

The MESSENGER

What's INSIDE

A publication of Steele Memorial United Methodist Church

- From the Pastor
- Spiritual Formation
- Western District Workshop
- Pledge Drive Report
- Mission Team News
- News From the Hive
- All-Stars Update
- Birthdays/Anniversaries
- A Way Forward
- Easters Concert
- Easter Breakfast Fundraiser

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER WORSHIP

Along with our two regular Sunday morning worship times on Easter Sunday, April 21, at 8:45 a.m., and 10:45 a.m. the calendar includes some extra opportunities to *remember* and magnify the incredible love and glory of God in this season of the cross and the empty tomb!

Barboursville Park, 6:30 a.m. We join with other congregations from our area to greet this day of celebration, remembering the early visit by Mary and others who discovered the empty tomb at the dawn of the new day! This is a very moving worship experience for those who may be new to the Christian faith especially! (**Dress warmly!**)

Maundy Thursday Worship April 18, 6:30 p.m.

The service will be followed by breakfast in the Church fellowship hall.

The Last Supper – Our Maundy Thursday worship includes an earnest time of reflection as attendees surround the table of the Lord to remember the new promise given by God: the promise of mercy, grace, and forgiveness for those who come to Him in humble gratitude and faith. The promise of God was sealed by the blood of the Son, Jesus Christ!



Sunrise Worship

Easter Sunrise Worship – This year our Sunrise Worship will take place at the overlook shelter #1 at



EASTER FAMILY PORTRAITS

Families that would like a family-portrait photograph taken on Sunday morning before or after our 10:45 a.m. Easter worship time April 21, can sign up for a time-slot with Kara Blakeman from our Church, a professional photographer. Kara will donate her time and make the photographs available to your email!



ALL-STARS 4 JESUS “EGGS”TRA SPECIAL APRIL EVENT!

The annual egg hunt will take place Wednesday, April 17th at The Barboursville Park from 5:30 PM to 7:10 PM. All-Stars are asked to supply one dozen “treat” filled eggs. Please bring these to All-Stars by Wednesday, April 10th All are invited to attend.

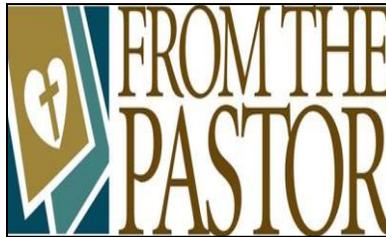
After-Easter SERMON Series

The Seven Desires of Every Heart explores the common desires God has given us – to be heard, affirmed, blessed, safe, touched, chosen, and included. Using stories, biblical references, and sound psychological principles, the messages will explore each desire and show us how we seek it and what it feels like to be filled and satisfied with each of these. You will learn healthy ways to embody these desires in your relationships and learn the tools you need to start repairing and rebuilding relationships and developing new skills for creating emotional and spiritual intimacy.

This new take on relationships changes everything! By examining the seven desires we all share, we will discover how men and women are actually more alike than different. Do you long for ways to –

- Tune in more closely to your children?
- Connect on a deeper level with your spouse?
- Strengthen friendship?
- Reach a fuller relationship with God?

Don't miss out on **important answers to these questions beginning April 28, the week after Easter!** Instead of focusing on our differences, we will examine what connects us and how the basic needs of all people make us more alike than different.



God showed His great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. (Romans 5:8)

One question many people ask at Easter is why anyone needs to be saved. The answer can be summed up in one sentence: Because sin erected a wall of separation between humanity and God. "It's your sins that have cut you off from God. Because of your sins, He has turned away and will not listen anymore." (Isaiah 59:2)

Obviously, to gain access to God, that wall needed to be broken down. According to the Bible, it is through Christ's death that the wall of separation has been removed. "For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And He gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation." (2 Corinthians 5:19) As a result, we are reconciled to God, and have free access to Him.

We are reconciled to God through Jesus' death. Such is the meaning behind the lyrics, "Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled," from the famous Christmas carol.

