

# THE GOOD NEWS



## Inside this Issue:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We celebrate Mother’s Day in the month of May. Some time ago, the United Methodist Church suggested we celebrate the Christian family on the Sunday of Mother’s Day. This is a reminder that our family is much larger than our biological family. And many of the people who help raise us are members of our Christian family. I have seen that at work in our church. How wonderful that our church take seriously the commitment they make each time a person is Baptized to: “...surround this person with a community of love and forgiveness, that she may grow in her trust of God, and be found faithful in her service to others... pray for her that she may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life” (taken from The United Methodist Hymnal, Service of Baptism, pg. 35).

Having my mother relatively close and able to be in worship with us occasionally has been a special treat for me. I appreciate her gifts and her willingness to share them with us! But I also appreciate the many other women and men in the churches my parents served who helped raise me. It was not a job my parents could have done alone, nor should they have too. We offer something more in the church as God’s covenant people.

You might also note the name of the woman who founded Mother’s Day in the United States shares a last name with my mother. Anna Jarvis was indeed a distant relative to our family. So I wanted to share with you some of the information about how Mother’s Day

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St. Marys UMC  
Northern District  
West Virginia Conference  
Northeastern Jurisdiction

came into being in our country. But let us not wait until the calendar reads that it's time to recognize those who have raised us. Let us be regularly in prayer for them and frequently thanking them. Now read below for more information about the history of Mother's Day.

Blessings & Love,

Clare



## **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. Many people follow the custom of wearing a carnation on Mother's Day. A colored carnation means that a person's mother is living. A white carnation indicates that a person's mother is dead.

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.

# MATTHEW 25 OPPORTUNITIES:

## SNACK PACKS FOR SCHOOLS

We have some educators in the church that are worried about the quantity of food that goes home in the snack packs on weekends for kids in need at SMES, BES and PCMS. They are requesting we consider collecting pop tarts, granola bars, cereal bars. They can go in the bins on the first floor of the educational wing and will be added to the snack packs weekly. Thank you.

## WV FLOODING

The flooding in February of this year has done enormous damage to southern WV, especially McDowell County. Our WV Conference Disaster Relief Response Team is on the ground helping now. If you'd like to support them, you can by giving through our church. Individuals should make their check out to SMUMC and indicate "Flood Relief" in the memo line or on an envelope. Churches will then send one check with their church remittance form, earmarked for the fund. Thank you.

## BIBLES

Recently, we had an opportunity to inherit some gently used New International Version (NIV) Pew Bibles at no cost to us. After getting approval from the Trustee Chairperson and Church Council Chairperson, Pastor Clare made arrangements to get them. They are currently in the pews for your use on Sunday mornings. The King James Pew Bibles we have used in the past are in the Educational Wing by the Chapel. Please feel free to take as many as you can use. Thank you.

WE WILL BE  
**CLOSED**  
FOR  
**MEMORIAL**  
★ **DAY** ★



The church office will be  
closed:  
Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup> for  
Memorial Day



## United Methodist Men

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

All men are welcome



**Next breakfast meeting is May 18<sup>th</sup> at 8 AM**

*The UMM still has apple butter for sale.  
The price is \$7 per pint and they make a great gifts. Thank you!*



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*Dear Friends in Mission,*

*Thank you!*

*The dear people you just helped with your gift to UMCOR may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be -- Thank you!*

*Since 1940, UMCOR has served as the humanitarian agency of The United Methodist Church, providing disaster response and relief to areas impacted by natural and man-made disasters around the world. And through your financial support, you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships as UMCOR responds to increasingly-frequent and destructive storms -- sharing 100% of donated funds with those in need!*

*Together, may we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women, and children of all ethnic, racial, cultural, and national backgrounds and to demonstrate genuine love for our neighbors.*

*Grace and Peace  
Roland Fernandes, General Secretary*



United  
Women  
in Faith

## MAY

***Bible Study: 2 Timothy 1:5-7***

**Circle & General Meeting**

*May 5, 2025 at 6 PM*

**Program:** *Define Faith*

**Program Book:** *Pages 43-45*

**Program:** Peace Circle  
Mother's Day Tea

**Flowers & Greeters:** Grace Circle

## JUNE

***Bible Study: Luke 19:1-9***

**Circle & General Meeting**

*June 2, 2025 at 6 PM*

**Program:** *Live Your Faith*

**Program Book:** *Pages 47-48*

**Speaker:** *Chris Poe*

**Topic:** *Self-Awareness/Self Defense*  
*(Refreshments will be served)*

**Program:** Kindness Circle

**Flowers & Greeters:** Peace Circle

## Donation

Tyrand Cooperative Parish, Mill Creek, WV  
Makayla Mayle, Director

## **A SHARED VISION FOR FOSTER CARE**

The 4<sup>th</sup> annual All in Foster Care Summit equips and inspires individuals, churches, and organizations to take meaningful action.

