

# Morris

# MEMORIAL

MAY 2022

## **Where Has the Time Gone?**

Welcome to the month of May! It seems like the first half of the year has come and gone at a pace greater than a flash of lightning across the sky. There were so many things I had planned to accomplish or change this year, but time has once again escaped me.

How about you? At the beginning of the year were there things that you were going to do different this year? Did you tell yourself that you were going to be a more devout disciple this year, only to find yourself wondering where the time has gone? If you feel this way, I am pretty sure you aren't alone. So why not get started today?

Now is the time to deepen your faith in God. You are the only one who can decide to be a better disciple of Christ. By being more devout in the practice of your spiritual disciplines, you will find yourself growing closer to God through Christ Jesus. It is true that this journey will not be blissful the entire time, because there are times the refining heat of God's Holy Spirit can be challenging to the way you want to live your life. But as we all should know, the way we want to live our lives and the way God created us to live our lives are two different things.

I encourage you to continue on your faith journey each day by being devout in your spiritual disciplines. I am here to support you in any way I can, and I'm sure you will support me as well. Let each of us continue the race that is before and pray that we never grow wary until the race is finished.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Mondays:	9:30 a.m.	Nurture in Action
Wednesdays:	10:00 a.m.	MEC Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study
Sundays:	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
	2:00 p.m.	Youth

- May 2 – MEC Board 6:30 p.m.
- May 3 – Church Council 6:30 p.m.
- May 10 - Trustees 6:30 p.m.
- May 19 – MEC Pre-K Graduation 7:30 p.m.
- May 24 – PPRC 6:30 p.m.

## MAY CELEBRATIONS

### *Birthdays:*

Felicia Dobbins	May 1	Greg Eads	May 18
Josh Terpening	May 1	Robert Wade	May 24
Judy Darr	May 2	Donna Stover	May 27
Jennifer Hicks	May 3	Debby White	May 27
Mary Jo Nichols	May 4	Terry Terpening	May 27
Rebecca Slack	May 6	Doris Morris	May 28
Phyllis Howell	May 8	Donna Arbogast	May 31
Robert Legg	May 10	Ricky Turley	May 31

### *Anniversaries:*

Phyllis & Bob Howell	May 10	Georgeanne & David Leake	May 26
Tony & Kimberly Hess	May 15	Carolyn & Jerry Ballard	May 27
Bruce & Judy Reed	May 19		

# Liturgist Schedule

If for any reason you cannot be present on your scheduled Sunday or for a scheduled special service, please contact another liturgist and switch dates with them. If you are unable to find a replacement, please notify Ann at 304-549-6244. Please also contact Ann if you would like to be added to this list.

Thank you so much for your willingness to serve as a liturgist.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Telephone Number</b>
May 1	Jim Kautz	304-345-3940
May 8	David Byrd	304-744-6129
May 15	Carolyn Ballard	304-925-1866
May 22	Mary Collins	304-925-9002
May 29	Ryan Anderson	304-395-2007
June 5	Barney Frazier	304-926-8316
June 12	Candice Anderson	304-395-2008
June 19	Pam Higgs	304-859-4299
June 26	Jackie Frazier	304-926-8316
July 3	Kendall Anderson	304-395-2008
July 10	Barbara Francisco	303-919-2071
July 17	Terry Terpening	304-437-0649
July 24	Georgeanne Leake	304-744-8124
July 31	Rick Johnson	304-988-1902
August 7	Jim Caudill	304-421-5592
August 14	Chris Terpening	304-437-0649
August 21	Scott Bellamy	681-265-3225
August 28	Gloriann Caudill	304-421-5592
September 4	Deborah Burdett	304-925-3632
September 11	Robert Stigall	304-549-7392
September 18	Terry Terpening	304-437-0649
September 25	Carolyn Ballard	304-925-1866

October 2	Chris Terpening	304-926-8831
October 9	Bill Vieweg	304-549-6155
October 16	Susan Vieweg	304-549-6155
October 23	Jackie Frazier	304-926-8316
October 30	David Byrd	304-744-6129
November 6	Mary Collins	304-925-9002
November 13	Ryan Anderson	304-395-2007
November 20	Barney Frazier	304-926-8316
November 27	Candice Anderson	304-395-2008
December 4	Pam Higgs	304-859-4299
December 11	Jim Kautz	304-389-3083
December 18	Jackie Frazier	304-926-8316
December 24	David Byrd	304-744-6129
December 25	Carolyn Ballard	304-925-1866

## **Financial Update**

Needed monthly to meet our 2022 budget:	\$33,681
Received Year to Date (January 1-April 30):	\$119,472
Expenses Year to Dates (January 1-April 30):	\$112,927

Thank you for your dedicated tithes and offerings to Morris Memorial.  
Your gifts are deeply appreciated.

