



VISIONS

The newsletter of
Forrest Burdette Memorial United Methodist Church

Our Mission:

- Minister to people where they are;
- Equip disciples on the journey;
- Glorify God in all things

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David Westfall Minister of Youth & Young Adults



"Introductions"

As most of you may know by now, my name is David. I thought I'd use this month's newsletter as an opportunity to introduce myself to y'all. I'm in the process of planning out the Fall '22 Youth & Young Adults schedule, so next month keep an eye out for some exciting announcements!

Next, I wrote a long bio of my time from when I was a kid to now. Feel free to skip to the bottom set of asterisks where I list the important stuff that is short and to the point.

I grew up here in Hurricane, WV. I went to Conner Street Elementary School where I got a B in handwriting in first grade, so I committed to having great handwriting after that. I also began my journey in Student Council, which launched a lifelong passion for Leadership Development. Then, I went to Hurricane Middle School where I honed my skills in mathematics, joined athletic teams (Soccer, Cross Country, & Track), began learning Spanish, and where I was an FCA Leader. Eventually, I transitioned up to Hurricane High School where I graduated in 2015. During my time at HHS, I was a Varsity runner for 4 years, I was in Student Council (VPx3, Senior Class President), and most importantly, I started attending Forrest Burdette and was active in the Youth Group. My time in Hurricane developed me into a leader who is passionate about people, and who believes in the purpose and power that faith provides.

After high school, I attended West Virginia University where I became a Young Life Leader. I volunteered in local high schools to introduce adolescents to Jesus Christ, and I went through Leadership Training where I learned valuable life lessons. My time at WVU taught me to love the state of West Virginia and its people. I was involved in AdventureWV, Rock Climbing Club, Love Your Melon Campus Crew, Student Government, Young Life, and the Religious Studies Club. During my undergraduate years, I also became a Math Tutor. It started as an easy way to make extra money, but quickly became a passion that turned into a full-blown business plan. What started as being a math tutor for one class turned into a passion for education and entrepreneurship.

After undergrad, I moved to Nashville, TN where I attended Trevecca Nazarene University for my graduate degrees. I studied Organizational Leadership and Teaching: Secondary Mathematics Education at the masters level. During my time in Nashville, I also taught High School Algebra/Geometry. After finishing my masters, I began my Doctor of Education in Leadership & Professional Practice. During COVID, I moved back to Morgantown, West Virginia and I taught First Grade at a Christian School. My time in early childhood education taught me a lot about child development. However, I knew I wanted to work with older students, so after a year in first grade I moved up to the college level and worked in Admissions & Visit Experience at WVU. There, I was able to work with college student leaders from across campus, and my favorite part of the job was seeing how open and inquisitive college students are with discussing faith.

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(continued from page 1)

Over the years, I remained a math tutor and I picked up college counseling. I recognized a need for helping students and their families through the college application and choice process. Then, I recognized another need in helping college/career ready students to stay on track for accomplishing their dreams. I began my business - Dream Smart, LLC - where I get to work alongside students to help accomplish their dreams. We work on leadership development, purpose, and passion in the process. My students learn who they are, what they are skilled at, and they learn to be confident in their path forward. Our motto is: Dream big, but dream smart.

Finally, God opened the door for me to return to Hurricane and to return to Forrest Burdette so I could bring my passions to this place that I love. I look forward to working with the congregation, community members, and students to further the discipleship and the leadership in this great community.

***Here is a list of some of my favorite things, and what I do in my spare time:

Favorite Foods: Macaroni and Cheese, Salad, and Veggies

Favorite Drink: Orange Hi-C from McDonalds or Sweet Tea from Chick-Fil-A

Favorite Movies: To Save a Life (Christian), Pitch Perfect (Comedy), and Harry Potter (Fantasy)

Favorite Books: The Hunger Games (YA), Harry Potter (Children's Fantasy), Love Does (Christian Literature), and all C.S. Lewis (Christian Literature)

Favorite Fast Food: Chick - Fil - A (duh, the Lord's chicken!)

