



April



SMOKE SIGNAL
2023

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, Virginia 22656
burntfactory.org
PH: (540) 667-4993

A Message from Our Pastor:

We live in interesting times, don't we? Who would have ever believed in their wildest dreams that the UMC would be at such a divide? The issues and challenges brought about by different interpretations of scriptures surrounding human sexuality have reached a boiling point.

In many churches, where these issues have never caused a problem, people are now having to choose sides. There are still many faithful Methodists but many are just plain tired of conflict and have either quit the church or have moved on. Where there was never mistrust of leadership before, there is now apprehension, doubt and wild scenario's being embraced. Where there was harmony and peace there is now discord and factions. Where there was a common vision and purpose, there is now a lack of clarity.

The UMC family is fractured. How sad and how unnecessary. Both laity and clergy are feeling the stress and strain, and yes, fear of the unknown. The evil one is smiling! Everything is going just as he planned. Divide and conquer.

Where is Burnt Factory in all this continuing controversy? Has Burnt Factory stopped mission work? Has Burnt Factory quit loving each other? Has there been ugliness, bickering, and name-calling over the issues? Has there been heated arguments and dirty looks over the issues? Has Burnt Factory suffered a wide scale disappearance of members? Does Burnt Factory have money problems? Have we turned our backs on the community we serve? The answer to all these questions is a resounding, emphatic, **NO!**

Burnt Factory is thriving, and it can be argued that we are, as our District Superintendent said this past Monday Night, one of the most vital congregations in the district. Out of 154 churches in the Shenandoah River District, we are the second highest attended church in the district and lately we have been flirting with being the top attended church per Sunday. For the first quarter, we averaged 233 in physical presence and another 75 joining us through our streaming service. Our mission outreach is at an all-time high and very soon, (be on the look-out) we will be making some huge contributions to several of our signature community and global ministries.

We are taking in new members and re-instituting pre-pandemic ministries. We are not perfect. We have many areas where improvement is needed but unless I'm looking at things through rose-colored glasses, I would say, Burnt Factory is doing alright. Jesus is still being exalted! The Bible is still the word of God. Mission, service, and outreach are still the heart of our evangelism. The family that is Burnt Factory may have a disagreement from time to time, we may have different opinions and different politics, but the family is still alive and well and most important of all, the family is still intact! I pray that it stays that way. Don't you?

Pastor Steve



- 1st Kay Keller
Meaghan Powell
- 2nd Bruce Rodgers
- 3rd Jackson Jenkins
- 4th Dalton Earhart
Silas Fout
Ethan Britton
- 5th Allie Goode
Paul Gerometta
Rick Walker
Laine Everhart
- 8th Rich Wells
Eva Reed
- 9th Nicholas Pool
- 10th Chris Shepley
- 12th Pastor Steve Melester
Teddy Rudolph
Bonnie Rodgers
- 14th Christina Rohrbach
Emma Skarupa
- 16th Alex Shepley
- 19th Jason Corron
- 21st Kendra Moore
- 23rd Jody Dorsey
- 25th Kelley Zirk
Margie Willis
- 28th Layla Rodgers
- 29th Hannah Fair
- 30st Laura Moss



- 16th Darrin and Kim Bursey
- 19th Jason and Kalyn Corron
Dave and Martha Pool

BUDDY'S JOKES



1. Why can't fisherman get along?
2. Why did the girl have a crush on the fisherman?
3. What kind of fish likes bubblegum?
4. What's the best way to catch a fish?
5. Why is the baker so lazy?
6. What kind of ships do students study?
7. What can you serve but never eat?

Some people don't like fish puns, but they are kraken me up!



Easter

Chiefly are we bound to praise
Thee for the glorious
resurrection of thy son, Jesus
Christ, our Lord, who by His
death hath destroyed death, and
by His rising to life again hath
restored to us everlasting life.

We will see you when we see you.
Love You All,
Margie and Buddy

Answers on the next page.





