

MAY NEWSLETTER 2020

UMW MAKES FINANCIAL AWARDS

Our United Methodist Women have made their 2021 financial awards recently. Proceeds come from important fundraisers like the Christmas Tour of Homes and the Fall Rummage/Yard Sales. The following projects have been funded for this year:

The Parsonage Fund, \$300

The Pastor's Discretionary Fund, \$500

Community Snack Kits, \$300

Camp Guilrock, \$300

A Student in Uganda, \$300

Geoff Peoples, \$500

The Kitchen Renovation Project, \$2000.

We thank our UMW for their dedication to projects that make a significant difference in the life of both church and community (here and abroad). Their total support of \$4200 gives way to important mission and ministry!

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY OUTREACH CENTER

This month, we will have a special "drive" to collect canned goods for the Reidsville Outreach Center. Bins are located behind the big staircase in the Commons area of the church. Please bring things like

Tuna

Baked beans

Fruit

Pickles

Spam

Peanut butter

Thank you for your support.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FORUM CONTINUES THROUGH MAY

We will continue to meet in the fellowship/dining hall through the month of May for our Sunday School Forum. This month we begin by studying and talking through Max Lucado's book Jesus: the God Who Knows Your Name. If you have ever wondered whether or not God felt things like you feel things, you can be confident that God knows exactly what you are going through. God knows your daily struggles. Join with others in our Main Street Church community for conversations that can help you connect more significantly with God.

WORSHIP THROUGH THE SUMMER

As we continue into warmer months, and through what we hope is the “tail-end” of a global pandemic, we are continuing to be mindful of “best practices” for all who are involved—especially those who come in-person. We will continue to offer livestreaming each week. There are many who prefer being at home these days and we want to connect virtually. Additionally, we will continue to offer 2 services on Sunday through the summer months (at least). Our service times are 9a and 11a. We will move toward expanding worship practices in safe ways (ie: singing with masks on, etc...). For a few weeks, we will have our 9a worship service outside underneath and around the portico. You are invited to bring your lawn chair (we will also provide chairs) for the outside worship experiences. We continue to offer hand sanitizer at our entrances; masks are recommended (and provided).

THE CONGREGATION CONNECTS IN MAY—

Join us for some of these opportunities to connect with Main St. Church folks during the month of May:

- *All Church Zoom Call, May 3 @ 5p*
- *Meet Joe @ Sip Coffee, May 11 @ 3p*
- *Meet Joe @ Crave Nutrition, May 19 @ 4p*
- *Friends Luncheon on Tuesday, May 25 @ 1145a*

SIDEWALK EVENING PRAYER RETURNS

Starting May 6, we will have out Thursday SideWalk Evening Prayers at 545p on the front lawn of the church. Join us for this brief time of prayer, scripture reading and connecting with the community around us.

YOUTH BAKE SALE

Youth at Main Street will be having a Bake Sale on May 9 after the morning worship services (after both 9a and 11a services). Here is an opportunity to pick up your Mother’s Day bake sale items to share with your family on Mother’s Day. Proceeds from the bake sale will support children/youth ministries and other helping ministries of the church.

ASCENSION DAY TAIZE (& Lite Supper)

Join us for marking Ascension Day on May 13! We will gather for a “lite” supper at 615p in the fellowship/dining hall (catered) and then worship at 7p in our Sanctuary. This service will be modeled after the Community Taize’s “sung” service. This “feast” day is always an important step in the Easter Season and for moving toward the Festival of Pentecost. (sign up sheet available in the Commons area)

THE RETURN OF THE BARNYARD BASH

We are planning for another Barnyard Bash on May 15. Come out for hotdogs, inflatables, live animals and more! We’ll be starting the event around 11a and ending by 2p. Look for more information on our Facebook page, our website and through announcements/emails.

MAY COUNCIL MEETING—May 16 @ 6p**
Finance Committee meets the same night @ 530p***

BAPTISMS

Sundays in the Spring most suitable for receiving the Sacrament of Holy Baptism are Pentecost and Trinity. The dates for these occasions are May 23 and May 30. If you (or your child) wish to be baptized, please contact the pastor by calling the church as soon as possible.

