidalia Onion Festival

The “Sweet Breath of Spring Vidalia Onion Festival” will be on **Saturday, May 7th** from **10 AM - 4 PM**. The Pleasants County Chamber of Commerce will be hosting it this year. There will be onions, food, farmers market, crafts, music, and activities for adults and youth held throughout the day. It will be held downtown.

The United Methodist Women will be selling candy (or cookies, snack mix, other goodies) again for \$1 a bag, and donations pre-packaged in snack sized bags are appreciated and can be left in the Chapel Kitchen before the 7th.



Thursday, May 5th is National Day of Prayer. The community program will be held at 7 PM at the First Baptist Church (in the sanctuary).

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 is training 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.**

WHAT CAN YOU DO FOR UKRAINE

How can we help? The UMCOR-United Methodist Committee on Relief has been in communications with partner organizations and actively exploring the coordination of humanitarian response in Ukraine. United Methodist can support international disaster response efforts by either going to the UMCOR website or placing an envelope at your church with **Advance #982450** on the envelope.



SMHS Baccalaureate - May 22 at 2 PM
SMHS Graduation - May 29 at 7 PM

OUR GRADUATES

Lydia Watson Richards graduates July 23rd from Marietta College, with a Masters Of Science in Physician Assistant Studies.

Andrea Watson graduates April 30th from Fairmont State University with a degree in elementary education with a specialization in Special Education.

Samantha Maidens graduates May 21st from Bethany College with a degree in elementary education.

Grant Barnhart, Cara Masters, Josey Moore and Waylon Moore graduate from St. Marys High School May 29th.

Sunday, May 22nd we will be honoring our graduating students and those Boy Scouts who have recently achieved the status of Eagle Scout. We will have special recognition during worship and a meal afterwards. Please plan to join us!

Pentecost Sunday is June 5th. It is tradition to wear red to celebrate the Holy Spirit. Please note we will be in the Sanctuary, worshipping at 10:45 AM.

Sunday, June 12th we will move to our summer schedule worshipping at 9:30 AM in the chapel.

Come to Camp!



The children and youth of the church are invited to come to camp this summer at our United Methodist Camp, Spring Heights in Spencer, WV. It is the intention of the Finance Team (with some assistance from the congregation) to cover the cost of attending for our children & youth. This is a great opportunity, and we are excited to help make it happen. More information about Spring Heights follows or contact Gary Loughner at 304-305-0386 for a brochure.

Classic Camp

Classic Camp is perfect for those who want to experience a little bit of everything camp has to offer! This program is packed full of exciting activities, such as swimming, horseback riding, hiking, canoeing, crafts, and climbing on our high ropes challenge course. Campers reside in small family groups by age and get the chance to hang out with campers of all ages. This is a great program for “getting your feet wet” and seeing what Spring Heights has to offer.

Dates: July 10-15 and July 24-29

Ages: 7-18 Years Old

Counselor In Training

Do you consider yourself to be a leader? Would you like to be a leader? Either way, the C.I.T. program is perfect for you! This program teaches you how to lead groups of kids and Bible sessions. You'll get hands-on experience and learn what it takes to be a real counselor.

The fun doesn't stop there! After you have completed your week in training, you get to pick a week to come back as a volunteer and work side by side with a counselor in a group all week.

Dates: June 26- July 1

Ages: 15-18 Years Old

Hold Your Horses

Saddle up for a great adventure! Come and learn all about Spring Heights' beautiful horses. Even if you have never ridden before, this is the place to learn. You will be assigned your own horse for the week and spend a few hours every day in the barn learning to ride and care for your horse. You will also get to enjoy all of our favorite camp activities such as campfires, hiking, and swimming. *Closed-toed shoes and long pants are required at the barn.

Dates: July 17-22

Ages: 8-12 Years Old

(Continued on page 10)

CAMP OUTRAGEOUS

This camp is exactly what it is called: OUTRAGEOUS!!! This week has become a camper favorite and is always filled with outrageous surprises and shenanigans. You will get to choose your own "Club Time" based on your favorite camp activities. Club time is a two-hour block every morning that campers spend doing their favorite activity, such as horseback riding, crafts, swimming, mountain biking, climbing on the challenge course, drama, newspaper, sports and games, and much more. Close your summer with an amazing outrageous week at camp!

