



### **Our Mission:**

Sharing Christ's Love  
with Our Community

*God, grant us the wisdom  
to know your plan for us  
and the strength to carry  
it out. Amen.*

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# VISIONS

The newsletter of  
Forrest Burdette Memorial United Methodist Church



**Joe Kenaston, Senior Pastor**

## **Iona Pilgrimage**

Dear fellow pilgrims!

Judi and I are on a train from Glasgow Central Rail station to London's Euston station. This is the end of our Iona pilgrimage experience. The trip included a train, two ferries, and a bus to get from Glasgow to the Island of Iona in the western Hebrides of Scotland. A pilgrimage is not only about the physical process of moving from one place to another, but it is also about the spiritual journey that you are taking. It has been an incredible journey in both respects.

Iona has been a place of pilgrimage for centuries. St. Columba arrived from Ireland in 563 and started a monastery and intentional community. After his death in 597, the Christian community continued to grow and expand. It is from this tiny island that Christianity spread throughout Scotland, northern England, and eventually crossed the English Channel and took the Christian faith and experience to places that the church had not yet been reached.

Part of our experience was living in community on Iona. We shared a house with three other West Virginians, and the other house had nine people from North Carolina, Virginia, and upper New York. We had breakfast in our own house and shared a common meal in the larger house. We took turns cooking (and cleaning up) and had conversation, laughter, and spiritual discussions during dinner. The evenings were wonderful and uplifting gatherings which concluded by walking to the Abbey for a 9 p.m. service of Evening Prayer. After worship, Judi and I walked back to our house on a dirt road that took us through people's farms. Walkers are asked to close the gates, so the animals don't escape. After breakfast, we walked the same path back to the Abbey for Morning Prayer. On Sunday, we had worship and Holy Communion at the Island. In between the formal activities, we had time for walking (one day 30,000 steps – rarely had less than 20,000), a turbulent boat ride to Staffa (ask about it), conversations, reading, reflecting, and praying.



Two of my takeaways (there were more) that I want to share with you: adaptability and pilgrimage. On Iona, we had to adapt. One of our housemates came down with COVID so we were back into the COVID protocols of masking, isolating, and constant cleaning (thankfully she was better before the journey home). The second was the weather. I eventually gave up on my weather app. Everyday had clouds, sun, rain, wind, and rainbows. The high was 60. You just went ahead and walked to the other house, the store, lunch, and the Abbey as well as hiking across the island to beaches and the top of hills.

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A pilgrimage gives you time to listen for God, reflect on God's love, mercy, and grace, and intentionally share your time, thoughts, and heart with God. It gives us the opportunity to find God in everything we see and experience. I invite all of you to learn to be adaptable and be intentional in your life to make your days a pilgrimage. It is so easy to go through the list of tasks and routine events that we close our eyes to God's presence. Let's travel this pilgrimage together with each other and with God!

Love and joy!  
Joe

## David Westfall Minister of Youth & Young Adults



### Uth News/Updates:

#### FBLaunch Tutoring Center/Coffee Shop:

Forrest Burdette Uth is starting a tutoring/college planning program here at the church. David received a \$9,000 grant to start a tutoring center where students from the community can get homework help, ACT tutoring, specific subject tutoring, group tutoring, etc. David will also lead college preparation workshops for students gearing up to apply to college like financial aid/FAFSA, scholarship application, general application, and major/career exploration. We will also be hosting College Road Trips to give students the opportunity to travel to WV and local colleges to visit. All these resources will be free, but we will have donation jars for any who wish to donate to the services provided. To make the space inviting, the Uth decided to make this tutoring center into a coffee shop theme.

#### September After-School Tutoring/Homework Help Sessions:

- Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3:45 - 6:00 PM each week
- Tuesdays from 4:30 - 5:30 PM, David will lead ACT Math Tutoring Sessions
- 9/5 OPEN                      • 9/19 OPEN
- 9/6 OPEN                      • 9/20 OPEN
- 9/12 OPEN                     • 9/26 OPEN
- 9/13 OPEN                     • 9/27 OPEN

### Uth Weekly Events in August:

#### Uth Group: Sunday Mornings

We will be meeting in the FBLaunch Tutoring Center/Coffee Shop located at the back of the hallway in the main lobby/Narthex. Invite a friend, and come enjoy cereal, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, fun, and a bible study.