This means that reconciliation is not something we must accomplish ourselves. God does it for us. He has

essentially thrown His arms open and said, *"Everything standing between us has been removed. We are now reconciled in My eyes. Now it is up to you to either receive or reject the reconciliation by accepting Jesus as your savior."*

Each person can choose to take advantage of this free reconciliation. For those who do, complete forgiveness awaits them. It is one of the most precious gifts that God has made available to us through Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

– Richard Abanes

SOUVENIRS – Ann Weems

When we entered Jerusalem,
 Stars were handed out
 as souvenirs of our pilgrimage.
 We tucked them
 next to our hearts
 and continued on our journey.
 When we go to Friday
 in and in and in
 the nails were
 driven.
 In
 the terror of the thunder and
 the uncontrollable sobbing,
 we dropped our stars.
 Beneath the cross
 the ground is strewn
 with broken stars and
 kneeling pilgrims,
 godforsaken.

Spiritual Formation: The First Step

Are you ready for discipleship? It's your first step!

"Discipling is an intentional relationship in which we walk alongside other disciples in order to encourage, equip and challenge one another in love to grow toward maturity in Christ. This includes equipping the disciple to teach others as well." (Greg Ogden)

It is this to which you and I are called as people of faith, as people of God! An "intentional relationship," something with which we all need assistance. I liken the road of discipleship to a journey where we come alongside others who are focusing their lives on a new relationship with Jesus Christ.

Pastor Kevin plans to call together a small group who may be ready for this journey at this season of life.

–continued on page 3

Alleluia!

HE IS ALIVE!



Why Palm Sunday?

Palm branches are mentioned in only one of the four Gospels (see John 12:12-15). So why do we call the first day of Holy Week Palm Sunday?

Tradition plays an important part in church history. During Jesus' time, Rome was the world's leading power. When-ever the Romans were victorious in battle, citizens traditionally threw branches in the returning heroes' path.

This was the accepted custom of reception. So when Jesus rode into Jerusalem, it was appropriate that he receive a hero's welcome. One week later, he would be victorious over death.



**"Blessed is he
that cometh in the
name of the Lord!"**

Mark 11:9

--continued from page 2

If you ever wondered what the spiritual journey is about or wished you understood better the language of spirituality, this is a journey for you. Don't we all need time beyond the Sunday worship to explore the questions that arise because of our faith – but felt too anxious to ask?

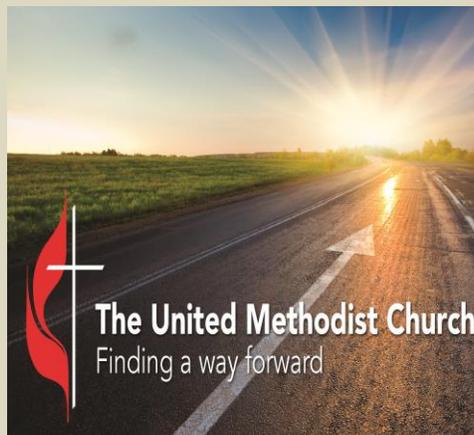
For six weeks *Exploring the Way* will introduce the group to basic concepts in the Christian life, along with biblical passages that support the teaching. But most importantly, you will learn spiritual practices, what are typically called *spiritual disciplines*, that will sustain you throughout your life. There is nothing complicated about these practices. You will have a chance to "taste and see" what these disciplines will mean to you.

Contact Pastor Kevin if you are interested or have questions: kiplantz@yahoo.com or 304 638-4840 on his cell phone – or the Church Office: church@steelmemoial.com



PLEDGE DRIVE: Report

With 14 households responding – we are at 72% of our goal to add \$1,500 / month in giving so that we can move forward in our ministry action plan to fill an associate pastor's position. This position will be responsible for Ministry of Youth and Discipleship! Thank-you for responding this far! Let's continue to receive other pledges so that we reach our goal!



The United Methodist Church
Finding a way forward

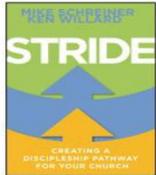
A Way Forward for the United Methodist Church:

Awaiting Decisions from the Judicial Council

The next step in the process following the recent special General Conference comes as the United Methodist Judicial Council meets in Evanston, Illinois April 23-26 for its two-item docket.

Western District Workshop: Discipleship Pathways

Saturday, April 13th
9:00 am – 3:00 pm (Lunch provided)
Beverly Hills United Methodist Church



Interested in how to better make disciples of Jesus Christ? Ken Willard, author of "*Stride: Creating a Discipleship Pathway for Your Church*," will walk through the three stages of creating a process of discipleship specific to your church's context of ministry.

Please register with the Western District Office at westernumc@aol.com or 304-736-9962 by Thursday, April 4th.

Discipleship Pathways

For churches interested in making disciples!

