

Linden & Marshall United Methodist Churches Cooperative Parish

The Circuit Writer NEWSLETTER

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6



As we enter May, I look back at the last four months and realize that a ton of things have taken place. Many churches have left the UMC or have begun the process; many of us started and have almost finished our final semester of school. There have been deaths in our lives, along with many joys.

I will be honest and say that I have not enjoyed all the disaffiliation conversations. I may be new in the ministry, but this has been the hardest thing for me so far, beyond the challenges of Covid. I have really struggled with the United Methodist Church, as well as the churches in the Church. It has not been easy to lead three churches through these conversations, time and time again.

Over the last few months, this scripture from Proverbs has been on my mind when I wake up in the morning and when I go to sleep. No matter what we do, if we do it for the Lord, and acknowledge God, God will make our paths straight. We don't need to understand everything that God has in store for us. We must be obedient and trusting of God. If we begin to think that the United Methodist way or that disaffiliating from the UMC is the only way to glorify God, then we are sadly mistaken and continuing to put God in a box. God can, and will, use any situation to magnify God's greatness. That is who God is and that is what God does. I do not believe that God cares about what denomination or non-denomination a person or a church is. What God cares about and wants is a relationship with you. And through that relationship, God wants you to **LOVE** God with everything you have and **LOVE** your neighbor as yourself. When we can do this, we are living up to our potential of being God's children. When we can do this, the kingdom of heaven grows and gets a little bit brighter.

So Beloved, I am commending you into God's hands, as well as issuing a challenge. For this month, let's begin with thanking God for another day, and let's share a kind word with someone each day. Start small, trust in God, acknowledge God, and do not lean into our own understanding but rather let's see where God takes us. I love you all.

Blessings - PJ



LindenUMC

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MarshallUMC

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Marshall VA 20115
540.364.2506

We are on the Web!

www.marshallumc.org *
www.facebook.com/MarshallVAUMC
www.facebook.com/lindenumcva

*Click on "events"
on the website
to see schedules of activities
on our monthly calendars.

"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 ever you can." John Wesley

Pastor John Rowe . 703-357-5446. johnrowe@vaumc.org . www.marshallumc.org

MarshallUMC News



IMPORTANT Upcoming Planning Session

Please attend Saturday, May 13, 8:30am to noon in MUMC Fellowship Hall. All members are invited to participate. We will celebrate last year's successes and identify plans for the coming year. Contact DeAnna with any questions.

SERVING MARSHALL IN MAY:

Worship Leaders:

May 7 - Joe Bersack
May 14 - Candy Glascock
May 21 - Smokey Jacobs
May 28 - Terri Hill

Communion Stewards:

Debbie & Jeff Machamer

Counters:

May 7 - Bob Lambert & Wendy Emery
May 14 - Cathy Lambert & Joe Bersack
May 21 - Laurie Bersack & Cheryl Kowalczyk
May 28 - Debbie Machamer & Betty West

Marshall Preschool Post



I would like to thank everyone for a wonderful year! We are saddened, yet excited, to be wrapping up our school year. We see God working in our 4-year-olds and cannot wait to hear about them in kindergarten. The 3-year-old class is doing wonderfully, and every student will be back to progress into next year's 4-year-old class. Again, gratitude to all who assisted MUMPS in so many ways. We couldn't have experienced such success without such support. Everyone is invited and we would love for many to join us in the graduation celebration on May 18, 2023, to congratulate and continue to encourage the kids! Blessings - Michelle Rowe -Preschool Director

Marshall United Women in Faith

A marvelous retreat transpired April 21-23 at Camp Overlook, with Cathy Harris, Wendy Emery and Amy Taylor providing the program, music and goodies all around! We learned about how God and chocolate have some similarities, especially in dealing with life!

On the home front, we served at a small reception after the funeral of Vic Lawrence, long time family member. We also helped out at the MUMPS Preschool Art Show (first of many, we hope!)

Upcoming, we have Bibles ready for our graduating preschool class of 4-year-olds as they head to kindergarten. Please take a moment to sign the Bibles this Sunday.

By the end of the month, we'll be putting together *Kits for Conference*; look for items to bring in for this year's collection in Hampton in June.

Congratulations to all our graduates; if you have any middle school, high school, college, etc. graduates, please let us know!

More fun and fellowship is to follow, with potential bowling or lunch dates on the horizon. All ladies are welcome to join in anytime as we continue to connect, nurture, and grow in faith.