Hear from national leaders in foster care and faith-based advocacy, engage in breakout sessions with hands-on strategies for churches and child welfare professionals, and connect with others transforming foster care.

Featured Speakers:

- **Jason Johnson** - Director of Church Engagement at CAFO, speaker, author, and foster care advocate.
- **Jamie Finn** - Director of Foster the Family, author, and advocate.
- **Brian Mavis** - Founder of America's Kids Belong, author, speaker, and foster care leader.

Whether you're a church leader, foster or adoptive parent, child welfare professional, or community member, this Summit provides the tools and inspiration to act.

Together, we can build a shared vision where every child and family is supported. Register now at [cmvww.org](http://cmvww.org).

**Wednesday, May 7, 2025 at River Ridge Church in Charleston, West Virginia from 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM**

### **George Street Church of Christ Ladies' Days**

Are you working without a net? Building a Christian Support Network  
"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another" Proverbs 27:17

Special Guest Speaker: Celesta Crawford

When: Saturday, May 10

Time: 8:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Where: 108 George Street, St. Marys, WV 26170

You may call Stella Amos at 304-684-3914

To pre-register.

We hope you can join us!



## Congratulations to our Graduates:

- ◆ Baylee Dilling from SMHS
- ◆ Cali Masters from SMHS
- ◆ Reese Westfall from SMHS
- ◆ Madeline Hilvers from WVU

A graduate of West Virginia University with a degree in Exercise Physiology with a Health Professions and a minor in Molecular Medicine. Madeline will enter WVU School of Medicine July, 2025.

Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> we will be honoring our graduating students. We will have special recognition during worship and a reception afterwards in the Chapel.

Please plan to join us!



SMHS Baccalaureate - May 18 at 2 PM

SMHS Graduation - May 25 at 7 PM

## **SUMMER WORSHIP**

Our Summer worship in the Chapel begins Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.  
Worship 9:30 AM (Chapel)

# GIVING

## TOTAL GIFTS RECEIVED

April 6	\$5,244.00
April 13	\$1,874.00
April 20	\$2,993.00
April 27	\$4,687.00

# ATTENDANCE

## IN PERSON   ONLINE

April 6	73	111
April 13	91	137
April 20	121	137
April 27	89	195

**YTD Gifts received for our Budget - \$57,423.87**  
**YTD needed for our Budget - \$66,071.13**

*United Methodist Church*



*Please accept our heartfelt thank you! Your generous efforts of collecting items for our Pack-a-Snack Program. Your donations will be a blessing to all of the students in the program. Again thank you for your caring and thoughtfulness!*

*Communities in Schools and The Pleasants County Schools Office of Social Services, Attendance, and Child Nutrition*

Thank you to our St. Marys United Methodist friends,

When our family was transferred here, God led us to the right place, at the right time and definitely to the right church. Words cannot express how thankful we are for the prayers, concern, and caring that came from this congregation during Dwight's 8+ year battle with cancer. Your support after his death has helped Danny and me through this devastating time. You reminded us of our faith in God, and that our boy was at peace and in excellent hands. Thank you for the cards, food, flowers, hugs, sympathy, as well as your attendance at the viewing and funeral. We are forever thankful for your comfort and support.

*Thank  
you*

Sincerely, Danny and Donna



## Neighbor Network Highlights for the Month of March

Total Donations: 330

Total Customers: 896

Total Families receiving services: 97

(Baby Blessings Services - 18, total of 27 children)

(food - 259 individuals)

(utility assistance - 13 families)

Total Thrift Store Transactions:     \$ 8,455.97

Total Donations to NN:                 \$12,718.85

Total Expenses:                         \$16,844.72

Number of Volunteers this month: 29

**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 around 10:30 AM. 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 giveaway is  
May 9<sup>th</sup>, June 13<sup>th</sup>, July 11<sup>th</sup>,  
August 8<sup>th</sup>, September 12<sup>th</sup>, October 10<sup>th</sup>,  
November 14<sup>th</sup>, December 12<sup>th</sup>*

The May - June Upper Rooms

are available at the church.

Want one mailed to you? Just let us know.