April 13th from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Beverly Hills UMC
2600 Washington Blvd. in Huntington
Lunch will be provided

This seminar is designed to help you and your church create a pathway or process of discipleship specific to your context of ministry. The session has been designed to be informative, interactive, and inspirational. Based on the book, *Stride: Creating a Discipleship Pathway for Your Church*, we will walk through the three stages of creating a discipleship process. Reading the book ahead of time can be helpful, but is not required. Each participant will also receive a workbook to use during this workshop.

The session agenda will include topics such as:

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Our Mission & Vision | Preparing to Create a Discipleship Process |
| Spiritual Disciplines | Key Discipleship Areas |
| Spiritual Formation | Communication / Connections Process |
| What is Discipleship? | Discipleship Coaching |
| What a Discipleship Process is NOT | |

Ken Willard will be the presenter. He is the director of discipleship, leadership and congregational vitality for the West Virginia annual conference. He is a professionally credentialed coach, an author with Abingdon Press, and has worked with churches of all types and sizes all over the country as both a coach and a consultant.

Our Mission is to Discover, Develop, and Deploy Passionate Spiritual Leaders who make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.

Easter is more than a day on the calendar, more than a holiday Christians observe each year. Easter is the inbreaking of a glorious hope

FROM THE MISSION TEAM

LOOK AT WHAT WE ARE DOING!

The call went out for help to join with Habitat for Humanity, 84 Lumber, and some great volunteers for improvements to Asbury Woods (our district camping facility). Thank you United Methodist Men and United Methodist Women for your answer! Thanks to their generosity, Steele Memorial has donated the monies necessary to cover the cost of 4 new bunk beds.

BUSY BEES have indeed been busy this winter: in January the little ones collected 450 pairs of socks for ECCHO! In February, they provided 22 different cleaning supplies and 24 pet foods (dog food, cat food, treats, etc.) for a local pet rescue organization. In March, they have collected 231 pairs of underwear that was donated to ECCHO. WOW! What a wonderful example they set for us adults!

ECCHO: thanks to everyone who took to heart the message of supplying items each week to help restock the food pantry at ECCHO. We delivered 59 cans of soup over January and February. Special thanks also to the Pennington Class for their cash donation to ECCHO, their continued commitment enables the folks at ECCHO to purchase many needed items.

Our target item for April is canned meats such as Vienna Sausage, potted meat, beef stew, etc. Please place your donations in the ECCHO box located in the Narthex.

Kudos to the All-Stars who have been collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in Huntington. They have filled their container TWICE during the winter. You can help as well by bringing your tabs and adding to the total!

MISSION OPPORTUNITY!

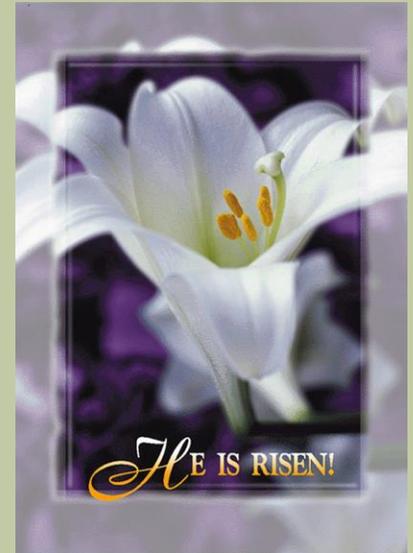
As a reminder, the annual Celebration of Mission Event (COME) will be held on May 5 from 1:00 PM-3:00 PM at First Methodist Church in Barboursville in conjunction with the District Conference. In April, we will be collecting for the Tyrand Cooperative Parish in Mill Creek, WV. Listed below are items that they have requested to aid with both their back to school store and their food pantry. Remember our goal is **EVERYONE, ONE ITEM, ONCE A WEEK.**

Back to school items needed include spiral notebooks, erasers, pencils, pens, loose leaf paper, and highlighters.

Food pantry items needed include: canned peas, canned green beans, canned corn, macaroni and cheese, cereal, peanut butter. Personal care items like toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, and deodorant are also needed.

Please place all donations in the big missions basket in the Narthex. May God Bless you for your willingness to help those less fortunate.

-Gina, Kay, and the Mission Team



LEGENDS LUNCHEON— A SUCCESS!

The Reaching New People Team would like to thank all who participated in our first Legends Luncheon!. It was a huge success!

