

CIRCLE MEETINGS:

Deborahs—First Wednesday, **May 6th at 6:30 pm** at Eleanor Chadwell’s. (189 Elsia Drive, 635-5782. Deborahs do not meet in June, July or August.(Call Violet Carter, 635-8401 for further information)

Marthas—First Tuesday, **May 5th at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. June 2nd at 12:00 noon** in the Fellowship Hall for a covered dish lunch. Please bring a dish to share. (Call Jean Brown for further information 631-9185)

Naomis--First Tuesday **May 5th at 7:00 pm** at Ann Crim’s (115 N. Charles Street, 635-2700). **June 9th at 6:00 pm** with Peggy Thompson’s (804 W. 16th Street, 635-3752 for a salad supper and the **Candle Burning Program**. No meetings in July and August. Call Pat McMillen for further information, 636-9818)

Ruths--Fourth Tuesday. **May 26th and June 23rd at 1:00 pm** in the Library. Call Shirley Taylor for further information, 635-2045)

Sarahs- –First Wednesday, **May 6th and June 3rd at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.** The June program will be **Candle Burning.** Call Ginger Marlowe for further information, 635-7560).



UMW News

The Winchester District Prayer Breakfast held on March 7th was very successful, despite the snow and ice. The Deborahs Lenten Breakfast held on March 28th was also a very nice event with Josh Orndorff, Chaplain of R-MA as guest speaker.

COMING EVENTS:

The **Annual VA Conference Spiritual Life Retreat** will be held at Blackstone, VA from **May 1st—3rd.** The speaker will be the Reverend Dr. Marva Usher-Kerr. Carpooling is available from the church. Please contact Jacque Bowman (635-4948) for further information and reservations.

The **Annual Mother/Daughter Banquet** will be held on **May 19th at 6:00 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Adults \$10.00 and children 10 and under \$5.00. Watch the church bulletin for more information.

June 5-6 will be the **Annual Indoor Yard Sale** in the Fellowship Hall. Bring in those items you don’t find useful any longer on June 4th and donate them to the UMW for the sale. The only unacceptable items are adult clothing and TVs. Watch the bulletin for times and more information. Proceeds are donated to charity and/or missions. Weather permitting, the **UMM** will be grilling hotdogs and burgers with chips and drinks. They are donating their proceeds to **Imagine No Malaria.**

June 6th is UMW Day at Ferrum College. The UMC was involved in the establishment and maintainence of this school. Violet Carter (635-8401) has more information.

The next **General Meeting of the UMW** will be **Tuesday, June 16th** in the Fellowship Hall. The Naomis are going to be hostesses and our program will be on Spiritual Growth.

UMW Executive Committee Meeting at 7:00pm on **Tuesday, May 26th and Tuesday June 23rd** in the LFK Room. All officers and circle leaders are urged to attend or send a substitute.

Ruths Circle will meet May 26th and June 25th at 1:00 pm in the Library.

We welcome guests and new members.

The Ruth’s will be continuing to meet through the summer months. For more information call Shirley Taylor at 635-2045

EBS/CDC

Welcomes Joan Chadwell as the new Business Manager. This addition will help the financial part of this mission run more smoothly.

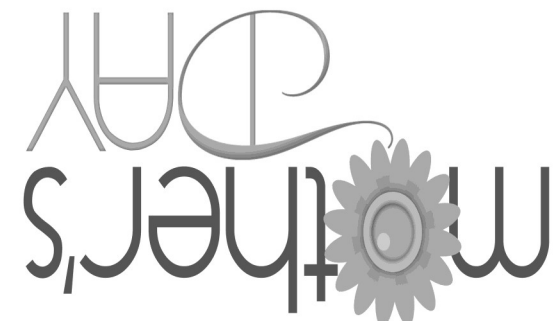
Introduce yourself to Joan and find out what’s happening with this wonderful mission of our church.