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”

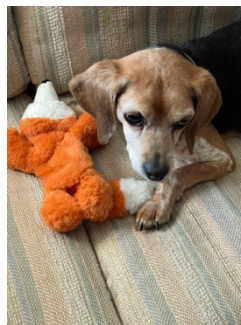


The church would like to recognize birthdays and anniversaries. We want to be given the opportunity to ask God to bless you with every kind of joy and happiness on your special day. With the new year, please submit birthdays and anniversaries that you would like to have printed in the church newsletter. Shyatt54@gmail.com



1. They are always de-baiting.
2. He was quite a catch.
3. Blowfish
4. Let someone throw it to you.
5. He is always Loafing around.
6. Scholar-ships
7. A tennis ball

In honor of **National Pet Day**, April 11th featured below are pictures of Tommy Tucker and Maggie. Karen Lynch is their doggie mom and a member of our congregation. (She is also an expert on flower gardens.) These puppies can be a handful, but Karen would not have it any other way. They are loyal companions and keep her entertained.



Maggie



Tommy Tucker



All youth grades 6-12 are invited to participate in the following events next month:

April 1st- Youth will meet at 10 AM in the Fellowship Hall to prep food to take to APM (motel next to Five Guys on Route 7). Youth will serve lunch for those in need along with providing toiletries.

April 22nd- The exterior parts of the church are in need of some TLC! So, in honor of "Earth Day," plan to meet from 10-12 to do some yard work. Parents of youth are ENCOURAGED to attend and lend a hand as well! Lunch will be provided after.



April 29th - Youth meeting at the church shelter from 4-6 PM. We will have games, fellowship, and dinner together.

Please RSVP to Miss Erin for any of the above events youth@burntfactory.org, or text 540-535-5283

YOUTH BUS DRIVER WANTED: ARE YOU SOMEONE WANTING TO HAVE AN AMAZING EXPERIENCE ON ONE OF OUR FUN YOUTH TRIPS? LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WILLING TO DRIVE THE BUS FOR CERTAIN EVENTS AND TO HELP CHAPERONE. IF YOU CAN DRIVE A MINIVAN, YOU CAN DRIVE THIS BUS; NO CERTIFICATION NEEDED! **ALL YOU CAN EAT SNACKS/BEVERAGES, AND INTERACTION WITH AMAZING YOUTH GUARANTEED!!** PLEASE LET MISS ERIN KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED (YOUTH@BURNTFACTORY.ORG, OR TEXT 540-535-5283)



April 16th begins the new rotation for Sunday School. The Unity class will conclude their study of Ruth/ Ester in the Fellowship Hall and then begin a study of Methodism facilitated by Pastor Steve. The Faithseekers (downstairs past the library) will be starting a video series titled NOOMA by Rob Bell. NOOMA is a series of short films that explore our world from a perspective of Jesus. The Grace class (lower cottage) will be studying the ways we tell our story – a witness to Jesus Christ.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DATES TO SAVE ON THE CALENDAR!!!!

APRIL 2

PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 9

EASTER SUNDAY

(*Egg Hunt & Twas the Morning of Easter Walkthrough)

JUNE 19-23

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JULY 10-12

SUMMER CAMP

We are growing! Please consider volunteering on Sunday mornings to help take part in these precious children's Christian journey. Please contact me if you can volunteer for any of these programs!

*Early Service Children's Church teacher

*Late Service Children's Church Teacher

*Sunday School Performing Arts Teacher (singing, acting, improvisation music, bells etc.)

Peace and Blessings,

Miss Carrie, Minister of Children and Family

2023 SUMMER MISSION TRIP

After a long hiatus, we are excited to share that Burnt Factory UMC will be sending a mission team out this summer! Our church believes that everyone is called to mission, and desires to provide opportunities for all to share their gifts and talents in Christian service. Volunteers are lay or clergy, young or old, with differing abilities, vocations and at different phases in life. Our 2023 summer mission team needs you!



We will be traveling to southeastern Pennsylvania along the Delaware River, just over 3 hours from Winchester. Many homes there were damaged by flooding when Hurricane Ida hit in September 2021; we will be a part of the rebuilding that is underway. The team will leave Winchester Sunday afternoon June 25 and return Friday June 30. Those who can serve for part of this time should also consider.

