

May 2025



# VISIONS



SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE  
WITH  
OUR COMMUNITY

The newsletter of  
Forrest Burdette Memorial United Methodist Church



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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

May is here. The countdown has started. Our Mother's Day dinner for all women is on May 6th. Hurricane High School graduation is May 30th. School lets out on June 5th. WV Annual Conference begins June 11th. My last Sunday at Forrest Burdette is June 15th. We move on June 18th to Winston-Salem, and I begin my retirement. Pastor Jake Steele and his family move into the parsonage on Mulberry Drive on June 25th. Vacation Bible School begins on Sunday evening, July 13th. If you are going on a summer vacation, you are probably counting down the days until that big event. This is a season of important dates!

This month reminds us that every day counts. If you are struggling to have enough food for yourself and/or your family, every day is critical. This month we have two important feeding ministries: the Knights of Columbus and Cross Catholic Outreach are packing 60,000 meals on Saturday, May 3rd, at Forrest Burdette, and it is our month at the Community Cupboard. I have worked at meal packing events before as well as working in the Community Cupboard. Both are important ministries that make the Lord's Prayer real for many people, *"give us this day our daily bread."*

We need you to make one or more days in May count in a way that helps others eat. On May 3rd, from 8:00 a.m. to noon, you will join other Christians from the valley to pack the meals. The meal packing event is fun, and we work as on an assembly line to fill meal kits that are then sent to areas and people who have a desperate experience of food insecurity. Please call or email the church office to let us know you are coming. You can also sign up to help set up the gym on Friday. Our church is responsible for the Community Cupboard for the month of May. We need 8 people every Tuesday and Friday of the month to work as volunteers from 8:30 to noon. We start on Friday, May 2nd, and at the time of writing this letter, we only have three people signed up for our first day. Look at your calendar, and make one or two of the Tuesdays or Fridays of May count!

In addition, we could use canned peas and canned carrots for the Cupboard. Bring your donations to the shopping cart at the Connection Center. Our Backpack Buddies ministry will finish for the school year at the beginning of June. Let's finish the year strong in that ministry, too! It is not enough to count down the days until a big event; it is more important that we make the days count!

Grace and *peas*,  
Pastor Joe



**American Red Cross Blood Drive**

**Friday, May 16, 2025 · 12:00—5:00 p.m.**

Forrest Burdette Fellowship Hall  
Register at: RedCrossBlood.org and enter  
HURRICANECOM.

Contact Coordinator Joe Bess with questions  
or to volunteer (304-545-0096).



## Luke Spurgeon Minister of Youth & Young Adults

Hello Forrest Burdette Family! The Youth have been super busy the last couple of months helping with church Easter functions, going out for ice cream, and just enjoying the Easter season. I would like to personally thank the Youth of Forrest Burdette for their hard work in helping make Easter great.

I am happy to say that our Youth activities are not slowing down anytime soon. We are continuing every week to have Wednesday evening youth group where we have fun learning more through bible study and talking about our own faith journeys. We will also be doing some fun things on some of those nights, so keep an eye on the bulletin for more information. Also, it is graduation season, so remember to let the office know if you have a person graduating from any kind of schooling either last December or this Spring.

Summer is so close. You know that means fun trips and experiences for the youth this summer. The Youth will have their summer **Roller Coaster-A-Thon on June 16th through 17th**. There is a sign-up sheet in the Connection Center, or you can let me know that you are available to go. We also will be going to **Spring Heights** this summer. A week at camp can be a life-changing experience. If you would like more information about camp, let me know. [Spring Heights, with summer camp programming for children and youth, is located just north of Spencer, WV. Information regarding pricing and registration can be found at [springheights.org](http://springheights.org). Forrest Burdette will pay 1/2 of camp fees.]

## 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 11.**

## 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 (304-562-5903, [office@forrestburdette.com](mailto:office@forrestburdette.com)).

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

Hi, everyone. We are so excited for summer! We have been able to hire some excellent staff and are getting field trips for the older children and treats for the younger children set up.

Bible School week is always a favorite, and it will be here before we know it (morning session of VBS: July 14-18)!

Our waiting list keeps growing, and the children we have here are happy and engaged. We are truly blessed.

Please keep the prayers coming, and thanks for all of the support you give us. ❤️ **Have fun, and make a difference.** ❤️



## Children & Family Ministries Spreading the Good News!

Families! Here's a look at what we're covering in Children's Church this month, so you can continue growing at home during the week.



### Legacy: A series on the Holy Spirit

**5/4:** Big idea – The Holy Spirit helps us want to know God. Acts 8:26-40, *Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch*.

**5/11:** Big idea – The Holy Spirit helps us love everyone. Acts 10:44-48, *More people believe in Jesus*.

**5/18:** Big idea – The Holy Spirit helps us do God's work. Acts 1:15-17, 21-26, *A new Apostle is chosen*.

**5/25:** Big idea – The Holy Spirit is for everyone. Acts 2:1-21, *The Holy Spirit appears at Pentecost*.



## Read the Bible Together this Year

We are reading through the Bible with Bishop Debra Wallace-Padgett. *The Grand Sweep*, developed by Dr. J. Ellsworth Kalas, is guiding us from Genesis to Revelation.