# Birthdays

## MAY

## JUNE

Corbin Bussey	5/1	Judy Roden	6/1
Wendy Loughner	5/3	Kohner Loughner	6/3
Paula Corbin	5/4	Terry Carpenter	6/4
Marci Davis	5/8	Sue Morgan	6/4
Marcia McCullough	5/11	Brett Colyer	6/4
Adam Carpenter	5/11	Bill Maiden	6/5
Cayla Stephens	5/14	Mary Hooper	6/7
Jan Brewer	5/15	David Henline	6/7
Beckie Barton	5/16	Pat Mays	6/7
Ethel Ross	5/19	Donald Dearth	6/8
Carla Conaway	5/19	Tammi Nichols	6/13
Lily McKnight	5/20	Adam Bennett	6/14
Paul Ingram	5/20	Blakelyn Mote	6/15
David Braun	5/21	Jim Henegar	6/15
Mike McGee	5/21	Gregory Arnott	6/17
Todd Lewis	5/22	Randy Nutter	6/18
Jenny Brewer	5/23	Liam Loughner	6/21
Dick Reed	5/23	Rick McCullough	6/22
Derek Johnson	5/24	David Robey	6/23
Jessy Moore	5/25	Becky Arnott	6/23
Sarah Holt	5/26	Ashleigh Bonner	6/23
Nina Ogdin	5/29	Wilma Bailey	6/24
Charlotte Lamp	5/30	Deena Hatcher	6/27
Mae Lewis	5/31	Casey Barron	6/28
Mary Frances Park	5/31		

## MEETINGS

### MAY

- 6 SPRC - 6 PM
- 13 Church Council - 6 PM
- 18 Trustees - 5 PM

### JULY

- 1 SPRC - 6 PM
- 2 Finance - 6 PM
- 8 Church Council - 6 PM
- 13 Trustees - 5 PM

### EVERY MONTH

- First Mon. - UWF - 6 PM
- Third Sun. - UMM - 8 AM

### OTHER GROUPS MEETING AT OUR CHURCH

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday Raising Hope to Purpose 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 your  
birthday listed?  
Please call Deb at  
304-684-3018  
if we do not have it!

## **PRAYERS FOR:**

Betty Moorhead  
Caroline Hill  
Joe & Thomasine Troisi  
Benny & Ruth Wagner  
Mike & Sharon McGee  
Dale & Stephanie Colvin  
Terry & Becki Wilson  
Philip Starks  
Gerald May  
Maddie Collins  
Duane Larsen  
Dwayne Barnes  
Martha Poling

Webb Carpenter  
Greg Hill  
Mary Brewer  
Eleanor Pierce  
Kohner Loughner  
Liam Loughner  
Debbie Bailey  
Matthew Beard  
Martha Hoyt  
Jim McLaughlin  
Destinee Gray  
Terrie Gelnor Huls  
Denny Venderlic

Al Glatfelter  
Rick Adams  
Marie Farly  
Lil Dillion  
Jeremy Rhodes  
Janet Matheny  
Will Poling  
Deanna Fleming  
Phil Shingleton  
Karson Elrod  
Gary Boley  
Jeri Smith Williams  
Carol Carder

Bill Gellner  
Parker Miley  
Linda Birkhimer  
Charlotte Parker  
Joe Faller  
Pam Hamilton  
Georgia Powell  
Delores Davis  
Marcia West  
Negan Castleberry



*Christian Sympathy  
is extended to the  
friends & family of  
Barbara Carl*



*Christian Sympathy  
is extended to the  
friends & family of  
Gretchen Himmeger*

**KINDNESS CIRCLE WILL MEET  
AT THE PARSONAGE  
ON TUESDAY MAY 20<sup>th</sup> AT 6 PM**

## 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](mailto:smumcwv@outlook.com)



## Upcoming Dates

- May 1*      **National Day of Prayer at 7 PM  
(St. Marys First Baptist Church)**
- May 3*      **Onion Festival 11 AM - 4 PM**
- May 5*      **UWF Team Leadership at 5 PM  
UWF General Meeting / Circles at 6 PM**
- May 6*      **SPRC at 6 PM**
- May 7*      **Choir at 7 PM**
- May 9*      **NN Food Distribution (Marina) at 9:45 AM**
- May 11*     **Mother's Day**
- May 13*     **Church Council at 6 PM**
- May 14*     **Choir at 7 PM**
- May 18*     **UMM Breakfast Meeting at 8 AM  
Graduation Sunday during worship  
SMHS Baccalaureate at 2 PM  
Trustees at 5 PM**
- May 20*     **Ministerial Association at 10 AM  
Kindness Circle (Parsonage) at 6 PM**
- May 21*     **Choir at 7 PM**
- May 25*     **SMHS Graduation at 7 PM**
- May 26*     **Memorial Day / Church Office Closed**
- May 28*     **Choir at 7 PM**

