



VISIONS



The newsletter of
Forrest Burdette Memorial United Methodist Church

SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE
WITH
OUR COMMUNITY

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Senior Pastor

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Worship Sundays @ 10:30 a.m.



A 5-Week Crash Course on How to Run a Different Race

After his suffering and before his ascension, scripture says Jesus spent forty days with his disciples, speaking to them about...*the kingdom of God (Acts 1: 3)*.

If you only had forty days, don't you think you'd do the dash differently? I would. Why not spend it teaching on small group dynamics, conflict management, fundraising or church growth strategies? These would've been fabulous ideas for a forty-day retreat geared toward moving the gospel forward. Right? Wrong.

Jesus taught on none of the things the modern church often chimes to be important.

In fact, before there ever was a church that was birthed, there was a kingdom at hand.

The latter gave way to the former. Guess what: It still does...and learning to live as a kingdom people is fundamental if our faith is to be fragrant.

So, lace up your shoes: Starting May 17th (Ascension Sunday), we're going the distance.

You've heard of a 40-yard dash. This 40-day dash will challenge all disciples of Jesus to run a different kind of race. Are you in? Ok, then. *Set...go...ready.*

Luke Spurgeon Minister of Youth & Young Adults

Hey Church,

April has come and gone, and our youth are more than ready for summer! We've already been enjoying some great times together, playing pickleball, going out for ice cream, and having meaningful discussions about our faith and recent sermon topics. I've also had the opportunity to join a group of youth leaders from across the state to collaborate on statewide youth planning, which has been a great experience.

We have several important events coming up:

- **May 8:** We're heading to Sky Zone! If you haven't contacted me about this trip yet, please do so soon; time is running out.
- **May 10:** We'll have a Youth Mission Trip meeting after church to go over final details for our trip beginning June 15.
- Also on **May 10**, we'll be recognizing our graduating high school seniors during Graduation Sunday. If you have a student graduating and haven't notified the church yet, please contact the church office.

As a youth group, we are incredibly excited about the summer ahead and deeply appreciate the continued support from our church family. Please keep our group in your prayers, especially as we prepare for our upcoming travels.

Rev. Charles S. & Alma Thompson Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is for high school seniors pursuing post-secondary education. Contact the church office to receive an application form. **The deadline is May 3.**



GIFT OF THE MONTH

Preparing for shoeboxes throughout the year

*I have a big box, and I'm thinking—
oh my! What could we put in it?
Let's give it a try!
Could it be love? YES!
Could it be care? YES!
Could it be gifts because we LOVE to share?*

During May, it's Picture Book Time!

Flip-ity, tip-ity, look what we see—
A book full of fun for you and for me!
With colors that POP! and pictures that say,
"Come turn me and read me—let's play-play-play!"
We share it with smiles and a wiggle-wiggle cheer,
So stories can start for a child where they are.
Read-ity, dream-ity, snuggle up tight—A book brings bright joy,
morning, noon, and night!



Scan this QR code to see ideas on our Amazon wishlist. Send items to the church or bring your donations to the box in the Connection Center.



Thank you to our Ministers of Music and to ALL our musicians who helped to make our Holy Week and Easter worship celebrations very meaningful!

Children & Family Ministries Spreading the Good News!

2026 Vacation Bible School will be held the evenings of June 21-25 (and June 22-26 for those serving with the morning VBS for COM).



Vacation Bible School
Child and Volunteer
Registration
IS NOW OPEN!
June 21-25, 2026
6-8 p.m.; 5:30 Dinner
Check it out—scan this code!



Every summer, we are blessed with adults and teenagers who have servant hearts for the children who attend our Vacation Bible School. **Please consider your role in our evening and/or morning sessions—there's always a place for you!** Specifically, Sam Robson is looking for adult and older youth actors to help her with the story time she will be leading, morning and evening. If interested, please contact Sam (304-550-5053). Not an actor? We can find the right place for you!

On Sunday, April 19, eight of our children, in second and third grades, received their bibles from Pastor Jake and the church. A few younger siblings joined the photo, as well.



