

SMOKE

August 2020 Newsletter
Burnt Factory United Methodist Church
Stephenson, VA 22656
C. Steven Melester, Pastor

"Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven." ~ Matthew 5:16

OUR MISSION STATEMENT
Sharing the Love of Christ with ALL People

IGNORANT



BURNT FACTORY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1943 JORDAN SPRINGS ROAD

P O Box 399

STEPHENSON, VA 22656

540-667-4993

WWW.BURNTFACTORY.ORG

RETURN TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES and WHAT TO TEMPORARILY EXPECT

"And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen." 1 Peter 5: 10-11

The HCT (Healthy Church Team) has been discerning, praying, and working toward re-entry plans for "in-person" worship at Burnt Factory UMC. The team had hoped that a stage 3 plan would be forth coming from our Bishop by now, but with pandemic numbers rising, it seems unlikely we will receive any updated protocols in the near future. I want to remind the congregation that the stages I am referencing are denominational and not governmental. We align with our Bishop and not the governor in regard to church policies and practices.

It has always been the goal of the HCT and our Virginia Annual Conference to keep our congregation as safe as possible. We have been patient regarding re-entry plans because the pandemic has created the need for safety protocols that are difficult (not impossible) to navigate for larger churches. The HCT also believed that the restrictive nature of the plans could unintentionally create a harmful environment, therefore going against the mission of the church. Under the original stage 2 plan, attendance would have been limited to just 50 people per service. The HCT and your pastor believed this to be unworkable. Since then, our Bishop has been working with established and trusted scientific authorities as well as our Governor and state resources. It has been determined that the denomination will now embrace a protocol that establishes 50% of our church occupancy rate to be the rule. The HCT believes this change makes it possible for BFUMC to return to "in-person" worship, even though mandatory social distancing still presents us with number challenges.

The return to "in-person" worship would require the temporary denominational "*standard of practices*" be instituted as found in the Technical Assistance Manuel (TAM). These "*standards of practice*" are to be upheld and exercised without exception. The TAM is the denominational guide to re-entry protocols and practices for the local church. It is binding on all Virginia United Methodist Churches and pastors.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE.....

PASTOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUES.....

WHAT TO TEMPORARILY EXPECT WHEN RETURNING

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.” Romans 12:12

In summarizing the protocols in the TAM and for BFUMC to re-institute “in-person” worship, the following temporary practices would need to be followed without exception, special circumstance, or adaptation.

- Face coverings are mandatory for all people attending all services. The pastor must preach with a face covering.
- Social distancing is mandatory. Families that live together can sit together while others will keep a 6-foot separation.
 - To comply with this, BFUMC will add an additional service for the purpose of spreading out our numbers. We will offer an 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 worship service. If we find our numbers do not support additional services, we will return to the 8:30 and 11:00 models.
 - **Attendees are to notify the church regarding which worship service they will attend.** Please call, e-mail, text Rob Moss or Pastor Steve. It is critical to know how many to expect at each service.
- Answering 4 health related questions before entering the church is mandatory.
- Staying home when sick is mandatory.
- Attendees are to avoid gathering and touching.

Following is a partial list of other temporary requirements that the church will need to follow regarding the worship service. I know the following is difficult. I pray that these restrictions will be very temporary!

- We will not be allowed to participate in congregational singing or to have choir performances or any solo or group performances.
- We will not be allowed to serve food or drink.
- We will not be allowed to have present in the service any printed materials.
- We will have nursery (6 and under) available at our 9:30 and 11:00 services.
 - A detailed protocol for parents will be available describing the specific practices.
 - There will be no Children’s Church offered at this time.
- We will institute cleaning between services regarding the high touch areas of the facility.
- Offering plates will no longer be passed but provided at the conclusion of each service.
- Holy Communion is sacred and must be administered in reverence. The protocol in the TAM for celebrating this wonderful sacrament, in the judgment of your pastor and HCT, leaves much to be desired and as the protocols are faithfully and appropriately arrived at, we will still refrain, at this time, in celebrating the Lord’s Supper.

