

Goodbye Summer!



SMOKE SIGNAL

2023

Our Mission Statement

Sharing the love of Christ with ALL
people.

*"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

Burnt Factory United Methodist Church
1943 Jordan Springs Road
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*"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me, just as the
Father knows me and I know the Father and I lay down my life for the sheep. I
have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too
will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd." John
10:14-16*

Pastor John Braaten shares a story that speaks of a great truth. He and several of his pastor friends were on a spiritual retreat. They were enjoying each other's company and no one wanted to stop and turn in for the night. So, during this very late-night discussion session, this question started a new round of debate and dialogue. The question posed was supposedly a simple one, one of the pastor's said, *"If Jesus were to walk into this room right now, would you know him, and if so, how would you know him?"* There was a long and heavy discussion, when the entire issue was turned upside down by one pastor who said, *"Friends, the comfort, the good news of the gospel, is not that I could, would, or should know Jesus if he came into the room right now, but that he would know me!"*

Sisters and brothers, I pray that all of us can remember not who we are as much as whose we are. Jesus knows us, Jesus loves us, Jesus forgives us, Jesus is proud of us, Jesus cherishes us! Jesus holds us close, and Jesus picks us up when we fall and heals us when we are broken. Friends, will Jesus know you when he walks into the room? Yes, he will for he is our Lord. He is our shepherd, and the shepherd knows his sheep.

As we all continue to discern God's will for our lives, I thought I would close with a quote from Pastor Max Lucado, "My past is past, my future is bright, God's promises are true and His Word is sure. With God as my helper, I will be all he wants me to be, do all he wants me to do, and receive all he wants me to receive. These days are glory days!"

Life is too short to waste in doom and gloom! We have a shepherd who loves each and every one of his sheep. We have a shepherd who loves us so much that even if one is lost, he will do everything to go and find him. The living Lord is our shepherd! What else do we need? He makes us lie down and rest in beautiful green pastures. He leads us to peace beside still waters. He restores our troubled souls and anoints our heads with healing oil. He protects us and removes all our fear. He walks with us, wherever we go. With him, we will have no wants. Every day with Jesus are glory days! Will he know us when he walks into our room? You bet he will!

Pastor Steve



What's Happening Down the Worship Road?

August 20th The Sunday before the final vote on disaffiliation, Pastor Steve will be sharing an important sermon, "Where Do We Go from Here? Thoughts & Truths of Disaffiliation." The text will be from Matthew 7:15-20

August 27th The Sunday after the final vote on disaffiliation, Pastor Steve will also be delivering an important sermon in the life of the church intitled, "Should I Go or Should I Stay?" The text will be Psalm 121, Isaiah 41: 10 & Isaiah 46: 4





BURNT FACTORY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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August 3, 2023

To Professing Members of Burnt Factory UMC,

Over the last several months, our church family has engaged in an intentional and prayerful discernment regarding our continued affiliation with The United Methodist Church. The results of that discernment have led us to work with the District Superintendent and Conference Trustees to facilitate our church's disaffiliation from The United Methodist Church. The next step in that process is a vote of the Professing Members of our church regarding the Disaffiliation Agreement that would facilitate the separation of our church from The United Methodist Church. The key terms of the Disaffiliation Agreement will be presented at the Called Church Conference prior to the vote. There will be a Called Church Conference of the Burnt Factory United Methodist Church on Monday, August 21, 2023 at 7:30 pm in the church sanctuary. The purpose of this Called Church Conference is to vote on the Disaffiliation Agreement between our church and the Virginia Conference Trustees, and to affirm our desire to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Denomination. All are welcome to attend, but only Professing Members of Burnt Factory United Methodist Church who are present at this meeting are eligible to vote. The meeting will be presided over by District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Victor Gomez.

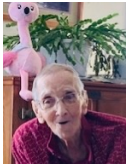
The church may choose not to disaffiliate, and if so, the District will be available to help bring resources to the church for healing and reconciliation. Regardless of the vote, those who want to stay in the UMC but not at Burnt Factory United Methodist Church will be given options for introductions and visits to other local UMC churches. Following a 2/3 affirmative vote, Burnt Factory United Methodist Church will deliver the Disaffiliation Agreement, signed by the church's Trustees, to the Conference Trustees along with a small deposit. The Disaffiliation Agreement then will need to be approved and ratified by the Annual Conference at a session to be held on October 7, 2023, virtually, at which time the Disaffiliation Agreement will become binding. After ratification, and once all legal details have been completed in accordance with the terms of the Disaffiliation Agreement, the disaffiliation will become effective. At that time, it is our intention to leave the United Methodist Church and create an independent church, called Burnt Factory Church. Please feel free to be in touch if you have any questions.


