2026
SMOKE SIGNAL

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

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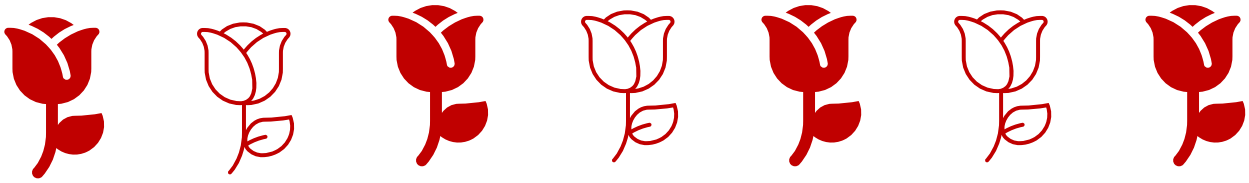


Happy May! It has been a beautiful Spring this year. It is about this time of year when we are going through a shift from Spring to Summer, especially for our teachers, students, and parents who are winding down the year. I am writing to encourage all of you with my favorite Bible Verse. Isaiah 40: 28-31

"Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the Lord, The Creator of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might, He increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, but those who wait upon the Lord, shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not be faint".

This verse speaks volumes of the Almighty Goodness and Power of God! This verse has always humbled me and encouraged me in my moments of weakness. This verse reminds us that God has a passion for all of his creation, we look around and we see the flowers blooming, colorful butterflies and bees flutter all around, the birds singing, and see the trees unfurl their leaves, we can see God in everything! This is a strengthening of our faith, it is a reaffirmation that God is in control of everything, and in those moments of weakness, and failing, God will soar down like an Eagle and in that strength, that powerful strength picks us up and we can soar with Him until we are renewed and refreshed to go along on our own again. God is telling us He is powerful and strong, and we can trust in Him when we are not. Be renewed by this verse and Abide in Him. Trust in His strength when yours is failing.

God's got you!

Peace and Blessings,

Pastor Carrie

Who does what around here!

Ever wonder how things get done around the church?

Who does what? Well, this little addition to the newsletter will give you some insight as to who does what around here!

This week we will talk about Jimmy Grayson.

Jimmy is our handyman, paper/cleaning supplier, gardener, and garbage man. Jimmy is so wonderful at making sure if it is broke, he fixes it, tending to the church gardens is a passion for him, as he serves the Lord by taking care of God's property. Thank you, Jimmy, for all you do around here!

May Birthdays

1st	Tom Shepley
	Dan Hayton
2nd	Eloise Woods
5th	Danette Heinlein
9th	Susie Gerometta
13th	Emilia Rodgers
	Regina Baldwin
17th	Gracyn Corron
19th	Ben Melester
	Jerry Baldwin
21st	Rob Clemons
24th	Jason Smith
	Annellee Buchele
28th	Harriett Hanke
29th	Lizzie Belile
	Lily Hayton
31st	Beth Kerns
	Dave Darsie

Happy Anniversary

10th	Edgar and Doreen Coffelt
12th	Ada and Michael Seabright
18th	Linda and Ronnie Snapp
20th	Matt and Beth Neff
	Dan and Rachel Hayton
21st	Jeff and Mitzi Everly
25th	Mike and Denise Repine

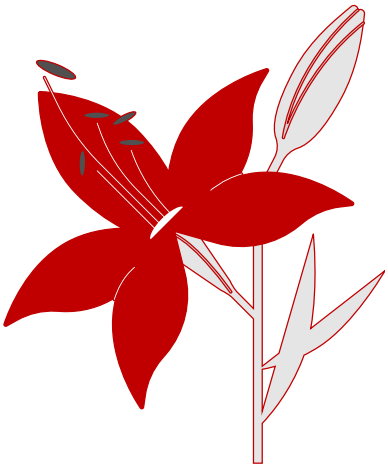
Joys

Let us celebrate together the joys in our wonderful faith community. As we are told in Philippians 4:4, Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

David & Sarah Werdebaugh welcomed their new baby girl into the world - Miss Mazie Olive

CONDOLENCES

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



- Please keep the family of Elizabeth “Betty” Murphy in your prayers. Miss Betty was the widow of longtime pastor Floyd Murphy.
- Please keep Sue Wells and all her family in your prayers as her nephew unexpectantly claimed the promise of the resurrection.
- Please keep the Patterson family in your prayers as Chip's Father, Elwood Patterson has claimed the promise of the resurrection.
- Please keep Karen Walker in our prayers, her husband Dan Walker has claimed the Promise of the Resurrection.
- Former member Paul Reid recently passed away after an extended battle with cancer.
- Please keep the Winter family in your prayers.

“He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

Revelation 21:4

VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!! June 22-26 TIME: 9:30-12

Join Us for Vacation Bible School:
🏛️ Rome - Paul and the Underground Church! 🏛️

This June, our church is stepping back in time to ancient Rome for an exciting week of Vacation Bible School! Kids will explore what life was like for early Christians, learn about Paul's adventures, and grow in their faith through songs, hands-on activities, storytelling, and fun.