PENTECOST IS MAY 23

Our Pentecost Celebration is May 23 at both the 9a and 11a worship services. We will have Pentecost Receptions after both services (in the dining/fellowship hall after the 9a and on the front lawn after the 11a service). Wear Red! This is a day to show your “true colors” in terms of your support for the Church’s Birthday Anniversary. On this occasion, we will celebrate, most suitably, in a service of Holy Eucharist.

CENTERING & INTERCESSORY PRAYER TAKES HIATUS

We will take a brief “break” from weekly Centering & Intercessory Prayer on Tuesdays after May 25. We will re-connect through this weekly practice with one another and with God as September approaches/begins.

PLAYSCHOOL LAST DAYS

The last day for our Playschool program for 2020-21 is May 27. On May 25, we will be having a “graduation” ceremony for those who are graduating from our program at Main Street. Of course, all of our children and their families will be invited to attend. This year, we will meet for the ceremony at 6p in our fellowship hall. After the program inside, we will adjourn outside for a hotdog cookout. We will need volunteers to help with food preparation and set up. Please contact the church’s office if you can help. If any of our church members wish to attend, sign up in advance is absolutely necessary. Sign up in the Commons area.

TRINITY SUNDAY & MEMORIAL DAY SUNDAY

On May 30, we will honor, first, Trinity Sunday. Trinity Sunday is a Sunday that ranks on the church calendar as a day to acknowledge how God is revealed as a Divine Parent, Redeemer, and Sustainer throughout the cosmos. That God is revealed in this perfect form of unity and love is an indication that we, too, are to model, in our language and in our actions, unity and love. This is also the day before Memorial Day—a national holiday in the life of our country. We will incorporate, in our worship, some sign acts of honoring those who have valiantly given their lives for their country. Join us for this service (9a and 11a).

GRADUATION SUNDAY

Graduation Sunday is set for June 6 at Main Street. We are still planning for this service and a special luncheon to follow. Please begin to think about your own family members (or yourself) graduating. We would like to have some general information such as where they are graduating from, accomplishments while in school, majors/minors, next steps (more school? job?). Please forward this information to Joe Tarpley or to the church office. As we plan for the Graduation meal, you will need to RSVP your plans to attend. A Sign Up sheet will be available in the Commons area. Anyone may come to the Graduation Luncheon (you do not have to be a graduate or a family member of a graduate...ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND).

SUMMER TIME AT CAMP GUILROCK

Day Camp is happening at Camp Guilrock this summer for campers who have completed Kindergarten through completion of 5th grade. There will be 10 weeks of camp starting June 7 (through the week of August 9). Scholarships for the camp experience are still available. Registration and scholarship information can be found at campguilrock.org/summer. Camp Guilrock is also looking for a summer team of counselors. Counselors should be 16 years or older and willing to work the full summer. Staff applications can be found at campguilrock.org/employment.

LEMONADE ON THE LAWN SUMMER DATES

This summer we will have several "Lemonade on the Lawn" opportunities after the 11a worship service (on the front lawn of the church). The dates are June 20, July 11, and August 8. Stay around after worship, enjoy some lemonade and visit, briefly, with your church family.

A PRAYER FOR THE PARISH

"Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." (BCP, 817)

SOUP KITCHEN UPDATES

Thanks to the Faithbuilders Sunday School Class for serving at the Soup Kitchen on Sunday, April 11. The next time we serve is June 13. The Dean Craddock Class will be serving the lunch in June. Contact the church's office if you wish to help or to learn more about the work at the Soup Kitchen.

OCCASIONAL SERVICES FOR HEALING

We want to re-introduce occasional services of healing on Sunday mornings. On June 27 at both our 9a and 11a services, we will provide for special times of prayer for healing. On this Sunday, we will explore the "force of touch" (Mark 5:21-43) at our worship services that day.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS COMING!

August 8-10 are the dates for our Vacation Bible School 2021. We will do a “blend” of inside and outside VBS this summer (striving to maintain safety for any who come and participate). This year’s theme is “Rocky Railway: Jesus’ Power Pulls Us Through.” Join us for VBS. Pre-registration is necessary in terms of our preparation. We will begin to have planning meetings for VBS soon. Watch your email and listen for announcements on how you can volunteer.

