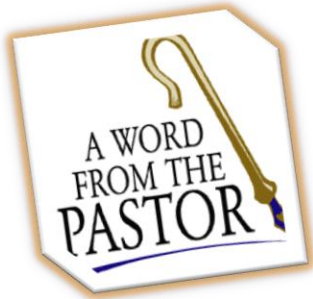




OUR MISSION STATEMENT:
Sharing the Love
of Christ with All People

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

*“Let your light shine before men that
they may see your good deeds and praise
your Father in Heaven.” Matthew 5:16*



In the fourth chapter of Paul's letter to the church in Philippi, he lays out a stress reduction plan!! I think in these difficult and challenging days, we all could use a little stress reduction --- Amen?

When we reduce the fourth chapter down to its plain truth, we come up with these 15 stress reducers.

1. WORK OUT your difficulties with others.
2. HELP those around you.
3. REJOICE in the Lord always.
4. SLOW DOWN and be gentle.
5. REMEMBER that “God is near.”
6. LET GO of all your anxieties.
7. HAND them over to God.
8. ALLOW God's peace to guard your heart and mind.
9. FOCUS on the positives of life.
10. DO what you already know you should do.
11. BE CONTENT with whatever situation you are in.
12. CLAIM the promise that “I can do everything through him who gives me strength.”
13. ACCEPT the help and encouragement of others.
14. TRUST God to meet all your needs.
15. GIVE God all the glory.

“To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever.” Phil. 4: 20

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.” Amen Phil. 4: 23

*Grace and Peace,
Pastor Steve*





September 2020
Relay for Life Newsletter Article

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

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month is recognized every September by childhood cancer organizations around the world.

Each year in the U.S. an estimated 15,780 Children aged 0 – 19 are diagnosed with cancer.	Approximately 1 in 285 Children in the U.S. will be diagnosed with cancer before their 20 th birthday.	Globally there are more than 300,000 Children diagnosed with cancer each year.
20 % of children with cancer in the U.S. will not survive it.	Every 3 minutes a family hears devastating words that their child has been diagnosed with cancer.	Cancer remains the # 1 cause of death for children in America.
<i>...because kids can't fight cancer alone!</i>		

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



**OCTOBER
Newsletter
Article
Deadline**

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 October newsletter, I will be needing your October articles by.....

3:00pm on Wednesday, September 30th.

I will be sending the October newsletter on **Friday, October 2nd.**

Thanks, Charly



- 1st Delilah Murphy
- 2nd Marilyn Davies
- 4th Angela Wiseman
Bob Hunt
Crystalyn Edwards
Zayne Bryant
Cecilyn Bayliss
- 5th Jim Blankenship
Randy Willis
Denise Willis
- 8th David Werdebaugh
Linda Bodkin
- 9th Glen Boudier
- 11th Betty Livengood
- 16th Jennifer Stinnette
- 18th Brendan & Colton Luttrell
- 19th Fred Snyder
Sylvia Woods
- 20th Sequoia Britton
- 22nd Liz Duvall
Brandy Woods
Mallory Henschen
- 23rd Zoey Corron
- 26th Grant Henschen
- 30 Debbie Burke
Carter Kerr

*Happy Birthday,
Everyone*



- 2nd Adam & Brandy Woods
- 9th Steve & Melanie Melester
- 21st Jim & Amy Shepley

*Happy Anniversary,
Everyone*



Do we have...

your @ e-mail.address?

*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



Buddy's Jokes for September



The baseball players were complaining about it being too hot!
The reason for it is they don't have any "Fans" in the stands!



The baseball bases are all 90ft. apart. Why does it take you longer to run between 2nd and 3rd? Because there's a shortstop in between the bases!



I went to the pizza shop and asked for a large pizza because I was hungry.
The pizza man asked if I wanted it cut into 8 pieces.
I said "No, cut it into 4 pieces. I don't think I can eat 8 pieces!"



Some interesting info here; but not sure if all are true, but they sounds good.

Submitted by Sue Swimlay

WHY?..Why do men's clothes have buttons on the right while women's clothes have buttons on the left?
BECAUSE..When buttons were invented, they were very expensive and worn primarily by the rich. Since most people are right-handed, it is easier to push buttons on the right through holes on the left. Because wealthy women were dressed by maids, dressmakers put the buttons on the maid's right! And that's where women's buttons have remained since.

WHY?..Why do ships and aircraft use "mayday" as their call for help?
BECAUSE..This comes from the French word m'aidez – meaning 'help me' – and is pronounced, approximately, 'mayday.'