An initial mission trip meeting for anyone interested in learning more will be held in the Lower Cottage on Monday, April 10 at 7 p.m. Marcia Etu, our mission team leader, may also be contacted for information at marciametu@gmail.com or 518-744-5159.



April 2023 Faith Community Nurse Article

Tips for a Stress-Free Easter

"Praise be the God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3

Easter is a time for family get-togethers. Like any other holiday, there are expectations. A clean house, a perfectly set dinner table, delicious food, with nothing less than perfection.

It could also be a time of high-stress situations. A house full of relatives and friends can create feelings of anxiety and panic. Having to care for all these people might seem impossible at the time. You just might want to hide in the closet. Yet, you still keep striving for perfection. But your emotions can spiral into hopelessness as this happy time turns into a nightmare.

STOP AND THINK ABOUT YOU. THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU WANT. WHAT IS BEST FOR YOU? YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY JUST WANT TO SEE YOU HAPPY. IF IT MEANS THAT YOUR DOG DIDN'T GET A BATH THIS MORNING AND YOUR EASTER DINNER HAS ONLY 6 SIDE DISHES INSTEAD OF 10, IT'S OK.

If you are faced with challenges which make you feel uncomfortable or seem unrealistic, just say no. Your friends and family will be more than understanding. Don't make excuses, tell them how you feel and let them help!

Wishing you a stress-free Easter holiday, full of happiness and peace.

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.





CONDOLENCES

*As many have experienced the loss
of a loved one, please remember
them in prayer:*

Penny Elliot's mother-in-law, Jeanette Elliott claimed the promise of the resurrection.

The Rollison family suffered the loss of their sister-in-law, Karen.



Beth Neff became a grandmother and Millie Hood a great grandmother again as they welcomed **Evelyn** into the world last week. Congratulations!!!



Pathfinder Ministry

Contact: Debbie Walker

E-mail: dswalker1@yahoo.com

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

Monthly: 3rd Wednesday @ Noon

Fellowship Hall

Jesus wants his love for you to be your foundation as he walks with you through this emotion-filled season of grief. We welcome you to join us in fellowship, comfort and support.



Pathfinder Luncheon

Wed. April 19th, 2023

BFUMC Fellowship Hall

12:00 Noon

Info or Questions contact:

Debbie Walker

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

dswalker1@yahoo.com

Please Join Us

There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. If you are not sure ahead of time that you can make it, but on the day of the meeting you would like to come – PLEASE COME - YOU ARE WELCOME!

The Pathfinder Ministry is a safe space of compassion, respect, and encouragement for those currently experiencing the loss of a loved one, or have previously experienced loss. We will gather as a community of empathy, acceptance, and emotional support.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

“I can do all this through him who gives me strength.” Philippians 4:13

God keep you in his warm and comforting embrace,

Debbie Walker

The Believers - April 2023



Our next Believers meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 17th at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome!! You do not have to be a member of the church to be a "Believer", you just need to have the desire to fight cancer!!

We have decided as a group to support the non-profit, [Helping Hands Cancer Outreach](#). The mission of this organization is to help relieve financial burdens to help patients relax during treatment, and to help those who have lost a loved one to cancer through help with funeral expenses. 100% of money raised on their behalf goes to the patients. All applicants are eligible for assistance up to \$3000.00 per year. All payouts are made directly to the billing company, with the exception of medical bills.

We are selling these lawn signs for Easter. They are \$10.00 each and will be sold on a first come first served basis. Please text me at (540) 247-5612 to let me know if you would like to purchase one and I will bring it to you at church before Easter. All proceeds will be added to our fundraising efforts for Helping Hands Cancer Outreach.



The [spaghetti dinner/themed basket auction](#) is set for [Saturday, June 24th](#). Start thinking now about the type of themed basket you would like to make to donate. More information will be shared closer to the time of the event.

May the Holy One, in mercy and compassion, restore you to health and vigor, and grant you physical and spiritual well-being together with others who are ill. Please fulfill the words of your prophet: "Heal me, O Lord, and let me be healed; Save me, and let me be saved".

Jeremiah 17:14

On behalf of Lisa Garver, Lisa Patterson and myself we appreciate your support.

