

## May 2018

I have had a love for books from an early age. My parents bought me my first book when I was pretty small. It was about dinosaurs (I've been hooked ever since!) I started a small library shortly thereafter. Needless to say, my library has grown over the years! One of my favorite devotional books is Knowing God: 100 Devotions for a Closer Relationship with God. The following devotion appears on day 22.

*Let's see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out, not avoiding worshipping together as some do but spurring each other on.*

*Hebrews 10:24-25 MSG*

*Every believer – including you – needs to be part of a community of faith. Your association with fellow Christians should be uplifting, enlightening, encouraging, and consistent.*

The Bible  
knows  
nothing of  
solitary  
religion

*Are you an active member of your fellowship? Are you a builder of bridges inside the four walls of your church and outside it? Do you contribute your time and your talents to a close-knit band of hope-filled believers? Hopefully so. The fellowship of believers is intended to be a powerful tool for spreading God's Good News and uplifting His children. God intends for you to be a fully contributing member of that fellowship. Your intentions should be the same.*

This devotion hits the nail right on the head!

If you are reading this and you are not able to attend worship due to health or distance, let us know and we will send you a link that you can access each week to view our worship on a computer (if you don't have a computer, please know we are working on other options!); in addition, if you are not on our home-bound list, let us know. We would like to check on you from time to time. If you are reading this and you have fallen away from church, consider going back to church (consider this a formal invitation to join or re-join us). If you are reading this and you attend but aren't involved, there is a place of service for you. As a matter of a fact, because we have so many ministry needs, we could use someone to match people with those needs. If you are reading this and you are a regular attender and involved, have you reached out to those who are missing from the fold? Chances are, some are wondering why no one has called to express concern. Could you send a card, make a phone call, or visit with someone this week?

God calls us to share our love and concern on a regular basis. Genuine care goes a very long way!

Love and care,

*Brian*

First United Methodist Church † 315 Kerens Avenue † Elkins, West Virginia 26241  
Church: 304-636-0660 † [www.fumcelkinswv.com](http://www.fumcelkinswv.com) † Rev. Brian Seders, Pastor † Parsonage: 304-636-0406

## DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Kary (Kramer) McAtee

### AFTER PROM PARTY

On Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> our church hosted the After Prom Party Lock-In for Elkins High School Students. Thirty-one teenagers stayed up all night playing games, watching movies, eating snacks, and winning prizes! A tremendous amount of support was received from businesses, organizations, and individuals in our church and community to provide a safe and fun event for our teenagers.

Thank you to Lynn Ritter and Vicki Fisher for coordinating and working in the kitchen, Bob Jones and Jeff Trulik for cooking breakfast, Karly and JC Wallace for checking registration forms, and Harry Kramer, Justin McAtee, and Heidi Bray for staying all night and helping to clean up on Sunday morning. Thank you to everyone who made donations so we could provide delicious food, hours of entertainment, and a variety of prizes for this successful outreach event.

### PROGRAM UPDATES

This month in Sunday School and Children's Church, our character focus word is commitment. We will be hearing and responding to stories about how we make commitments to God and one another.

May 6<sup>th</sup> – Acts 16:11-15 "Lydia shows her commitment to Jesus after she hears Paul preach."

May 13<sup>th</sup> – Acts 16:16-40 "Paul and his friend Silas are committed to telling everyone about Jesus."

May 20<sup>th</sup> – Acts 2:1-43 "God keeps God's commitment to send the Holy Spirit."

May 27<sup>th</sup> – Acts 27:1-44 "Paul takes his commitment to spreading Jesus' message very seriously."

### LOOKING FORWARD



#### **FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT – Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 7:00**

"The friendly but forgetful blue tang fish, Dory, begins a search for her long-lost parents, and everyone learns a few things about the real meaning of family along the way."

Everyone is welcome to join us in the Family Life Center to watch Finding Dory! Light snacks and activities will be provided, and this event is absolutely free!

#### **MOTHER'S DAY – Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup>**

Our children and the important woman in their lives are invited to join us in the Family Life Center at 9:45 AM for Mother's Day crafts and activities!

#### **2018 GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY – Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00 worship**

We will soon be honoring our congregation's high school and college graduates. Those who would like to be recognized are asked to contact Kary or Rhonda by Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>.

#### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – Sunday July 22<sup>nd</sup> through Thursday, July 26<sup>th</sup>**

VBS is only a few short months away! If you are interested in assisting with Vacation Bible School in any way, please contact Kary (Kramer) McAtee at 304-642-0518.

## MUSIC NOTES



Gale Poe

May is a highlighting-composers month for the Chancel Choir. Several arrangements by current writers/composers Stuart Townend, Keith Getty and Kristyn Getty are in the rehearsal queue. One of the tunes is "What Grace is Mine", which is the familiar tune "Londonderry Air" (*O Danny Boy*). It imparts a fresh new text by Kristyn Getty that is at once graceful and powerful. One of the verses begins, "What grace is mine to know his breath alive in me; beneath his wings my weary soul may soar." Jenny Pippin is going to add her flute playing to one of the communion Sunday anthems, and she will offer instrumental music during the serving of Holy Communion.

