

# SMOKE SIGNAL

## MAY 2021 CHURCH NEWSLETTER

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:  
SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST  
WITH ALL PEOPLE

BURNT FACTORY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
1943 JORDAN SPRINGS ROAD  
P. O. BOX 399  
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*

### *From a branch on the Vine.*

Can it really be May? Apple Blossom, Mother's Day, Memorial Day and the bonus of my wife's birthday. Plenty to celebrate; plenty of opportunity to be together (remembering Covid-19 is still around). Are your plans coming together? I am asking you to include the fellowship of church into those plans.



Burnt Factory UMC is here. We are worshipping in-person at 8:30 and 11:00 every Sunday (don't think it will snow anytime soon). With masks and limited exposure, we gather to **thank** God for His blessings and to **seek** His Spirit to be better people. God is in all things and surrounds us and fills us; and He calls us to gather as the body of Christ. Come together.

We come to **thank** Him. While we are sinning against Him and each other, He is loving us. Jesus was whipped, beaten, and nailed to a cross for what we have done. We killed Him. Because we couldn't bear the justice, He took it all on Himself. We are free because of Jesus. Is that something to be grateful for? Without Jesus, this world is the best there is. With Jesus, there is heaven here and eternally. Come with a grateful heart.

#### **Psalm 100:**

*<sup>4</sup> Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and praise his name.*

*<sup>5</sup> For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;  
his faithfulness continues through all generations.*

We come **seeking** Him to help us be better. My family has received hundreds of cards and gifts; thousands of words of encouragement; millions of caring thoughts. God delivers His blessings to us through His people. My family would have stumbled if it were not for the love poured out on us by God through the church family. Our Lord inspires us to do the right thing. Come seek God and His renewal of your soul.

Some may say they will not gather with the church family until they can sing or embrace unmasked. Each person must decide the why and when for coming to church, and God does not desire anyone be put at risk. Still God wants us to be together. Community is important, but it is not the first reason for church. God is to be praised; community flows from Him. The singing, the hugs, the sharing are part of acknowledging God as the giver of all good things.

Thank you, Lord. Your forgiveness unburdens our hearts, and your grace has given us life. We desire to be together with you.

May God richly bless you and grant you goodness and love all the days of your life. Come and dwell in the house of the Lord.

In Christ, *Rob*



# may BIRTHDAYS

- 1<sup>st</sup> Tom Shepley  
Dan Hayton
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Eloise Woods
- 5<sup>th</sup> Danette Heinlein
- 8<sup>th</sup> Gianna Cisneros
- 9<sup>th</sup> Susie Gerometta
- 13<sup>th</sup> Emilia Rodgers  
Regina Baldwin
- 15<sup>th</sup> Kenneth Roberts
- 17<sup>th</sup> Tucker Simmers  
Gracyn Corron
- 19<sup>th</sup> Ben Melester  
Jerry Baldwin
- 21<sup>st</sup> Rob Lemons
- 24<sup>th</sup> Jason Smith  
Annellee Buchele
- 28<sup>th</sup> Harriett Hanke  
Debbie Moss
- 29<sup>th</sup> Lizzie Miiller  
Lily Hayton
- 31<sup>st</sup> Lilly Thompson  
Vickie Thompson  
Beth Kerns  
Dave Darsie



# may ANNIVERSARIES

- 20<sup>th</sup> Dan & Rachel Hayton
- 25<sup>th</sup> Mike & Denise Repine

## NewsLetter DEADLINE

This is your "Friendly Reminder" for those people who regularly send me their newsletter articles and for anyone who may have an article for the **JUNE** newsletter, please send me your articles by...

**3:00pm on Wednesday, MAY 26<sup>th</sup>.**

I will be printing and sending the newsletter on **Friday, MAY 28<sup>th</sup>.**

*Thanks, Charly*

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

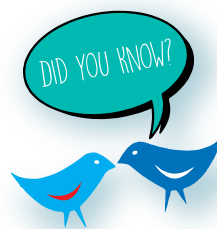


Pastor Steve has special notices he needs to send to those who attend Burnt Factory. The notices will include not only prayer concerns, but also schedule changes during bad weather.

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](mailto:john.k.roberts@comcast.net) with the message:

**"ADD ME TO THE CHURCH EMAIL LIST"**



If you know of anyone in our church who would like to receive the monthly Church Newsletter in the regular mail (or snail mail as some call it), would you let me know and I'll be glad to send them one.

