



April-May 2026

The Messenger

A PUBLICATION OF STEELE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



WELCOME PASTOR SAM MCMINN!

We are delighted to welcome Rev. Sam McMinn as our new pastor. Sam was born and raised in South Charleston and now lives in Charleston with his wife, Katlyn, and their daughters, Eloise (4) and Edith (1). He felt a call to ministry at age 14 and has been faithfully pursuing that call ever since. Sam holds a B.A. in Religion from Trevecca University and an M.A. in Christian Formation and Discipleship from Nazarene Theological Seminary.

He has served as a Youth Pastor, Worship Pastor, and Lead Pastor, and brings a deep love for the local church. Sam is passionate about building strong relationships, nurturing a vibrant community of faith, and helping the church serve both its members and the wider community. Outside of ministry, Sam enjoys hiking with his family, bow hunting in the fall, golfing, and making music.

He is excited to join the people of Steele Memorial UMC and to be part of what God is already doing here.

Email: sam.l.mcminn@gmail.com



What's Inside:

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- Graduate Sunday
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- Mark Your Calendar
- April/May Celebrations
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- Mother's Day Prayer
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- Puzzle

Join us for our Easter Service

Sunday, April 5 at 10:45 a.m.

VISIT US ONLINE AT www.steelememorial.com



He giveth power to the faint;
and to them that have no might
he increaseth strength.
Isaiah 40:29, KJV



Every Sunday is a little Easter

Beginning with the first Easter, the celebration of the Resurrection has been the focus of Christian worship. Because the early disciples were Jews they would have observed the Sabbath on Saturday. However, the first day of the week became the day for Christian worship. It was known as the Lord's Day, the day of Resurrection. Our weekly Sunday worship is a celebration of Jesus' resurrected presence with us---a little Easter each week.

The season of Lent is 40 days long, not counting Sundays. The actual number of days from Lent's start on Ash Wednesday to (but not including) Easter Sunday is 46 days. But because the church sees every Sunday as a mini-Easter celebrating Christ's resurrection, the six Sundays that occur during those 46 days are not counted as part of Lent.

He is Risen

Spring Graduate Recognition

As graduation season approaches, we are gathering the names of all **Spring graduates** who have membership ties to Steele Memorial. We look forward to celebrating their hard work and accomplishments with our church family.

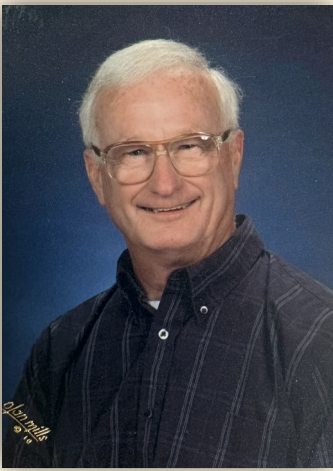
Graduate Recognition in Worship **Sunday, May 17, 2026**

To include a graduate in this year's recognition, please contact the church office at **304-736-4583** or email **church@steelememorial.com** with the following information:

- **Name of Graduate**
- **Parents and Grandparents**
- **Future Plans**
- **Photo**

All submissions must be received in the church office by **Tuesday, May 5.**





Honoring Jerry Johnson: Six Decades of Service to Barboursville

The Village of Barboursville has declared March 3 as “Jerry Johnson Day,” recognizing a man whose more than 60 years of service have shaped the safety and spirit of our community.

Jerry began his work in 1958 as a junior firefighter with the Barboursville Volunteer Fire Department. Over the years he became a senior firefighter, lieutenant, and senior engineer, known for his steady leadership and willingness to serve. He also partnered with the Red Cross to lead the department’s smoke detector program, helping protect countless families through prevention and education.

In 1964, Jerry expanded his commitment to public safety by joining the Barboursville Police Department, serving as a patrolman until 1972. His calm presence and dedication made a lasting impact on the community he protected.

Barboursville leaders have designated March 3 to honor this remarkable legacy. Jerry’s life reminds us how one person’s long-term faithfulness can strengthen an entire town.

As a church family, we celebrate not only Jerry’s accomplishments but the spirit behind them—humility, integrity, and a heart for helping others. Steele Memorial United Methodist Church is grateful for his witness and proud to join the Village in honoring him.

Tulip Program 2026

Memorial Tulips

William Howard , Kathy Howard, Drema Weatherholt & The Powell Family
By: Sarah & Mary Howard

Our son, Robb Eugene Miller By: Bob & Betty Miller

Our parents, Bob & Juanita Weeks, Fred & Eloise Porter
By: Jeff & Sharon Porter

Matthew Perkins, John & Olive Perkins, John & Julia Ann Brooks
By: Jack & Claren Perkins

Our parents, Willard & Roxie Feese, W.T. “Bud” & Margaret Boggess
By: Jim & Sandy Boggess