LindenUMC News



co-op birthdays & anniversaries MAY

- 1 – Zach Bueno
- 2 – Hank Green
- 9 – Polly Nichols
- 11 – Jennifer Harris
- 13 – Pam Barr
- 16 – Hunter Glascock
- 16 – Jack Conley
- 19 – Steve Burnside
- 19 – Sasha & Sean Fitzmaurice
- 20 – Kevin McCullough
- 21 – Candy Glascock
- 23 – Bette Conley
- 23 – Kevin & Melissa Davidson
- 23 – Stuart & Cindy Showers
- 25 – Ed Snider
- 27 – Sarah Simpkins
- 27 – Clay Emery
- 27 – Sheila Showers
- 30 – Barbara Price

As updates to our celebration rosters are underway, please email any **JUNE** birthdays or anniversaries you'd like posted next month to admin@marshallumc.org.

The **Linden Sunday School** class will be watching and discussing Season 3 of the series, *The Chosen*. We meet at 10:45am in the church sanctuary. Please join us!

The **Linden Methodist Women's Pop-Up Market and Yard Sale** begins its 2nd season on May 13th from 10am-2pm. Vendors can set up for \$25.00, and yard sale folks can set up for \$10.00. Food will be provided by the LMW in addition to a bake sale. Remember Mother's Day is the next day (May 14th); so come and find that special gift!

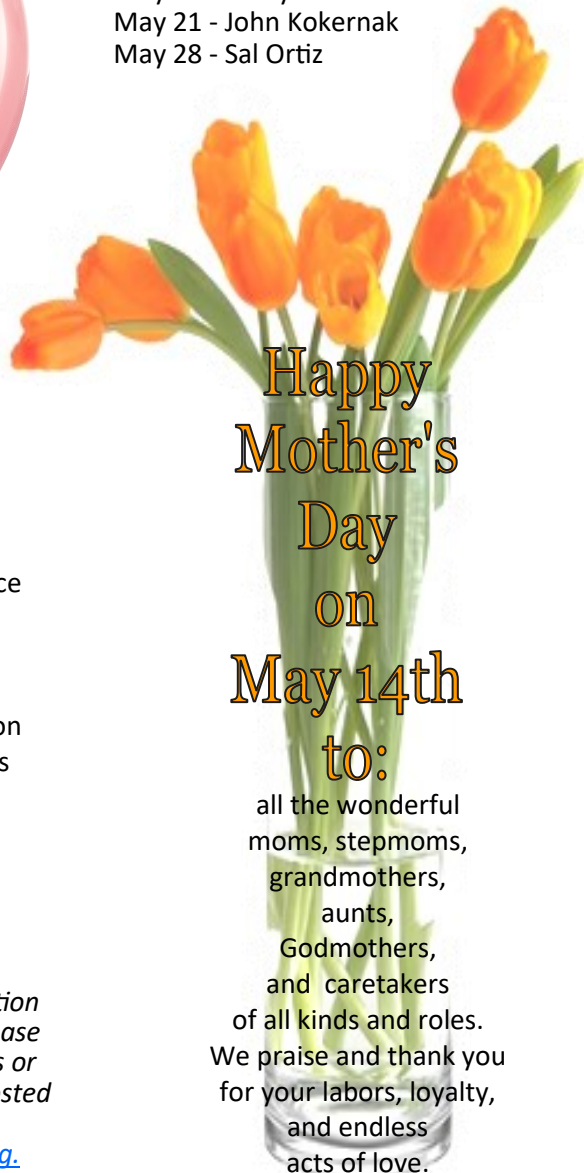
Vendors are still needed for our Pop-Up Market! Our season will be the *2nd Saturday of each month from May through October*. There will be a limited number of available spaces inside the fellowship hall as well as outside. For further information, please see Maureen Dunford.

Linden Methodist Women will hold their next meeting on Sunday, May 21, at 2:00pm. All ladies are welcome!

Among those **serving** LindenUMC this month are:

Worship Leaders

- May 7 - Judy Blood
- May 14 - Cindy Kokernak
- May 21 - John Kokernak
- May 28 - Sal Ortiz



Happy
Mother's
Day
on
May 14th
to:

all the wonderful
moms, stepmoms,
grandmothers,
aunts,
Godmothers,
and caretakers
of all kinds and roles.
We praise and thank you
for your labors, loyalty,
and endless
acts of love.



Hats off
to all grads
including:

Rev. John Rowe
graduating from
Wesley Theological Seminary
with a
Masters in Divinity

&

Kevin Davidson
graduating from
the University of New Hampshire
Franklin Pierce School of Law
with
the Juris Doctor

Mission & Outreach Opportunities



Join in celebration with the Marshall faith community:

Marshall area pastors are planning a Pentecost ecumenical worship celebration in the Fauquier park on Sunday, May 28, 2023, at 1:30pm.

"Pentecost is from the Greek word 'Pentekostos', which means 'fifty'. It's the 50th day after the Sabbath of Passover week and in Judaism is called the Feast of Weeks (Leviticus 23:16). Luke tells the story in Acts 2:1-13. Some scholars think he was referring to an experience of 'glossalalia' or speaking in tongues, an ecstatic outpouring of praise in an unknown language. Others point out that what the disciples said seems to have been understood by their hearers. Of importance, Pentecost is the fulfillment of two promises. One promise is in the Old Testament – Joel 2:28, which says "I will pour out my Spirit on all people," and one in the New Testament, where Jesus says he will send another Counselor, the Spirit of truth (John 16: 5-15)."

