

**FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

117 N. Second Street  
Clarksburg, WV 26301

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**OPEN HEARTS... OPEN MINDS... OPEN DOORS  
THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH.**

Rev. Rick Sale, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Carolyn Nettles, Associate Pastor  
Don Gardner, Director of Music and Operations  
Jocelyn Spellman, Children's Director  
Ethan Rapping, Youth Director  
Elizabeth Etnoyer, Pianist / Accompanist  
Debby McCune, Secretary  
John Greaver, Don Barickman, Custodians

*First  
United  
Methodist  
Church*



SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M. .... SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45 A.M. .... ALL ARE WELCOME!

**THE GRAPEVINE**

**MAY 2015**

CLARKSBURG FIRST  
UNITED METHODIST

**FROM THE SENIOR PASTOR**

*A Mother's Love*

This year Mother's Day is Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. Of course, we will celebrate Mother's Day in our worship service by honoring mothers in our midst. So please join us at First Church on the 10<sup>th</sup>. A mother's love looks out for the wellbeing of her children and finds expression in a variety of ways.

*Phil Keith is the Chief of Police for the Knoxville, Tennessee Police Department. Phil is in a city council meeting when to his surprise his cell phone rings. Fortunately, he had put it on silent ring. Police Chief Phil Keith is surprised when his cell phone rings because his staff knows he is not to be disturbed during this very important city council meeting, which by the way, is being aired live on a local television channel as well as covered by several newspapers.*

*Phil slides his cell phone out of the corner of his pocket to see who is calling. It's his mother. He's concerned because his mother has health issues; and, she never calls him on his cell phone unless it is an emergency. The Police Chief gets up from the media table, walks over to the corner of the room and calls his mother.*

*When she answers the phone, he nervously asks, "Mom, are you okay? Is everything alright?" She responds by saying, "Son, are you chewing gum?" He says, "What?" She says again, "Son, are you chewing gum? I've been watching the city council meeting all afternoon and it looks like you are chewing gum." A little embarrassed, Phil says to his mother, "Yes Mom, I am chewing gum." That's when his mother says, "Son, it looks awful, just awful. Spit it out right now!"*

A mother's love looks out for the wellbeing of her children and finds expression in a variety of ways, sometimes humorous ways. As Mother's Day approaches, think about your mother, or someone who has been like a mother to you, and how her love has touched your life in a profound way or even humorous way. I encourage you to take time to remember and to relive a particular memory of your mother. Also, take time to thank her for being your mother through a telephone call or text message, flowers or a card, a meal out, or through a prayer said in her memory.

Happy Mother's Day!

*Rick*



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PASTOR 2**

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FROM THE DESK OF THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Greetings!

Change is in the air once again! It is the intention of Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball to appoint me to the East Vienna-Wesley UMC Charge in Vienna and Jonathan (my husband) to Christ-St. Andrews UMC in Parkersburg as of July 1. We plan to reside in Parkersburg. Any move is always bittersweet. It is bitter in that I will be leaving so many friends behind that I care very much about. It is sweet in that it is always exciting in going to a new place and meeting new people! Just as I felt "sent" to be with you these two years, I very much feel "sent" to the new churches. I covet your continued prayers in this transition.

Change is a part of life and is imperative for growth. 2 Peter 3:16 says we are to "grow in grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ". 2 Corinthians 3:18 says: "And we all...beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed (changed) into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit." We are being changed by the Spirit and transformed into the likeness of Christ. This is not something that happens apart from our participation. We have a polite God, who waits to be invited into our lives. After we "are saved" by confessing with our mouths and believing in our hearts that Jesus died for our sins, then the life-long process of transformation begins. In order to be changed, we must give ourselves to the process and be open to something new happening in our lives. If we are not careful, we will quench the work the Spirit wants to do in our lives, by being too busy or refusing to reflect on our lives and the things in our hearts. My prayer is that we will look at this change (and all change!) as an opportunity to grow in "grace & knowledge" of Jesus.