Father's Day



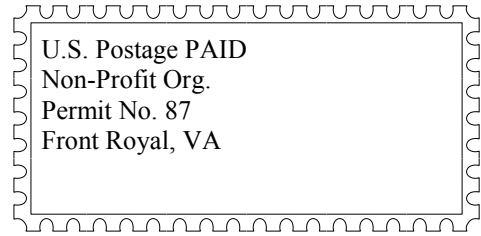
June 21st

May 10th



Front Royal United Methodist Church

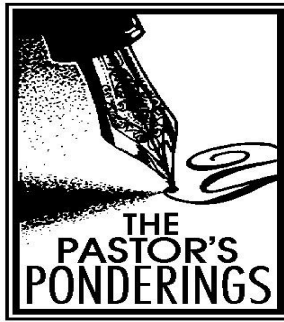
1 West Main Street
Front Royal, VA 22630
Phone (540) 635 -2935
Fax (540) 636 - 8518
Website www.frumc.org
E-mail: towernotes@comcast.net



Return Service Requested

Denise Bates, Pastor
Rhonda Thompsen, Office Manager
Melissa Chavez, Minister of Music and Worship Arts
Pam Waters, Director EBS/CDC
Barbara Robinson, Facilities Manager
Donna Quarton, Business Manager
Patti Henson, Housekeeper

Office Hours: 9:00 am—4:00 pm
Monday through Friday



Well, it is late afternoon on Monday, April 27. Yesterday was a challenging day, as we shared the news of my leaving. David and I have been working like banshees to get our house ready to sell, and Beth Waller and her team are on the way. We are as ready as we are going to be, just in time. I always find it interesting that no matter how much notice I have, how many lists I write and how good my intentions are—I am always a last minute “Louie”. I am sure it is procrastination, mixed in with a bit of spring fever (although packing and other details have nothing to do with it!) Still, it would be wonderfully surprising to me that before one vacation, one trip, one hospital stay, one change-point—I might not find myself with “my hair on fire”—although I am proud that I have been fairly calm (better ask David for verification of that). As I have gotten older, I have learned not to beat myself up about my little foibles—but still.

I suspect that for many of us, change-points can be times when we may tend to consciously or sub-consciously, develop feet of clay. Certainly for changes that we would rather not move through, that contain loss and pain (and I don’t mean dieting and exercise) we try to buy some time and savor a loved one, a place or a season in our lives. Even those changes that we are excited about can cause us to busy ourselves in “preparing to get ready”, but find ourselves a bit sluggish in the execution of the preparations. Times like retirement, or the empty nest—or even a change in pastors--can be like that. For us humans, so many of our life experiences, especially our change-points, can be bitter-sweet like that. And just like candies of that kind of flavor, it is hard to take too much at once.

We are experiencing one of those change-points in the life of our church. I am leaving FRUMC for my new appointment at Cave Spring UMC on June 28th. Your new Pastor, Rev. Alan Combs, will be arriving in Front Royal on July 1st, with his first worship on July 5th. There is a confluence of feelings and emotions at goings and comings. It can be easy to want to just sit it out until things “calm down”. It also can be tempting to overlay feelings from the past onto the new present, impacting the future in ways you may not intend. I encourage you to embrace this time in the life of our church as a fresh start. Saying good-bye and hello to pastors is part of being United Methodist Christians. John Wesley believed it was the best way to connect churches and share resources based on the gifts, graces and needs of both pastors and churches. It gives churches and pastors opportunities for a fresh start to share ministry in new and exciting ways; to enjoy the invigorating energy that healthy change can bring to all of us.

Through all of the changes we encounter in our human existence—in our personal lives and in our communal lives at FRUMC—God is with us. Actually, it is also even more accurate to say that God has gone before us to prepare everything for this new beginning. Even in the midst of loss—God brings growth; in the midst of sorrow, God brings joy; in the midst of change, God is steadfast and true. Join with me in rejoicing in this new beginning for FRUMC. It has been a blessing to serve Christ with you, and to be your pastor. I will be keeping you in my prayers—and pray God’s every blessing upon you and your new Pastor as you go forward, in God’s grace, together.