Having shared all of this, I believe, if we implement Stage 2, that we can still enjoy a meaningful worship experience! I believe we can overcome and celebrate because the Lord will be with us! When God’s people gather with love for the Lord in their hearts, God will be there, God will provide and God will make a way!

I do not hold any affection for these restrictions, but they are necessary, as we all fight this terrible disease! If these protocols will keep everyone reasonably safe and if this will get us back together, then perhaps, we need to covenant together to comply. If we decide to move forward with this, we will be asking each and every one of you that you call BFUMC home, to pour out grace and be amendable to these temporary protocols. Without full compliance this will not work and in fact, will lead to cancellation of services.

Let me be clear about this next point. It is not our goal to suggest in the least for anyone to attend “in-person” services who do not feel safe or comfortable. We will still provide weekly streaming services. We encourage anyone who is at risk to stay home and continue to participate in the life of the church by watching our streaming service and by participating in the faith community in other various capacities.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE.....

PASTOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUES.....

We come to worship Jesus Christ and know in our hearts and affirm in our spirits the wonderful truth of what Jesus promised!

“For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.”

IN SUMMARY

Friends, we will announce the date for re-opening for services very soon and will offer three services: 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00.

We will offer nursery for 6 and under at 9:30 and 11:00.

It is very important you let the church know if you plan to attend and at which service. We will need to provide adequate space for social distancing reasons.

Please wear a face covering, social distance, answer the 4 medical form questions when entering the building, refrain from contact, and come prepared to worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! God bless each and every one of you and as we continue to journey through these stressful and trying times, let us never forget that God loves us!

*In Christ's Love,
Pastor Steve, the Staff and
the Healthy Church Team*

Burnt Factory United Methodist Men

Hasn't this summer been different? This coronavirus pandemic has us in the midst of a very challenging time not just for our Men's ministries but our church, our community and our world. I don't know about you but with all of the information coming at us from all angles there is one thing that has kept me hopeful through this entire event and that is God's promises to us. Proverbs 3:5-6 has kept me on a good path ***“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.”***

I am thankful for our Church Leadership Team and how they have managed to have our services online during this time and to keep our ministries going forward as best that can be expected during trying times. I am excited that we will soon have the opportunity to have in-person services for those who really need to have that connection in their spiritual life. But no matter what has been put before us, our church has been together in spirit each and every week.

Please be safe as you navigate this coronavirus world and know that God will bring us through and we always have Him on our side.

Looks like the deer and dry weather may have us pretty close to harvesting our potatoes. Please keep an eye out for a message on when we may schedule that harvest. Remember all potatoes are donated to the Blue Ridge Food Bank.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions on how our Men's Ministries will coincide with our conference and church policies -- (540) 207-7404; tamtut@comcast.net

*Steve Cunningham
President Burnt Factory UMMen*



- 2nd ~ Helen Weir and Stephen Kerns 3rd ~ Weston Nail 4th ~ Daniel Renner
 5th ~ Lindsey Perrault and Duane Swisher
 6th ~ Katie Mowery and Deyerle Miller 7th ~ Meghan Snyder and Stuart Wolk
 8th ~ Pat Perry 9th ~ JoAnna Grayson
 10th ~ Darrin Bursey and Rachel Hayton and Cheyanne Owens
 11th ~ Dave Bodkin 12th ~ Theresa Gilbert and Chelsey Adams
 15th ~ John Renner 18th ~ Dash Merceruio
 19th ~ Deanna Simmers and Theo Crowe and Colby Groce
 21st ~ Patrick Thompson 23rd ~ Jackson Boudier
 26th ~ Bill Swimley and Dave Winter and Lillianne Owens
 27th ~ Reily Murphy and Ryan Hunt and Connor Lewis and Rowsalie Cisernos
 30th ~ Jay Kackley 31st ~ Amye Murphy



- 3rd ~ Rich & Sue Wells and Dave & Linda Bodkin
 4th ~ Rick & Debbie Walker
 5th ~ Bill & Janie Shope and Josh & Christina Jenkins
 6th ~ Bob and Sandra Boudier
 7th ~ Tom & Norma Duvall 9th ~ Paul & Sarah Shoremount
 14th ~ Greg & Janie Bigler 16th ~ Sean & Laine Everhart
 19th ~ Mark & Liz Duvall

Have you given your email address to Keith Roberts, yet?