John Keith Roberts
Council Chairman
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(540) 303-7292


Mark Duvall
Trustee Chairman
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Buddy's Jokes



- 2nd Stephen Kerns
- 4th Daniel Renner
- 5th Lindsey Perrault Barros
Duane Swisher
- 6th Katie Mowery
- 7th Stuart Wolk
- 8th Pat Perry
- 9th Jo Anna Grayson
- 10th Darrin Bursey
Rachel Hayton
Cheyanne Owens
- 11th Dave Bodkin
- 12th Theresa Gilbert
- 15th John Renner
- 19th Deanna Simmers
Theo Crowe
Colby Groce
- 21st Patrick Thompson
- 23rd Jackson Boudier
- 26th Dave Winter
Lillianne Owens
- 27th Reily Murphy
Ryan Hunt
Connor Lewis
- 30th Jay Kackley
- 31st Amye Murphy

1. When does a bed grow longer?
2. Who is the strongest thief?
3. Why are Saturdays and Sundays still strong?
4. How can you shorten a bed?
5. What did the mother ghost say to the baby ghost?
6. What does the sea monster eat for dinner?
7. Why are ghosts such bad liars?

May almighty God, who caused light to shine out of darkness, shine in our hearts, cleansing us from all our sins, and restoring us to the light of the knowledge of his glory in the face of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



That's all folks! We'll see you when we see you!
Love You All,
Margie and Buddy

- 3rd Rich and Sue Wells
Dave and Linda Bodkin
- 4th Rick and Debbie Walker
- 5th Bill and Jani Shope
Josh and Christina Jenkins
- 7th Tom and Norma Duvall
- 9th Paul and Sarah Shoremount
- 16th Sean and Laine Everhart
- 19th Mark and Liz Duvall

Do you remember this folk song?
Sarasponda Sarasponda Sarasponda ret tet tet...
It was sung at Bible School.

ANSWERS ARE ON THE LAST PAGE.
LOOK FOR THE SUNFLOWER.





Mission Trip Report

by Marcia Etu



“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart like God.” Ezekiel 36:26

June 25th- 30th: BFUMC Mission Trip

It's 6:30 a.m. Alarms start going off, but Jimmy Grayson is already in the kitchen. The coffee is ready, and breakfast preparation is underway. The team rolls in one by one after personal devotions. We enjoy breakfast together, then clean-up and pack lunches. We meet in the church parking lot for team prayer. There's a tool trailer there and we go over plans for the day with Daniel, the local construction manager, and get the supplies we will need.

Our team is working through UMVIM, United Methodist Volunteers in Mission. This particular area, which is southwest of Philadelphia, was hit by flood waters during Hurricane Ida in September 2021. The local program called Project Restoration has a private grant to help families that are unable to afford to repair the damage to their own homes. Most had homeowners' insurance, but many found that it didn't cover flooding. And lots of those being served are elderly, disabled or widows.

We are a team of eight: Dave Darsie, Mark Melius, Jo Anna and Jimmy Grayson, Patty and Ricky Leonard, Steve Melester and me. We divide into two groups. A group heads out to a home where they quickly remove a floor damaged two years ago by water. The flooring comes up easily, but there is mold underneath. It will require mold abatement before being replaced.

Another group looks over a basement that is ready to rebuild. Mark has brought his own saws and tools. He and Jimmy quickly get to work, creatively cutting drywall to accommodate the exposed pipes in the bathroom. I begin prepping the walls for mudding, sanding, and painting. Patty helps the homeowner Brenda sort through boxes of memories that have been damaged. Joanna and Patty are amazing at cleaning and there was plenty of that to do.

The homeowner, Brenda, is 63 years old. Her husband Daniel died of pancreatic cancer last year and she cared for him as he transitioned to his heavenly home. Brenda now lives alone and works part time as a home health aide. She has a strong faith in Jesus and was overwhelmed by the provision of Project Restoration.

We assess other needs at Brenda's home, as well. Project Restoration is only able to correct storm related damage. We find several unrelated safety issues and our team and our church's mission-giving, spring into action.