May you always find joy in the journey!

Pastor Carolyn

BREAKAWAY YOUTH!

First off I would like to thank everyone who came out to our International Dinner. I am extremely happy how it turned out. The money donated will go towards future trips and activities for our youth. Over \$500.00 was raised!



Breakaway Youth

Sunday nights 5:30-7:30 on 3rd floor. We hope to see YOU there!



MAY 10th we will be having game night for the youth, so bring in your favorite game to play.



We are going to be starting a series of trips this summer to the mission projects throughout the state. I am excited for these trips, it will give the youth an opportunity to see what is being done to help others throughout the state.

More info will be coming out on these trips.

Graduation Reception Sunday, May 17th After Morning Worship

- Matthew Kersting
Emily Kroll
Kelsey Lantz
Ross Thompson



# Can-Do Kids News for Children & Their Families!

## ANNOUNCEMENT: Summer Schedule

Happy Summer Everyone! Starting June 1st the kiddos will not have Sunday School through the summer until September.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE YOUTH!

The children would like to congratulate the youth members on a spectacular job on cultures with us through food and fellowship!

### Move into May!

As the weather outside warms up,  
the kiddos will be playing games outdoors  
during children's activities on Sunday evenings!  
Let's keep our fingers crossed it doesn't rain so we can  
enjoy the beautiful spring God has provided us with!



**Memorial Day**

MAY 25th



<b>Sun. 03—</b>	9:30 am	Church School	<b>Sun. 17 -</b>	10:30 am	"St. Francis" Musical
	<b>10:45 am</b>	<b>Communion Service</b>		<b>10:45 am</b>	<b>Sunday Worship Service</b>
		<b>Stephen Ministry Sunday</b>			Children's Church during worship
		Children's Church during worship		12:00 pm	Graduate Reception
	4:45 pm	Children's Activity		4 :45 pm	Children's Activity
	4:45 pm	Youth Choir			NO Youth Choir
	5:30 pm	Children's Choir till 6:15 pm		5:30 pm	NO Children's Choir
	5:30 pm	BreakAway Youth till 7:30 pm		6:30 pm	BreakAway Youth till 7:30 pm
	6:30 pm	Informal Lighthouse Service	<b>Mon. 18—</b>	12:00 pm	Informal Lighthouse Service
<b>Mon. 04 -</b>	1:00 pm	"Writing Circle"		1:00 pm	Feed My Sheep
	6:00 pm	Staff Parish Relations Committee		7:00 pm	"Writing Circle"
	7:00 pm	Journey in Grace	<b>Tues. 19—</b>	12:15 pm	Journey in Grace
<b>Tues. 05 -</b>	12:15 pm	Monastic Meal		5:00 pm	Monastic Meal
<b>Wed. 06 -</b>	4:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry		6:00 pm	Outreach Committee Meeting
	5:00 pm	All in the Family Vespers & Class with Don Gardner	<b>Wed. 20—</b>	4:00 pm	Church Council Meeting—till 8:00 pm
	5:45 pm	All in the Family Prepared Dinner - \$4.00	<b>Thurs. 21—</b>	12:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry
	6:30 pm	Stephen Ministry		4:30 pm	FUMC Women at Minard's
<b>Thurs. 07 -</b>	4:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal		6:45 pm	Handbell Rehearsal
	6:45 pm	Growing in Grace Together		7:00 pm	Growing in Grace Together
	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>Sun. 24—</b>	9:30 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
<b>Fri. 08 -</b>	6:00 pm	Mother-Daughter Banquet		<b>10:45 am</b>	Church School
					<b>Sunday Worship Service / Pentecost</b>
				4:45 pm	Children's Church during worship
<b>Sun. 10 -</b>	9:30 am	Church School			Children's Activity
	<b>10:45 am</b>	<b>Sunday Worship Service / Mother's Day</b>			NO Youth Choir
		Children's Church during worship			NO Children's Choir
	4:45 pm	Children's Activity	<b>Mon. 25 -</b>	5:30 pm	BreakAway Youth till 7:30 pm
	4:45 pm	Youth Choir	<b>Tues. 26—</b>	6:30 pm	Informal Lighthouse Service
	5:30 pm	Children's Choir till 6:15 pm	<b>Wed. 27—</b>	12:15 pm	MEMORIAL DAY—offices closed
	5:30 pm	BreakAway Youth till 7:30 pm		4:00 pm	Monastic Meal
	6:30 pm	Informal Lighthouse Service		5:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry
<b>Mon. 11 -</b>	7:00 pm	Journey in Grace		6:00 pm	Trustees Meeting
<b>Tues. 12 -</b>	12:15 pm	Monastic Meal		6:30 pm	Grand Agers Banquet
	5:15 pm	Finance Committee Meeting	<b>Thurs. 28—</b>	4:30 pm	Stephen Ministry
<b>Wed. 13—</b>	4:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry		6:45 pm	Handbell Rehearsal
	5:00 pm	All in the Family Closing Session		7:00 pm	Handbell Rehearsal
	6:00 pm	All in the Family Dinner—\$4.00	<b>Sun. 31—</b>	:45 am	Growing in Grace Together
	6:30 pm	Stephen Ministry		<b>10:45 am</b>	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
<b>Thurs. 14—</b>	4:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal			<b>Fellowship Breakfast</b>
	6:45 pm	Growing in Grace Together		3:00 pm	<b>Sunday Worship Service/ Fellowship Hall</b>
	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal		4:45 pm	Children's Church during worship
				5:30 pm	District Conference, Chapel Hill UMC
				6:30 pm	Children's Activity
					NO Youth Choir
					NO Children's Choir
					BreakAway Youth till 7:30 pm
					Informal Lighthouse Service