Pastor Steve has special notices he needs to send to those who attend Burnt Factory.

The notices will include not only prayer concerns, but also schedule changes during bad weather.

Keith keeps an email list in his computer for just such purposes. Your email address is protected and emails are sent, recipients not disclosed, to protect your privacy.

Kindly send your email address to Keith Roberts at john.k.roberts@comcast.net with the message:

"ADD ME TO THE CHURCH EMAIL LIST"

Thank You



Because we don't have a newsletter calendar this month, as a "Friendly Reminder" for those who regularly send me their articles and for anyone who may have an article for the September newsletter, I will be needing your September articles by.....

3:00pm on Wednesday, August 26th.

I will be sending the September newsletter on **Friday, September 28th.**

Thanks, Charly



CCAP, the Congregational-Community Action Project, is a cooperative ministry of area churches and one synagogue serving Winchester and Frederick County that have joined together to provide financial, material and supportive assistance to people in need. CCAP is located at 112 and 106 S. Kent Street.

I am very excited to report that Robin Russell has been hired as Executive Director of CCAP. The Board of Trustees voted unanimously in favor of this appointment. Robin has been working tirelessly to keep CCAP operating for the last several months while also battling breast cancer. She has been the face of CCAP and continues to work with other community agencies to help reach all of those in need.

The CCAP buildings remain closed to clients; but there have been many on-site giveaways of food, cleaning supplies, pet food, children's clothing and diapers. There have also been several mobile giveaways. These take a lot of coordination and volunteer hours. CCAP and the Red Wagon Ministry gave away over 20,000 diapers last month; anyone in need could receive these diapers. Robin has set up on-line signups for new clients and on-line services for people needing financial assistance.

Opportunities to Serve – We have a core group of BFUMC members who have been volunteering weekly to pack food bags, help at the giveaways, do delivery pickups, make and serve daily lunches and take cardboard to the recycling center. Please reach out to me via email or phone if you would like to be added to our list of volunteers. Van Drivers for Partner Pick-Ups are still needed. The pickups are between 8-11:30 am weekdays and require a valid driver's license and the ability to load/unload items. Backup drivers are also needed in the event someone is unable to serve on their designated day. All volunteers and clients are required to wear a mask. A touchless thermometer has been purchased and all volunteers are scanned as they enter the building.

Lunch at CCAP – 3rd Sunday: In July, Hope Owens and her team packed and served 50 chicken dinners at CCAP. Because of Covid19, we are packaging the meals in our Fellowship Hall and giving them to clients outside of CCAP. Thanks to **everyone** who provided food and helped serve. Our next serving day is August 16. We will meet at the church at 11 to begin packing the lunches, then drive to CCAP to serve. Contact Cheryl Jones at 540-247-5700 if you would like to contribute in any way.

Special Notes - CCAP does accept on-line donations. If you would like to make a donation, please go to ccapwinc.org. On Facebook, you can like the CCAP page and follow all of the events.

Please keep this ministry in your prayers as we make plans to reopen safely.

Patty Leonard – Outreach CCAP Rep

SOME PONDERINGS

1. If poison passes its expiration date, is it more poisonous or is it no longer poisonous?
2. Which letter is silent in the word "Scent," the S or the C?
3. Do twins ever realize that at least one of them is unplanned?
4. Why is the letter W, in English, called double U? Shouldn't it be called double V?
5. Maybe oxygen is slowly killing you and it just takes 75-100 years to fully work.
6. Every time you clean something, you just make something else dirty.
7. The word "swims" upside-down is still "swims."