- 9/3 from 9:15-10:15 AM      • 9/17 from 9:15-10:15 AM
- 9/10 from 9:15-10:15 AM    • 9/24 from 9:15-10:15 AM

### S.O.N. Student Outreach Night: Wednesday Nights

Meet us in the church gym for some games/activities before we head upstairs to the youth lounge for devo, snacks, and prayer.

- 9/6 from 6:30-7:30 PM      • 9/20 from 6:30-7:30 PM
- 9/13 from 6:30-7:30 PM    • 9/27 from 6:30-7:30 PM

## Jayné Kirk Minister of Children & Families



I hope everyone who went back to school had a great start to the year!

I also want to say thank you to everyone who donated school supplies this year. The supplies we collect go to our neighboring schools so that kids in our community never go without necessary supplies throughout the school year. If you are interested in ministering in a greater capacity to our teachers and students, let me know! I have some ideas about how we can continue our connections.

For our students on Wednesday evenings, we are having a bit of a programming change that will hopefully allow us to meet the needs of our congregation. We will have a short devotion and prayer time followed by game time in the gym. We hope to provide more family events throughout the year to help build intergenerational connections within our church and community. If you have any questions, ideas, or would like to help in our Family Ministries let me know!

## Cathy Daley, Director Children's Outreach Ministries (COM)



Hello, again! We are still moving right along here at C.O.M. Jenni and I were able to attend the Blessing of the Backpacks, Students, and Teachers this past Sunday. The service was very nice, and everyone was extremely friendly and welcoming. Thank you all.

Our classrooms are as full as we can have them at the present time, with a very long waitlist for each one. If you know anyone who is even thinking of wanting to use childcare in the next couple years for a child who is already born, I would have them call and get on the list.

If you know anyone who is expecting and looking for care next year, they should also call and get on the list. We feel terrible when we have to turn people away, but we are getting calls everyday from people who aren't able to find quality care. Please pray that in some way, there will be safe and secure options for everyone who needs a place for their child while they are working. There is a genuine need, not only in this community, but throughout the state and the country, for affordable, quality childcare programs.

We also ask that you pray for our staff. They are dedicated and amazing and tired. Many are working long hours as trained, professional childcare workers are also hard to come by. We are very blessed to have 2 staff members who just completed their Bachelor's Degrees in Early Childhood Education, a staff member who has a Bachelor's Degree outside the field of ECE, along with another staff person who has recently completed a 2 year apprenticeship program, and we have 4 staff members working their way through the same program at this time. Along with those there are 5-8 staff members who will have the class time and required courses to earn their West Virginia Teaching Credential in Early Childhood Education this year. We are very proud of their dedication and hard work on behalf of the children, the center, and the church as they lead the children through not only academic development, but spiritual

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and social emotional learning as well. They are true professionals that take on this challenge not for the benefits or the glory, but for the children so that they can assist them to become the secure, trusting, loving, and confident people they are capable of being, giving them a solid starting point to become the best that they can each be, at whatever they choose in life.

As always we appreciate all the support you provide and are grateful for each of you and your continued prayers and support of the program.

♥ Have fun, and make a difference. ♥

## Grief Support Group

If you are grieving a loss, please join us for comfort, rest, and prayer as we learn about the grief process and how we can better cope with it. **Next meeting date: September 9th at the church in Room 111 from 1:00-3:00 p.m.** On Saturday, **September 16th**, Fairview UMC in Cross Lanes will kick off their new grief support program with a luncheon featuring guest speaker Rev. Janet Harman. The luncheon starts at 11:30 a.m. and is free of charge. Everyone is welcome to attend the lunch. Our group plans to attend the luncheon together - if you'd like to go with us and need a ride, call/text Stacey Holley at (304) 532-8659.

## UMW: Meeting & Fall Festival

The United Methodist Women meet on the first Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is September 5, 7:00 p.m., in the Parlor/Rm 110. All Forrest Burdette women are welcome.

Applications are available for crafters and vendors for the annual Fall Festival on **Saturday, November 4, 2023**, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event is sponsored by the United Methodist Women. Crafters and vendors interested in an application should call or email the church office, 304-562-5903, office@forrestburdette.com. The fee is \$20 per space.

