



THE MESSENGER

Steele Memorial United Methodist Church

733 Shaw Street, P. O. Box 346

Barboursville, WV 25504

304-736-4583

Rev. Kevin Lantz, Pastor

Rev. Ralph G. Sager, Associate Pastor

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June 2017

The Jason Lovins Band Free Concert Barboursville Park Amphitheater Come Celebrate Recovery with us!

Celebrate Recovery



Saturday
June 3
7-9 pm

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY:

A Retirement Dinner for Rev. Ralph Sager

With the end of June, Reverend Ralph Sager will be officially retiring from the position of Associate Pastor at Steele Memorial United Methodist Church. After 22 years of faithful service to the Church and Community, we will celebrate Rev. Sager's ministry with a Church Dinner on Sunday, June 25, following worship! Members and friends are encouraged to be present and participate in this celebration in several ways:

1. We will have a table to collect your personal cards or gifts expressing appreciation for the ways Rev. Sager has touched your life in ministry, both personally and through the Church community!

2. We will receive a love offering the week prior, on June 18, as a personal expression of our love!

3. Bring a cover-dish to share for the dinner. The United Methodist Women will provide meat, drinks, and rolls for the meal!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

Come join us this year at **Maker Fun Factory** to learn about who God really is! Each day at **Maker Fun Factory VBS**, kids travel through stations that reinforce Bible Points and immerse kids in new adventures.

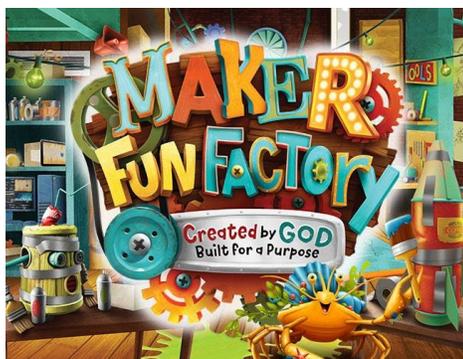
The dates for our annual summer Bible School are June 12-16, 9:00 a.m. – Noon for ages 3 to 6th Grade. (Please make sure all 3-year olds are potty trained.) Please include your children, grandchildren, and friends from your neighborhood as we share the good news of God's love with our young disciples!

Jaw Dropping Experiences: Kids discover they're lovingly crafted by God. On this interactive adventure, curious kids become hands-on inventors and experience God – the ultimate maker – in new and wildly creative ways!

Easy-to-Learn Bible Truths: Kids discover important truths – and dive right into the Bible. At Maker Fun Factory VBS, kids learn one important Bible Point each day,

and it's reinforced through Bible adventures, key Bible verses, songs, snacks, and hands-on explorations that help children know they were created by God and built for a purpose!

Interconnected Lessons: Like gears in a machine, every part of Maker Fun Factory VBS works together to produce an experience that really connects kids with Jesus. It's a finely tuned engineering masterpiece that involves every member of your team and every experience to change kids' lives forever!



Pastor's Page

MAMMA'S REFRIGERATOR

Mom has one of my favorite Bible verses on her refrigerator: **Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart!** (Psalm 37:4)

I came across this verse after I had been a new Christian for less than a year. I believed that God was calling me into ministry – which was way out of my comfort zone! As I wrestled with this calling, I was asking myself, “Where does this feeling or this itch to go into ministry come from?” And I couldn’t help but identify “the call” as something desirable from within my heart!

Well that was weird! Ministry had never been on the list of things I thought I would do! I was practically brand new to church – at the age of 20, when I invited Jesus into my life as Lord and Savior! It was about three months later, working as a draftsman in Clarksburg, WV that it dawned on me to pray, “Lord, if I’ve given You my life and You’ve saved me from the condemnation of hell ...then maybe I should be asking You what You want to do with me.”

Think about this phrase: “...**the desires of your heart!**”

What is it that your heart desires?

And then re-read the verse: “**Delight yourself in the Lord...**” We receive the desires of our hearts **when** we delight ourselves in the Lord! Are you taking delight in your relationship with our heavenly Father?

If not, then how can you know the joy of your deepest desires?