Favorite Local Restaurant: Mi Pueblito (Mi Pos)

Current Favorite Bible Verses: Ecclesiastes 8:15 "So I commend the enjoyment of life, because there is nothing better for a person under the sun than to eat and drink and be glad. Then joy will accompany them in their toil all the days of the life God has given them under the sun."

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Current Favorite Bible Story: The Story of David (the full story from shepherd boy → king)

Current Hobbies: Portrait Photography, Reading, Adventures (hiking, water sports, travel, etc.)

Things I Would Like to Learn: To play an instrument (guitar, piano, cello, or oboe), To work out.

Youth & Young Adult Leaders Needed

Do you have a passion for Middle Schoolers, High Schoolers, College Students, or Young Adults? Are you looking for an opportunity to use your skills and experiences to help lead teens/young adults as they embark on or continue their faith journeys? David Westfall, Youth & Young Adults Minister, is looking to build two leadership teams: a Youth Leadership Team (grades 6-12) and a Young Adults Leadership Team (age 18-early 30s). If you are interested in helping lead either of these two age groups, then please speak with David. You can email him at youth@forrestburdette.com.

Jayné Kirk Minister of Children & Families



We had a wonderful time at Food Truck Party VBS!

We had 2 programs, with 10 sessions stretched across 6 days with over 60 volunteers and 160 kids. On the mission front, VBS participants brought in 135 food items and 50 hygiene kits for the Community Cupboard and \$148.81 for Backpack Buddies. I'm so glad to have such a great event with amazing volunteers who care about kids and want to help them learn about God.

God truly provided all the right people we needed to fill all our crews and stations. I appreciate all the youth and adults who were willing to serve in the Children & Families Ministries' biggest event of the year. I am so thankful for our God who is "So Great and So Good!"

The summer fun is not yet done!

Please, join us for some fun at the Hurricane City Sprayground Wednesday, July 20 at 6:15. We'll get to fellowship together, cool off, and fill our bellies with some tasty treats.



JULY CHILDREN'S CHURCH

WEEK 1: This week, kids imagine what it was like when **Elijah was taken up to heaven.**

THE BIG IDEA: I can dream big with God.

THE BIBLE: II Kings 2:1-2, 6-14; Psalm 66:1-9

WEEK 2: This week, kids imagine what happened with **Elisha and the widow's oil.**

THE BIG IDEA: I can have faith in God.

THE BIBLE: II Kings 4:1-7; Colossians 1:3-14

WEEK 3: This week, kids imagine being there when **Elisha healed the Shunammite's son.**

THE BIG IDEA: I can count on God's promises.

THE BIBLE: II Kings 4:8-37; Genesis 18:1-10a

WEEK 4: This week, kids imagine how God was with **Elisha during the famine.**

THE BIG IDEA: I can ask God for what I need.

THE BIBLE: II Kings 4:38-44; Luke 11:1-9

WEEK 5: This week, kids imagine how **God healed Naaman through Elisha.**

THE BIG IDEA: I can be used by God.

THE BIBLE: II Kings 5:1-14; Colossians 3:1-4

Cathy Daley, Director Children's Outreach Ministries



Thank You! Thank You! Thank You to each and every one of the VBS volunteers! The children had an exciting time at VBS, learning about Jesus, singing new songs, participating in mission work, and with their crafts. The decorations were phenomenal; it would be great to see the hallways to stay as colorful and inviting to the children. Thanks for all you do for us!