“See, I am making all things new! “ Revelation 21:5

Blessings,

Pastor Denise

MAY BIRTHDAYS

01	Audrey Hite	11	Rixey Striker	21	Elaine Halsted
	Mike Graham	12	Donald LaFever		Bret Hrbek
	Katelyn Athey		Dacey Beverage		William Myers
	Luke Hrbek		Jane Ryon	22	Stephanie Poe
02	Sarah Herbaugh	13	Bev Cameron		Terri Jordan
03	Denise Nguyen		Laura Doyle		Laura Totten
	David Coffron		Zack Rivenbark	24	Gregory Strickland
04	Jolissa Mathews	14	Linda Rosser	25	JoJo Kingery
	Linda Hazelette	15	Marty Shannon II	26	Larry Nagi
	Allyson Gillispie		Mike Pavalok		Susan Shall
05	Kathryn Hall		Kara Lewallen		Todd Butler
	Bea Shofner		Patrick Coffron	27	Herbert McCall, Jr.
	Bob King	16	Kathryn Scott		Jackson Pond, IV
07	Beth Quist		Sami Jo Butler	28	ames Wimer
	Jessi Bates		Jessica Holbert		Jessica Frame
08	Eddie Morrison		Anneslee Cockrell	29	Sue Stamey
09	John Jones	18	Evelyn Smith		Diana Little
	Jadelyn Smith	19	Mackenzie Orndorff		Joe Starr
	Makenna Wimer		Ernest Clater	30	Beth Perrero
10	Bill Oden		Sara Kenney		Laura Culver
	Melanie Stull	20	Justin Cairns		Joshua Flouhouse
			Bob Wertz	31	Dorothy Lillard
			Taylor Craves		

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

01	Donnie Thompson	11	Violet Carter	22	Emily Catron
	Ben Starr		Ginger Marlowe		Missy Briggs
	David Gillespie, Jr.		Noah Hrbek		Jefferson Day
	Zoey Alcazar	12	Sharon McMillen	23	Jan Palmer
02	Mark Smeltzer	13	Arnold Williams	24	Linda McConahy
	Madeline Pearson		Sherrill Gray	25	Dahl Mitchell
03	Virginia Berthold		Sarah Rettberg		Tom Conkey
04	Rhonda McDaniel	14	Moriah Bacon	26	Sue Underwood
	Hugh Martin		Linda Burns		Jessica Foglesong
	Heather Scislowicz	15	Madelyn Sperling	27	Mason Huff
	Danielle Oakes		Melissa Chavez	28	Geise Bennett
05	Patricia Reith	16	Jean Finstad		Bobby North
	Sarah McMillen	17	Charlotte Murphy		Wendy Joney
06	Judy Shadman		Katie Colton		Ryan Rettberg
	Tony Holbert		Mary Kenney	30	Cameron Taylor
	Michael Mortland		Amber Mitchell		Kelly Martin
07	Rosalie Baldwin		Andy Leser		Addison Lewallen
	Charles Funk		Ryan Zalar		
	Cathy Bower	19	Addison Higdon		
	Michael Coffron	20	John Coffron		
08	Barbara Miller	22	`Dora Balderson		
			June Newcomb		

FREE SPIRITS ON A ROLL!

The Free Spirits have no moss growing on their rolling stone so far this year! Thirty-five Seniors participated in our Bingo Blast in our first activity of the year January 21. Then on March 18 another 17 trekked to Fredericksburg's Riverside Theater to see star Sally Struthers strut her stuff.

On April 29, a bus load of inquisitive seniors visited the Shenandoah Valley Museum and its Glen Burnie mansion and gardens in Winchester. We were among the first to view a new exhibit completed the previous day celebrating the museum's 10th birthday and highlighting more than 50 of the most important objects in their Shenandoah Valley collection.