The desires of my heart were completely new after Jesus came into my life! Worry and fear were no more! I felt energized and excited – and I wanted my family and my friends to know the joy that comes from God when we surrender lordship of our lives to Him!

Delight yourself in the Lord – How will you do that? Take part in worship! Open your mind and heart to what the Bible teaches and dare to believe; dare to trust that God has your best in mind! Read your Bibles and pray over what you read! Serve the Lord with a willingness to give your time and talents and energy to meet needs within the Church and community! And there are more ways to take delight in the love and joy of Jesus Christ!

He will give you – It’s a gift from God! He will give you the assurance of things you’ve hoped for, the promise of things unseen! He will give you the fruit of the Holy Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-Control! That’s a fruit basket filled with all the best things you dare to imagine! But don’t forget: take delight in the Lord!

...**the desires of your heart!** I can’t wait to hear what that is specifically *for you!* I hope you will share with us!

Pastor Kevin

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Plans are underway for the West Virginia United Methodist Conference at West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon, WV June 8-11. Pastor Kevin Lantz and John and Susan Call are members attending the Conference this year.

Let us be in prayer for the United Methodist Church as God’s instrument for grace and love in our communities and throughout the world!

YOUVERSION BIBLE

If you aren’t currently carrying the Bible with you, you can! With an app download on your computer, phone, or tablet, you can choose from more than 1,200 Bible versions! God is near, and so is His Word. As you wake up. While you wait. When you meet a friend. Before you go to sleep. When the Bible is always with you, it becomes a part of your daily life! **And it’s free!** YouVersion is a simple, ad-free Bible that brings God’s Word into your daily life.

This Bible App has been downloaded more than 268 million times, with 1492 versions of the Bible, and is available in over 1,000 languages.

YouVersion provides more than just a Bible, too! You can plug into a daily devotional reading that will come to you each day! And there’s more – for the kids and for yourself! I hope you’ll check this out at your app store or by visiting . . .

www.bible.com or www.youversion.com

The Tongue

"If your mind goes blank,
don't forget to turn off the sound."

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

You’re invited to the annual Ice Cream Social on **Sunday, June 18, beginning with a Praise Band at 6:30 p.m.** The gathering will be in the yard outside the gym area, in the grassy space. (There may be a new picnic table or two!)

Along with the ice cream, this has traditionally been a time to raise funds with a baked goods and cake auction! Please consider bringing one of your favorite desserts that will be auctioned to the highest bidder!

But don’t just bring an appetite and something to sell. The Church’s Mission story reminds us...

Our purpose is to ENGAGE with people in order to know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; to CONNECT them in their journey of faith; and to offer opportunities to DEVELOP their relationship with the living God through love, worship, and SERVICE.

So for this Sunday, we’re thinking about **Engaging** and **Connecting** with new friends from throughout the neighborhood and from among your family and friends! Let’s remember to **intentionally ENGAGE with people in their own lives in order to demonstrate God’s love for them, and CONNECT people to a vital relationship with God and His Church through faith in Jesus Christ.**



PENTECOST SUNDAY

Let's wear red Sunday, June 4, for the Day of Pentecost! Red is typically the liturgical color, and all our friends and members are encouraged to wear red! It's the only time in the calendar that the paraments on the pulpit and altar are so adorned as we are reminded of the passion for ministry that comes to God's people!

What Is Pentecost?

If you asked a typical churchgoer to name the three main festivals or celebrations in the church year, most would easily reply with Easter and Christmas. But how many of us know that Pentecost is traditionally considered the third central festival on the church calendar?

At Pentecost, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the disciples and other followers of Jesus who were gathered in Jerusalem. After His resurrection, Jesus had advised the disciples to stay in Jerusalem until they were "clothed with power from on high" (Luke 24:49, NRSV).

It was during the Jewish Festival of Weeks, referred to as Shavuot in Hebrew and Pentecost in Greek, that this gift was bestowed. Shavuot was a pilgrim festival, and according to Jewish law, all Jewish men were expected to travel to Jerusalem for the celebration. During Shavuot, the people celebrated God giving the Torah to Moses on Mount Sinai.