5/1/25	2 Kings 18-20	5/17/25	2 Cron. 8-9, Psalm 84
5/2/25	2 Kings 21-23, Psalm 75	5/18/25	2 Chronicles 10-12
5/3/25	2 Kings 24-25, Psalm 76	5/19/25	2 Chronicles 13-15
5/4/25	1 Chronicles 1-3	5/20/25	2 Chron. 16-18, Psalm 85
5/5/25	1 Chron. 4-5, Psalm 77	5/21/25	2 Chronicles 19-21
5/6/25	1 Chron. 6-7, Psalm 78-79	5/22/25	2 Chronicles 22-24
5/7/25	1 Chron. 8-9, Psalm 80	5/23/25	2 Chron. 25-26, Psalm 86-87
5/8/25	1 Chronicles 10-12	5/24/25	2 Chron. 27-28, Psalm 88
5/9/25	1 Chron. 13-15, Psalm 81	5/25/25	2 Chronicles 29-32
5/10/25	1 Chronicles 16-18	5/26/25	2 Chron. 33-34, Psalm 89
5/11/25	1 Chronicles 19-21	5/27/25	2 Chron. 35-36, Psalm 90
5/12/25	1 Chronicles 22-24	5/28/25	Ezra 1-3
5/13/25	1 Chron. 25-27, Psalm 82	5/29/25	Ezra 4-6, Psalm 91
5/14/25	1 Chron. 28-29, Psalm 83	5/30/25	Ezra 7-8, Psalm 92
5/15/25	2 Chronicles 1-3	5/31/25	Ezra 9-10, Psalm 93
5/16/25	2 Chronicles 4-7		

## May at the Cupboard

The sign-up board to volunteer at the Christian Community Cupboard this month is posted in the narthex! 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 apx. 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Please consider being a part of this ministry to our community. See Marvin Thompson (681-292-2739) or Steve Cook (304-521-3371) with questions.

## Mother's Day Dinner

The Annual UMW Mother's Day Dinner will be held at the church on **Tuesday, May 6**, and will be catered by Shonet's Country Café, with a choice of baked steak or chicken & dumplings. And we can't forget about their pie! **This event is for all women: mothers, daughters, sisters, friends.** Tickets are on sale on Sundays at the Connection Center and in the church office during the week. Adults \$12; children ages 6-12 \$5; and those ages 5 & under are free.



## JOY Fellowship (55+)

Joy Fellowship will meet Thursday, **May 15**, at 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall. Our speaker will be John Marra. He will give us some lawn and garden ideas and answer our questions. Bring a dish to share and a friend, and join in a wonderful meal.

## From the Church Record

Christian sympathy is extended to Hilda Mynes and family upon the death of her husband Frank Mynes on April 13, 2025.

On April 27, 2025, Andrew William and Caleb Ryan, sons of Wesley & Lindsey Vassar, received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

## Generosity for Ministry

Following is financial information for March 2025:

March Contributions Received.....	\$58,101
Monthly Receipts Needed.....	\$64,023
Deficit.....	\$5,922

Mortgage Balance:

March 2025 Payments on Mortgage* .....	\$13,538
Funds Received, March 2025.....	\$17,912
Excess of Payments.....	\$4,374

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

## MEN'S CHURCH LEAGUE SOFTBALL

The 2025 season is in full swing!

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



May 5, 6:00 p.m.      May 19, 8:00 p.m.  
May 12, 8:00 p.m.      May 29, 8:00 p.m.



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

## May Worship, the Sundays of Easter

We gather together for worship Sunday mornings at 10:30. Communion is served the first Sunday of each month. Please read the scripture to prepare for worship, and invite someone to join you as we continue to walk with Christ.

Date	Scripture	Sermon Title
May 4	2 Kings 2:1-14	Passing the Mantle
May 11	Mark 12:28-34	Love God & Love People
May 18	John 15:1-11	The Glorious Connection
May 25	Romans 8:28, 31-25, 37-39	Forever Love

Forrest Burdette Memorial United Methodist Church  
Invites You to Celebrate the Retirement of

**Rev. Dr. Joseph S. Kenaston**

*Recognizing 41 Years of Full-time Ministry*

**Sunday, June 15, 2025**

Forrest Burdette Memorial United Methodist Church  
2848 Putnam Avenue, Hurricane WV

*A dinner will be served at 5:00 p.m.  
in the Fellowship Hall*



**Please RSVP by June 6**



*by calling the Church Office at (304) 562-5903  
or by emailing office@forrestburdette.com*



## Civic Chorus Concert

The Hurricane Civic Chorus will offer its spring concert, "Sing You the Stars," on Tuesday, May 20, 7:30 p.m., at Forrest Burdette. We have a good number of members in this community chorus. Let's come out to support them!

## Beginners Pickleball Continues

Luke Spurgeon continues to meet with middle school aged people through adults of all ages, who would like to learn how to play pickleball. Join him in the gym on Sundays, 4:00-6:00 p.m. **Note:** the group will not meet on May 18 and May 25.

*Have you remembered the church in your will?*



## May Birthdays:

- 1 Granvel Dilley, Emily Vargo
- 2 Jason Billups, 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
- 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 Kennedy 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 Franklin, Caleb Turner
- 18 Jesse Golden, Kristina Painter
- 19 Randy Mayhew, Joyce Sayre
- 20 Joshua Harshbarger



- 21 John Bennett, Jackson Harris, Philip Lane, Connor McClanahan, Hayden Riesen
- 22 Rocco Hughes
- 23 Nancy Austin, Katherine Childers, Kevin Phillips, Ben Veit
- 24 Leila Holland, Craig Houston, Katie Keen, Jerry Lilly, 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 Mark Dunlap
- 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 Weiss 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).

## SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE WITH OUR COMMUNITY



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

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2848 Putnam Avenue  
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