WHY? Why are zero scores in tennis called 'love'
BECAUSE..In France, where tennis became popular, the round zero on the scoreboard looked like an egg and was called 'l'oeuf,' which is French for 'the egg.' When tennis was introduced in the US, Americans (naturally), mispronounced it 'love.'

Need to laugh some more? Well, here goes?

PEOPLE who think time heals everything haven't sat it out in a doctor's waiting room.

ONE MAN said to another, "I got my wife a lady's wristwatch." "Did she like it?" the second man said. "Yes, but then the lady showed up and took it back."

A CYNIC was standing in front of an exhibition of local art talent labeled "Art Objects."
"Well," he announced to the attendant in charge, "I should think Art would object, and I can't say I would blame him."

WHAT DO YOU CALL an apology written in dots and dashes? Re-morse code.

THE BOSS asked the employee, "How long have you been working here?"
"Ever since I heard you coming down the hall," came the reply.



Can you believe it's been six months since we have met as a group? I will share some of the info from the District UMW August Newsletter. Since the Clarion Hotel and Perkins Restaurant closed, the Banquet Room that housed our annual Prayer Breakfast will not be available. They are looking for options that might be available and will let us know when this challenge has been solved. They are thinking of moving the Prayer Breakfast, normally held in March, to August 2021.

A Virtual Annual Meeting will be held September 27. More info and format will be coming from the conference soon, and it will be sent to the unit presidents. I checked on our Living Into Our Purpose Form and by this time normally, we would have done 23 of the suggestions. I turned in 10 on August 20th. Having only had meetings in October, December, and February, we were fortunate to have accomplished what we did. Let me stress that we have new books in the library under the UMW Reading Program. Karen Willis ordered some for us. When you are at church, check the library for some UMW books!

Also, I got news that there is no need to cut the cancelled stamps off our letters. The contact person in that project is no longer available. So until something is worked out, there is no need to cut them off your mail. I am so programmed to do that, I don't know if I can refrain from that or not!!

As you know the Beef Barbecue will not be held September 19th at the Ruritan Building. This was to be a UMW project with profits going to Project Esperanza. Unfortunately, it just is not a safe time to be working together and only be serving take-outs. The number of those would be risky when we have paid so much for the beef. But there will be better days ahead and we will go back to fixing these tasty meals.

Anne Perrault, our treasurer, has continued to send in our district pledge each quarter. The 3rd quarter amount is due September 8. I am happy to report we are able to meet any obligations we have. But without the Apple Butter donation (if that is cancelled) we will have to depend more on our own individual pledges. Our pledge service is scheduled for October, so we'll see if we feel safe in having that meeting. But even though we are not meeting regularly, many of you continue to reach out to be the face, hands and feet of Jesus.

We still await word on where to drop off the 50 school kits we have prepared. Thanks to Susan Hyatt for getting our kits boxed up. Many of you have shopped for supplies for next year. We can use more blunt scissors, pencil sharpeners, composition books (70 pgs.) and notebook paper packs.

Continue to remember your prayer partner with prayer and any creative ways you can. There were a few gifts on the table in the Fellowship Hall. Check it out. I miss having our meetings with the delicious refreshments, chatting with friends and doing the work of our organization. I know you are praying for an end to this pandemic and we won't be hearing about social distancing, masks, positive testing, illnesses and even deaths. Even though we don't hug as we go back to worshipping in church, we can smile with our eyes and feel the presence of the Holy Spirit and see our friends! Thanks to Pastor Steve, Rob, Carrie, Glen and Sam for making this situation as good as it can be right now. Thank you, God, for continuing to be there for us!!

Blessings, Polly Duvall, president



Burnt Factory United Methodist Men



In these topsy-turvy times of coronavirus it is sometimes difficult to determine what is up and what is down. But I do know one thing, Jesus Christ is still my Lord and Savior and nothing will ever change that. Whatever this crazy world puts in our path we can always know that God is still in control and we need to put our trust and faith in him. Joshua 24:15 tells us "...But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." Even in these difficult times, we WILL serve the Lord!!

As you all know with all of the communications shared by Pastor Steve and our Healthy Church Team (HCT) with the recent move back to in-person worship services that things have changed a little bit. The Virginia Annual Conference developed a Technical Assistance Manual (TAM) that the HCT must abide by in order to return to in-person worship services. The TAM also guides events that are church sponsored on church property and even not on church property.