"Luke tells of three distinct experiences. There was a wind. A violent wind filled the house: breath or wind is a symbol of the Spirit of God. Ezekiel 37 tells the story of the prophet's vision of a valley of dry bones which come together: when the 'breath' of God enters them, they come to life and stand on their feet. The Pentecost wind represents the power of God to bring life to the 'dry bones' of faith. Second, there were tongues of fire. Tongues of fire separate and come to rest on each of them. Jesus told his disciples, "You are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14). In John 8:12 he says, "I am the light of the world." The picture in Acts seems to be of a single flame that separates and symbolically rests on each of them; the disciples will do what Jesus did. Also, there were other languages. The nature of the original experience has been queried, but in Luke's telling of it the point is that it breaks down barriers between people. The story links back to one of the earliest of the Old Testament stories, in Genesis 11, when the people begin to build the huge Tower of Babel. God confuses their language so they can no longer understand each other. At Pentecost, this Babel confusion is reversed. Conclusively, Pentecost is the birthday of the Church. It marks the beginning of Christianity as a purposeful movement and a new community. When Peter preached immediately afterwards, around 3,000 people believed and were baptized."

We can pray together as "Jesus himself asked the Father for us (John 17,21 ESV that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me) while we commemorate the Holy Spirit descending upon the Apostles. We will mark the coming of the Holy Spirit on the disciples and their transformation from frightened and confused people to men who would face martyrdom for what they believed." (<https://www.christiantoday.com/article/nine-key-things-to-know-about-pentecost/54344.htm>)

On Sunday, May 28th, come for an afternoon of worship, fellowship, and fun for the 50th day or 7th Sunday after Easter to commemorate a lesser known but great celebratory festival of the church. Bring a lawn chair and a dish to share!



Be Red Cross Ready & Hands-Only CPR Class: Courtesy of the Marshall Community Center & American Red Cross, attend this FREE class open to the community. It will run from 6-7pm on Monday, May 8, in the large meeting room at the community center. Register by calling 540-422-8580 or by emailing Michelle.Hermsdorf@fauquiercounty.gov asap as space is limited!

If you have or are aware of prayers to be shared outside of Sunday services, please direct them as follows:
Lori Terwilliger at Linden via email address 2lpt@earthlink.net or call/text to 540-252-8341;
Pastor John Rowe at johnrowe@vaumc.org or 703-357-5446;
and/or any and all prayer updates and additions can be sent to prayers@marshallumc.org.



Please remember that our church's missions and expenses require your support! You can *mail* in your donations to the church at *MUMC PO Box 144, Marshall, VA 20116*; or simply leave gifts in the *offering plate* at services. At MarshallUMC, 10% of general funds received are routinely donated to local non-profit charitable organizations. View the missions bulletin board outside the sanctuary for recent news and acknowledgements of "sharing God's gifts." What a difference your gifts make in the lives of others!

A Mother's Day Reading



When You Thought I Wasn't Looking

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you hang my first painting on the refrigerator, and I immediately wanted to paint another one.
When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you feed a stray cat, and I learned that it was good to be kind to animals.
When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you make my favorite cake for me and I learned that little things can be the special things in life.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I heard you say a prayer, and I knew there is a God I could always talk to and I learned to trust in God.
When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you make a meal and take it to a friend who was sick, and I learned that we all have to help take care of each other.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you give of your time and money to help people who had nothing and I learned that those who have something should give to those who don't.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you take care of our house and everyone in it and I learned we have to take care of what we are given.
When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw how you handled your responsibilities, even when you didn't feel good and learned that I would have to be responsible when I grow up.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw tears come from your eyes and I learned that sometimes things hurt, but it's all right to cry.
When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw that you cared and I wanted to be everything that I could be.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I learned most of life's lessons that I need to know to be a good and productive person when I grow up.
When you thought I wasn't looking, I looked at you and wanted to say, "Thanks for all the things I saw when you thought I wasn't looking."



mom's make life beautiful



OPEN
HEARTS,
OPEN
MINDS,
OPEN
DOORS.

P.O. Box 144
Marshall, VA 20116



Linden & Marshall UMC Cooperative Parish Circuit Writer Newsletter May 2023

SUN 30	MON May 1	TUE 2	WED 3	THU 4	FRI 5	SAT 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:15am Markham Worship S 9:30am Linden Worship 11am Marshall Worship 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30pm ESL Beg. @Marshall 7:30pm Marshall Choir 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2pm Bible Study @LindenUMC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Monthly Lunch @Mars 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Marshall UMW Mtg
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