Submitted by Sue Swimley



United
Methodist
Women

Another month has gone by and we continue to worship online, thanks to Pastor Steve, Rob, Carrie, Glen and Sam. It is a wonderful substitute for being in our sanctuary with our friends. But not how we want it to be! At this point, our Healthy Church Team is meeting to decide how best to handle the safety of all those who want to get back to "normal." Pastor Steve wants to follow the guidelines of Bishop Lewis. Steve is ready, willing and able to provide a re-entry when it is safe! It shouldn't be too long!!

In the meantime, many of our UMW members are busy with Outreach projects such as tending to the needs of CCAP and the Evans Home. Even though there is a pandemic, CCAP clientele continue to flock to the places where they know they can receive food and clothing for their everyday needs. Our church people have been the hands and feet of Jesus. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Thanks to Susan Hyatt for getting our school kits together. Our 50 school kits are boxed up and just waiting for specific collection details. Website information will be forthcoming as a plan is created and finalized. Annual Conference will be different this year. There will be a one-day virtual gathering September 19, 2020. We had some items left over and will use those for the kits we will put together in 2021. You can shop for two gallon freezer bags, some notebook paper, one subject composition books, scissors, and pencil sharpeners. We have plenty of pencils, crayons, erasers and rulers!! You were very generous last summer and we are in good shape to start filling our storage shelves downstairs.

When it is safe for our membership to have a meeting in the Social Hall, we will meet again and continue the work we normally do. At our UMW meeting in August, we are always going over our "Living Into Our Purpose" checklist and remembering the ways we have helped others throughout the year.

While you are home, continue to cut out cancelled stamps, pray for your prayer partner, our pastor and staff – and our state and national leaders who make the decisions that affect each of us. May God continue to bless us and help us to look to Him for guidance, wisdom and healing for our land.

Blessings, Polly Duvall, president



August 2020 Relay for Life Newsletter Article

**WE STAND TOGETHER,
EVEN WHEN WE'RE APART
COVID-19**

COVID-19 changed the way we Relay, but with everyone's support we made sure that the battle to end cancer doesn't stop. Together we can keep fighting cancer!

The Believers raised \$4,616!!

A phenomenal amount considering that we were not able to hold most of our fundraising events.

Lisa and I are hoping to start fundraising for next year very soon and long for the day when we can all be together again.

As always, we will need to register to be **Believers** for the 2021 Relay event. We will keep you posted when to do that.

I do not like cancer here or there, I do not like cancer anywhere!!

Please let Lisa or I know if you have any questions.

theresahgilbert@gmail.com or (540) 247-5612

lisapatterson423@gmail.com or (540) 664-4169

***Our mission is to save lives, celebrate lives, and
lead the fight for a world without cancer.***

We thank you for your support!

Theresa Gilbert and Lisa Patterson, Co-Captains

From a branch on the Vine,

“The best-laid plans of mice and men often go awry.” Do you know what I mean? The foundation to my house is failing. The joists are bent or broken, and, consequently, my floor is sagging to the point where I start at one end and ride my office chair down the slope. Yes, sometimes that is fun, but it can test your patience when you have to hold onto the table to keep working at the computer. I contracted with a company for a solution. They came out, cut a hole in my floor and concluded the original plan was not going to work. The plan takes a different route.



The Apostle Paul soon learned to accept a different route in his ministry. On his way to persecute early Christians in Damascus, Jesus struck him blind and changed his life. Later in his missionary journeys through modern day Turkey, his plans were abruptly changed again:

*⁶ Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. ⁷ **When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to.** ⁸ So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas. ⁹ During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” ¹⁰ After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, **concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.*** Acts 16:6-10

Paul went on to preach the gospel in Europe and the good news of Jesus Christ spread. Paul adapted and his ministry grew. Did he plan on planting churches in Philippi, Thessalonica or Corinth? No, but he did not lose focus on his (and our) mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Have we? Where are you in the story? On the old path under the old plan, or open to being used by God on a new route and new plan?