All I need is their name and address.

*Thanks, Charly*

**Okay, Good People, here are Buddy's Chuckles for the month of May!!!!**

Question: What did the **drummer** name her three daughters?

Answer: Anna 1, Anna 2, Anna 1 2 3 4!

Question: What's blue and smells like red paint?

Answer: Blue paint!

Question: What do you call a pile of **cats**?

Answer: A **meowntain**!

Question: What do you call a lazy baby **kangaroo**?

Answer: A **pouch potato**!



**Now for some more chuckles!!!!**

"Dad! Leave me **alone**!" "Okay, **how much** do you want?"

"Dad, your jokes are hilarious. I think I have your sense of humor." "Well, give it back!"

"Dad, wouldn't it be fun if we made our own **butter**?" "But won't that take an **echurnity**?"

"Honey, come here. It is **raining moose**. No, that's not **moose**. It is only **Rein, Deer!**"

Did you hear about the town that had a big **molasses** spill? It sounded like a **sticky** situation!

**Until Next Month! Dat's All Folks!**



**DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES**



**CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES**

**HEY KIDS!** We will have a Blooming for Jesus event on May 8<sup>th</sup> at the church shelter from 12-2. There will be lots of fun stuff to do! We will paint our own pots to plant seeds in, nature crafting, and spending time with Jesus in the nature he loves.

**OUR NURSERY AND CHILDREN'S CHURCH MINISTRIES** are here and ready to spread the love of Jesus to all the kiddos who come in our doors! We are mask wearing and social distancing but we are having fun too!

**SAVE THE DATE:** Summer Camp: Children K-5 are welcome to attend our summer camp program Dig Deeper with Jesus. It is an archeology theme. We have games, snack, lunch, activities, crafts and story time. We will meet at the church shelter, June 21, 22, 23 from 9-1pm.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** July 12-16. Ages 3 yrs to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. More information to come later!

**YOUTH MINISTRIES**



May 23 4-6pm Youth Movie Night. We will watch "I Can Only Imagine." Popcorn and drinks will be served. We will meet in the Social Hall.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Youth Summer Mission Opportunity July 23, 24, 25. We will do onsite missions here at Burnt Factory. We will camp here, work here, and worship here! All youth 6<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to attend this function!

Wishing you all wonderful peace and mega blessings,

**Love,**

**Carrie Fair**

**Minister of Children and Youth**



**Hearts of Grace**  
**Caregiver Support Group**  
Contact: Debbie Walker  
Email: [dswalker1@yahoo.com](mailto:dswalker1@yahoo.com)  
(540)664-0908 Cell / (540)667-6711 Home  
Monthly/Second Tuesday @ 7:00

### **WHAT IS: God's Heart on Caregiving?**

Care originates with God, who cares for you. Scripture is filled with examples of His loving care and compassion.

***"The Father of compassion and the God of all comfort...comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with comfort we ourselves receive from God." 2 Corinthians 1:3-4***

**Old Testament Examples of God's Care for You:** The God of the Old Testament is the same God in the New Testament. Whatever the situation—God knows, understands, and provides.

***"I the Lord do not change." Malachi 3:6***

God **knows** your situation.

***"I cared for you in the wilderness, in the land of burning heat." Hosea 13:5***

God **understands** how you feel.

***"In a desert land he found him, in a barren and howling waste. He shielded Him and cared for him; he guarded him as the apple of his eye"***  
**Deuteronomy 32:10**

God **provides** for your needs.

***"For he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care."***  
**Psalms 95:7**

**New Testament Examples of Caring for Others:** The New Testament abounds with examples of giving care to others. Whether you are a nurse, a parent, a teacher, an employee—whatever your role—caregiving is a calling and comes from the heart—the heart of a servant, a heart of sacrifice, and it follows the heart of the Shepherd.