Sunday School for kindergarten through 5th grade children is held weekly at 9:15 a.m., in room 308. Children's Church, held during a portion of our Sunday morning worship service, follows Pastor Jake's weekly sermons and the scriptures he has selected for each sermon, in Byrd Hall. *Join us!*

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

Hello, All! Once again we come to you with gratitude for the space and grace you provide our program.

We are moving along with enrolling children for the summer safari program, and will continue to do so. Our classrooms are filling up for summer and fall, and we are planning the next school year already. Things just go too fast. Working on fall plans makes it seem like it's already here, but summer hasn't even started.

We have a lot of new faces for the program this year, both staff and children. This we hope will lead to a very fun and enjoyable summer session for all.

Thanks once again for all your support and prayers as we strive to bring Christian values as well as an educational foundation to all of the children who attend each of the programs.

♥ Have fun, and make a difference. ♥

JOY Fellowship (55+)



Let's go on a field trip! On Thursday, May 21, JOY Fellowship will travel to the Forks of Coal State Natural Area (a short 30 minute drive) to visit the Wildlife Education Center and tour the exhibits about the flora and fauna of our area. Afterwards, we will head over to Corridor G (5 minutes away) to eat lunch at the Olive Garden. Come and go with us! **We will meet at the church at 10am**, load up the church van for those who don't want to drive, and car pool with the rest. It will be a beautiful day for a road trip, fun and joyful fellowship! See Julie Conley or Coy Mullins for more information.

From the Church Record

Christian sympathy is extended to Joe & Lori Bailey and the family of Cora Dynese King who passed away on April 18, 2026.

Generosity for Ministry

Following is financial information for March 2026:

March 2026 Contributions Received\$62,509
 Monthly Receipts Needed\$65,323

Mortgage Balance:

March 2026 Payments on Mortgage*\$12,338
 Funds Received, March 2026.....\$10,496

Lenten Offering for Kairos Prison Ministry.....\$6,895

*The mortgage payments are not part of the Operating Budget. Contributions to the Building Fund pay the mortgage each month.

Mother's Day Dinner



The Annual UMW Mother's Day Dinner will be held at the church on **Tuesday, May 5, at 6:00 p.m.**, and will be catered by Shonet's Country Café, with a choice of baked steak or chicken & dumplings. This event is for all women: mothers, daughters, sisters, friends. **Ticket sales end on Sunday, May 3.** Adults \$12; children ages 6-12 \$5; and ages 5 & under are free.



May is Forrest Burdette's Month to Serve at the Cupboard

The sign-up board to volunteer at the Christian Community Cupboard in May is posted in the narthex. Please check out the board to see when we need more helpers. Forrest Burdette is responsible for staffing the Cupboard **every Tuesday and Friday in May**. This adds up to 9 days, so many hands are needed. Service time is 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Consider being a part of this ministry to our community. See Marvin Thompson (681-292-2739) or Tim Stanley (304-552-4763) with questions.

Graduate Information Needed

We would like to recognize our congregation's graduates in the June issue of *Visions*. If someone in your family is graduating from any level of education or they graduated in December, please contact the church office by May 22nd (304-562-5903, office@forrestburdette.com). High school graduates will be recognized during worship on May 10th.

T-shirt Sale in May



We're excited to announce that our church-wide T-shirts are coming soon! Pre-orders will open in May, and we can't wait for everyone to be part of this special opportunity. Please keep an eye on the bulletin for details on when they will be available to order.

MEN'S CHURCH LEAGUE SOFTBALL

The 2026 season is in full swing!

Join the team, or catch a game at Valley Park!



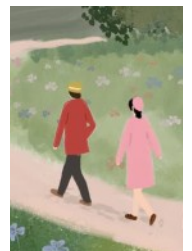
May 5, 6:00 p.m. May 19, 6:00 p.m.
 May 11, 8:00 p.m. May 28/29, No games



Interested in playing?
 Contact: Coach J.B. Marinacci, 304-767-1172

Hurricane Civic Chorus Spring Concert

The Hurricane Civic Chorus will offer its spring concert, "Music for the Way Home," on **Tuesday, May 19, 7:00 p.m.**, at Forrest Burdette. We have a good number of church members in this chorus. Let's come out to support them while enjoying their beautiful selections! This is a free event; bring your friends and neighbors.