## From the Church Record

Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Rev. Billy Gene Deel, who passed away on August 4, 2023. Rev. Deel served as pastor of Forrest Burdette from 1979-1986. Sympathy may be sent to his wife Harriet at Brookdale Charleston Gardens, 800 Association Drive, Charleston WV 25311.

Congratulations to Matthew Duespohl and Allison Kuklar who were united in marriage on August 24, 2023, in Trenton, GA. The couple has moved to the Pittsburgh area where Matthew is studying to become a physicians assistant at Carlow University. Proud parents are Dale & Debbie Duespohl.

## A Note of Thanks

Carol Rowsey would like to thank the congregation for the phone calls, visits, cards, and food that were provided during and after her hospital stay a few months ago. She and her family really appreciated the care you showed to them.



## Worship for September

We look forward to seeing you in September! Please read the scripture to prepare for worship, and invite someone to join you as we continue to walk with Christ.

<b>Sept. 3</b>	Romans 12:9-21	Living Together
<b>Sept. 10</b>	Matthew 7:7-11 Matthew 16:13-19	Our Vision Becoming a Reality
<b>Sept. 17</b>	Guest Preacher: Jayné Kirk, FBMUMC Minister of Children & Families	
<b>Sept. 24</b>	Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 130 Luke 4:14-21	The Voice of Wesley

## Haiti Medical Mission Supply Drive

**How can you help?** Please pray for the medical team members and for the Haitian people.

**The most urgent "supply" needed** for this trip is **"Over the Counter" medication. \*\*Generic meds are fine** for all categories listed; however, **NO EXPIRED MEDS.**

### Adult medications (No Liquids):

- Antacid tablets, chewable: Tums, Pepcid
- Antihistamines: Claritin, Zyrtec, Benadryl
- Decongestants/Cough/Cold medicines
- Eye drops (liquid ok)
- Lotions/Creams: Anti-itch, Anti-fungal, Burn

### Children/Infant medications (No Gummies):

- Pain/Fever meds: Acetaminophen, Ibuprofen
- Cough syrup
- Saline drops
- Infant liquid meds are permitted.

To allow enough time for sorting and packing, all Medications are needed at church **no later than Sunday, Sept. 10.** Thank you! Call Annette Cartwright with questions: 304-541-9722.

## Add a Little Pumpkin Spice with a Painting Class!

Julie Conley will offer a painting class in Fellowship Hall featuring pumpkins, berries, and flowers on Tuesday, September 19, 6-8 p.m. and Wednesday, September 20, 1-3 p.m. No experience necessary! Julie will supply all materials and take you step by step through the painting. Everyone welcome. Children under 10 will need a parent present. Cost \$20, with proceeds going to the building fund. To sign up, call or text Julie Conley at 304-614-3980.



## Generosity for Ministry

Following is financial information for August (as of 8/28/23):

August Contributions Received.....\$59,389  
Monthly Receipts Needed.....\$67,538

*Have you remembered the church  
in your will?*





**Wednesday Night Groups**  
Starting September 6, 2023 @ 6:30 p.m.

**\*\* For all classes, new members are welcome! \*\***

**Chris Clark – “Add to Your Faith: How to be a Healthy Christian”** (*Bring your Bible; no additional study book to purchase*) This class will be based on 2 Peter 1:5 and following. We will examine the qualities which make for an effective Christian life.

**Debby Cunningham – In the Footsteps of the Savior** by Max Lucado (\$15 book) *“In the Footsteps of the Savior* is an invitation to come alongside Max as he shares meaningful, insights on the people and places that shaped Jesus's life. In this special compilation, Max weaves together in-depth teaching from his bestsellers with poignant reflections on his time in the Holy Land, guiding you through three distinct aspects of Jesus' life: the arrival of the Savior, Jesus's ministry, and the crossroads and the cross... As you see the places Jesus walked from a new perspective, you'll also deepen your connection with the King of the universe who became the Savior on the cross.”