Worship and Study Series Moses: the Man and Our Mission



Starting on Sunday, July 10th, Pastor Joe will lead a worship series and a short-term Sunday School experience looking at the life of Moses from the book of Exodus. This six-week experience will have two components:

- **Sunday School at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall:** We will be using Adam Hamilton's book, **Moses**, and the accompanying DVD. We will watch the teaching segment and then have discussion opportunities at round tables. This short-term class is open for folks who are new to the church, new to Sunday School, or have been around the church for decades. All ages above high school are welcome. There will be refreshments in Fellowship Hall for the class. (We may be able to offer this class on Zoom, too.)
- **Worship at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary:** We will use the scripture passages from Exodus that coincide with the class, and the sermons will be based on the scripture themes. Please enjoy and participate in this series as you are able!

Kicking Off Our Shoebox Ministry

Operation Christmas Child will Kick-off our Shoebox Ministry on Sunday, July 17. This year has been a year of many blessings: more people sewing and making gifts, more shoppers searching for clearance prices, and more donations. The Lord is showing us we've certainly been blessed to be a blessing!

Workers have been busy making some handmade items for the boxes, including some new gifts. Samples will be displayed in the Connection Center in July.

A beautiful embroidered quilt has been donated and will go to the highest bidder. The quilt/wall-hanging will be on display, and bids will be taken through the end of the month. Proceeds will be used for The Greatest Journey.

The impossible was made possible in 2021, and we praise God that over 4 million children were disciplined through The Greatest Journey, where over 2.3 million made decisions for Christ! In addition, **over 10.5 million** gifts were packed, collected, and processed to bless even more boys and girls in 2022!

Pray that children get to know Jesus as their savior and friend as they decide to follow Him at the Outreach Events this year. Pray for the teachers as they help these children grow in living God's way and telling others about Him.

American Red Cross Blood Drive



Friday, July 22, 1:00—6:00 p.m. @ FBMUMC

Call 1-800-733-2767, or visit redcrossblood.org and enter "hurricanecom" to schedule an appointment. The need for donations is great. Questions? Call Lisa Fawcett, 304-539-2860.

From the Church Record

Congratulations to John & Catherine Stewart, and big brother Timothy, upon the birth of Adelina Mae on June 26, 2022. Proud grandparents are Harold & Mary Beth Stewart and great grandparents John & Maycel Mason.

Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Gertrude Graham who passed away on July 1, 2022.

Notes of Thanks

Thank you to all the Forrest Burdette congregation for your support, prayers, cards, and the bereavement luncheon following the funeral of Evelyn Warner. As lifelong members of Forrest Burdette, having the support of our church family was very comforting. *Thanks from all of Evelyn Warner's family*

Thank you to all who sent cards and called when Bob's dad passed away. *With love, Bob & Beth Sauvageot*

Sound and Broadcast System Replacement



FBMUMC is getting a hearing and sight upgrade! Our sound system in the sanctuary was installed when the sanctuary was opened in May 1995. Obviously, technology has changed in the past 27 years, and our equipment is not only outdated, but no longer works as well as we need it to. We need a replacement that can accommodate the variety of worship, music, liturgy, preaching, drama, concerts, and special events that take place in our sanctuary. The new sound system will help everyone hear better in the sanctuary including those who use hearing assists. In addition, we sometimes have trouble transmitting the sound in our broadcasts of worship, funerals, and special celebrations. Our cameras and online broadcasting system need to be upgraded to have consistent high-quality sound.

The Trustees and Finance Committee have bids for complete replacement of both sound and broadcast systems. The total needed is \$67,000. As of the printing of this newsletter, we have \$57,341.53 on hand from people who have generously given to this project. Let us raise the last \$10,000! Please mark your contribution for the sound system.

Generosity for Ministry

Following is financial information for May 2022:

May offerings received\$57,642.39

Offering needed each month.....\$66,998.33

Grief Support Group

The Grief Support Group will not meet in July. We will resume meetings in August. Also in August, mark your calendars for a special luncheon on the 20th, starting at 11:30 a.m. Speaker Janie Hamilton will share with us about responding to grief from both a professional and a spiritual perspective. This event is free to the community. Registration information will be available as the event grows closer.

MEN'S CHURCH LEAGUE SOFTBALL

Catch a game at Valley Park!