Theresa Gilbert, RN
Faith Community Nurse



From a branch on the Vine,

“I’ll keep working my way back to you, babe”, a great song from 1978 by the Spinners. Let that run around in your head awhile – with a little rhythm going down your spine. Besides the beat, what about the words? *Working my way back*.

Do you feel you are working to be back into God’s good graces? First thing – did you ever leave God’s graces? I know a family where the grandmother raised her children, helped raise her grandchildren, and is now raising her great-grandchildren. Parents, you know how hard it is to keep up with kids. Think about doing that when you are 88. I asked her about it, and she said, “What am I supposed to do? What would happen if I didn’t help? Where would they go?” Even though others had made poor decisions, this woman still is doing the work of love because she wants the children to be successful – have a better life. That sounds like God to me. Our mistakes do not stop God from helping us to a better life. Whatever you have done, are doing, or will do – God will not stop loving you and forgiving you.

Your work is not to get back into God’s graces. God’s grace is available now and the start of where your life goes. For we are saved by grace (not by works or anything we can do) so that we can do good works in the name of our God, for His purpose.

Now that you are working on God’s behalf, is it difficult? Yes, because you are doing things that friends, co-workers, strangers, even family don’t understand. You are not working for the benefit of those people or yourself. You have been chosen and equipped by God. The things you do – putting others first, praying in thanksgiving, forgiving those that hurt you, being patient - are not easy, but it is not by your strength. God’s installs in you an energy source called the Holy Spirit. Those in the faith know its power and its presence.

I wish some wise and caring (meddling) person would have told me this long ago. Many times, I have tried to do a good thing to balance out a bad thing; worked to pay a price so the guilt would go away. There is not a lot of peace when you are balancing scales. I spent many years messing up/ ignoring the Spirit, then working to appease God, and looking at the balance sheet to measure how I was doing. So wrapped up in *working my way back* I squashed the joy of being a child of God. I’m better now, but still in recovery.

I embrace the God who didn’t leave me in the mud. He took a cross and scrubbed me clean; then set me on a path that leads to life eternal. The Lord and I walk the path together. He stills pulls me back from the rabbit trails, picks me up after tripping over worldly pursuits. He guides me to Himself and the paradise of His Kingdom. Guilt comes and goes, but He writes his Word upon my heart: *God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him (John 3:17)*. “Come now, let us settle the matter,” says the Lord. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool (Isaiah 1:18). Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! (2 Corinthians 5:17).

We have Good News – we are already back with God because Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Thanks be to God.

In Christ, *Reb*



News From the Church Library

Springtime brings many wonderful things into our lives, but the observances of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday are the most important for every Christian. To enhance your observance of Easter, I have placed a number of books on the Library table – ready to be checked out. Here are a few of the titles for *Easter*.

- *He Chose the Nails* by Max Lucado
- *Death and Resurrection of the Messiah* by Ray Van Laan
- *Final Words From the Cross* by Adam Hamilton
- *Embracing the Uncertain* by Magrey de Vega (a Lenten Study)
- *Give Up Something for Lent* by James Moore (a Lenten Study)

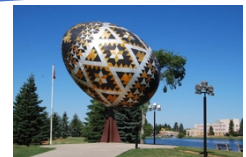
Other titles available by Max Lucado include:

- *No Wonder They Call Him Savior*
- *He Still Moves Stones*
- *When Christ Comes*

Have a blessed Easter.
Doris Duvall, Church Librarian

Did you know?

- Approximately 1.5 billion “Peeps” are sold for Easter.
- The date for Easter changes every year. It is the first Sunday after the full moon following the spring equinox.
- The world’s largest Easter egg can be located in, Canada. Standing 31ft tall and 18ft wide is the world’s largest Easter egg. Found in Vegreville, Alberta, Canada, the egg weighs a hefty 5000 lbs. and took 12,000 hours to complete. Named the Vegreville Pysanka, the world’s largest Easter egg is actually more of a jigsaw than a sculpture, as it is made from 3500 pieces of aluminum.



CCAP Corner

April 2023



CCAP is a cooperative effort of individuals, civic groups, businesses, and religious communities in Winchester and Frederick County. They have unified to provide financial, material, and supportive assistance in a loving way. Even with the help of existing social service programs, CCAP clients are unable to meet their needs and responsibilities. CCAP's desire is to do God's work in a world where many basic human needs are simply not met.

