

UMW NEWS:

All circles have met as of this publication

The last retreat, Spiritual Life, was held at Blackstone the first week of May. Blackstone is closing its doors.

May 10th, Mother/Daughter Banquet in the Fellowship Hall 6 PM. Watch the bulletin for further information

Executive meeting May 24th In the **LFK room** at **7:00 PM**. All officers and circle leaders are to attend. If you are not able to come, please ask a substitute and call Jean Brown (631-9185) President.

ANNUAL UMW Yard Sale, June 10th and 11th! Come one, come all!

June Circle Meetings:

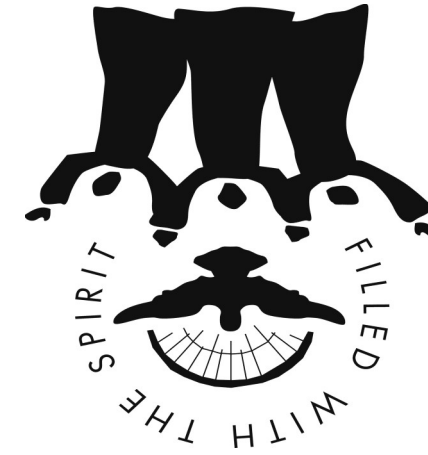
Marthas, June 7th at 1 pm. Contact Rita Biggs, 635-2657, for information.

Naomis, June 7th at 7 pm. Contact Pat McMillen, 636-9818, for information.

Sarahs, June 1st at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall. This will be the Candle Burning Program. Contact Ginger Marlowe, 635-7560, for information.

Deborahs, June 1st at 7 pm. Contact Eleanor Chadwell, 635-5782, for information

Please get your Kits for Conference prepared to go to Conference in June!



A Note from Pastor Alan:

As you saw from our email a couple of weeks ago, our Minister of Music and Worship Arts, Melissa Chavez, shared with us her letter of resignation. As we prepare to celebrate her ministry and send her forth into the next steps of her journey, I wanted to make sure to give you a sense of the road map moving forward at FRUMC with regard to her position.

After we learned of Melissa's resignation, the Staff Parish Relations Committee created a task force to look at the Job Description for the position of Minister of Music and Worship Arts. The goal of this task force is to review the Job Description and the position in order to ensure that before undergo a search for new staff, we have a sense of our where we are in our music ministry at FRUMC, and what we need as we head into the future God is calling us into.

This task force is made up of five people: Cathy Brischar, a member of our Staff Parish Relations Committee and an active part of our music ministry; Collin Finnell, an active participant in our music ministry, who has worked closely in assisting Melissa with most of our ensembles, especially our praise band; Susan Hrbek, our Worship Committee Chair, and an active part of our music ministry, Cary Burke, a member of our Staff Parish Relations Committee and our lay members to Annual Conference, and myself as the pastor and head of the staff at FRUMC. I asked our Staff Parish Relations Committee Chair, Susan Schall to facilitate the conversation within the task force.

Over the next couple of weeks the members of the task force will seek feedback from our musical ensembles in order to allow folks who are active in those ministries to have an opportunity to share their thoughts about our ministry and what we need as we head into the future. Since our music and worship arts ministry affects our whole congregation, I am sure that any member of the task force, as well as our Staff Parish Relations Chair, Susan Schall, would welcome constructive feedback.

The most important thing for us to remember in this process is that our church belongs to Jesus Christ, and it is his will we seek in any of our endeavors, including discernment about and a search for new staff. I ask for your prayers for the task force, for our Staff Parish Relations Committee, our music ministry, and for me as we see the guidance and leadership of the Holy Spirit in this process of discernment.

Peace,
Alan

Worship This Sunday:

The congregation ia asked to please where red to celebrate Pentecost !

Front Royal United Methodist Church

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

U.S. Postage PAID
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Front Royal, VA

Return Service Requested

Alan Combs, Pastor
Rhonda Thompsen, Office Manager
Melissa Chavez, PhD, Minister of Music
and Worship Arts
Joan Chadwell, Interim 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

**Methodist Men
Move
Mountains**

United Methodist Men and their guests literally went to the dogs at their regular 2nd Monday night dinner meeting on April 11th. Labrador Retriever, Christie, was the star of the evening as she demonstrated her explosives sniffing detection skills. Trained at the Harmony Hallow U. S. Customs and Border Patrol's Canine Training Center, Christie explicitly obeyed the commands of her two accompanying handlers. If only our kids and grandkids could be trained like that!

May promises to be a busy month for the church's men's organization. Every Tuesday morning at 9 am, Donnie Thompson will welcome helping hands as we care for the grounds of the Warren Heritage Society. The United Way's "Day of Caring on May 6th had to be cancelled due to weather. On May 10th, we will be responsible for cooking, serving and clean up, as the United Methodist Women enjoy their annual Mother/Daughter Banquet.