To bring this experience to life, we need the help of our amazing church family! There are so many ways to serve—guiding a group of children through the "streets of Rome," helping with crafts and snacks, decorating our space to look like a bustling Roman marketplace, or supporting behind the scenes (working the audio, making/donating snacks, etc).

Whether you can volunteer all week or just a day or two, your time and gifts will make a lasting impact.

If you'd like to be part of this unforgettable journey, please contact me via e-mail/text OR sign up here:

Let's work together to create a meaningful and memorable VBS experience for our kids!

Erin Hartman - Director of Children's Ministries
E-mail: hartman03@yahoo.com
Cell: 540-535-5283

Greetings from Outreach

The Outreach Mission Statement

1 Peter 4:10-11

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ."

In April, BFC Sisters in Faith had a very informative presentation on dementia; many diapers, wipes, and blankets were collected for the Red Wagon Ministry. Family Promise Ministry was blessed with extra food, so 80 meals and a dozen containers pasta salad were packed and delivered to those living in motels and to the Freedge. Marcia Etu continues to plan the mission trip to NC in August, while also working with Refugee Assistance and the Handyman Team.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered or contributed to these ministries.

For anyone interested in getting involved in the ministries in our church, please join us at our next meeting on **Thursday, May 7th** at 7p.m. in the lower cottage. Hope to see you there.

May we love one another, May we serve one another, May we lift each other up, and May we praise our Lord together.

Cheryl Jones

Outreach Committee Chair

cheryl_b_jones@yahoo.com

CCAP Corner

CCAP Mission: Guided by our faith in God and love of neighbor**,** CCAP is committed to helping our neighbors meet basic needs with food, clothing and financial resources.

Recent Collections:

Diapers for Red Wagon Ministry: Thank you once again dear church for the wonderful collection of 2,305 diapers, 3,480 wipes and 7 beautiful blankets collected at our Maundy Thursday Service. Jody Stephenson, the founder of Red Wagon, was on-site to pick up our donation. Jody was overwhelmed by Burnt Factory's generosity. Polly and Jack Duvall started this ministry with Jody many years ago and Outreach is thrilled that our church continues to support the Red Wagon Ministry.

Thank you to Patty Leonard for attending the quarterly Church Representatives for CCAP meeting on Friday, April 17, 2026. The following notes were taken from the meeting:
Report from 4/17/26 quarterly CCAP Church Rep Meeting:

- 450 Easter Meals were given out on March 28th.
- President's Report – A part-time Administrative Assistant has been hired – Eli Palmer. Eli has a background in financial services. His focus will be on social media and Marketing development.
- Evening of Enchantment Fundraiser June 18, at the George Washington Hotel – proceeds to benefit CCAP and New Eve Maternity Home. CCAP is asking all churches to donate a Basket for auction. There will be a Magic Show, dinner, drinks and a live and silent auction. Tickets are $100 which will include one free drink and dinner for one person.
- 6th Annual Benefit Bike Tour 2026 on Saturday, August 22nd. Volunteers are needed to man the welcome stations.
- Non-Profit Collaborative – Andrea is part of this group comprised of 15 core members who advocate for non-profits to work together to not duplicate services. This group works with the city of Winchester.

CCAP Corner Cont'd

- The Governance Committee is working on a succession plan for Andrea. She is not planning to go anywhere but they are aware of the need to have a plan in place. Our current security system is being rewired. A panic button will be added to the Clothing House. There is a plan to install fencing between CCAP and Bo's to deter loitering on the property. The last major remodeling work will be the guttering at the buildings. LCW will do the work at cost.
- A donor appreciation night will be held Monday, 4/20 from 5-7. CCAP's top 20 donors will be honored.

First Quarter Statistics:

Food – 1309 households served; 125 were new; 4156 individuals served; 416 were new.

Clothes – 650 households served; 74 new; 2323 individuals served; 219 new.

Finance – 294 households served; 16 new; 859 individuals served; 92 new

Clothing Needs at CCAP: A great opportunity to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle your clothing:
- Gently Used Men's Jeans! Men's Cargo Shorts and Men's T-shirts
- Gently used Spring and Summer clothes for all sizes and genders
- Gently Used Tennis Shoes (all sizes and genders)

Men's belts, Women's purses, adult backpacks
gently used bath towels, bedding and blankets
new underwear and socks of all sizes and genders

Please contact us with any questions.

Patty Leonard, Outreach Rep - 540-664-6973 or ricpat5@gmail.com
Kathy Dick, Outreach Rep – 540 539-2905 or katlar9092@gmail.com

Faith and Health Corner

Honoring Mental Health Awareness Month

As the beauty of spring surrounds us in full bloom, May offers a gentle invitation to reflect on renewal – not only in nature, but within ourselves. As a Faith Community Nurse, I am called to care for the whole person: body, mind and spirit. This season is a meaningful time to encourage those we serve to pause, reset, and reconnect with God's healing presence.