Easter Food Giveaway at CCAP: Our church collected items for 25 complete food boxes. We also donated an additional 281 individual items for the 4/1 food giveaway. Thanks so much for the fantastic donation and to our church volunteers who helped with the giveaway.



Thank you
for your
generosity.

Our Food Box packing Team is now our **CCAP Volunteer Team** – We will continue to do volunteer work at CCAP that may include yard work, clothes sorting, or working at special giveaways/events. If you would like to join this team, just let me know and you will receive emails whenever there is an opportunity to help. Please let me or anyone on Outreach know if you would like to be added to this group mailing list.

Needs at CCAP:

- Toddler, Children, and Teen spring and summer clothes, new underwear and socks, Tennis Shoes (all sizes and genders), adult backpacks, and gently used bath towels and bedding.
- The Clothing House needs volunteers to give 3 hours of their time weekly or monthly. The House provides free clothing to clients who are struggling to pay their bills. We also help the homeless with their clothing needs. We receive many wonderful clothing donations and volunteers are needed to sort the items, display them at the House & greet & assist our shoppers. The House is open Mon, Tues, & Thurs from 9 until noon.
- Drivers, Driver helpers and receptionists are needed. Go to www.ccapwinchester.org and click on the donate/volunteer tab at the top of the page for a description of the many opportunities to share your talents and time. You can also reach out to me or anyone on the Outreach Team if you have any questions about what we do as volunteers at CCAP.

The Friendly Neighborhood FREEDGE, Winchester, VA is a community refrigerator that is open 24 hours a day for all to enjoy. You can drop off and share any extra, fresh produce or items you do not want to go to waste. The FREEDGE is located at 419 N Cameron St. Your food can be dropped off directly to the refrigerator at any time. To sign up to be part of a cleaning crew for a day or week; go to www.ccapwinchester.org and click on the link to Our Friendly Neighborhood FREEDGE at the top of the website.

Our Burnt Factory volunteers and donations help keep this vital non-profit working for our community. Many, many thanks to everyone who continues to donate in so many ways to this organization. Your generous support greatly enhances the ability to meet the needs of clients and hopefully get them out of the crises they are in. Contact me or anyone on the Outreach Committee if you are interested in helping at CCAP and we can give you a tour and talk more about volunteer opportunities.

Patty Leonard, Outreach Rep



The United Women in Faith met on Saturday, February 25th. Polly Duvall and Susan Hyatt were our hostesses and provided delicious refreshments. Jani Shope led us in creating 18 fleece blankets that will be shared with the Salvation Army. We talked about upcoming projects that may take place, such as pads for the SPCA, dresses for children attending school in other countries, feminine products for women in other countries as well as learning about an opportunity to provide necessities to seniors in the area. Penny Croll gave us an update on Project Esperanza and their excitement in receiving the funds from our Souper Bowl project.

Nine of our members were able to attend the District Prayer Breakfast at Braddock Street United Methodist Church on Saturday, March 4th. Our speaker's theme was "Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape". We also got to hear the choir from Agape United Methodist Church, Purcellville.

Our next meeting will be Saturday, April 22nd at 10:00 am. We will do our call to prayer program and have a speaker from Project Remembrance. Regina Baldwin and Christina Rohrbach are our hostesses.

Deb Moss, UWF President



Blankets of Love



Prayer Breakfast





There are two job opportunities available at Burnt Factory UMC: **Nursery Director** and **Audio/ Visual Assistant**. Below are the job descriptions. If you or you know someone looking for an opportunity to serve in the Kingdom, please forward resumes with cover letters to Judy McIntire, Chair Pastor-Parrish Relations Committee at Judymci99@gmail.com by April 24th.

AV/IT Assistant Job Description

\$4,800.00 annually. Approximately 5-8 hours a week.

The AV/IT Assistant is responsible for assisting the AV/IT Lead Technician to produce the best possible atmosphere for worship through audio and video technology within regular Church services as well as any additional services throughout the year. This would include assisting the AV/IT Lead Technician as directed to prepare visual aids to coincide with the Pastor's sermon and supporting the audio/video/streaming needs of the Church service. The AV/IT assistant may be required to operate as backup to the AV/IT Lead Technician when necessary.