July 7, 8:00 p.m.

July 26, 6:00 p.m.

July 12, 8:00 p.m.

August: Tournament

July 18, 8:00 p.m.

Tournament times TBD

Coach J.B. Marinacci, 304-767-1172



July Birthdays:

- 1 Kay Chapman, Jo Chapple
- 2 Sam Clark, Radley Edwards, Laken Faulknier, Allyson Lawhon, Steve Matson
- 3 Rachel Baker, Susan Dean, Sarah Moore, Cameron Nitardy
- 4 Linda Harshbarger, Laura Jo Smith
- 5 Lillian George
- 6 David Baker, Tonya Huffman, Doris Roberts
- 7 Judy Armstrong, Carolyn Cremeans
- 8 Mark King, Tim Stinespring
- 9 Brad Cochran, Sam Holdren, Matthew Sette, Nancy Smith
- 10 Emily Hanning, Katina Hought, Michelle Holdren, John Martin, Hermit Stover
- 11 Quinn Hazelett, Zack Spurlock, Becky Swisher, Sarah Warner
- 12 Austin Davis
- 13 Tyler Akers, Josh Dunlap, Drew McClanahan
- 14 Steve Cook
- 15 Lynn Clay, Susan Coleman, Kevin Crouse, Sara Dean, Chris Folio, Jane Gillispie, FaLena Perry
- 16 John Bayliss, Lauren Turley, Terry Turley
- 17 Sierra Fisher, Michael Gibson, Karen Marsh, Katie Spencer, Daniel Vance
- 18 Beth Anderson, Marsha Jones
- 19 Cathy Daley (COM Director)
- 20 Allison Brown, Lily Bryan, Mike Cartwright, Barbie Newhouse, Eli Valent, Zach West
- 21 Beth Pitzer, Savanna Rose
- 22 Gary Edgell, Abby Mills, Bailey Philyaw, Kent Schamp

- 23 Mike Baker, Kirstyn Bess, Michelle Jackson, Chase Maddox, Sadi Phillips, Andrew West
- 24 Kendra Schamp, Cierra Stevens
- 25 Jeff Elkins, Darya Ferguson, Josephine Marsh, Cheri Rollyson, Rusty Surface
- 26 Pat Faulknier, Brittany Johnson, Joy Kirk, Zoey Williams
- 27 Josh Anderson, Rob Marsh
- 28 Pat Holland, Blake Kennedy, Jennifer Kimble, Margie Veit, Monty Vickers
- 29 Stu Gore
- 30 Rachel Blankenship, Robby Blankenship, Morgan Kimble, Nathan Neville
- 31 Brett Faulknier, Scott Fizer, Maycel Mason



July Anniversaries:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2 Mike & Lori Folio | 18 Randy & Jayné Kirk |
| 2 Steven & Stephanie Mills | 19 Gary & Sandy Vargo |
| 5 Warren & Pat Faulknier | 21 Bob & Gail Samson |
| 5 Scott & Claudia Fizer | 22 Adam & Stacey Holley |
| 6 Brad & Crista Hall | 23 Gary & Jill Newman |
| 6 Robbie & Carrie Parsons | 23 Ben & Becca Wilson |
| 7 John & Kim Neville | 24 Brandon & Shelley Porter |
| 9 Bob & Jackie Alexander | 25 Jimmy & Candi Conaway |
| 15 Tim & Terri Stanley | 25 Jeff & Debbie Haynes |
| 18 Tyler & Jamie Herman Bellomy | 27 Todd & Becky Lilly |
| 18 Harold & Sue Bennett | 30 Jody & Bree Ogle |
| 18 Eddie & Cathy Ellison | |

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



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Sunday Morning Worship:
10:30 a.m.
Sunday Chapel Worship:
6:00 p.m.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

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GOD grant us the wisdom
to know your plan for us and
the strength to carry it out.
Amen!