American Red Cross

Every 2 seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood.
 Help save lives.

Give blood.

Blood Drive
Hurricane Community
Forrest Burdette UMC
Fellowship Hall

2848 Putnam Ave
 Hurricane, WV

Friday, May 15
12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)
 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: hurricanecom to schedule an appointment.

Scan to be directed to RedCross.org

Come to give blood May 1-17 and get a \$20 eGift Card, thanks to Amazon! See: rcblood.org/Amazon

Scan to schedule an appointment

May Birthdays:

- 1 Granvel Dilley, Emily Vargo
- 2 Jason Billups, Judi Hall, David Haney, Matthew Harshbarger, Rick Turner
- 3 Jake Herndon
- 4 Madelyn Bowyer, Karen Cummings, Linda Cunningham, Carissa Lawhon, Jennifer Rogers
- 5 Brent Andrews, Martha Bennett, Samuel Booker, Marty Martinez, Caleb Totten
- 6 Linda Clark, Allen Kirk
- 7 Whitney Williams
- 8 Erica Pomeroy, Scott Warner
- 9 Lauren McCoy, Haley Oxley, Vicki Stover
- 10 Marilyn Phillips, Dolores Price
- 11 Dawn Barcroft, Lauren Lipinski, Tyler Ray
- 12 Kennedi Brainard, Callie McClanahan, Sabrina Ray, Beverly Turner
- 13 Marc Fizer, Casey Levy
- 14 Becky Landin
- 15 Chris McCoy
- 16 Steve Golden
- 17 Don Collins, Keyria Mercer, Caleb Turner
- 18 Jesse Golden, Kristina Painter
- 19 Randy Mayhew, Joyce Sayre
- 20 Joshua Harshbarger



- 21 John Bennett, Jack Harris, Philip Lane, Connor McClanahan, Hayden Riesen, Bethany Steele
- 22 Rocco Hughes
- 23 Nancy Austin, Katherine Childers, Kevin Phillips, Ben Veit
- 24 Leila Holland, Craig Houston, Katie Keen, Nick Schamp
- 25 Megan Peterson
- 26 Zane Franklin, Terri Haney, Bryson Haught
- 27 Patricia Enochs
- 28 Riley Elkins
- 29 Jonah Fenerty, Noah Fenerty, Bob Gibson, Barbara Karastury, Marsha Kauffman, Danny Simms, Olin Spencer
- 30 Erika Alford, Mark Dunlap, Angie Nitardy
- 31 Brian Lauck



May Anniversaries:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 7 Mark & Megan Peterson | 26 Mark & Melinda Wooddell |
| 12 Jeremy & Danielle Grant | 28 Ellis & Julie Conley |
| 16 Mark & Carla Akers | 30 Steve & Jennifer Blower |
| 16 Mike & Stephanie Mellace | |

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

 **HAVE YOU REMEMBERED
THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL?**



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

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United Methodist Church

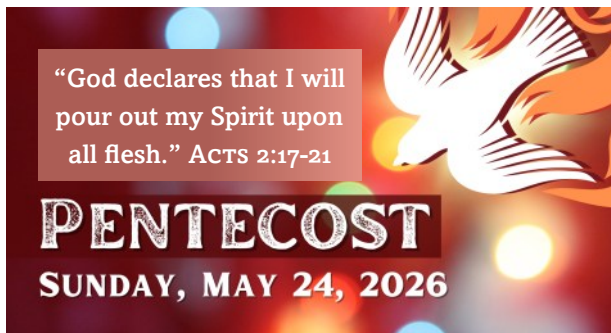
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SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Address Service Requested

Date mailed: 04/30/2026



"God declares that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh." ACTS 2:17-21

PENTECOST
SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2026