**Ron Delph – Life Lessons from Revelation: Final Curtain Call** by Max Lucado (\$8 book) *“The apostle John was privileged to preview the end of the world in a dream. While in exile on the island of Patmos, he experienced an amazing vision that gave him a glimpse of heaven. He saw the final battle between good and evil. He saw God's justice. He witnessed the assured victory for believers in Christ as all hell broke loose and all heaven came forth. He saw Jesus, born in a manger, now triumphant over Satan. John's description stretches our imagination, fuels our anticipation, and comforts us as we await the final curtain call.”*

**Jane Gillispie— “Discover the Bible for Yourself: Isaiah, Part 1 (chapters 1-39)”** (*The workbook costs \$31.50, and this class is limited to 12 participants*) Jane will use the Precept teaching model which shows you how to study the Bible in a way that impacts how you encounter, observe, and integrate the scripture into your life. It is an inductive Bible study that allows the richness of the scripture to become personal.

**Joe Kenaston – Being Formed by God** (\$14 book)  
The group will focus on spiritual growth and being formed by God. The group will share their journey of faith of as we seek to live out a continual awareness of God's presence during the chaos of life. Prayer, reflection, and conversation will be the format of the weekly experience. The group will begin with the book What We Need Is Here: Practicing the Heart of Christian Spirituality by L. Roger Owens.

**Wednesday Evenings for Children & Youth**

**S.O.N. (Student Outreach Night) —**

Wednesdays from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

While parents attend our Wednesday night small groups/bible studies, students grades K-12 are invited to join us in the gym for games and activities. We will end the evening with a brief devotion and prayer.



**Midweek Daytime Group**

**Joe Kenaston – “The Teaching Gospel: The Gospel of Matthew”**

Wednesdays, 10:45 a.m.—noon

(*Bring your Bible; no additional study book to purchase*)

The class will be reading, learning, and discussing the Gospel of Matthew. This gospel has some of Jesus' most powerful teachings, including the Beatitudes and the Sermon on the Mount.

**Additional Information**

**Dates and Time:** Classes will begin meeting on September 6 and will conclude on December 6. Classes will not meet during the week of Thanksgiving (11/22). Programs start at 6:30 p.m. and run one hour in most cases.

**Registration:** Register for classes at the Connection Center in the Narthex, through the church office, or just show up! If your class requires a book, you will find it at the Connection Center upon its arrival. You may pay for books in the office or with your teacher when classes begin. If the price of your book is prohibitive, *please let us know*.

**Dinner:** This semester, our fellowship dinners will be prepared in-house by Misty and Marissa, our COM kitchen staff! Meals begin at 5:30 p.m. There is not a charge for our dinners, but donations are accepted (the cost the church pays for each meal is still being calculated). We ask that you sign up at the Connection Center or call the church office by Monday at noon to RSVP. **Volunteers are needed to set up and clean up each Wednesday.** A sign up sheet for volunteers will also be at the Connection Center desk.

**Cancellation Policy:** All Wednesday evening programs will be canceled when Putnam Co. Schools are closed for the day due to inclement weather or issue an early release due to inclement weather. Evening events will continue as scheduled if there is a two-hour weather delay. Wednesday morning Bible Study will be cancelled if there is a two-hour weather delay or school is cancelled for weather.



**September Menu:**

**9/6—**Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls, brownies  
**9/13—**Spaghetti with meatballs, salad, rolls, strawberry shortcake

**9/20—**Tacos with toppings, chips & salsa, chocolate cake  
**9/27—**Baked steak, mashed potatoes, corn, rolls, banana pudding

## Bluegrass at Forrest Burdette

The community is invited to attend a concert by singer, songwriter, and storyteller Daryl Mosley on Sunday, **September 24**, at 6:00 p.m. at Forrest Burdette Memorial United Methodist Church.

Daryl's concert is an intimate opportunity to hear his songs of life and faith as well as the entertaining stories of the people and events that inspired them. The concert is free to the public, but a love offering will be taken.

## JOY Fellowship (55+) Resumes


You are invited to JOY (Just Older Youth) Fellowship on Thursday, **September 21**, at noon in the Fellowship Hall. JOY Fellowship meets the 3rd Thursday of each month, September through May. Now that the summer is ending, we're excited to meet again! We will share a covered dish meal with each other and then hear a guest presentation. Bring your favorite dish and a friend.