Steve Melester repairs the sump pump and installs PVC piping to divert any water away from the house. Ricky Leonard replaces an outdoor light fixture that was dangling with exposed wires. Jimmy Grayson puts lighting in the stairway from the first floor to the basement. Previously Brenda was going up and down stairs using the light on her cell phone. Others replace the dryer vent system that was blocked and posed a fire hazard. As projects were completed, Brenda could only say "Wow! Wow! Wow!"

We remember that the number one attribute of a successful mission team is flexibility. One never knows what a day will bring. We regroup and send a part of the team to repair windows and a door at a third house.

By day three, several team members are beginning demolition at house number four. No one has been here since the storm. The homeowner Jackie described what happened. Overflowing water from a nearby river funneled toward her back door into her townhouse. The power was so strong it created a river which raged through one end of her home to the other, exiting the garage door on the front. With it came all sorts of debris.

A roll-off container was brought in, and Dave Darsie was in his element as the demolition began. Jimmy, Patty, and Jo Anna were there to help. The lower four feet of sheetrock needed to be removed, and in doing so, extensive mold damage was uncovered. Everyone was masked and gloved. Team members again helped an emotional homeowner realize that virtually everything on that level needed to be thrown away.

So much loss. Since the hurricane, Jackie's husband had also died. She too has had to deal with the aftermath of the storm by herself. To make matters worse Jackie is allergic to mold and has been hospitalized once because of her ongoing exposure. The only access to the living areas on the 2nd and 3rd floors of her townhouse is through the moldy basement. Thus, she has virtually been a prisoner in her own home for the past two years. She only goes out when it is absolutely necessary and then, she is masked.

“God can only begin to use us when our hearts are broken by the things that break His heart.” Rich Stearns

Our team works diligently as the hands and feet of Christ. Another hot, sweaty, dusty day. We finish up between 4-5 pm and head back to the Drexel Hill UMC where we are sleeping in the basement on air mattresses. We gather fresh clothes and bars of soap and head to the nearby YMCA for showers.

Our evenings are full of sharing and fellowship. One evening, homeowner Brenda joins us. Everyone helps to make dinner and we eat heartily. It is a great neighborhood for a walk or getting an ice cream. But one of the highlights of the day is evening chapel. This beautiful church has a small chapel that seats 8-10 people. Each evening we sat in a circle with the light of only two candles and shared music, a devotion, reflections on the day and prayer. One evening Pastor Steve served Holy Communion. God is so good!

By the end of the week, Brenda's basement had been transformed. It is clean and bright. The new walls are finished and painted. Ricky and Mark had laid a water-resistant vinyl floor and the area is now ready for another mission team to come in and set the toilet and vanity and hang doors and trim. The next team will also continue the work at Jackie's home.

Project Restoration has many, many other homes and families waiting for volunteers to come and serve. Burnt Factory will send another team November 12-17. No specific skills are needed, just a love for Christ and His people. I hope many of you will join us! It will change your life!





August 2023

Summer has been **GREAT** for Kids Ministry! Vacation Bible school was fun, and Summer Camp was amazing! Now it is time to focus on our new beginnings and the start of a new school year. Promotion Sunday will be August 13th. We will honor our new Kindergartners by gifting them a new Bible of their own! All 1st Grade children will rise to Children's Church during services and 7th Graders will graduate out of Children's Church. 😞

We will resume our regular programming with fun lessons, crafts, and activities for Children's Church. Our Sunday School Performing arts class will resume with music, art, drama, and storytelling.

Please be in prayer for our kids as they return to school. Pray for our teachers, administrators, and all school staff as they embark on new school year.

Peace and Blessings,

Carrie Fair

Minister of Children and Family

Mark your calendar for the Church Picnic.

Saturday, August 12th 1-5pm



We will share a potluck meal at 1:30pm with the church providing Fried Chicken, Hot Dogs/ Buns, and drinks. This is the social event of the year and a great time to fellowship with your family in Christ. For those of you who have never been to "the church picnic," this is what you need to know: bring a dish to share, sides, salads, desserts, casseroles. Also, bring a chair or blanket to sit and talk awhile. There will be a waterslide, so come prepared for you, your children, or your grandchildren to get a little wet and wild! A towel will be helpful.

Come and Join in the Fun!





The Believers – August 2023

THANK YOU!!!!

Thank you to everyone that participated in our spaghetti dinner/basket auction. With your help we are going to be able to donate a grand total of \$9, 9889.00 to *Helping Hands Cancer Outreach*.