Specific Responsibilities of the AV/IT assistant include, but are not limited to the following:

Pre-service

- Have ProPresenter slides prepared and ready to begin per the direction of the AV/IT Lead Technician, Pastor, and worship committee.
- Work with AV/IT Lead Technician to set up ProPresenter, Steaming, and sound equipment prior to service and perform sound and line checks to assure the system is in working order.
- Assist AV/IT Lead Technician in working with Pastor, Choir Director, and/or Accompanist for schedule and any changes prior to the service.

During service

- Follow AV/IT Lead Technician and Pastor's direction during the service (slideshow screen timing, sound level adjustments, etc.).
- Assist AV/IT Lead Technician in streaming service (Starting Live Stream, Scene Changes throughout Service, Ending Live Stream, etc.)
- Assist to assure that slideshow photos, hymns and other wording for the congregation are on the screen in a timely manner per the Pastor's direction.
- Assist AV/IT Lead Technician to provide the congregation with a distraction-free audio/video service.

Post-service

- Note any faulty or broken equipment and report to AV/IT Lead Technician or Pastor (in absence of AV/IT Lead Technician).
- Discuss with AV/IT Lead Technician any issues, areas in need of improvement, etc.
- Assist AV/IT Lead Technician and Pastor to make changes as needed for future services.





Nursery Director Position

\$7,500 annually. Average 8-10 hours a week.

Ministry Purpose:

To provide safe, secure, nurturing, clean and efficient care to our children while following the Safe Sanctuaries policies set by the Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Early childhood is the best time to build a God-centered worldview for children.

Basic functions:

- Scheduling staff in the nursery and ensuring proper coverage that follows the Safe Sanctuaries guidelines.
- Training of new hires and volunteers in the nursery area.
- Work with the Minister of Children and Family to establish & implement policies and procedures in the nursery.
- Responsible for implementing policies and procedures.
- Manage intake/outtake of children on Sunday services and any special or evening services with the current check-in system.
- Engage with children in the nursery through crafts, music, games and stories to teach the children basic Christian fundamentals.
- Manage staff/volunteer time with the children during services.
- Rotation, organization and cleansing of classroom, toys, furniture and other nursery items.
- Communicate supply needs to Minister of Children and Family.
- Report any personnel issues to Minister of Children and Family.
- Issuing of paperwork to new families/visitors.
- Management & organization of curriculum & nursery files.
- Appropriate care of children including diaper changes and feedings if necessary.
- Maintain adequate supplies & inventory for the nursery & children's Ministry activities.
- Procure supplies & materials for the nursery & for teachers.
- Assist with planning and set up of child activities (ie: Church picnic, VBS, family fall fun festival, Christmas play, evening services, Easter activities and egg hunt). This includes purchasing of supplies for events, gathering of volunteers and set up/clean up.
- Coordinate volunteer gifts on 5th Sundays and larger events (VBS, Camp, Christmas play).
- Provide assistance to Minister of Children and Family when needed.

Additional Functions:

- Ensure that only nursery staff and approved volunteers are permitted in the nursery classrooms.
- Visitors to the nursery classrooms need to be limited to parents and guardians of children who wish to tour the nursery rooms for potential care.
- All volunteers/substitutes need to be approved by the Minister of Children and Family.
- Working alongside parents to ensure the best teaching/learning opportunities.
- Praying for and with the children.



Opportunities to Worship Holy Week Begins

April 2nd - Palm/Passion Sunday, 8:30 and 11am

April 6th – Maundy Thursday, 7-8 pm Holy Communion

April 7th – Good Friday, 3-4pm and 7-8pm

April 9th – Easter Sunday, Sunrise service at 6:30, Sanctuary services at 8:30 and 11am



Palm Sunday, April 2nd

- Palm Sunday begins the Holy Week leading to Easter and the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. It commemorates Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem where people put their palms down in front of his path.
- On Palm Sunday, palms are distributed in church and worn by members of the congregation.
- We know Jesus' story- the surprise of the Resurrection, which we'll celebrate on Easter Sunday. Easter is a reminder that though we may turn from God's surprises, God's love persists in an undeniable way. We can't keep God from surprising us.
- When discarding old palms, remember it is a blessed religious object and should be burned or buried. Some gardeners bury it in their home garden to bless the coming year's crop.