One of our favorite anthems for May is written by Senator Orrin Hatch (b. 1934 in Pittsburgh), from the great state of Utah. "Blades of Grass and Pure White Stones" honors those who have given the last full measure of devotion to country. It has been a couple of years since its incorporation into worship.

ConwayRingers rang in April, and they will ring this month. A ringing ensemble will add accompaniment to one of the anthems in June (always looking ahead!).

Florida snowbirds are making their way back home to Randolph County, and we are glad to see them, and hear their stories.

I shared pictures of ConwayRingers with you last month. Included below is a picture of the Chancel Choir rehearsal piano, which has become our photo gallery. There are photos of grandchildren (of singers present and former), grandparents (including a former pastor), and even a singer in his Appalachian dance role. These are sacred joys that we share with each other. Each rehearsal finds us telling about whatever is on our hearts: happy, funny, poignant, confidential, sad, worries. Our corporate prayer always includes gratitude for Jesus, and we pray for others and we pray for ourselves.



~~ A personal moment: One of my favorite quotes comes from Dr. Rachel Naomi Remen: "We have been given more blessings than we have received." Many of us (!) try to control everything, be self-sufficient, ask for help only when no other choice exists. I am reminded of that especially in the last six weeks. When I was feeling sick at a choral rehearsal, the music folks did everything right. It is no surprise of course, but

for someone who is historically self-sufficient (!), it was challenging. Then, when I was advised to take a week off, I was concerned about music for Palm/Holy Week/Easter. And yet, *I have been given more gifts than I have received.* Thank you to Susan Seders, who is fearless (we all love that about her), and who said yes to me even before I told her what was about to happen. Thank you especially to all of the ringers and singers, who showed up, marched on, and were just as bold. I am honored to be in this time and place with all of them. I have said that with great certainty for 14 years. I am now more convinced than ever that we, all of us, have been given more gifts than we have received.

Blessings from the Music Ministry.

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# UNITED METHODIST M<sup>W</sup> MEN

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR.....



The **congregation** is invited to the annual tradition of the **Mother's Day Breakfast** on **Sunday, May 13**, at **9:15 AM** in the **FLC**. The U. M. Men are planning a delicious breakfast which includes eggs, ham, potatoes and biscuits in honor of all women and their families. **After the Mother's Day Breakfast, all children** and the important women in their lives are invited to join the Sunday School Department at **9:45 am** for **Mother's Day crafts and activities!**

**33<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC ON SUNDAY, JUNE 3 @ 12:15 PM  
IN THE LARGE PAVILION AT ELKINS CITY PARK**

**Come eat the Men's famous BBQ chicken and join in fellowship with one another.  
You do not need to bring anything to the picnic.**



**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S** mission quilt tickets are now available. A donation of \$5 per ticket or \$20 for five tickets may be received from any circle ladies or in the church office. The beautiful quilt is displayed in front of the church office. Drawing will be held the day of the Spring Bazaar.

# United Methodist Women

## News From the First United Methodist Women

### Planning for the Spring Bazaar is in High Gear

The Country Store ladies are receiving items for sale while sorting, displaying and pricing items for great deals for the shoppers.

A large cast of volunteers have signed up and are poised and ready to decorate tables, cook, serve, clean and welcome all those in attendance with a smile and words of appreciation.

A lovely quilt and various theme baskets or groupings of items are prepared for mission donations while baked goods and unique gifts will be available just in time for Mother's Day.

We are ready and happy to invite church members, friends and community members to join with us for lunch on May 3 and for shopping at the Country Store on May 3 and until noon on May 4. Let us celebrate spring together in fellowship and joy!

### Happy Birthday Lois Kessler

A surprise birthday was held for Lois Kessler following the 11 am service on Sunday, April 15. The party was hosted by her family with assistance from Circle 4. Lois is a member of Circle 4 and an important part of our church family and our community of faith. Special birthday greetings to Lois from all of us. Included are pictures of Lois as she greets some of her guests.



The United Methodist Women are offering scholarships to high school seniors of our church who will be graduating in May. You may pick up an application from the church office. Please mail the application to Mary Durham, UMW president, by the deadline date May 15.