Thank you to those who came, who invited friends and neighbors, for those who fixed food and for those who volunteered to help in the kitchen to serve. A special thanks to the Barboursville Police Department and Detective Greg Lucas whose presentation on Senior Safety was outstanding.

+Christian Symbols+



Nails

Nails symbolize Jesus' passion and suffering because they were used at his Crucifixion. They are often depicted in groups of three because two nails were used to secure his hands, and a third was used to secure his feet. Three nails are also used to identify Jesus as a member of the Holy Trinity.

Happy Birthday!



- 1st Mandy Null
- 3rd Louetta Jimison
- 6th Amy Jarvis
- 7th Tennessee Justus
- 8th Maggie Chenoweth
- 9th Kennedy Fisher
- 11th Susan Wagoner
- 14th John Cummings
- 17th Greg Gesner
- Eddie Smith
- 18th Madison Call
- Debbie Lingenfelter
- 19th Nick Anuszkiewisz
- 20th Randy Taylor
- 22nd Bryan Collins
- 23rd Jeff Snell
- Rosie Wooddell
- 25th Pam Dutton
- 26th David Hedrick
- 28th Rachel Pickett
- 29th Sarah Howard
- 30th Mollie Bannister
- Debi Canady



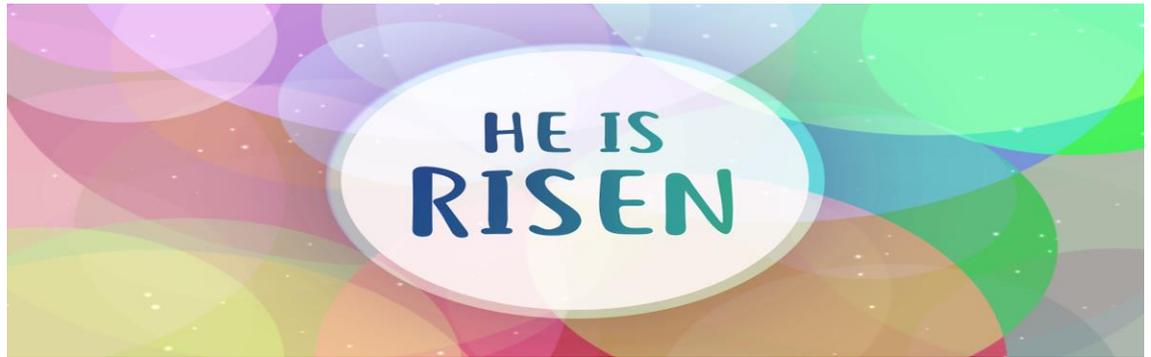
Children's Church

- 7th Opportunity to serve.
- 14th Stephanie H
- 21st Stephanie F
- 28th Becky & Sarah



Parking Lot Attendants

- Parking Attendants**
- 7th Terry/Larry
- 14th Mike/Tony
- 21st Pat/Donnie
- 28th Kelly/Terry



Easters Concert

Jeff and Sherri Easter will perform at 7:00 PM on Saturday, April 13th at the Milton Performing Arts Center located 1 Pumpkin Way, Milton. Tickets are on sale now and the costs are \$25, \$20 and \$10. You may purchase tickets by calling 304-743-8774 or 304-563-0476.



April 9th
Chris & Amy Jarvis

Easter Breakfast Fundraiser

The 45th ANNUAL EASTER BREAKFAST will be held on Saturday, April 13th at 8:30 AM in the **Barboursville First United Methodist Church** fellowship hall.

Cost is \$5 per person. Reservations may be called in by Wednesday, April 10th to Joyce Spencer, 304-736-4522 or by emailing jespencer@msn.com. Mark your calendar and invite a friend!



“For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother’s womb.”

Psalm 139:13



Noah Blake Barebo

Born Friday, March 15th

8lb 15oz and 21” Long

Congratulations Cody & Ashley Barebo!