**MOTHER-DAUGHTER BANQUET**  
**FRIDAY, MAY 8**

Each year at Mother-Daughter Banquet, we honor those women who have guided us in faith and love,

This year's event is scheduled for Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. Come enjoy a delicious meal, inspiration and lots of fun

Menu : Baked Steak, Scalloped Potato, Spring Vegetables, Garden Salad, and Ice Cream Sundae!  
Suggested donation: \$6.00 / \$3.00 for children 9 and younger  
Call the church at 623-3397 to make your reservation to attend this year's banquet

For more information, contact Don Gardner

**"GRAND AGERS BANQUET"**

"Get out of those rocking chairs and come to the banquet!"

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27 at 6:00 p.m.  
70 years or older? This evening is for you!  
Great food – Great entertainment  
All at no charge for you – be our guests!

Plan now for the 2014 banquet by calling the church at 623-3397.



**SUMMER EVENING VESPERS**  
**June 17 — July 17**

Join us on the "seventeenths" for the 2015 series Evening Vespers

Covered-dish dinner at 6:00 p.m.  
Music at 7:00 p.m.  
Vespers from 7:30 to 8:00 p.m.



**BREAKING BREAD**  
**Sharing Faith — Sharing Food**

This Popular Series of Weekday Luncheon Gatherings  
Will Continue in 2015  
July 7th — July 14th — July 21st

We'll enjoy a prepared meal (\$5.00 each) in our fellowship hall beginning at 11:45 am on these Tuesdays. Following the meal, at 12:30 p.m., guest teachers will lead us in a 1/2 hour program.

WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION IN THE NEXT GRAPEVINE AND SUNDAYS' BULLETINS!

Questions? Contact Don Gardner at 623-3397 or dgardner55@yahoo.com



**COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE**

**JUST A REMINDER ...**



- Monday, May 4**  
6:00 pm SPRC Meeting
- Tuesday, May 12**  
5:15 pm Finance Committee Meeting
- Tuesday, May 19**  
5:00 pm Outreach Committee Meeting  
6:00 pm Council Council till 8:00 pm
- Wednesday, May 27**  
5:00 pm Trustees Meeting

PLEASE MAKE NOTE AND PLAN TO ATTEND.