So after discussion with Pastor Steve and the United Methodist Men's leadership team we have made the difficult decision to cancel our Annual Apple Butter project. As you all know the Apple Butter project is an entire church project requiring many hands to pull off. We require a lot of participation to make our world famous Apple Butter. With the restrictions that COVID-19 has created, including social distancing and wearing of masks, it would not be feasible for us to attempt to pull off this huge church project. I know that this is the situation that we are in, but it still saddens me deeply that we cannot hold this time tested tradition of Burnt Factory UMC and that many of the saints of our church laid the groundwork for. But I am comforted in knowing that they would be behind this decision as we work towards getting back to some type of 'normal' while also keeping everyone safe. I will miss our gathering of apples, the comraderie of our Thursday peeling and snitting and of course our overnight adventure of stirring 85+ bushels of apples into our wonderful Apple Butter. I will miss Joe Hulver's midnight deer dogs; I will miss the stories by the fire place; I will miss seeing hundreds of people sitting together laughing, fellowshiping and snitting apples; I will miss the delicious food that the ladies (and gentlemen) from our church bring to feed the workers; I will miss Keith and Eddie working their magic over the kettles; I will miss Polly Duvall's wonderful early morning breakfast; I will miss seeing Jason Corron covered in Apple Butter as he empties the Apple Butter from the kettles; I will miss Tim Stinnette yelling 'hot butter' as he carries the wonderful Apple Butter to the many volunteers that are jarring the final product; I will miss seeing Rob Moss in his Gorton's fisherman outfit power washing the Apple Butter kettles and paddles.

This decision while difficult was also easy. We love you all too much to allow this horrible coronavirus to infect anyone. But we do know this, Apple Butter 2021 will be back and better than ever.

I trust that God will keep you all safe and free of this Coronavirus and that sooner rather than later we will be able to worship together and be able to hug, laugh and enjoy each other as we always have.

God is good, all of the time. All of the time, God is Good.

If anyone has any questions feel free to contact me (540) 207-7404; tamtut@comcast.net.

Steve Cunningham

President, Burnt Factory UMMen



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

Blessings Friends –

We had a good meeting in August with total of 5 in attendance. A big thank you to Theresa Gilbert for joining and sharing information she received on “A Walk in the World of Dementia.” The information is designed to teach the stages of dementia and how to help, and work with, those living with dementia throughout each stage. She shared Dementia Care: The 6 Stages & Gems by Teepa Snow, MS, OTR/L, and FAOTA.

GEMS – After years of studying and working with dementia care, Teepa developed GEMS – a tool to help you conquer challenges and improve a person’s outcomes. Her approach categorizes stages of dementia into 6 different gemstones, each with a unique set of characteristics to highlight what helps – or doesn’t help, when caring for someone at that stage.

I will be mailing out copies to the caregiver’s who were not able to attend. If anyone would like a more detailed chart of “The Living Gems,” please email me and I would love to mail out a copy to you as well.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, Sept. 8th @ 7:00 pm, in the Fellowship Hall

I will be covering a devotional and discussion on “Clay Jar Caregivers.” Taken from II Corinthians 4:7-9 *“But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all—surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.”* We will follow with open conversation and fellowship on how the past month has gone with our loved ones.

Our topics lately have been along the lines of dementia/Alzheimer’s, but no matter what the topic, it all comes down to caregiving is caregiving, no matter what the illness. If you are a caregiver for someone who doesn’t have dementia or Alzheimer’s, please join us. I would love to offer topics which would be of interest to you. Remember, whatever your caregiving situation happens to be, being able to talk about struggles, frustrations, or issues, with the help of loving and caring people may be just what you need to see you through the next few weeks.

Anyone is welcome to join our group, you do not need to be a member of Burnt Factory UMC. Please feel free to invite a friend, co-worker, associate, or family members. We do practice social distancing and ask everyone to wear a mask.

Dear Holy Father, you are a good and gracious God who loves us very much. Give us confidence in knowing that you will walk alongside us to guide our every decision and provide wisdom, strength and encouragement for each caregiving moment. Help us to remember that when we feel overwhelmed or lonely, tired or anxious, you are always there to lift our burdens and our spirits. Thank you for hearing our whispered prayers when we are weak and our joyous praise when we have experienced a victory. AMEN

Grace and Blessings on your journey
Debbie





Faith Community Nurse Health Corner

As we travel down this path in the unknown, fearful and frustrating time of COVID-19 I wonder about your physical health. Are you staying as safe as possible by avoiding contact with others as much as possible? Do you always wear a mask when you are out in the public? Are washing your hands frequently? I wonder about your mental health. Is it well with your soul? Do you wonder where God is in all of this? Have you noticed this summer how many different shades of blue the sky is and how the clouds seem whiter and fluffier than ever before. Have you noticed how beautiful the flowers are; with their vivid colored blooms that seem to be lasting longer than usual?