Summer Sun Safety Month

Summer Sun Safety Month is observed as a reminder to keep yourself safe and healthy in the sun during the summer. Sunlight is essential for your body to produce vitamin D. But, too much of it can cause harmful effects to your skin and eyes. Excessive exposure to ultraviolet light causes most skin cancers. It can also lead to cataracts and eye cancer. So precautions are necessary to reduce the risk of getting skin or eye diseases while you're having fun in the summer.

The U.V. rays are reportedly at their strongest between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Protection from U.V. rays is necessary, especially during the summer. To protect your skin, it's better to put on a broad-spectrum sunscreen with a sun protection factor (S.P.F.) value of 30 or higher and reapply it every two hours or every one hour if you are swimming. You may also consider wearing a wide-brimmed hat, a long-sleeved shirt, and long pants or skirts to cover your body as much as possible. Also, you can bring an umbrella if you see fit.

Another must-have for the summer is sunglasses. Sunglasses can serve as a fashion statement, but their main objective is to protect your eyes from U.V. radiation. They can also shield the sensitive skin around your eyes and reduce the risk of cataracts and eye cancer. You need to make sure that they block at least 99% of U.V.A and U.V.B. rays. In addition to those protections, you need to make sure to stay hydrated because your body tends to lose fluids quickly in the sun. Now you can enjoy your summer at ease.

"Cancer can touch you, but not your soul; neither your thoughts, nor your heart."

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

Theresa Gilbert, RN
Faith Community Nurse



August 2023
Faith Community Nurse

GETTING STARTED with MINDFULNESS

The summer sun in moderation is healthy but can become dangerous if the body gets too warm. Excessive activity, exercise or time in the sun will increase if the body's temperature which makes you sweat in an effort to release that extra heat. Sometimes this response becomes overloaded, shuts down, and causes a potentially life-threatening condition known as heat stroke or sunstroke. Your symptoms can range from clammy skin, dry mouth, fatigue, dizziness, and headaches to an absence of sweating, shallow breathing, confusion, loss of consciousness, and even death.

- 1. Mindful Mornings.** Are you aware of how you start the day? Even before you get out of bed, take some deep breaths, use a favorite centering prayer, or pause to be aware of how the various parts of your body feel.
- 2. Working Ways.** When you sit in your chair, let yourself feel your body come into contact with the chair, the floor, the desk, or other physical tools of your profession. Draw a breath and let it out slowly before moving on to be physically present to another dimension of your space before being lost in the rush of tasks.
- 3. The Best Intentions.** We all have things we have to *do* every day that consume most of our time. It only takes a few seconds to choose something that we want to *be* today – kind, calm, patient. What value is on your heart that you want to embrace in this moment?
- 4. Noticing Senses.** Try using a sense you don't usually focus on. Close your eyes and listen. Stop moving and be still. Inhale deeply the fragrances around you. Touch a new texture. In that moment, what is that sense of discovery like?
- 5. All the Feels.** We do so much on auto-pilot, from small tasks like brushing our teeth to important tasks like how we fuel our bodies or have conversations. For one minute, turn-off auto-pilot. What does it feel like to brush your teeth? To scratch the dog's chin? To inhale clean laundry?

6. **The Real Truth.** When you have a self-deprecating thought, nip the rumination in the bud by speaking truth out loud. Say something positive and admirable about yourself, take a deep breath, and sit with the truth for a moment before moving on.
7. **Flickering Flames.** Light a candle and simply watch it flicker and dance. Let the simple movement of the light calm you. You are not trying to think about anything or accomplish anything but simply notice.
8. **Soothing Showers.** A warm shower already has a calming effect for many people. Use it as an opportunity to intentionally slow down, notice the sensory experience and observe your thoughts without judging them.
9. **Ritual Richness.** Your own mini-ceremony for anything from how you prepare your tea to clearing your desk – and your mind- at the end of the day can create calming space for you better manage stress in your life.
10. **Cool Spots.** Choose a spot where you can be alone for five minutes – even in the midst of a group of people, such as on a bus or subway ride. Anywhere you can close your eyes, breathe intentionally, and observe your sense will reduce stress.

"Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." Matthew 6:34

As always praying for your health and well-being. Praying that today you will be both blessed and be a blessing.

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.



CCAP Corner

August 2023



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.