Was it the plan of Burnt Factory to be a virtual worship service? Never could have imagined it, but here we are. No one desires these circumstances, yet it is upon us. Fortunately, our faith has not languished. So many in our faith community have continued, even excelled, in the call to minister to the needs of the less fortunate. We do not boast but give glory to a God who forgave us while we were yet sinners. We are adapting to the change thrust upon us. In it all, Jesus has not stopped loving us and asking us to be his hands and feet in the world. We can follow Jesus on his path or walk our own way.

Pastor Steve recently brought us the message of the Feeding of the 5000 (Matthew 14:13-21). Do you notice that Jesus blessed the five loaves and two fish, gave them to the disciples, and it was the disciples that distributed the food? Jesus was responsible for the miracle, but it was the disciples who were the means to get the miracle to the people. You and I are today’s miracle carriers.

Friends, keep the faith, keep the hope, keep the love. God is still asking us to represent him – in church, in our homes, and everywhere. Let’s remember we are taking the gospel to the world on whatever path Jesus leads us. He is leading. Will we follow even though the plan has changed?

Praise God for he is worthy of our praise. We all wish to be together. We ARE in the Spirit of God.

In Christ, *Rob*

Jesus said, “I am the way and the truth and the life.” He is the path to God.



August 2020 Faith Community Nurse Health Corner

I don't know about you, but I have been so stressed. I am a person that likes to be in control and to know what is going on around me all of the time. In these uncertain times, I am learning more than ever that I have to 'Let Go and Let God.'

I recently came across an exercise from the Dalai Lama that is helping me relax a bit more and to let Him be in control. I hope that it will be helpful to you as well.

Living a life of Zen is often described as a disciplined life of simplicity, a life compassionately concerned with our own and the world's welfare, one that is not self-centered and aggressive. As well as a life that is in a state of harmony and not in conflict. Make yourself comfortable and read the below, while deep breathing.

Guided Reflection, A to Zen of Life

- A Avoid negative sources, people, places, things and habits.
- B Believe in yourself and succeed.
- C Consider things from every angle.
- D Don't give up and don't give in.
- E Enjoy life today, yesterday is gone and tomorrow may never come.
- F Family and friends are hidden treasures, seek them and enjoy their riches.
- G Give more than you planned to.
- H Hang on to your dreams.
- I If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door.
- J Just do it.
- K Keep trying no matter how hard it seems.
- L Love yourself.
- M Make it happen.
- N Never lie, steal or cheat. Always strike a fair deal.
- O Open your eyes and see things as they really are.
- P Practice makes perfect.
- Q Quality not quantity in anything you do.
- R Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.
- S Stop procrastinating.
- T Take control of your own destiny.
- U Understand yourself in order to better understand others.
- V Visualize it and focus.
- W When you lose, don't lose the lesson.
- X Xcellence in all your efforts.
- Y You are unique, nothing can replace you.
- Z Zero in on your target, and go for it.

After reading and reflecting on A to Zen of Life:

- Which of these stand out to you?
- In your daily life, which of these need improvement?
- Would you say that you are living a Zen life?

COMMUNITY NURSE HEALTH CORNER CONTINUES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE.....

COMMUNITY NURSE HEALTH CORNER CONTINUES.....

I miss all of you and wish more than anything that we could be in church together, but let us remember that, *God is on the move, not being where we want him to be, but to where he wants us to be.*

Continually *praying for your health and well-being.*

Theresa

You can reach me at any time by e-mail at tgilbert@afpdocs.com or theresahgilbert@gmail.com or by phone at (540) 247-5612.