May is recognized as Mental Health Awareness Month, reminding us that emotional and spiritual well-being are essential parts of overall health. Many individuals silently struggle with anxiety, depression, grief, or stress.

Simple Ways to Promote Wellness This Month:

- **Encourage Connection**: Isolation can deeply impact mental health. Invite others to join small groups, ministry activities, or simply share a conversation.
- **Promote Rest and Renewal**: Remind others of the importance of Sabbath rest – taking intentional time to restore body and spirit.
- **Support Healthy Habits**: Gentle movement, nourishing foods and time outdoors can uplift mood and improve physical health.
- **Offer Prayer and Presence:** Sometimes the most powerful intervention is simply being present and offering prayerful support.

I encourage you to speak openly about your struggles, seek help when needed, and lean into faith practices such as prayer, meditation, and fellowship.

"He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for His name's sake."
Psalm 23:3

If you have questions about health concerns, medications, upcoming procedures, or need help navigating healthcare resources, please reach out. Conversations are confidential, supportive, and grounded in faith. Together, we can build a healthier, heart-strong community.

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

The BELIEVERS 3rd ANNUAL

MOTORCYCLE and CAR RIDE

to benefit HELPING HANDS CANCER OUTREACH

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO CANCER PATIENTS IN OUR AREA

Saturday, May 16th
Beginning and Ending at the
Stonewall District Ruritan Club, Clear Brook, RT 11N
Registration starts at 8:00 AM with coffee and donuts
Leaving the lot at 9:30 A.M.
The ride will be approximately 47 miles
(2 hours including two 15 minute stops)

Ending back at the starting point
To share a time of fellowship and a light meal

$30.00 per bike or car
Contact either Mark Jones (540) 247-1422 Or
Randy Cornwell (540) 247-6990 with questions

Pre-Registration Available

Sponsors gladly accepted (see back)

Sponsor Form for
The Believers 2nd Annual Motorcycle/Vintage Car Ride
To Benefit Helping Hands Cancer Outreach

Sponsor Name _____
Phone Number (_____) _____
Address _____
_____

I WISH TO DONATE TO THE BELIEVERS $_____
Checks make payable to The Believers

Donations can be left in the collection plate at church OR
Mailed to Theresa Gilbert 107 Jeni Court, Winchester, VA 22602

Thank you in advance for your support!

Theresa Gilbert
(540) 247-5612
theresahgilbert@gmail.com

Sisters in Faith

At the Sisters in Faith meeting April 18, Jayne Seymour of Dementia Matters outlined a new collaborative initiative called “Dementia Friendly – Blue Ridge” which aims to enhance awareness of the challenges of living with dementia and supporting those caring for family members with dementia. Her presentation gave practical advice on identifying dementia symptoms as well as suggestions on communication and coping strategies.

In addition, Sisters in Faith is looking forward not only to our Women’s Retreat on May 16, but also is planning for a Christmas in July celebration at Rose Hill Nursing Home on July 24. We are cooperating with Operation Remember to provide gift bags with personal hygiene items and books for each Rose Hill resident. We will be packing bags with these gifts at our next meeting, June 20. All women of the church are invited to join us June 20 at 10:00 in the church 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”

Would you like to receive the Smoke Signal Newsletter by email?

Kindly send an email to Becca Ratliff at beccalea.ratliff@gmail.com with a subject:

“Add me to the Smoke Signal Newsletter email distribution”

May 2026 Calendar

Date/Time		Event
Sun 3rd	8:30 AM	Worship
	11:00 AM	Worship
Tues 5th	5:00 PM	Praise Team
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice
Wed 6th	9:30 AM	Pastor's Office Hours
Thurs 7th	8:00 AM	Home School Coop
	6:30 PM	Boy Scout Troop 63
	7:00 PM	Outreach Meeting
Fri 8th	All Day	Sight and Sound Trip
Sat 9th	9:00 AM	Brothers in Faith
Sun 10th	8:30 AM	Worship
	11:00 AM	Worship
Tues 12th	12:00 PM	2/4 BLT
	5:00 PM	Praise Team
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice
Wed 13th	9:30 AM	Pastor's Office Hours
Thurs 14th	8:00 AM	Home School Coop
	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 63

Date/Time		Event
Sat 16th	10:00 AM	Women's Retreat
Sun 17th	8:30 AM	Worship
	11:00 AM	Worship
Tues 19th	5:00 PM	Praise Team
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice
Wed 20th	9:30 AM	Pastor's Office Hours
	12:00 PM	Pathfinders
Thurs 21st	8:00 AM	Home School Coop
	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 63
Sun 24th	8:30 AM	Worship
	11:00 AM	Worship
Tues 26th	5:00 PM	Praise Team Practice
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice
Wed 27th	9:30 AM	Pastor's Office Hours
Thurs 28th	8:00 AM	Home School Coop
	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 63
Sun 31st	8:30 AM	Worship
	11:00 AM	Worship

For more info, view the calendar on our website: CalenderNew | Burnt Factory Church