**MAY GREETERS**

- 3** — narthex— Martin & Liz Pigg  
elevator - Elizabeth Layton
- 10**— narthex - Kim & Brian Floyd  
elevator—Patty & Scott Wilson
- 17** — narthex - Diane Davis  
elevator - Tammy & Randy Matheny
- 24**— narthex— Louise Kovach  
elevator - Janice Spicer
- 31**— narthex - Robert, Becky & Audra Skidmore  
elevator - Millie Lantz & Sharon Grega



**MAY USHERS**

Head Usher: Jim Turner  
Jim Turner, David Preston,  
Susan Wilmerink, Rick Squires



**MAY VAN DRIVER**

Phil Ferber

**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

**Happy Birthday to All!!**

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 05/01 Staclyn Evans    | 05/18 Lauran Kirk     |
| 05/01 Julia Lopez      | 05/18 Kristin Fornash |
| 05/01 Drew Blurton     | 05/19 Betty Tonkin    |
| 05/02 Jane Lyn Squires | 05/19 Cathy Wilson    |
| 05/02 Beth Skidmore    | 05/19 Shirley Corder  |
| 05/02 Brett Floyd      | 05/19 Ben Davisson    |
| 05/03 Amy Reinhart     | 05/19 Spencer Cox     |
| 05/03 Joyce Anderson   | 05/21 Betty Jackson   |
| 05/05 Jeremy Thomas    | 05/22 Robert Williams |
| 05/05 Patrick Fubio    | 05/23 Will Schindler  |
| 05/06 Patrick Moore    | 05/24 Laura Rodriguez |
| 05/07 Carter Allen     | 05/25 Betsy Turner    |
| 05/07 Thatcher Allen   | 05/25 Brandon Kroll   |
| 05/08 Rod Rogers       | 05/27 Curt Diaz       |
| 05/08 Katie Seybert    | 05/27 Shirley Murphy  |
| 05/09 Fred Seigrist    | 05/29 Mike Dyer       |
| 05/10 Tim Dyer         | 5/29 Susan Wilmerink  |
| 05/10 Tom Dyer         | 05/29 Jason Williams  |
| 05/10 Alex Richards    | 05/29 Hope Blackwell  |
| 05/11 Mary Demoss      | 05/29 Coleman Wait    |
| 05/11 Kolby Keister    | 05/30 Debbie Lear     |
| 05/12 Mike Cunningham  | 05/30 Kim Caruso      |
| 05/13 Bill Yoke        | 05/30 James Allen V   |
| 05/13 Suzanna          |                       |
| Goodyear               |                       |
| 05/13 Gary Mills       |                       |
| 05/13 Misty Tichenor   |                       |
| 05/13 Danielle Sexton  |                       |
| 05/13 Eric Phillips    |                       |
| 05/15 Elizabeth Baker  |                       |
| 05/15 Victoria Tayman  |                       |
| 05/16 Vince Patton     |                       |
| 05/17 Eric Lewis       |                       |
| 05/17 Ben Smith        |                       |

*If there are corrections or omissions, please accept our apologies, and let us know. Thank you*

**STEPHEN MINISTRY ... CARING MOMENTS**

**Help Is Here –**



“Having a Stephen Minister was a wonderful help to me. Just knowing there was someone to talk to who would listen helped me before we even talked. Then, each time we met, I was relieved to be able to say the things I was feeling to someone who was non-judgmental. Asking for this kind of help got me through a very stressful time. Thank you and God bless”.

That is a direct quote from a care receiver who was served by one of our church’s own Stephen Ministers. This same caring, confidential help is available to you, to your loved ones, to your friends, co-workers or neighbors just by picking up your telephone and contacting Rev. Nettles (304-517-8159) or Referral Coordinator Cheryl Moorhead (304-677-9859). **Help Is Here!**



**Voice from the Pew.....**

**Proverbs 22:6** *Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.*

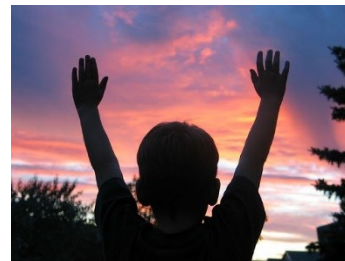
Prayer is how we communicate with God and I believe we should teach our children to have a relationship with God from an early age. Hearing my child talk to God and joyfully shout “praise Jesus!” brings me much delight. More importantly, God delights in this too.