Has this beauty always been there? Have I not noticed it before because my life before the Corona virus was just too busy? I choose to believe that God has painted the sky and flowers with such vivid color to get my attention and to remind me that He is with me always and that I don't need to be so frightened.

*"The Lord is with you when you are with him. If you seek Him, He will be found by you."
2 Corinthians 15:2*

In a devotional by Laura Story, she writes. *"Sometimes life can be so full of craziness and stress that we lose the sense of God's nearness. But even when we feel alienated from the Father, He is never alienated from us, we are mistaken; He hasn't moved at all. God is constantly making Himself available to us, but when we become overwhelmed by the occasional distractions or inevitable disappointments of every-day life, we may be unwilling - or unable to feel His presence or His love. The next time you feel overwhelmed by the demands of life, remember that our God isn't a distant God. He is always present; His love for you is personal, intimate, and eternal. If you genuinely desire to open your heart to the Creator, you can do so because He is not just near; He is here."*

*"God walks with us. He scoops us up in His arms or simply sits with us in silent strength until we cannot avoid the awesome recognition that yes, even now, He is here."
Gloria Gaither*

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.



From a branch on the Vine,

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground" (Genesis 1:26). Apparently, this doesn't apply to cats. I admit I am biased. In my experiences with felines, I have not encountered one who is loyal or kind. Their affection is based on food or they want to be scratched. When they get what they want, they're gone. I prefer a dog, but we have a cat.



I realize many of you will disagree with me about the value of a cat. Is either of us wrong? No, we have different viewpoints. I won't make you trade your cat for a dog, and it is very doubtful you can convince me a cat is the better choice. Can we go on with our friendship? I hope so! Paul in his letter to the church in Rome (and to us) writes, "*If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.*" (Romans 12:18) Is it possible to disagree and live in peace?

Paul charges his brothers and sisters in Christ to "live in harmony with each other." A definition of harmony is "the **combination** of simultaneously sounded musical notes to produce chords and chord progressions having a **pleasing effect.**" Does a flute sound like a violin or a bass drum like a trombone? No, but the "combination" of instruments produces a "pleasing effect." Separately, a bass, tenor, alto, baritone and soprano can sing the same song at a different level, but, together, they can sing with the fullness of the music. Combining differences can yield beauty. So why is it our differences often yield something ugly?

What causes differences to become divisive wounds? Does the proselytizing of our opinions to the exclusion of other viewpoints make us happy? You are just dumb or ignorant if you don't think like I do. Wow! Would you attribute that to the Christian mind? Don't get me wrong; I am preaching to myself. I don't get the cat thing...but, you might and that is OK with me. Can we find relationship yet not be in agreement?

To find a path forward, we look to the example of Jesus. Jesus was a Jew. Jews didn't like Samaritans; yet, Jesus chose Samaritans to be examples of worshippers of God. The Woman at the Well and the Good Samaritan teach the lesson of seeing the wholeness of the person and not just the part we don't agree with. As a 1st century Jew hearing Jesus words, I would be convicted of my prejudice against a people who weren't like me. I am still convicted in 2020 of thinking that I have the right answers. Do I really think I know the mind of God? Do you?

I do know many people who I am very fortunate to call friend but don't see eye-to-eye with. It would be arrogant to think I am right and they are wrong. Then, how can we move forward? By not looking to defeat each other. We are ALL children of God and ALL have a special place in the heart of God. Recognizing God thinks each of us (even cat-lovers) is special, should give us pause to listen to each other and find the ground we can travel together. That path is the way that leads to life.

It may be complicated or it could be really simple: "*So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.*" (Matthew 7:12). The Golden Rule. Take a breath, listen, respect your fellow human being.

In Christ, *Rob*





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.

On Sunday, Aug 16, our church served lunch to over 40 CCAP clients. Cheryl and Mark Jones led the team and we had a great time sharing this fried chicken meal. This mission is done monthly at CCAP on the 3rd Sunday as part of our Outreach Ministry. Our next Lunch will be served on September 20th starting at noon at CCAP. We are usually finished by 1:00. Hope Owens will be the team lead for this meal. We would love to have more volunteers for preparing food and serving. If you would like to be part of the September meal at CCAP, please contact Hope at hyotio@yahoo.com or 540-533-3786.