THANK YOU EVERYONE for the fantastic underwear and socks donation during our **July Quarterly CCAP Collection**. We were able to fill up several of our bins!! These items are already being distributed and are so appreciated by our clients; it's not often they receive new items. The Clothing House volunteers were amazed by your generosity. Thank you, Rob, for delivering the goods!!

3rd Annual Bike Tour Benefit ride for CCAP is Saturday, August 26. It's not too late to register for the ride. Over 250 riders are expected. Volunteers are still needed the day of the event. I will send out an email via church email shortly, listing the volunteer opportunities.

Food Box packing Team – In July, Our Burnt Factory team got together again to pack food boxes for those in need. The CCAP Pantry has been open since February to our CCAP Clients. These boxes are for other food insecure families throughout the Winchester Area. Four different locations are being served. Thanks so much to this special team of volunteers who are always willing to come help and have some fun in the process.

The Friendly Neighborhood FREEDGE – is a great place to drop off extra food, food that is close to the expiration date or leftovers from a cookout. The FREEDGE is a shared outreach aiming to reduce food insecurity and food waste in our area with a goal of building a stronger community. Those who are struggling financially can take whatever they need to feed themselves and their families. The FREEDGE is located on the Our Health Campus at 419N Cameron Street and is open 24 hours a day. A 2nd FREEDGE has been opened at Abundant Life Church in Stephens City located at 700 Aylor Road.

RECAP of Clients Served at CCAP in June - the Food Pantry served 625 households (including 57 new families), the Clothing House served 310 households (including 26 new households), and Financial Aid assisted 82 households (including 16 new).

Current Donation Needs:

- Gently used **SUMMER** clothes, jackets and shoes for men, women, and especially children's sizes. We always need men's jeans, t-shirts, and adult backpacks.
- Donations may be dropped off Monday thru Friday between the hours of 9am and 2pm at 112 S. Kent Street.

Volunteers are needed to assist our drivers with produce and goods pickups from our local stores (Sheetz, Martins, Walmart, Target, Dollar General, Starbucks). The runs are made Monday thru Saturday from 8-11am. One day a month or week would be tremendous help. Please contact me, or anyone on the Outreach Committee if you would like to learn more about volunteering in any area at CCAP.

Thanks so much for your continued support of this important outreach.

Patty Leonard – Outreach CCAP Rep

Opportunity to Serve Bright Futures



Bright Futures is a non-profit organization that helps schools connect student needs with resources that already exist in our community. The Bright Futures framework brings together businesses, human service agencies, faith-based organizations, and parent groups to meet students' basic needs and academic challenges. Bright Futures helps meet the needs of all students in Frederick County Public School and Winchester City Schools.

ARE YOU CALLED TO SERVE?

We will be collecting the following items from August 6 – 20. Please place items in the red bins.

- backpacks for students in high school (sturdy with multiple compartments)
- dry erase markers
- colored pencils

These items will be taken to their warehouse and delivered to schools as needed. Thank you for donating. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Willis at (540)539-6989 or krwillis1@comcast.net

Reminder from Sharon Woodard,

There is also an opportunity to help with a school supply sort for Bright Futures. The sort would occur during the week of August 7 between the hours of 8am-4pm at the warehouse. We would help a couple of hours. A few of us did this last couple years ago. It was fun and an easy way to year. Any questions, contact Karen Willis.



- **The Faithseekers** (downstairs past the library) will be continuing the NOOMA video series by Rob Bell. NOOMA is a series of short films that explore our world from the perspective of Jesus.
- **The Grace Class** (lower cottage) will be sharing and studying scripture passages from each person.
- **The Unity Class** will continue to gather in the Fellowship Hall.



Beginning Monday, August 28th, Pastor Steve will be leading a Bible study, *Religion And Science: Pathways To Truth* by Francis S. Collins. Is it possible to be a Christian and take science seriously? Must we choose between God and science? Classes will be offered at 10:00am and 6:30pm for 10 weeks. Sign-ups are in the Fellowship Hall.



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”



Senior Luncheon (70+)

August 16th
11:30am-1:00pm

Church Fellowship Hall

Sign-ups are in the Fellowship Hall or contact Rob Moss, 540-303-7161 to reserve your spot.

Need to know by August 13th.



National Nonprofit Day is commemorated on August 17 each year to recognize nonprofit organizations' ongoing efforts to serve the local community. If you've ever volunteered, you're well aware of the significance of these charitable organizations.