***"Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all."***  
**Mark 9:35**

**A Caring Servant's Heart:** Providing for practical needs

***"Many women were there, watching from a distance. They had followed Jesus from Galilee to care for his needs." Matthew 27:55***

**A Caring Sacrificial Heart:** Providing for physical needs

***"He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him."***  
**Luke 10:34**

**A Caring Shepherd's Heart:** Providing for protection needs

***"Jesus said, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He answered, 'Yes, Lord, you know that I love you. 'Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep"***  
**John 21:16**

**Our Next meeting will be: Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm BFUMC Fellowship Hall**

**Topics: Dementia Communication Tips**

**Ways to respond when they keep repeating the same thing over and over**  
**Ways to respond when they say "I want to go home"**

**Wishing You Peace, Love and Joy**  
**Debbie**



*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.*

## **OUR CHURCH CONTINUES TO SUPPORT CCAP IN MANY WAYS ~**

We have an amazing team of volunteers that pack food bags each Tuesday evening. Whether we have to pack 125 bags or 60, this group is always willing to work hard and fill these bags so they are available to give out to CCAP clients. We have also worked sorting clothes and doing other projects as they are needed. We usually work for about 1.5 hours on these evenings. We would love for you to join us.

## **LUNCH AT CCAP ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH ~**

Thanks Danette and Tim Heinlein for leading our lunch serving team in April. Many clients were served a delicious, hot post Easter meal in front of CCAP. The clients had ham, sides, snacks and hard-boiled Easter eggs provided by our youth. The eggs, as always, were a big hit. **THANK YOU** to all who continue to provide food and serve as part of this ministry. We enjoy this opportunity to share some of the gifts we have been blessed with. Laine and Sean Everhart will be leading the lunch team on May 16. We will start packing the meals at 11:15 at Hope's and should be finished serving by 1. If you would like to be part of this Outreach; please contact Laine at 540-660-1331 or [laine.everhart@comcast.net](mailto:laine.everhart@comcast.net).

## **VOLUNTEER NEEDS AT CCAP ~**

- We are hoping to expand the hours of operation at CCAP. In order to do that, more volunteers are needed. Two hours a week in any of the available slots would be valuable.
- Volunteers for special giveaways.

## **DONATION NEEDS:**

- Gently used jeans for men, women, and children in all sizes
- Spring and Summer clothes for all
- Adult Backpacks
- Tents, tarps, and sleeping bags

Please contact me, Hope Owens, Penny Croll or anyone on the Outreach Committee if you would like to volunteer.

*Patty Leonard – Outreach CCAP Rep*





## *United Methodist Women*



It was great to have 12 members attend the April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting in the sanctuary. We remembered Nancy Hulver, whose death occurred January 16<sup>th</sup>. She was an active member and joined in on all our activities. We will miss her smiling face and faithful presence.

We signed many cards to our shut-ins as well as our district prayer partner, Market Street UMW, thanks to Jani Shope, and we approved the December minutes since there was no February meeting due to bad weather.

Anne Perrault gave the treasurer's report. Thanks to those who have made pledges to bolster our treasury.

Debbie Walker presented a very interesting program about purses (sizes and shapes) and how they relate to us and our relationship with God, remembering that God is in control of our lives. We were also treated to a "game" of checking off many items that we carry in our purses. Each item was worth points. We then totaled our points and were rewarded with prizes from her generous basket. Thanks, Debbie, with always coming up with interesting and thoughtful ideas.

Penny Croll gave us some up-to-date information on Project Esperanza. Penny keeps in touch with Caitlin McHale Floreal, who fills us in on how things are progressing there at the school.

We want to remember our prayer partners. Cards sent through the mail are very meaningful and if you want to remember them with a gift, they can be brought to the church Social Hall and Polly will let them know of the gift.

We mentioned the possibility of meeting during the day to accommodate those who do not drive at night. Penny also offered to pick up anyone who would like to come to our meetings. We do have several members who work during the day. All this was food for thought.