## A Book for YOU!

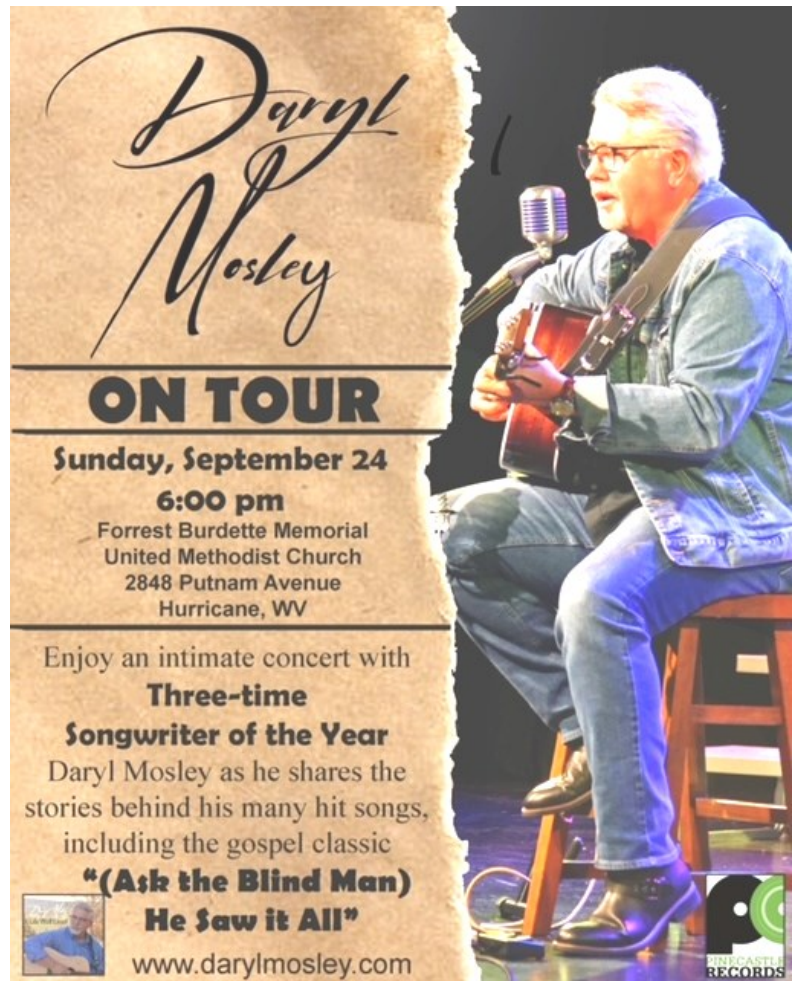
As part of our Operation Christmas Child initiative, two of our members collaborated on a children's book, which will be included in the shoebox gifts for ages 2-4 this year. Emma Holley (author) and Sarah Clark (illustrator) spent several months working on the book, entitled "A Book for YOU!" The book is now in the final stages of printing. It includes a special message to the children from Forrest Burdette United Methodist Church. We praise the Lord for the inspiration and initiative of our young ladies for this important ministry.

If you would like to purchase a copy of the book for yourself, copies will be available after church on **Sunday, Oct. 15th**. Cost per copy is \$10 - all profits from book sales go directly to the Operation Christmas Child program here at Forrest Burdette. Let's support our own as they take their first steps to fulfill the career God has directed! **To pre-order books, please sign up at the Connection Desk or call Jackie 304-552-8796.**

## Operation Christmas Child Notes

**Highest Priority Need** for shoeboxes: flashlights, tennis balls, and activity books for boys ages 10-14. Shop for these items and more by scanning this QR code for our Amazon wish list. 

**Packing Party will be Saturday, October 21 at 10 a.m.** In less than 8 weeks you will be packing 400 shoeboxes stuffed full of quality gifts of toys, handmade items, school supplies, hygiene supplies and your handwritten note and photo. We still have many needs to complete 400 gifts! Roughly, \$7600 is needed to fully fund the boxes. This includes \$4000 shipping donation, \$1100 for the remainder of The Greatest Journey programs, and approx. \$2500 to complete the contents to make 400 full boxes of quality items ready to be sent to far away places on earth where God has prepared a specific child to receive this box of joy. Please consider making a donation by marking OCC in the memo of your check. We are confident this



congregation will go above and beyond as in previous years. We give God the glory for the open hearts of children ready to receive the good news of Christ.