Speaking in Our Native Language

Acts 2 details the dramatic arrival of the Spirit upon Jesus' followers. While we often compare the Holy Spirit to the gentle presence of a dove, at Pentecost the Spirit comes as wind and fire! The Spirit arrives with the "howling of a fierce wind" (verse 2), and the disciples see individual flames alighting on one another's heads. They were so filled with the Spirit that they were able to speak in languages that they didn't know.

Because Pentecost was a pilgrim festival, there were Jews gathered in the city from all over, and they spoke many different languages. The loud sound had attracted their attention, and they were mystified by the sight of Galileans speaking the languages from their distant homes.

While some assumed that the disciples must have been drunk, Peter insisted that they weren't. Instead, he pointed to a prophecy from the Book of Joel in which God promises to "pour out [God's] Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young will see visions. Your elders will dream dreams" (Acts 2:17).

It's important to note that while Paul writes about speaking in tongues in a few of his letters, what occurred at Pentecost was something different. Speaking in tongues, as described by Paul, was generally unintelligible speech, not an established language. At Pentecost, the apostles were speaking languages that those gathered for the festival spoke in their hometowns, enabling people to understand the new work of God!



CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

We regret to report that our Church Administrative Assistant, Ms Jonnie Johnson, will be retiring from her position, as of June 16. We are posting the position to invite potential applicants to provide a résumé to the Church. We also have an application in the office for potential candidates.

You are encouraged to send a card expressing your appreciation to Jonnie for the ministry she has offered among us these many years! You can mail those to the Church at PO Box 346; Barboursville, WV 25504

Skills and Abilities for the position include typical office management, computer skills, word processing, pleasant communication skills on phone and in office, and competency with financial records.

The position currently involves 30 hours per week. The closing date for applicants is June 5. Make inquiries to the Church at 304 736-4583. Mailing Address: PO Box 346; Barboursville, WV 25504

UMW PLANNING MEETING will be Sunday, June 4, 5:00 PM in the church parlor. All women are invited to attend, as we plan our summer/fall activities.

ESTHER/RUTH CIRCLE will meet on June 8, 7:00 at the home of Delora Call (113 Brady Drive in Barboursville). We will continue our book study BEFORE AMEN by Max Lucado, Chapter 3; and discuss summer/fall activities.

CHURCH CUSTODIAN NEEDED:

The position of custodian at Steele Memorial has changed to a full-time position beginning the first of July. **Skills and Abilities** for the position include familiarity with typical cleaning equipment such as floor buffer along with interaction with Church ministry staff and community families. Church is host to a Pre-School, so a back-ground check will be necessary. Potential applicants can provide a résumé to the Church. We also have an application in the office for candidates.

The closing date for applicants is June 5. Make inquiries to the Church at 304 736-4583. Mailing Address: PO Box 346; Barboursville, WV 25504

SAYING "SEE YOU LATER" as I resign my position in the office at Steele Memorial. The six, almost seven, years that I have served here have been some of the best years of my working career. I feel that many of you have become friends whom I will cherish for the rest of my life. Thank you for putting up with my blunders and mistakes! The time has come for me to spend more time with my father, time that I will also cherish. May God continue to bless this church and the people who are the make-up of it. I will miss you. – Jonnie



CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Every week at the **CELEBRATE RECOVERY** meetings we see new faces, hear new stories and watch for God to mold the lives of people who are seeking His love and guidance. This past Tuesday evening, May 16, God's work was evident and amazing! At the end of every meeting we close the night by saying The Serenity Prayer. On this evening, thirty-one guys from Pretera, Recovery Point and the community circled the room. As they put their arms on each other's shoulders forming a circle there was an eerie silence and sense of peace in the room. Their faces were relaxed, pleasant and peaceful. These are men with felonies, have broken many laws, and hurt many people. But the presence of the Holy Spirit could be felt moving in the room. The glow of God's light and love spread from person to person, including the Celebrate Recovery staff that night. It was powerful and amazing...it was God at work!

CHURCH WIDE MISSIONS REPORT

As Paul wrote to the church in Thessalonica "May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else..." (3:12). Members of Steele continue to spread that love to those in our community and throughout the world.