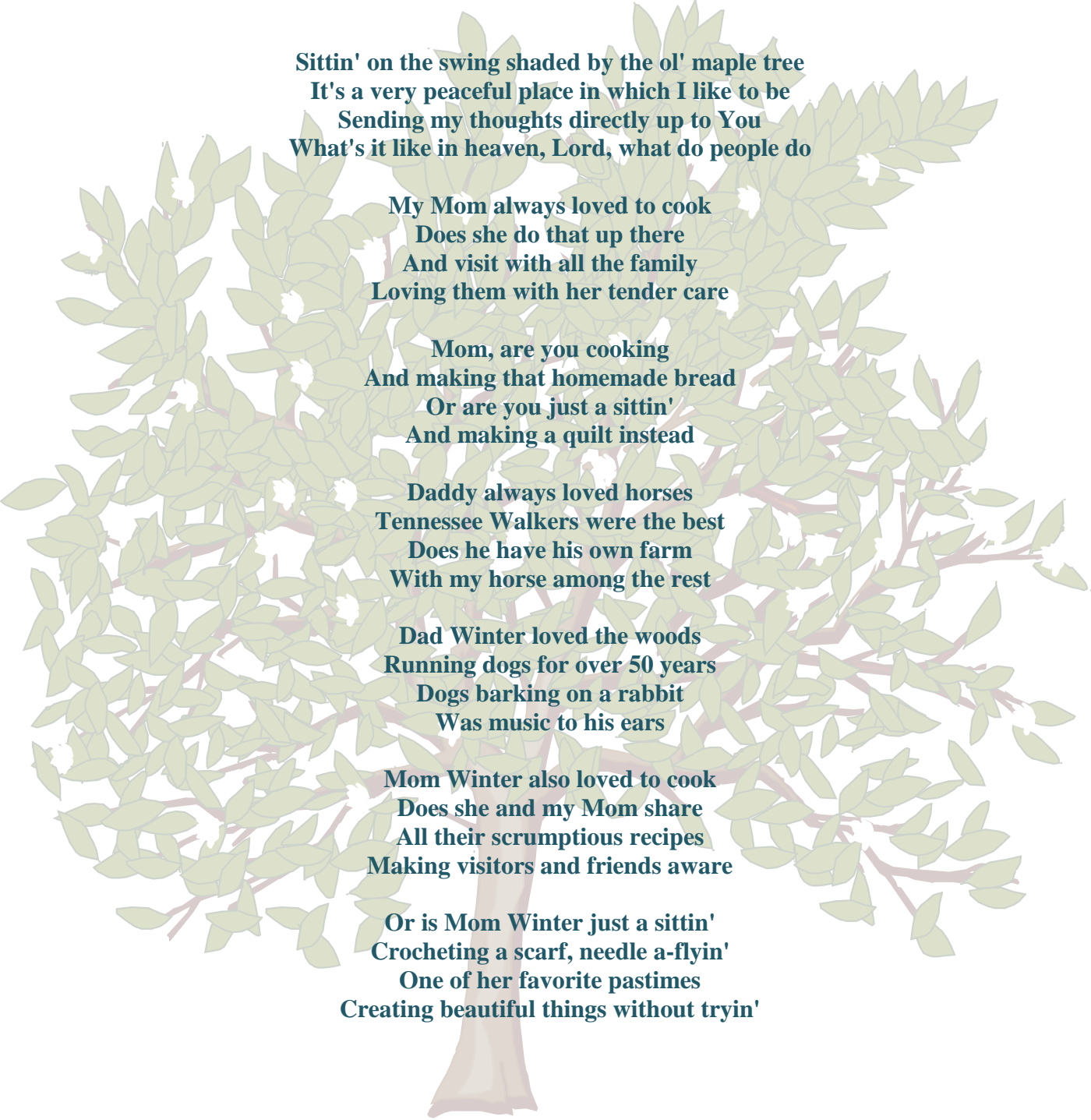
Our missionary names included their birthdays and we were encouraged to send them birthday greetings by e-mail. Packets of seeds were also attached to spread and watch what comes up!

Our June meeting will be held on the 17<sup>th</sup> in the sanctuary most likely. Program leader will be Doris Duvall with our annual Call to Prayer program.

Christina Rohrbach served as secretary in the absence of Diana Smith, recovering from surgery.

*Blessings, Polly Duvall, president*

## ASKING GOD



Sittin' on the swing shaded by the ol' maple tree  
It's a very peaceful place in which I like to be  
Sending my thoughts directly up to You  
What's it like in heaven, Lord, what do people do

My Mom always loved to cook  
Does she do that up there  
And visit with all the family  
Loving them with her tender care

Mom, are you cooking  
And making that homemade bread  
Or are you just a sittin'  
And making a quilt instead

Daddy always loved horses  
Tennessee Walkers were the best  
Does he have his own farm  
With my horse among the rest

Dad Winter loved the woods  
Running dogs for over 50 years  
Dogs barking on a rabbit  
Was music to his ears

Mom Winter also loved to cook  
Does she and my Mom share  
All their scrumptious recipes  
Making visitors and friends aware

Or is Mom Winter just a sittin'  
Crocheting a scarf, needle a-flyin'  
One of her favorite pastimes  
Creating beautiful things without tryin'

Written by Charlene T. Winter  
Sometime in the summer of 1998  
while sitting on the front porch in  
Mom and Dad Winter's old white swing  
in the shade of the big maple tree  
(added finishing touches June 21, 1999)

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