Just as a bath and story are parts of what make up a bedtime routine saying a prayer together with the whole family should always be a priority. We need to teach our children to acknowledge and praise God in their everyday life.



**Here is a prayer that my 3 year old has been able to memorize:**

Now I lay me down to sleep.  
I pray the Lord my soul to keep.  
May angels watch me through the night  
And wake me in the morning light.  
In Jesus' name Amen  
PRAISE JESUS *(with a joyful lift of the hand to the heavens)*



Staff Meetings — every Wednesday @ 11:00 am  
NA Meetings — every Mon., Wed. & Thurs. @ 7:00 pm  
AA Meetings — every Mon., Tues., & Wed. @ 12 noon  
and Tues. at 7:30 pm  
All NA & AA meetings take place in the Library.

**Light and Life**

**MUSIC AND WORSHIP IN MAY**

**Sunday, May 3**

**A Service of Holy Communion**

On this first Sunday in May, as we observe the sacrament of communion, our various choirs will offer lots of music — with a little help from some guests!

Taking its cue from Rev. Nettles’ topics of healing and service, based upon Luke 4 and II Kings 5, HeartSong presents two pieces: “Let Your Healing Love” and “Your Faithful Love”.

Both of these songs are gentle selections, portraying musically the healing that comes from nurturing compassion. I especially like the prayerful appeal of the first song....

*Let your healing love fall over this place;  
Soothe the wounded soul.  
Let your healing love fall over this place;  
Make your people whole.*

During the distribution of the elements, a “Symphonic Fanfare” by Brahms, will wash over us as the bells play from the balcony. Also during the distribution, a couple young piano students of Elizabeth Etnoyer will play.

**Sunday, May 10**

“Everlasting Grace Is Yours”. You know that, don’t you? You know that God’s grace is yours for the receiving? Rev. Arthur Backus used to demonstrate God’s gifts of love and grace and mercy by tossing his set of keys to me. “Open your hand and catch them, Don. That’s what we have to do. Just catch them!” Thanks, Art.

HeartSong is back on this Sunday, too, with a fun gospel song, “Children of the Light”, featuring soloists Fred Spicer and Lorie Wyant.

(Oh, and happy mothers’ day! We’ll have a special gift this day for all the women in the congregation, given with appreciation & love)

**Sunday, May 17**

Come early to church this day. St. Francis will be here preaching to the birds. And to the rest of us, too!

Our children and youth choirs, aided by Fred Spicer, will present their delightful little musical about St. Francis for us, beginning at 10:30 a.m., prior to morning worship.

*Look not on the earth for riches,  
These things will not last;  
For you’ll find your treasure in heaven  
Where your inheritance is cast.  
Laudate mi signore!*

Francis is known for his compassion to all of God’s creation, including Brother Sun, Sister Moon, and, of course, his little friends, the birds.

During morning worship, the Chancel Choir continues the theme of praising God for the wonders of creation through the offertory song by British composer John Rutter, “All Things Bright and Beautiful, All Creatures Great and Small — the Lord God Made Them All.”

**Sunday, May 24**

Pentecost —the birthing day of the church, when God through the power of the Holy Spirit awakens us to love, praise, joy and service!

*Holy, holy, holy Lord God Almighty  
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory!  
We are standing on holy Ground.*

The Chancel Choir sings a medley celebrating the holy presence of our Lord God. And, to recognize this day’s theme, they also will sing a lively new song, “Send Us Your Spirit”.