The Girls of Faith completed "Operation Gratitude" by sending 3 boxes of items to be distributed to soldiers serving our country overseas;

All Stars collected over 50 assorted items to be used in our UMCOR bucket mission along with a donation to "Jump Rope for Heart";

Busy Bees were able to collect 180 school items for Royal Family Kids camp, an organization dedicated to helping abused, neglected, and abandoned children;

UMW and the Pennington Class continue to support the Allen's and Moriah Sharp in their ministries overseas.

Closer to home, the Singles and More class collected 30 bottles of cleaning products for Ebenezer Outreach Center;

The Pennington class made a donation to the City Mission; and

The Fellowship class donated to Christian Athletes.

In our own backyard, ECCHO, a food and clothing pantry in Milton, continues to be a focus for our church each month. In April, the congregation donated almost 20lbs of peanut butter and jelly; and one member of the Singles and More class took nine 25 lb. boxes (over 300 items) of miscellaneous food items. How blessed we are to be able to truly grow our love for others!



01 Pat Parker	15 Kyler Fannin
02 Jayme Chapman Brighton Hoover	16 Lisa Rhoades
03 Cheryl Sullivan	17 John Call Allison Scites
06 Janet Foss Kasen Merritt	22 Eloise Baumgardner Jim Boggess
07 Dan Harless Ed Peckham Vicki Smith	Nancy Lovett
09 Crews Snell	23 Taylor Call Josh Roy
10 Delora Call Roger Call Jon Hoover	George Lipsey
11 Lawson Riddle	25 Paula Lingenfelter
12 Buddy Beckett Helen McClure	27 Russ Witten
	30 Julie Hockenberry Rita Kelley



<i>June</i>	
04: Mike McClung	Tony Ryder
11: Pat Cornwell	Gary Cox
18: Kim Stanley	Mike McClung
25: Kelly McGuffin	Tony Ryder



- 01 Glenn & Lilly Smith
- 02 Ron & Janet Foss
- 05 Keith & Malinda Ross
- 07 Rick & Lorri Jones
- 10 Heath & Maggie Wolfe
- 13 Russ & Debbie Lingenfelter
- 15 Bill & Pam Dutton
Richard & Peggy Fillmore
- 16 Tim & Becky Damron
- 19 Carl & Rosemary Chapman
Nathan & Ashley Kinker
Rod & Sally Whitt
- 20 Jim & Nancy Allman
- 21 Gregg & Debbie Childers
- 23 Arvin & Debbi Canady
- 24 Ben & Mildred Maynard
- 25 Jack & Claren Perkins
- 30 Eric & Stephanie Fetty
Ed & Dianna Burton
Chip & Julie Merritt

June 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 -GoF breakfast with dads 9:00 -Jason Lovins concert in Park 7-9 PM -H. Fannin NFH 12:00
4 -Communion -UMW Planning Meeting in Parlor 5 PM	5 -Evangelism Team 7:00	6	7 -Youth to WV Power game	8 -Lydia Circle 1:00 Esther/Ruth Circle 7 at D. Call's -Troop 88/Crew -WVUM Conf. In Buckhannon	9 -WVUMConf. In Buckhannon	10 -WVUMConf. In Buckhannon
11-WVUMConf. In Buckhannon	12 -VBS 9-12 -SPPR Team 7:00	13 -VBS 9-12	14 -VBS 9-12	15 -VBS 9-12 -Pre sch. Advisory Team 6:00	16 -VBS 9-12	17
18 -Church-wide Ice cream social & bake sale 6:30 PM	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 -Celebration Dinner for Rev. Sager 12:00	26	27	28	29	30	

Weekly Events

Sunday—

8:45 Early Worship
 9:45 Sunday School
 10:45 Morning Worship
 6:00 Youth
 6:30 Evening Worship

Wednesday—

6:45 Bible Study
 7:45 Choir

Thursday—

7:00 M. Call gym

Monday—

6:30 Sea Scouts/Cub Scouts
 7:30 Boy Scouts

Friday—

Saturday—

8:00 Men's Bible Study

Tuesday—

6:30 Celebrate Recovery, SFH