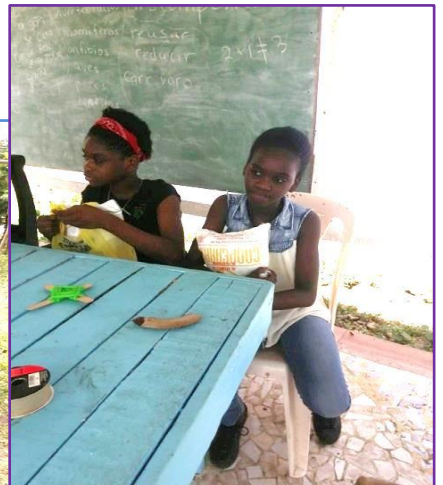
As your Faith Community Nurse, I am here to serve as a bridge to better health, meeting the wholistic healing mission of the church by partnering with the Pastor as a healer of the spirit, mind and body.



Since 2015, the Burnt Factory congregation along with the United Methodist Women have been supporting a school in the Dominican Republic which was started in 2008 by Caitlin McHale Floreal. Caitlin grew up in Winchester and through a mission trip led by Virginia Tech in 2005, she met many Haitian children living on the streets in the Dominican Republic. These children came to the DR "searching for life" to help support their families back in Haiti. Instead, many ended up being used in human trafficking and were often beaten when they did not provide the money expected from their vending at day's end. After several trips back to the DR, Caitlin moved to Puerto Plata in 2008 and opened a school for children who would otherwise not receive any education due to language, homelessness and poverty. Project Esperanza now supports two schools along with a preschool and a boys' home.

To update the status of Project Esperanza in 2020 -- Just as we have been affected by COVID-19 with schools closing in March, Caitlin had to do the same in the DR. Not only did the regular school year end early, she was unable to offer the summer English camp. However, Caitlin was able to offer daily field trips out to the educational farm which is home to the volunteer house. The field trip offered the students the chance to get out of the city for the day.

Following is an update from the sponsor coordinator, "We have been bussing 10 kids per day to the volunteer house/educational farm for a field trip. During the field trip, they have an hour-long lesson about horses and are able to ride a little at our neighbor Juan's house. Then, at the educational farm, they get a snack, review the 3 Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle), make a craft, get to look through a microscope, and find the five groups of vertebrates all here on the farm. Afterwards, everyone goes home with a care package."



PROJECT ESPERANZA ARTICLE CONTINUES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE.....

PROJECT ESPERANZA ARTICLE CONTINUES.....

Caitlin started a special fundraiser this summer: *"We are making a special effort to try to keep a neighboring school, Colegio Costambar, alive. This is the school where we send our students for high school. We have one student, Kerenchy, graduating from this school this year. It has been serving the community for 35 years and we will all surely be at a loss if it has to shut its doors. The biggest challenge is securing a location as they have been renting all along."* To date, they have raised almost \$35,000 of the \$38,000 deposit they need to secure the purchase of a new location. An additional \$12,000 will be needed next year to finalize the deposit of \$50,000. Burnt Factory's Outreach Committee, UMW and UMM graciously donated to this fundraiser. To learn more, please visit <https://projectesperanza.qiv.sh/7c92>

Burnt Factory has made Project Esperanza a signature ministry of the church and generously donates \$2,250 each year to support 15 students at Level 1 so they can attend the school. If you feel led to individually sponsor a child, there are 3 levels of support:

Level 1 - an annual donation of \$150 which covers daily lunch, a uniform shirt, and some materials.

Level 2 - a monthly donation of \$30 which covers daily lunch, a uniform shirt, some materials, and contribution to the teacher's salary.

Level 3 - a monthly donation of \$50 which covers daily lunch, a uniform shirt, some materials, contribution to teachers' salaries, and contribution to the facilities.

From their website, *"So far for the 2020-2021 school year, which is scheduled to start August 24th, we have 13 students sponsored at level 1 (\$150/year), 1 student sponsored at level 2 (\$30/month), and 20 students sponsored at level 3 (\$50/month)."*

If you would like to read more about Project Esperanza, visit their website <http://esperanzameanshope.org> or join their Facebook page. Tom and Penny would also be happy to meet with you to share their experience from their mission trip in 2019 and to answer any of your questions. Email us at ptcroll@hotmail.com.