HVAC UPDATES FOR MAIN STREET

The HVAC project for Main Street UMC is underway, and we are making great progress. We have decided to install the new system in the sanctuary first. We have already removed the old cooling tower from the area between the sanctuary and the AT&T building and the old air handler from the basement under the sanctuary. The new air conditioning compressors have been set between the sanctuary and the AT&T building and the new air handlers under the sanctuary will be completed by the end of this week. The remainder of the installation in the sanctuary should be completed by next week and the only thing to be done for completion will be the electrical work. There are two gas packs for heat that are only two years old and they should last an easy 35 years more. Once the sanctuary is complete, we will move to the fellowship/dining hall. We have removed the cinder block wall in the former music storage area on the second floor of the dining/fellowship hall/education building to make room for the new air handler unit. The music was moved to a classroom temporarily until the project is complete. We are installing two new air handler units in the building and two new air conditioning compressors on the roof. The old colling tower has already been removed from the roof. This latter building has a heating boiler that was installed five years ago and should last another 35 years. The entire project should be completed by the second week of May. The total cost of both projects is projected to be at \$86,000. This should pout the church in very good shape with regards to building maintenance since the roof on the sanctuary is 7 years old, the roof on the other building is 5 years, and we will have new heating and air conditioning in both the sanctuary and the fellowship/dining hall/education building. If anyone wishes to make any financial contribution toward this significant project, please mark your checks/envelopes “heating and air conditioning.”

A NEW INTERN APPOINTED TO MAIN STREET

Currently, we expect to be receiving a seminarian intern for May 30 through the first of August. His duties will be general ministry duties and is coming to us from Duke University/The Divinity School. Watch your newsletters/Sunday announcements and email for more details. A “welcome” reception will be held to meet/greet the new seminarian. His work among us will be a blend of virtual and in person.

THANKS FOR GIFTS FOR A DEFIBRILLATOR

We have received some monies for a defibrillator in the past month. We are still looking for several hundred dollars more to be in a position to purchase and place a defibrillator in our church. If you wish to make a contribution toward this purchase, please mark you checks/envelopes “defibrillator.”

THE FEAST OF PENTECOST

We celebrate Pentecost on May 23. This is considered the birthday of the Church. Images that we associate with this feast day are tongues of fire, speaking in different languages, the rush of a mighty wind.

This occasion calls us to reflect on the promises of Easter and resurrection. Jesus promises us in the gospels that he will send another, a comforter, an advocate. As Jesus sends his Spirit to empower us, likewise we are called and sent out to witness to God's love to a needy world.

It is through the power of the Holy Spirit that we are able to believe and to spread Jesus' teachings. The promises of our Lord are brought to fruition by the gift of the Spirit at Pentecost. Indeed, we are able to love God and others because of the love given to us by that same God and through the gift of the Spirit who "guides us into all truth." Filled with the Spirit's gifts for loving and for making peace, we are enabled to keep Jesus' commandments. This is the good news of Pentecost.

Blessings be yours at Pentecost this year! Joe

NURSERY SCHEDULE

Our nursery is available on Sundays at both our 9a and 11a worship services. We will not have a nursery available on May 9. If you are comfortable bringing your children to the nursery, please feel free to do so. We ask that all parents/grandparents make sure their children have normal temperatures and have not been around anyone sick in the days leading up to a Sunday. Also, please see that your child uses hand sanitizer upon entering the nursery and leaving the nursery. Other suggested regulations are posted.

MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES AT MAIN STREET

- *Come for the Outside Concert on May 23 at 5p... featuring King's Cadence! The music will be great and you'll be richly blessed!*
- *We are launching a Summer Music Camp July 5-8 from 1-4p. Registration forms are forthcoming. Contact the church's office if you plan (or plan for your child) to participate.*

MAIN STREET IS HIRING

We are interested in sponsoring another READING CAMP this coming Summer (very much like the one we hosted last year during July). We are looking to hire at least 2 persons to work the half day program. If you are interested for this 3 week period of assisting young people (Grades K-3) with retaining reading skills, please contact the church's office (ask for Joe) as soon as possible.