The CCAP buildings remain closed to clients; but we continue to serve those in need with food, pet food, detergent, and cleaning supplies. Financial Assistance is also being given. A diaper and children's clothing giveaway is planned for the last Saturday in August. We were recently able to reopen the Clothing House. Clients sign up via email for appointment times. Volunteers shop for the clients and meet them on the front porch of the Clothing House to give them their clothes. We are all praying we can open soon and allow clients to shop for their needs for food and clothes.

Current needs at CCAP:

Pantry: Help is needed to pack food boxes, stock shelves and give out food to clients who have signed up for appointments. Food appointments **are Mon-Fri** from 11-1. Tuesdays: Need 2 people 10am-1:30pm. **Wednesdays:** Need 2 people 10am-1:30pm. **Fridays:** Need 1 person 10am-1:30pm.

Drivers: Need drivers on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings. It is helpful if you have a team of 2--- you will be driving to local stores to pick up donated food, bring it back to CCAP, weigh it and put it away. You will drive a CCAP van. The runs start around 8am and take up to 2 hours. You must have a valid driver's license. This would be a running commitment of one day a week.

Front Door: Need volunteers to monitor the front door from 10am-1pm Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. You will answer questions that clients have. Clients do not come into the building; they are distanced outside the front door. This would be one day a week, WEEKLY commitment (unless you want more than one day).

Phones: Need volunteers to answer phones 10am-1pm on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays. This would be one day a week, WEEKLY commitment (unless you want more than one day).

Meals: We are looking for people to bring and serve lunches and dinners in September and October for our clients of no fixed address. Lunches are served Mon-Fri from 12-1. Dinners are served Tues and Friday from 5:30 – 6:30.

Other Needs: Rain ponchos and umbrellas are needed for our clients of no fixed address. These ladies and gentleman have no way to keep themselves or their belongings dry in the rain. We're also looking for new or gently used sheets and towels. Donations can be dropped off M-F 11am-1pm.

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.

Thanks so much to our loyal volunteers from Burnt Factory that are providing meals, packing bags, doing pickups and drop-offs, taking the recycling weekly and helping out in many other ways. This organization could not run without the Volunteers.

Thank you for your continued prayers and amazing donations to CCAP.

Patty Leonard

Majestic Mountains



*Majestic mountains bring peace to the soul
Giving strength to make us feel whole
God's wisdom in creating this land
Our gratefulness for His power of hand
Peace comes in the quiet of His Grace
Restoring once again our faith*

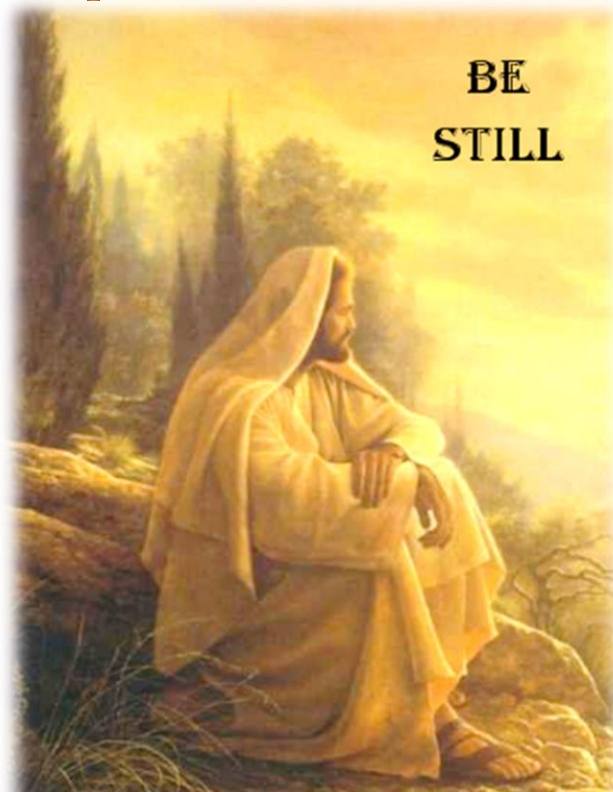
*Thought I'd share another poem with you. This one was written in early 1996.
I hope you like it. Charly*

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
September 2020 Newsletter*



"Be still and know that I am God" Psalm 46:10