The Tariff Act of 1894 signed into law on August 17, imposed the first federal income tax on corporations, which included exemptions for nonprofit corporations and charitable institutions. With a few modifications, nonprofit exemptions remain a solid part of the law and have served significant benefits, both for communities and the economy.

The Registrar at National Day Calendar declared National Nonprofit Day to be observed annually in 2017.

Some of Winchester's non-profit organizations are listed below, please keep them in your prayers and provide support.

- Congregational Community Action Project (CCAP)
- Blue Ridge Habitat for Humanity
- Winchester Rescue Mission
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Freemont Street Nursery, Inc.
- Bright Futures Distribution
- Henry and Williams Evans Home/Children
- WATTS



CONDOLENCES

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

The Willis Family, at the passing of Charles Iden Willis “Buddy”

The family of John Platt, at the passing of John

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them. For the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.



Psalm 34:18 **“The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.”**





United Women in Faith met on July 15th. Doris Duvall led us in a *Call to Prayer Ceremony* and we listened to a song "That's Why We Pray" by Brian Free and Assurance. We also filled out flower petals listing our blessings and were reminded that our blessings are like flowers - they bring beauty into our lives.

We collected snack items for **Operation Remember** and Betty Sue Unger was present and had us put the snacks in baggies for her to take to nursing homes. A collection was taken, and we donated \$210 to Operation Remember. Jani Shope and Donna Gallagher had wonderful snacks for us to enjoy.

The district is having a celebration of all UWF members on Saturday, August 19th from 2:00-4:00 pm at our outdoor shelter. There will be food, games, singing, table talk, some "think" time, and some serious time. There will also be something new - skits. You will certainly have fun! Please let me know by August 10th if you can attend. Our next meeting is September 16th, more information to follow.

BFUMC, UWF President

Debbie Moss



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

August 4th- Youth will be seeing Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat at Shenandoah University. We will leave the church at 1:30 and afterwards have pizza and discussion in the Fellowship Hall.

August 13th — Water Fun at the shelter! We will have the water slide going, color wars, and water balloon activities. Youth- please bring water bottle, towel, and a white t-shirt. Snacks will be provided.

Time: 2-4 pm



The youth group has lots of opportunities for anyone to help out. We are especially looking for someone to drive the bus to youth activities (driver would get to join in on the activity and get to know our amazing youth!).

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



August 2023



Our potato patch is loving the recent rain and are growing nicely as we get closer to harvest time towards the end of August.



Mark your calendars now for Apple Butter 2023 to be held on October 21st so mark your calendars for these important dates:

- **Thursday October 19th** with apple peeling and snitting will take place all day until we have completed all of the 50 bushels of apples to be made this year
- **Friday, October 20th at 9:00 AM** we will wash the peeled and quartered apples to be ready for making of apple butter. We will also set the kettles and put up tarps to keep the kettles clear of leaves and other falling debris. At Midnight we will begin to cook the apples and will need help overnight stirring the apples and keeping the fires going. This is a long process and is done easier with plenty of help to give breaks to our kettle stirrers. Then the delicious product will be coming off to be jarred in the early afternoon. Look for more details.
- **Saturday, October 21st** Breakfast is served at dawn, and we need more crews to come in and relieve the night crew and to assist with the final processes and jarring of the apple butter. Hopefully the product will be ready to jar around Noon.

Apple Butter this year will be \$10 per quart and \$5 per pint if you provide your own brand new pint jars, \$6 per pint if the delicious Apple Butter is provided in one of our pint jars.

If you have any questions concerning Men's Ministries at Burnt Factory UMC, please contact me.

(540) 207-7404; tamtut@comcast.net

Steve Cunningham

President Burnt Factory UMMen

From a branch on the Vine,



Years ago, Paul came to a parting of the ways with his mates. Be it philosophical differences or personality clashes, the group could not remain together. Friends separated although not on the best terms. However, both sides found success, found purpose. The year was 1969, and the Beatles broke up principally because Paul McCartney and John Lennon couldn't get along. Paul went on to form the band, Wings, and had hits like *Band on the Run* and *Silly Love Songs*. John also had hits like *Imagine* and *Instant Karma*. What was once good together, wasn't.

John Wesley and his contemporary, George Whitefield, were great evangelists and friends in the 18th Century, in the time of the "Great Awakening" revival. They didn't always agree. Whitefield was the more dynamic preacher; Wesley the better organizer. They discussed (argued) about pre-destination. Each was called by God for God's purpose. The Kingdom of God was and is big enough for both.