Dates: July 31- Aug 5

Ages: 8-18 Years Old

BEGINNERS

Beginners is exactly what your little camper is looking for! This is a two-night, three-day camp for your little one to get introduced to the greatest place on earth! This is a camp session jam packed with all of our great activities. You will get to go swimming, horseback riding, and hiking; other activities include craft time and painting the ponies. Campers reside in our lodges within their own small groups. This is a perfect way to let your young kids experience camp just like their older siblings. Come and start a new tradition with us or continue an old one with your Spring Heights family.

Dates: July 10-12

Ages: 5-8 Years Old

DAY CAMP

Day Camp is perfect for the camper who wants to experience everything Spring Heights has to offer without having to pack a bag! Campers will learn about God through daily Bible Exploration (Bible Study) and Bible trivia. Fun activities like horseback riding, hiking, and swimming will have your camper sleeping soundly when they come home in the evenings. **This camp runs from 8:30 AM-4:30 PM Monday through Friday.**

Dates: July 3-8, July 10-15, July 17-22, July 24-29, and July 31- Aug 5

Ages: 6-18 Years Old.

MINI CLASSIC

All of the activities of Classic Camp in a smaller dose! If you really want to come and join the fun but are worried about being away from home for so long, this is perfect for you. You will get to enjoy all the wonderful activities that Spring Heights has to offer while only sleeping away from home two nights!

Dates: July 13-15

Ages: 8-11 Years Old

FOURTH FEST

Join us for a week of explosive fun and excitement! We will celebrate Independence Day together and the entire week will be filled with fourth of July festivities like pool parties, water balloon fights, fireworks, and more! You will get to choose your own “Club time is a two-hour block every morning that campers spend doing their favorite activity, such as horseback riding, crafts, swimming, mountain biking, climbing on the challenge course, drama, newspaper, sports and games, and much more.

Dates: July 3-8

Ages: 8-11 Years Old

CHOICE CAMP

You are in charge of your own week at camp! You know what you like, so make a choice! On Sunday your family group will plan your schedule. You’ll make all our own choices while at Spring heights for the week: choose your meals, your camp out locations, and your “Club Time” is a two-hour block every morning that campers spend doing their favorite activity, such as horseback riding, crafts, swimming, mountain biking, climbing on the challenge course, drama, newspaper, sports and games, and much more.

Dates: July 17-22

Ages: 8-18 Years Old

A SPRING HEIGHTS MYSTERY

Calling all detectives! Do you love a good mystery? Do you like to solve problems? This seriously mysterious camp is for you! Working together, your group will solve a Spring Heights mystery each day (not a scary one). Campers will still have plenty of time to enjoy favorite camp activities, such as swimming, hiking, arts & crafts, horseback riding, campfires, cookouts, and more!

Dates: July 17-22

Ages: 8-18 Years Old

YOUTH RETREATS

Spring Heights Camp and Retreat Center is the perfect place for a youth group retreat! While here, some of the activities you can experience are swimming, canoeing, archery, hiking, challenge course, horseback riding, Bible study, and relaxing around a campfire. Your church can book a retreat today in either our lodges, cottages, or villages. Spring Heights Camp and Retreat Center will provide meals, sleeping quarters, and fun activities.

Dates: June 13- July 2

Ages: ALL AGES

You can register online at: 2022 Spring Heights Camp Registration (brtapp.com)

GIVING

TOTAL GIFTS RECEIVED

April 3	\$4,122.00
April 10	\$4,577.00
April 17	\$2,760.00
April 24	\$3,643.00

ATTENDANCE

IN PERSON ONLINE

April 3	52	54
April 10	56	56
April 17	84	154
April 24	42	115

YTD Gifts received for our Budget - \$58,682.44

YTD needed for our Budget - \$58,545.45

Custodial Account Balance - \$1,613.00

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!



The church office will be closed on
Monday, May 30th for Memorial Day

Neighbor Network Highlights for the Month of March

Total Donations: 198

Total Customers: 859

Total Families receiving services: 89

(Gabriel Project - 7, total of 7 children)

(food - 177 individuals)

(utility assistance - 7)

Total Thrift Store Transactions: \$8,612.79

Total Donations to NN: \$3,615.00

Total Expenses: \$11,217.89

Number of Volunteers this month: 18

**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:

*May 13th, June 10th, July 8th,
August 12th, September 9th, October 14th,
November 16th (Wednesday), & December 9th*