**Who wants to go to Processing?** If you haven't been to the Processing Center in North Carolina to process shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, you may want to make 2023 your first year. Prepare to be amazed to see the next step of the journey of a shoebox! Processing Center opens Nov. 22—Dec. 16. Contact Beth 304-542-0601 no later than Sept 12 if you want to go with a group from church, Thurs., Nov. 30, working shifts Thurs. evening & Friday, and returning Saturday evening (Nov. 30—Dec. 2). This group will be requesting early registration. The public may register October 5. See Beth Sauvageot if interested in selecting a different date. Last year many of the groups cancelled their reservation before their scheduled shift. They're asking those who register to be committed to fulfilling their shift. The heart behind this is to make sure volunteer opportunities are not taken away from others who want to serve.

**Check the Connection Center** desk to sign up for upcoming workshops to remove packaging and fill fishing kits.



**Save the Date for our Annual Pumpkin Carving & Hot Dog Roast at the Grants' Farm: October 8th!**

## September Birthdays:

- 1 Sheri Brown, Reese Kauffman
- 2 Pam Blevins, April Crouse, Ruth Curry, Valerie McMillion, Ed Mullins, Thomas Rogowski
- 3 Jo Bess, Larry Clegg
- 4 Debbie Duespohl, Bobby Greene, Harold Stewart
- 5 Jennifer Hart, Steve Huggins, Jessica Ray, Jeremy Simms
- 6 Wes Hager, Victoria Marsh, Paul Rose, Darlene Smith
- 7 David McCane, Bailey Young
- 8 Styles Slappe
- 9 Chris Bogan, Carol Midkiff, Mason Spurlock
- 10 Angela Bradley, Karen Delph, Scott Moore, Emily Stewart, Sara Thomas, Maggie Tincher, Sam Warner, Kate Weiss
- 11 Ed Brogan, Drew Harless
- 12 Vickie Harbour, Jimmy Kessler, Barbara Martin, Josh Patterson
- 13 John Browne, Betsy Byus, Faye Meeks, Joe Wyatt
- 14 Jax Anderson, Robbie Parsons
- 15 Lezlee Haynie, Christopher Lipinski, Aaron Persinger, Jose Soto, Betty Wilson
- 16 Betty Bailey, Kara Hughes, Carol Proffitt, Cindy Rouse
- 17 Brittany Davis, Kevin Lawhon, Rosalie Spiker
- 18 Sheila Andrews, Gary Beckett, Sarah Logan
- 19 *No birthdays on record today*
- 20 Harold Bennett, Linda Hankins, Jeff Rowsey, Mary Russell

- 21 Tom Cleveland, Teresa Johnson, Ben Wilson
- 22 Margie Billups, Lauren Duespohl, Danny Harshbarger
- 23 Carter Cox, Ryder Harrison, Myra Woodworth Hobbs, Jon Russell
- 24 Isaac Herndon, Joe Kenaston
- 25 Tammy Fenerty, Amy Garinger, Brenda Hanson, Michael Hinshaw, Trevor Johnson, Robert O'Dell
- 26 Diana Allen, Sephra Faulkner, Aly Fearing, Debbie McCoy
- 27 Andy Johnson, Angela Lipinski
- 28 Sandy Hanning, Mandy Spurlock
- 29 Bob Alexander, Carly Cunningham, Holley Johnson
- 30 Timothy Bowie, Evan Davis, Larry Embrey, William Held, Pam Howell, Sheri Johnson, Paula Limanen, Sandra Mayhew, Devin Schamp

## September Anniversaries:

- |                             |                           |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2 Joe & Lori Bailey         | 17 Scott & Beth Krall     |
| 7 Keith & Ellen Bowie       | 20 Chris & Amy Howat      |
| 14 Don & Jane Collins       | 21 Barry & Judy Armstrong |
| 14 David & Malinda Shanklin | 29 Bryan & Mikki Larch    |



\*\* Birthdays and anniversaries are generated from our church database. Please call the office if you are not listed (304-562-5903).



Sunday Morning Worship:  
10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

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### Address Service Requested

Date mailed: 9/1/2023

Do all the good you can,  
By all the means you can,  
In all the ways you can,  
In all the places you can,  
At all the times you can,  
To all the people you can,  
As long as you ever can.

-John Wesley