Christ

has been raised from the dead,
the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

1 Corinthians 15:20, ESV



WELCOMED HOME

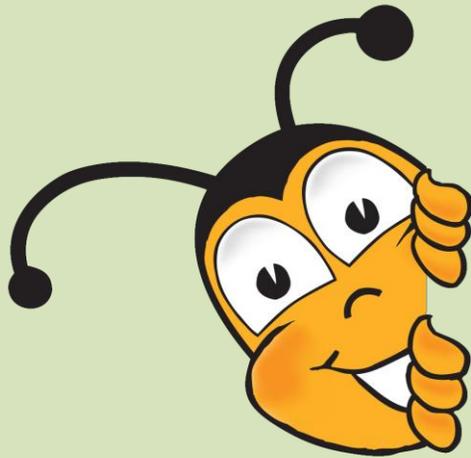
Sympathy and Prayers for Debbi
Canady and family following
the death of her husband,

Arvin Canady

August 3, 1951 – March 20, 2019

If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ – whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

(1 Corinthians 15:13-19)



NEWS FROM THE HIVE

Our Bees are looking forward to some nicer weather! April's Bible lesson is The Easter Story, Bible verse is "2 Corinthians 5:17 If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation." and our mission project is collecting school supplies for Royal Family Kids Camps, a summer camp for children who are in the foster care system.

We will have an Easter party and Easter Egg Hunt this month and some of our Busy Bees will visit the library, while others who are entering kindergarten in the fall will be taking a tour of Village of Barboursville Elementary. This allows them to get an idea of what to expect when they start school in the fall.

We hope everyone has a blessed Easter season!



Tracking for Truth!



LET MY PEOPLE GO!

All-Stars continue on the "track" for Truth as we follow the "Chosen Tracker"-Moses. We've been with his rescue from the Nile to the life in Pharaoh's Palace, his encounter with God through the burning bush and watched infliction of the ten plagues.

In the words of an All-Star (Rhett), "Just say YES Pharaoh!", when Moses persisted with "Let My People Go!"

All-Stars participating in this dramatization included: Grayson as Aaron, Luke as Pharaoh and William as Moses.

Many thanks to the All-Stars who supplied our props from frogs to bugs, fly swatters, to flashlights and paintbrushes to bandages: Dylan, Lucy, Alice, Kaylee, Jaedon, Ashley and Kenzie.

UPCOMING EVENTS:



ALL-STARS 4 JESUS EGG HUNT

DETAILS ON PAGE 1

April 2019

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | 1 | 2 Celebrate Recovery | 3 1:00 Lenten Study 6:30 Adult Bible St. 6:30 Young Adult St | 4 | 5 | 6 8AM Men's Bible Study |
| 7 | 8 | 9 Celebrate Recovery | 10 1:00 Lenten Study 6:30 Adult Bible St. 6:30 Young Adult St | 11 1PM Lydia 5PM District Lead.Team Mtg. 7PM Esther/Ruth | 12 Wedding Rehearsal Nina Forjone & Jeff Clayton | 13 8AM Men's Bible Study Wedding Nina Forjone & Jeff Clayton |
| 14 Palm Sunday | 15 | 16 Celebrate Recovery | 17 1:00 Lenten Study 6:30 Adult Bible St 5:30 All-Stars Easter Egg Hunt | 18 6:30 Maundy Thursday Worship 7:30 Finance Mtg. | 19 | 20 8AM Men's Bible Study |
| 21 Easter 6:30 AM Sunrise Service/Breakfast | 22 | 23 Celebrate Recovery | 24 6:30 Adult Bible St 6:30 Young Adult St | 25 | 26 | 27 8AM Men's Bible Study 10AM Reaching New People |
| 28 | 29 Scouting Picnic with Engage Team | 30 Celebrate Recovery | WEEKLY WORSHIP SCHEDULE SUNDAY 8:45 AM Worship 9:40 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 6:30 PM Evening Worship WEDNESDAY 5:30 PM All-Stars 4 Jesus 5:30 PM Youth Program 6:30 PM Young Adult Small Group 6:30 PM Adult Bible Study | | | |

Refit ---- Monday-Wednesday-Friday 9:30 AM

Don't Let Disasters Derail Your Life

Threat Preparedness Fair
Sponsored By
The Cabell Huntington Health Department

Located:
Steele Memorial United Methodist Church
733 Shaw Street, Barboursville

Date & Time:
May 18th
12pm-2pm

Free Food Games Prizes

Inflatables Giveaways

and Characters!!



Also, we will be collecting items for the
Cabell Wayne Animal Shelter



Steele Memorial
United Methodist Church
733 Shaw Street
Barboursville, WV 25504
www.steelememorial.com
304-736-4583

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
BARBOURSVILLE, WV
PERMIT NO. 21

See Details Inside — Page 1



He is Risen