**First United Methodist Church**

**Women's Spring Bazaar**

315 Kerens Avenue      Downtown Elkins

**Thursday, May 3rd**

**Luncheon 10:30 - 1:00**

**Luncheon Menu**

Pulled Pork Sandwiches	\$2.00 each
Hot Dogs ...Pepperoni Rolls	\$1.00 each
Baked Beans	\$1.00 each
Cole Slaw	\$1.00 each
Tossed Salad w/Dressings	\$2.00 each
Pies or Fruit Salad	\$1.00 each

**Complimentary Drinks**

**Country Store and Baked Goods**

**Country Store Hours:**

Thursday	May 3rd	9:00-3:00
Friday	May 4th	9:00-12:00

THE CIRCUIT RIDER

MAY BIRTHDAYS		14	Jean Snedegar	26	Bev Jordan	MAY ANNIVERSARIES	
1	Bill Johnson	14	Kendra Cross	26	Lynn Hicks	1	Stephen & Darlene Marechek
1	David White	14	Jessica Barkley	26	Craig Corley	3	Eric & Melissa Hickman
1	Joshua Lang	16	Howard Howell	27	Rhonda Jack	3	Rob & Lisa Kerns
1	Joel Plishka	16	Barry Moll	27	Christina Harris	4	Ashton & Debbie Berdine
2	Amy Cherok	16	Tim Hoyle	27	Emily Earle	4	Karl & Stephanie Ruud
2	Anthony Nucilli	16	Ani Reger	28	Joan Plant	5	Rick & Shannon Campbell
2	Garrett Shiflett	16	Lydia Wamsley	28	Buddy Rowan Jr	7	Gary & Ruth Schoonover
2	Corey Ritter	16	Giuliana Santoro	28	Bob Jones	13	Marc & Amie Wamsley
2	Joshua Davis	17	Elaine Griesel	29	Lanny Doerr	16	David & Kayla Doerr
3	Sue Sayres	17	Rob Nestor	29	Anita Barb	18	Grover & Katie Kerns
4	Bob Cowgill	18	Mark Biller	29	Steve Wamsley	20	Chuck & Lisa Preusch
4	Stephen Marechek	18	Suzanne McWhorter	29	Tammy Lawson	20	Kevin & Cara Elkins
4	Dustin Standridge	18	Crystal Howard	29	Lisa Rosencrance-Biller	20	Mike & Christin Westfall
4	Jordan Holt	19	Darby Bailey	29	Jennifer Pingley	22	Larry & Linda Jones
5	Anna Chenoweth	19	Melissa Sayres	30	Angela Spraberry	22	Scott & Lori Betler
5	Katy Karpik	20	Sandy Grahame	30	Ryan Gainer	23	Dick & Betty Walden
6	Joy Woodford	21	Carmen Casey	31	LaDonna Frost	23	Mike & Carol Pizzino
7	Leslie Gordon	21	Becky Sanders	31	Ed Griesel	23	Rogers & Emily Earle Jr.
7	Kurt Casey	21	Bill King	31	Jill Dailer	24	Jerry & Malinda Jerow
8	Chip Gutmann	21	Kelli Dyer	31	Deborah Fincham	24	Dick & Donna Hamrick
8	Marsha Channell	21	Shelly Carr	31	Peggy Jones	24	Ed & Elaine Griesel
9	Betty Linger	21	Jennifer Drake	31	Melissa Salvatore	25	Leon & Terry Mallow
9	Shelby Dettinger	21	Kary McAtee	31	Chris Darden	25	Heath & Erin Quint
9	Ryan Sanders	21	Lillyanna Betler	31	Annie Harmon	28	David & LuAnn McDowell
10	Maxine Cooper	22	Greg Stalnaker	31	Frankie Menendez	28	Bill & Kate Reed
10	Lindsey Graham	23	Clark Martin Jr.			28	Ellis & Julie Conley
11	Pamela Smith	23	Garrett Adkisson			31	Don & Barbara Judy
11	Sarah Caudy	24	Taylor Lompert				
12	Mary Louise Yokum	24	Dick McDowell				
12	Phil Tomblyn	24	Linda Jones				
12	Wayne Schwartzmiller	24	Danielle Stemple				
12	Tyler Elmore	25	Sharon Teter				
13	Danielle Adkisson	25	Laura Kennedy				
13	Dylan Adkisson	25	Destiny Brown				

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY**

*to the families of*

Roger Corder upon the death of his uncle, Terry Mallow upon death of her sister, Pat Nestor upon the death of her two brothers, Todd Price upon the death of his wife, and Bill Riffie upon the death of his brother.



**THE CIRCUIT RIDER**

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
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ELKINS, WEST VIRGINIA 26241-3852

NON-PROFIT ORG

U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

FIRST U.M. CHURCH

ELKINS, WV

PERMIT NO. 14

**The Circuit Rider**

**May 2018**

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Thursday 8:30 AM – 3 PM / Friday 8:30 AM – 12-noon PH: 304-636-0660

Pastor: Brian Seders (304-636-0406 Home)  
blseders@gmail.com

Office Manager/Treasurer: Rhonda Elmer  
rhonda@fumcelkinswv.com

Director of Church School of Ministries: Kary Kramer

kary@fumcelkinswv.com

Financial Secretary: Danielle Taylor

danielle@fumcelkinswv.com

Music Director: Gale Poe

Pastor Emeritus: Basil Hensley

Nursery Worker: Jennifer Wanless

Custodian: Angela Kisner



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

**The people of The United Methodist Church™**