LUNCHEON

*Join us for great
food and fellowship*



**Meal after Worship
Sunday, May 22**

Birthdays

MAY

Corbin Bussey	5/1
Wendy Loughner	5/3
Paula Corbin	5/4
William Bullman	5/4
Marci Davis	5/8
Marcia McCullough	5/11
Adam Carpenter	5/11
Cayla Conaway Stephens	5/14
Jan Brewer	5/15
Beckie Barton	5/16
Ethel Ross	5/19
Carla Conaway	5/19
Lily McKnight	5/20
Paul Ingram	5/20
Richard Moore	5/20
David Braun	5/21
Mike McGee	5/21
Todd Lewis	5/22
Jenny Brewer	5/23
Dick Reed	5/23
Jessy Moore	5/25
Sarah Holt	5/26
Margo Ingram	5/26
Nina Ogdin	5/29
Mae Lewis	5/31
Mary Frances Park	5/31

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

MEETINGS

MAY

- 10 CHURCH COUNCIL - 7 PM
- 15 TRUSTEES - 5 PM
- 25 LAY LEADERSHIP & NOMINATIONS - 6 PM

JUNE

- 15 SPRC - 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



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

Happy Birthday



PRAYERS FOR:

Paul Tallman
Betty Moorhead
Brent Payne
Kenadee Antill
Ginger Poling
Joan Robey
Suellen Simonton
Caroline Hill
Margo Ingram
Shirley Seaboy
Carolyn Ashkar
Larry Dew

Martha Hockenberry
Joe & Thomasine Troisi
Benny & Ruth Wagner
Emma Jean Dobbins
Avery Clickenger
Pat Hawkins
Debbie Bailey
Philip Starks
Dwight Davis
Bev Fitzpatrick
Campbell Barnhart
Maddie Collins

Dave Taylor
Art Smith
Terri Gellner Hulls
Eddie Nutter
Mike Davis
Jennifer Furr
Amy Stemple
Johnna Cochran
JD Williamson
Kym Holdren
Evelyn Neely
Duane Larsen

Larry & Deloris Butcher
Dwayne Barnes
John Trunk
John Hess
Smitty Smith
Sara McKnight
Bob Archer
Sheila Scadden
Kenneth Carder
Fran Higgins
Merle Rouse
Bill Carder



June 28th would have been John Wesley's 313th birthday. The Anglican minister and theologian is credited with the foundation of Methodism, and was much loved and respected both in his time and today.

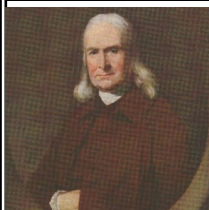


Active Military

Nate McHenry

Vanessa Reese

(Daughter of David Reese)



Wesley placed huge value on social justice, and under his direction Methodists went on to lead movements on numerous social issues including education, prison reform and the abolition of slavery.

He was actually born on 17 June 1703, but the adoption of the Gregorian calendar in 1752 meant that 11 days were added and Wesley began celebrating his birthday on June 28. According to Kenneth Collins' John Wesley: A Theological Journey, he did so "usually with boastful comments about his excellent health". He eventually died aged 87 in March 1791.

The 2022 Church Information Guide is available at the church.

The June/July 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

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smumcwv@outlook.com



Upcoming Dates

<i>May 2</i>	UMW Exec. Committee at 5 PM UMW at 6 PM
<i>May 5</i>	National Day of Prayer
<i>May 7</i>	Onion Festival - 10 AM - 4 PM
<i>May 8</i>	Mother's Day
<i>May 10</i>	Church Council at 7 PM
<i>May 13</i>	NN Food Distribution (Marina) at 9:45 AM
<i>May 15</i>	Trustees at 5 PM
<i>May 22</i>	Graduate Recognition, Meal after Worship SMHS Baccalaureate at 2 PM
<i>May 27 - 29</i>	Alumni Weekend
<i>May 25</i>	Lay Leadership & Nominations at 7 PM
<i>May 29</i>	Ascension Sunday SMHS Graduation at 7 PM
<i>May 30</i>	Memorial Day (Church Office Closed)
<i>June 5</i>	Pentecost Sunday (wear red) at 10:45 AM
<i>June 6</i>	UMW Exec. Committee at 5 PM UMW at 6 PM
<i>June 9</i>	WV Annual Conference (6/9 - 6/12)
<i>June 10</i>	NN Food Distribution (Marina) at 9:45 AM
<i>June 12</i>	Summer Worship at 9:30 AM in the Chapel
<i>June 15</i>	SPRC at 6 PM