³⁶ Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us go back and visit the believers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing." ³⁷ Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them, ³⁸ but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work. ³⁹ **They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company.** Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus, ⁴⁰ but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the believers to the grace of the Lord. ⁴¹ He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches. Acts 15:36-41

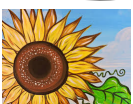
What was once good together, wasn't. Why can't friends, co-workers, people with common beliefs stay united? They did. Paul and Barnabas were of one accord in the body of Christ, in their mission to spread the gospel. They just had different viewpoints on how to reach the people. It was (and is) not right or wrong. Both men were obedient to the call to preach and teach the good news.

It appears Burnt Factory is coming to a milestone in its history, a change. Some see separation from the United Methodist Church as ill-advised; others see it as necessary. It seems we can't stay on the same path; so, let the path divide and each go where God calls them. We can continue as co-laborers in the Kingdom, just in different circumstances. There is not a winner and loser, a right or wrong. It is about the Kingdom of God – about receiving Jesus as Savior and living out a life of gratitude with grace and mercy.

McCartney and Lennon reconciled. Wesley preached at Whitefield's funeral. Barnabas and Paul united in the message of the Kingdom. If it is of God, Burnt Factory is assured to continue as a vital church.

Thank you, Lord – may each of us follow where You lead. The Kingdom of God will remain.

In Christ, *Rob*



1. At night, when two feet are added to it.
2. A shop lifter.
3. Because the rest of the days are weak days.
4. Don't sleep too long in it.
5. Spook when you are spoken to.
6. Fish and Ships
7. Because you can see right through them.

Buddy was faithful until the end reaching out to his joke recipients at BFUMC. His only wish was to make you smile and to let you know you are loved. And... he did. He even wrote jokes for the September newsletter ahead of time. They will be in our next issue.

"I will cling to the old rugged cross and exchange it one day for a crown."



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 5:30-6:30 Praise Team Practice	2 9:30am-1pm Pastor's Office Hours	3 7-8:30pm Boy Scouts	4 Print Newsletter Youth- Joseph 2:30-5:30pm Shenandoah University Reception for Buddy Willis and family, following funeral arrangements.*	5 *Visitation at 12pm, with a service to follow at 1:30pm, both held at Ompps Funeral Home , South Chapel. Internment will be in Shenandoah Memorial Park . A reception to share memories and celebrate Buddy's life will be held afterward at the church, Aug. 4 th .
6 8:30am-In- Person Worship 9:45am-Sunday School 11 am In-Person Worship	7	8 12pm-2/4 BLT 5:30-6:30 Praise Team Practice 6:30pm-7:30pm Choir Practice	9 9:30am-1pm Pastor's Office Hours	10 7-8:30pm Boy Scouts	11 Polly Duvall 6-8:30pm (Shelter)	 12 Church Picnic 1-5pm
13 8:30am-In- Person Worship 9:45am-Sunday School 11 am In-Person Worship 2pm Youth Meeting (shelter)	14	15 5:30-6:30 Praise Team Practice	16 9:30am-1pm Pastor's Office Hours 11:30am-1:00pm Senior Luncheon	17 Noon-1pm Salvation Army Lunch@ CCAP 7-8:30pm Boy Scouts	18	19 Jubilee Soup Kitchen 10 am-12:30pm 1 st Presbyterian Church UWF District Meeting. 1-4:30pm
20 8:30am-In- Person Worship 9:30-10 am Blood Pressure Checks 9:45am-Sunday School 11am In-Person Worship	21 7:30-8:30pm Disaffiliation Vote	22 12pm-2/4 BLT 5:30-6:30 Praise Team Practice 6:30pm-7:30pm Choir Practice	23 9:30am-1pm Pastor's Office Hours	24 7-8:30pm Boy Scouts	25 5-8pm Gideon's Picnic (shelter)	26
27 8:30am-In- Person Worship 9:45am-Sunday School 11 am In-Person Worship	28 10-1:30am Bible Study: Religion and Science Fellowship Hall 6:30-8:00pm Bible Study: Religion and Science	29 5:30-6:30 Praise Team Practice	30 9:30am-1pm Pastor's Office Hours	31 7-8:30pm Boy Scouts	1 Print Newsletter	2

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BURNT FACTORY
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July 2023

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