Then we toured the newly renovated Glen Burnie house and its new exhibition, "Beauty in Botany", featuring 22 artworks by local botanical artists. Finally we wandered through six acres of glorious gardens, including sculpture, water features, an historic family cemetery and a new Spring Garden with a pond, bridge and thousands of blooming spring flowers.

Topping off the day was a return to Roma Ristorante in Stephens City for a late "Dutch Treat" brunch. We had dined there in December on our trip to visit Belle Grove plantation, and participants enjoyed it so much that we voted to return.

Coming up on our busy calendar, on May 27 we'll journey over Skyline Drive to Big Meadows Lodge. While viewing the flora and fauna, we'll dine in the Lodge's rustic Spotswood Dining room, and then roam around the extensive display of history of the Drive, including the CCC's role in its construction.

June 24 marks the date of our Annual picnic. This year we'll hold it at the bucolic Isaac Walton farm in beautiful downtown Browntown. In addition to scrumptious country cookin', the Sweet Adelines quartet will entertain us.

We'll rest during July and August – but come September, we're on the road again! Make sure you're rolling along with us!

"Stewardship Reflection"

Each spring members of our church and community join forces in a most significant practice of good stewardship. The One Great Day of Caring program observed at the end of April is a commitment at the grass-roots level to provide a relief for those citizens unable to supply the basic requirements of their environment. Such public service offerings represent a personal dedication of time, abilities and resources to God, through God's church and the world.



UMW ANNUAL INDOOR YARD SALE

JUNE 5th from 8 am to 3 pm

JUNE 6th from 8 am to 1 pm

All donations accepted **EXCEPT** Adult Clothing and TVs

Set-up June 4th from 9am until....

Proceeds benefit charity/mission work



Fellowship Hour

May 17th
Presented by the
UMW

June 21st
Presented by the
UMM

*You are cordially invited to the
Annual Mother/Daughter Banquet
May 19th at 6:00 pm
Fellowship Hall*

*Adults \$10.00
Children 10 and under \$5.00
A sign up sheet is located in the church office.
All women are welcome.*

Cell Phone for Soldiers



You can help our troops call home!

Kathy Warren, serving on the Mission Leg for our soldiers overseas is seeking those cell phones that none of us know what to do with.

Most of the local cell phone companies will clean your cell phone for you to donate to this project.

A box is located in the breezeway for your donations. Please help in this important ministry.



You could learn a lot from crayons:

some are sharp,
some are pretty,
some are dull,
some have weird names.



All are different colors,
But they all have to learn to
live in the same box.

EBS NEEDS...

EBS is in need of a rocking chair. If you have one you would like to donate, please call Pam Waters at 622-2503.

From the Society of St. Andrew...

This note was received from Society of St. Andrew for funds received from the two potato luncheons held in February.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you! Thank you for giving and thank you for caring about our hungry neighbors. Through your \$400.00 gift to the Society of St. Andrew, you will share nearly 20,000 servings of nourishing food with people in greatest need this spring. You are making a difference in so many lives in Christ's name!

We are grateful for your partnership with the Society of St. Andrew in this ministry of health and hope.

Every blessing,
Lynette Johnson
Director of Church Relations



Thanks for all the prayers, cars and love we received from our church family during Heather Howard's hospital stay and surgery. She is doing great! Thanks be to God!

The Warren Family



UMM

will be grilling

hotdogs and burgers

for the **UMW Yard Sale**.

Stop in for lunch.

Proceeds to benefit

Imagine No Malaria

Backpack News...

Thank you so very much to all involved in the backpack ministry. Whether you sponsor a child, donate food, help fill the backpacks. This could not be done without your love and support!

Thank you again...I love you all!

Melanie Stull

**LIKE SMILING?
LIKE SHAKING HANDS?**

Become a greeter!

Greeters needed, especially for the 11:00 am Worship. Please contact Bea Shofner at 636-8413.