Our nieces, Suzie and Sarahann Elliott
By: Jim & Sandy Boggess

My husband and son, Pat Cornwell, Steve Cornwell
By: Brenda Cornwell

John Burris, Pete Burris & Betty Burris
By: Bob, Becky & Maggie Chenoweth

Jim & Wilda Chenoweth
By: Bob, Becky & Maggie Chenoweth

My Father, Vernon Adkins By: Cathy & Buck Conard

Family By: Russell Prichard

Mark Schneider

By: Jerry & Phyllis Johnson

Glenn Holton

By: The Holton Family

Philip Herrold

By: Bonnie Herrold

Honorary Tulips

Our Children and their families, Jay Porter-Susan, Della, Griffin & Dee and Jordan Carson-Porter, Nolan , Wyatt
By: Jeff & Sharon Porter

Our Mother, Georgann Holbrook
By: Amanda, Ben & Clayton Holbrook

Jennifer Bellomy & Family

By: Robert & Betty Miller

Maggie Chenoweth

By: Mom and Dad

Brenda Cornwell

By: Randy & Lisa Rhoades

Jerry & Phyllis Johnson

By: Randy & Lisa Rhoades

Our Parents, Madge Adkins, Celia & George Conard
By: Buck & Cathy Conard

Our children, Daniel & Lindsay Johnson, Kerri Schneider
Our grandchildren, Piper & Cale Johnson
By: Jerry & Phyllis Johnson



CARING FOR OUR GROUNDS:

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR LAWCARE MINISTRY

As spring returns and our campus begins to bloom, we are reminded what a blessing it is to gather on such beautiful church grounds. Keeping our property welcoming, safe, and well-maintained is an important part of our ministry—and this year, we are inviting volunteers to help with our Lawncare Team.

We are now building our schedule for the upcoming season and would love to add new helpers. Volunteers may serve individually or as part of a team, Whether you can help once a month or a few times during the summer, your time makes a meaningful difference.

If you are willing to serve or would like more information, please contact Ed Smith at 304-654-4006. Together, we can keep our grounds beautiful and continue offering a warm welcome to all who come our way.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April

- 2-Maunday Thursday Service-6:00 p.m.
- 3-Good Friday
- 5-Easter Sunday
- 6-Trustees Meeting-7:00 p.m.
- 8-Finance Meeting-6:00 p.m.
- 14-Administrative Council Meeting-6:30 p.m.
- 21-Tea Time Tuesday-3:30 p.m.

May

- 10-Mother's Day
- 17-Graduate Sunday
- 19-Tea-Time Tuesday-3:30 p.m.
- 24-Pentecost Sunday



WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY

- 9:45 a.m.
Sunday School
- 10:45 a.m.
Morning Worship
- 5:00 p.m.
Prayer Warriors
(First & Third Sunday)
- 5:30 p.m.
CIA-Children/Youth

MONDAY

- 6:30 p.m.
Scouts

TUESDAY

- 8:00 a.m.
Breakfast w/Pastor
(Oscar's)

Happy Birthday!



APRIL

- 3-Louetta Jimison
- 6-Bill Weekly
- 8-Maggie Chenoweth
- 17-Eddie Smith
- 25-Pam Dutton
- 28-Becky Chenoweth
- 29-Sarah Howard

MAY

- 6-Finley Hensel
- 8-Carolyn Price
- 12-Jon Fannin
Janet Sebert
- 14-Doris Staton
- 15-Jim Smith
- 19-Clayton Holbrook
- 20-Elizabeth Williams
- 23-Mary Howard
- 27-Georgann Holbrook
- 28-Richard Fillmore
Laura Jordan
- 29-Sandy Boggess

ANNIVERSARIES

MAY

- 13-Robert & Kay Ratcliff
- 19-Steve & Janet Sebert



HAPPY Mother's Day

May 10, 2026

A Mother's Prayer

Make me a wise mother, O Lord. Keep me calm and give me patience to bear the small, irritating things in the daily routine of life. Give me tolerance and understanding to bridge the gulf between my generation and that of my children.

Let me not be too ready to guide my children's stumbling feet, but allow me to be ever near to bind their bruises. Give me a sense of humor that I may laugh with them but never at them. Let me refrain from preaching with words; let me show by example instead.

Keep me from forcing their confidences, but give me a sympathetic ear when my children come to me. Make me humble. Keep my children close to me, O Lord, though miles may separate us. And let Thy light to shine upon me that they, too, will perceive Thy glory. Amen.