**Sunday, May 31**

Fellowship Worship in our Dining Hall on this fifth Sunday in May. Anthem? From a gospel collection, the Chancel Choir will sing, “Tell Me the Stories of Jesus.” I think you’ll know it!

Blessings to you,  
Don Gardner



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**BASIC BELIEFS**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 12:00 TO 2:30 P.M.**

Your staff invites you to join them for a covered-dish lunch and an informal “Q & A” session about ... well, anything related to our church — its workings, its beliefs, its “creed”.

Don does this occasionally with the children’s choir, and gets some wonderful questions. Now it is your chance.

Details? Just ask!

**THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH WOMEN**

The **MAY** meeting will be held on  
**Thursday, May 21, at 12:00 p.m.**  
at **Minard's Restaurant.**  
Diane Davis will present the program.  
**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US!**

1001christianclipart.com



**SUNDAY MAY 10th**

**SUNDAY, MAY 31st**

Worship will be held in the  
Fellowship Hall at 10:45 a.m.  
Pot-luck Breakfast at 9:45 a.m.  
**EVERYONE IS INVITED!**

**CHANGE of "A - DRESS"**

**Lillie Colombo**  
c/o Camellia at Deerwood  
10061 Sweetwater Pkwy, Apt. 131  
Jacksonville, FL 32256  
904-924-6109

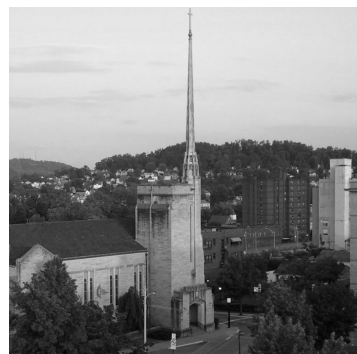


**Christine Strader**  
8708 Mourning Dove Rd.  
Raleigh, NC 27615-3207

**CHURCH COUNCIL**

**"FIRST CHURCH MINISTRY – VISIONS, GOALS, AND PLANS"**

**Tuesday, May 19th, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**



Our church council will gather for an extended dinner-meeting  
on this Tuesday in May  
to pray, to dream, to plan.  
Keep our Council and its representatives in your prayers  
as they seek to explore the mission and ministry of First Church - Clarksburg.

**A "Retirement Request" from Diana Shepard**

Former Senior Pastor Gary Shepard will be retiring from parish ministry this year.  
Diana invites you to send him a card or letter to let him know what his  
life and ministry may have meant to you. (Please don't tell Gary — this project is a secret!)  
Send items to:

**Diana Shepard      405 Capitol Street, Suite 402      Charleston WV 25301**

*"Thank you for what you have meant to us, and may God continue to bless you.      Diana"*

**OUTREACH INFORMATION**



**Outreach Meeting**

**May 26**  
**at 5:00 pm**

**THANKS to ALL** who helped  
out in any way with the spring  
rummage sale.

We made approximately  
**\$1,000.00!**  
**WOW!!**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!! ROBERT C. BYRD HIGH SCHOOL KIDS' MEAL PROJECT**

During the school year, several teachers & parents have been providing meals each weekend  
for students in need. These are kids whose only meals are at school.

A request from Liz Pigg (Martin Pigg is principal at RCB) came to our Outreach  
asking if we, FUMC, could help with this project.

We'll provide a small breakfast & lunch for 7 days throughout the summer for 10 - 15 kids from RCB.

We have helped with this project the past two years and had a tremendous response from you - our  
church members.

**Here are ways YOU can help.....**

**Food Donations – only following items (we are on strict menu)**

- Juice Boxes
- Cheese slices (indiv. wrapped)
- Cheese Stix (indiv. wrapped)
- Snack Packs (jello or pudding)
- Cereal Boxes

*Drop-off items at Volunteer Desk.*

*Large quantities can be bought economically at Sam's Club.*



**Monetary Donation** – Designate cash or checks to "Feed My Sheep – RCB Project"

*Send to or drop off at church OR place in offering plate*

**Time Donaton** - Sign up to organize for a week.