The cross is where we see the convergence of great suffering and God's forgiveness.

[Psalms 85:10](#) sings of a day when "righteousness and peace" will "kiss each other." The cross of Jesus is where that occurred, where God's demands, his righteousness, coincided with his mercy. We receive divine forgiveness, mercy, and peace because Jesus willingly took our divine punishment, the result of God's righteousness against sin.

"For the joy set before him" [Hebrews 12:2](#). Jesus endured the cross on Good Friday, knowing it led to his resurrection, our salvation, and the beginning of God's reign of righteousness and peace.

April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 8:30am-In Person Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11am-In Person Worship 2pm Women's Play Practice 5-6pm Children's Choir Practice	27 6:30-7:30 Congregational Meeting	28 10-11 am Lenten Study 12pm 2/4 BLT 5:30 Praise Team Practice 6:30 Choir Practice	29 9:30am-1pm Pastor's Office Hours Lower Cottage 7-8pm – Lenten Study	30 7pm-8:30pm Boy Scouts Shelter	31 Print Newsletter	1 9:30-1pm Youth Motel Ministry 2-3pm Women's Play Practice
2 Palm/Passion Sunday 8:30am-In Person Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11am-In Person Worship 12:30pm BFUMC Emmaus	3 7-8pm – Lenten Study	4 10-11am Lenten Study 5:30 Praise Team Practice 6:30 Choir Practice	5 9:30am-1pm Pastor's Office Hours Lower Cottage	6 7pm-8:30pm Boy Scouts Shelter 7-8pm Maundy Thursday	7 3-4pm Good Friday 7-8pm Good Friday	8
9 Easter 6:30 am-Sunrise Service 8:30am-In Person Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11am-In Person Worship	10 7-8pm BFUMM Mission Meeting Lower Cottage	11 12pm 2/4 BLT 5:30 Praise Team Practice 6:30 Choir Practice	12 9:30am-1pm Pastor's Office Hours Lower Cottage	13 7pm-8:30pm Boy Scouts Shelter	14	15
16 8:30am-In Person Worship 9:30 Blood Pressure Checks 9:45 Sunday School 11am-In Person Worship 12pm Salvation Army Lunch	17 6:30 pm The Believers	18 5:30 Praise Team Practice 6:30 Choir Practice	19 9:30am-1pm Pastor's Office Hours Lower Cottage 12-1:30pm Pathfinder's Ministry Outreach Team 7-8:30pm	20 7pm-8:30pm Boy Scouts Shelter Shenandoah Valley Emmaus Men's Walk 20 th -23 rd Camp Overlook	21	22 United Women in Faith 10-11 am Youth Earth Day 10am-12pm
23 8:30am-In Person Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11am-In Person Worship	24	25 12pm 2/4 BLT 5:30 Praise Team Practice 6:30 Choir Practice	26 9:30am-1pm Pastor's Office Hours Lower Cottage	27 7pm-8:30pm Boy Scouts Shelter Stanley Steemer 8-10 am Shenandoah Valley Emmaus Women's Walk 27 th -30 th Camp Overlook	28 Print Newsletter	29 Youth 4-6 pm
30 8:30am-In Person Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11am-In Person Worship	1	2 5:30 Praise Team Practice 6:30 Choir Practice	3 9:30am-1pm Pastor's Office Hours Lower Cottage	4 7pm-8:30pm Boy Scouts Shelter	5 Apple Blossom May 5-7	6

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Sue Hauptert-Johnson,
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Virginia Conference
Richmond, Virginia

The Rev. Dr. Victor Gomez, District
Superintendent
Winchester, VA 22601
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EARTH DAY
April 22nd



Never forget that our planet belongs to all of us. And while none of us can fix all its problems, all of us can do something.

Plant something.

Reduce. Reuse. Recycle.

Clean up litter.

Spend 20 minutes a day enjoying nature.