Pentecost

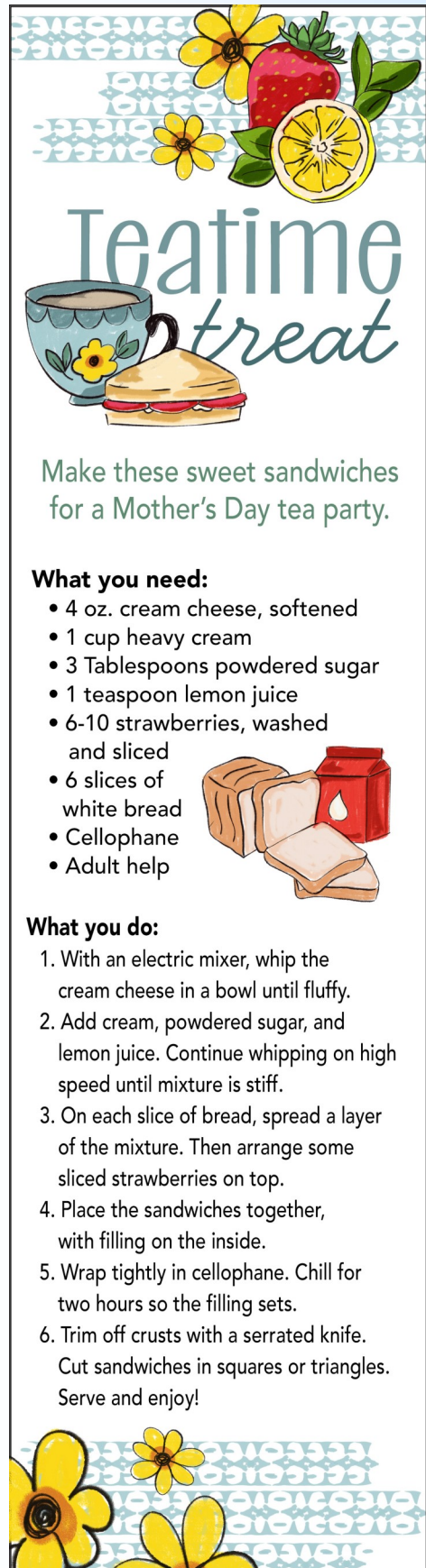
On May 24, Christians around the world will celebrate the Day of Pentecost. It's often remembered as the church's birthday. Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he promised that the Holy Spirit would come upon those who believed in his resurrection.

Three thousand people were gathered in Jerusalem when the Spirit came upon them. They were so touched by the Holy Spirit that they began to worship regularly, especially on Sundays, the day of Christ's resurrection.

To symbolize the "tongues, as of fire" (Acts 2:3, NRSV) that came upon the people present at Pentecost, liturgical churches display the color red in their worship services on Pentecost Sunday. Many people attending worship wear red on that day.



Peace I leave you, My peace I give you; not as the world gives, do I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, nor fearful.
John 14:27, NASB




Teatime
treat

Make these sweet sandwiches for a Mother's Day tea party.

What you need:

- 4 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 3 Tablespoons powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 6-10 strawberries, washed and sliced
- 6 slices of white bread
- Cellophane
- Adult help



What you do:

1. With an electric mixer, whip the cream cheese in a bowl until fluffy.
2. Add cream, powdered sugar, and lemon juice. Continue whipping on high speed until mixture is stiff.
3. On each slice of bread, spread a layer of the mixture. Then arrange some sliced strawberries on top.
4. Place the sandwiches together, with filling on the inside.
5. Wrap tightly in cellophane. Chill for two hours so the filling sets.
6. Trim off crusts with a serrated knife. Cut sandwiches in squares or triangles. Serve and enjoy!



We remember...

Memorial Day

May 25

Memorial Day emerged from the grim shadows of the American Civil War. Before the close of the war, women began decorating the graves of soldiers who had died in that war. The practice quickly spread, and a few years later May 30, 1968, was designated as Decoration Day—a day for placing flowers on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers throughout the United States.

In 1882, Decoration Day became known as Memorial Day, and soldiers who died in other wars were also honored. Over the years, it has become a day when all loved ones who have died—in wars and otherwise—are remembered. In 1971, the United States Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be observed annually on the last Monday in May

On this Memorial Day, remember those who gave their lives for our country. But also pray for those who continue serving to keep America free, especially those who are in harm's way.



No Greater Love



WORD SCRAMBLE

EJSSU

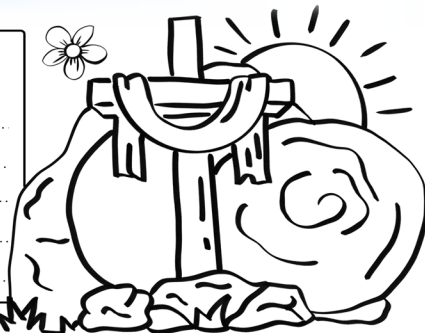
SCOSR

VELO

ATEESR

MOBT

JESUS, CROSS, LOVE, LOVE, EASTER, TOMB



- Color each section by number.
- Cut it out for a bookmark, or punch a hole and tie on string to make a keepsake.

1 – Blue
2 – Green
3 – Purple
4 – Yellow

JESUS IS ALIVE!

HE IS NOT HERE; HE HAS RISEN,
JUST AS HE SAID. MATTHEW 28:6, NIV

Color the wings to create a NEW butterfly.

F	O	R	G	I	V	E	N	E	S	S
X	L	O	V	E	Q	R	T	Y	U	I
P	J	E	S	U	S	O	P	A	R	D
C	R	O	S	S	I	F	G	H	I	K
R	T	Y	U	I	O	R	S	E	S	B
I	N	S	E	R	A	M	N	B	E	C
L	K	J	H	G	F	D	S	A	N	W
E	A	S	T	E	R	Z	X	C	V	B

FIND THE WORDS
EASTER LOVE
JESUS CROSS
RISEN FORGIVENESS

How many palm leaves can you find?
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