Tying all this together is our regular dinner meeting on May 9th. Lay leader and SPRC Committee chair, Susan Schall, will present "Four Universal Truths for Organization Success." Susan travels the country presenting these talks, but we are the first to hear a new one she has developed to show how to make non-profit organizations like ours successful.

We're in for a special treat June 13th when we'll hear why the Lord sentenced the Gideon's International to put a Bible in every lodging house in the world! George Pasquet, a Randolph-Macon Academy grad and career Air Force Pilot, who now farms in Middletown, sill tell us the how's and whys concerning over two billion Bibles and New Testaments placed during the past century.

Topping off the first half of our busy year is the Annual Picnic on July 11th. We now have 19 Methodist Men who have paid their \$15 annual dues, which makes us two-thirds of the way towards our 30 member goal. Help us out guys!

Free Spirits Track History

A busload of Free Spirits became "leathernecks for a day" when we toured the Marine Corps Museum in Quantico on April 27th. After Viewing a stirring film featuring Col. Wesley Fox, Medal of Honor winner from Front Royal, we wandered through the detailed and fascinating exhibits showcasing Marine Corps battle history and their weapons and equipment.

Topping off the tour was a "Dutch Treat" lunch in Tun Tavern, a replica of the site in Philadelphia where the Corps was officially born in 1775. It's hoped that touring Army veterans John Huttar and Phil Compton learned the proper Marine Corps Way!

Continuing our nostalgic trips through history, on May 25th, we'll travel to Gunston Hall, the historic home of statesman George Mason. A founder of our nation, he was author of the Virginia Declaration of Rights and the "father of the U. S. Bill of Rights".

Gunston Hall is located near Lorton on the Potomac River about 20 miles south of Washington, not far from Mount Vernon. Mason and George Washington were close friends. The 18th century plantation home has been painstakingly maintained with period furnishings and beautiful grounds facing the river. After viewing an introductory film tracing Mason's life and career, we'll take a guided tour through his historic home. Capping off the memorable day is a "Dutch Treat" lunch at a Lorton watering hole.

Closing our the first half of our active year is the Annual Picnic on June 22nd. We will return to the bucolic Izaak Walton Farm in beautiful downtown Browntown. In addition to all the picnic comestibles you can hold, we'll also enjoy special musical entertainment.

Although the Free Spirits will rest during July and August, we'll welcome your suggestions for target trips during the rest of the year. For example, Pat Millar had made the suggestion of Gunston Hall. Tell us where to go!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

01	Audrey Hite Mike Graham Katelyn Athey	15	Patrick Coffron Kathryn Scott	30	Beth Perrero Laura Culver
02	Sarah Herbaugh	16	Sami Jo Butler		Joshua Flouhouse
03	Denise Nguyen David Coffron	17	Jessica Holbert Anneslee Cockrell Evelyn Smith	31	Dorothy Lillard
04	Jolissa Mathews Linda Hazelette	18	Mackenzie Orndorff		
05	Allyson Gillispie Kathryn Hall Bea Shofner Bob King Gary Heaton Julie Heaton	19	Ernest Clater Sara Kenney Kayla Grigsby Justin Cairns		
07	Beth Quist	20	Bob Wertz Taylor Graves		
08	Eddie Morrison	21	Elaine Halstead Bret Hrbek William Myers		
8	John Jones Jadelyn Smith Makenna Wimer	22	Stephanie Poe Terri Jordan Laura Totten		
10	Melanie Stull Bill Oden	24	Gregory Strickland		
11	Rixey Striker	25	JoJo Kingery		
12	Donald LaFever Dicey Beverage Jane Ryon	26	Larry Nagi Susan Schall Todd Butler		
13	Bev Cameron Zack Rivenbark	27	Herbert McCall, Jr. Jackson Pond, IV		
14	Linda Rosser	28	James Wimer Jessica Frame		
15	Marty Shannon II Mike Pavalok Kara Lewallen	29	Sue Stamey Diana Little Joe Starr		

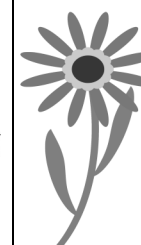


MAY
BIRTHDAYS

**Mission Box for May
ASP**

VBS is coming, anyone interested in helping plan and/or staff this year's VBS, please contact Ruth Pearson.

*A Special
THANK YOU*



Bob and Pat Cullers wish to thank everyone for all the condolences expressed in the recent passing of their on Christopher Craig Cullers. Your thoughtfulness was very much appreciated.



(brought to you by the)

May 15th
Between
Worship Services

Stewardship Reflections...

Last month's Tower Notes featured an inspirational message from the Director of the Elizabeth B. Sherman Child Development Center, who emphasized that the center is not merely a daycare or pre-school program, but serves as a mission of the church in a number of unique ways. This realm of stewardship not only enriches the lives of the children and their families with love and acceptance, but likewise offers a place of value and appreciation for the caring and concern provided by its employees. Such an attractive element of our church is quite a significant way of sharing the love of God with young children.

Please Support
Our



BACKPACK

Ministry