Thank you for prayerfully considering how you can support this global ministry in the Dominican Republic.

*Blessings,
Penny & Tom Croll
Outreach Committee*

Micah 6:8 NIV *"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."*

SOME MORE PONDERINGS

SIX GREAT CONFUSIONS STILL UNRESOLVED.

1. At a movie theater, which arm rest is yours?
2. If people evolved from monkeys, why are monkeys still around?
3. Why is there a "D" in fridge, but not in refrigerator?

VAGARIES OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE?

1. Why isn't a Fireman called a Water-man?
2. How come Lipstick doesn't do what it says?
3. Why are goods sent by ship call CARGO and those sent by truck SHIPMENT?
4. Why is it called 'Rush Hour' when traffic moves at its slowest then?
5. Why do they call it a TV 'set' when there is only one?
6. Did you know that if you replace "W" with "T" in "What, Where and When," you get the answer to each or them?



Hearts of Grace

Caregiver Support Group

Contact: Debbie Walker

Email: dswalker1@yahoo.com

(540)664-0908 Cell / (540)667-6711 Home

Monthly/Second Tuesday @ 7:00

Happy August Friends –

The attendance for our July meeting was awesome. We had four plus Rick and myself. We discussed “Overcoming Caregiver Guilt and Finding Peace.” We didn’t find all the answers, but we talked opening about our situations and experiences. The fellowship was heartwarming. My prayer is that everyone left feeling loved, understood and a little refreshed.

A Special Message

Attention, All Caregivers! This is a special message for you from the people you serve:

“Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! We love you and appreciate all you do for us. For some reason, it’s very hard to put this into words. Many times we take out our frustration on you.”

“But we do pray for you – we ask God to bless you and to help us be easier to serve. You are angels to us, selfless and kind and caring. We know that we are safe and secure with you, and we pray that we can be an encouragement to you, as well. We are blessed that your love and care are an overflow of your love for Jesus.”

“Oh yes, we know that you sometimes lose it. Sometimes you feel inadequate. But we also know that the Lord Jesus is helping you, and we believe He will send you encouragement and blessings by the truckload.”

“Thank you again and always for loving and caring for us, for helping us to maintain our dignity during these difficult times. God Bless You!!”

Lord Jesus, I ask that You would send every caregiver comfort and peace, strength, and encouragement—this day and every day. Amen

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 11th, 2020, at 7:00 pm, in the Fellowship Hall. We will touch briefly on “*Stages of Alzheimer’s Disease.*” We will look at the 7 Stages of the disease, then open for your general discussion of situations, frustrations, needs for compassion, etc. I look forward to our time together. Always remember I am available anytime to help. I am only a phone call, text, email or visit away. Until then –

God of enduring faithfulness, it is hard to see my loved one deteriorate before my eyes. I can only image how I would feel in their condition. There are times when they react out of their pain or frustration. Please give me the patience to love them no matter what, help me always to be Christ-like. I need Your loving touch on my spirit, so I will always react out of love and empathy. Heavenly Father, please take control and lead out in love through me. Amen.

Grace and Blessings on your journey –

Debbie

C. Steven Melester, Pastor
Burnt Factory United Methodist Church
1943 Jordan Springs Road
P. O. Box 399
Stephenson, VA 22656
Tele. (540) 667-4993
www.burntfactory.org

Sharma Lewis, Resident Bishop
Virginia Conference
Richmond, Virginia

Rev. Dr. Steven Summers
Winchester, VA 22601
www.winchesterdistrictumc.org

BURNT FACTORY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 2020

***A Message Regarding
Burnt Factory's
2020 Church Picnic***

Friends, it is with great disappointment we are unable to have our Church Picnic at this time. Originally scheduled for Saturday, August 8th, there is still an opportunity we may gather later in the Fall. Thank you for your grace as we navigate the trying circumstances. Our desire is to err on the side of caution. May the virus go away and fried chicken take its place.

Joy and Peace, Rob

Rob Moss
Church Administrator