*Dear Church family,*

*We would like to thank you for your prayers, cards, and kind words in the passing of my mother, Helen Singleton. We greatly appreciate the basket from the Nurture in Action Team and all of their faithful cards and gifts to my mother.*

*With much love, Jim and Ann Kautz*

# NURTURE “N’ ACTION UPDATE

The Nurture ‘N’ Action team meets each Monday at 10:00 in the library. We are so blessed to tell you our team provides everything, without using any money from the Church Budget, except the occasional roll of stamps. Luckily those are usually provided by others in the church or team members. We have become closer as brothers and sisters in Christ by working on this very loving mission of our church. Here are our current activities:

1. Maintain our prayer list and update as needed. Teddi emails the list each week. If you have a prayer need during the week, let Teddi or a team member know. There is no longer a call-in prayer chain.
2. Deliver 24 lunch bags to Charleston General’s ICU Waiting Room for families who need food day or night. Monthly before Covid.
3. Maintain 6 lunch bags in the church volunteer office. Monthly (as needed) before Covid, but we do watch those closely.
4. Bread delivery and welcoming e-mails or cards sent to first time visitors.
5. 24 Cards are sent monthly to our shut-ins and others who need “a special personal touch.” Sometimes folks just need to know the church cares whatever the circumstances. If someone in the church would like us to send a card to a loved one or friend, please provide us the name and address. We do not confine ourselves to those inside the church. Recently we sent a card to someone outside of the church who shared they had never received a card, and they were so happy. This person framed the card because it was so meaningful.
6. Special cards and small gifts are delivered to the shut-ins at Christmas.
7. Follow up on members who “go missing” for several Sundays, which may include a card or phone call.
8. Cards to others as needed i.e. sympathy, surgery, etc.
9. When there is a need that we can address, we do so as a team.
10. Bereavement baskets are prepared when there is a death in our church family.

TEAM MEMBERS: Carolyn Ballard, Cathy Brown, Mickie Bowles, Deborah Burdett, Marie Cole, Mary & Bill Collins, Judy Darr, Doris Morris, Karen Smith, and Teddi Smith

## **Common Grounds News and Needs**

As with many businesses, Common Grounds has had some challenges due to two plus years of COVID. Interestingly enough, we are not seeing many homeless people nowadays; yet it's a time we're seeing many more homeless on our streets in downtown Charleston. Our actual numbers of people other than the homeless have been fluctuating but are on the rise again, for which we are very thankful. We are so eager to help those in need in our community.

With the jump in the cost of utility bills, we find those services at Common Grounds in greater demand. Whether it be requests for food or for utility assistance, the less fortunate in our community are in need. The utility assistance we provide is limited as we only help a family once a year and then up to \$200.00. We do try to help in a crisis. Persons asking for utility help must meet our criteria of residency in Eastern Kanawha County, have a limited monthly income, and the utility request must be for a termination notice. If they are deemed eligible (and if we still have budgeted utility assistance money remaining for that month) Common Grounds will pledge up to \$200 toward that bill; however, we will not pay that bill until the person has been able to secure pledges (including what they personally can pay toward the entire bill). We will refer them to other agencies which might be able to help them and will wait for them to contact us with the other pledges they've secured. Once the bill is covered, we will pay our pledged part of their bill. Please know that we work at being stewards of what we have been given.

We are probably facing another hurdle with the increase in gas prices. Our families can come from as far away as Montgomery, quite a distance, and therefore a substantial cost for gasoline to get to Common Grounds and back. Time will tell. In addition to our regular food boxes this past month we have also offered our families pancake mix and syrup. Our special of the month has been a dozen eggs and sausage or bacon, their choice. This has been quite popular!

Thanks to all of you who are willing to share what you have with our needy neighbors. Your donations are invaluable, whether they be food, money, volunteer time.....or prayers. Without your help, we could not do this important work for the Lord. This month will you please help us out by bringing CANNED BAKED BEANS, CANNED FRUITS, AND/OR BOXED MACARONI AND CHEESE. We'd be so grateful!



If you are interested in learning more about Common Grounds, have comments to share, or would like to volunteer here, please contact Susan Vieweg, our Morris' Mission Team's Common Grounds Coordinator, at (304) 344-2617.



## Morris Enrichment News

The Morris Enrichment Center is developing and being blessed in so many ways! And in being blessed they share their gifts and joys with you, the members of Morris Memorial. In the past when things didn't appear bright for MEC, you stepped up and helped them to get on their feet again. Since then, MEC has paid off that gift from you and found ways to help the church in unique ways.

Previously, we've mentioned that all the paper products used here at the church are paid for by MEC. Asbestos, worn-out flooring, and kitchen appliances have been removed, repaired and replaced. Part of the insurance of the building is paid by MEC as well. The playground was improved and fencing was also added for safety.

What's coming? A washer and dryer, new security cameras, and new tables and chairs in the library and an adult classroom are some of the gifts from MEC and the grants they have received. Some of the staff have even contributed skills to repair plumbing at no cost to the church.

Congratulations are due! Michelle Hudnall, a Pre-K assistant teacher, has completed her coursework through the Department of Labor. This achievement is the equivalent of an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education. She now is beginning the next step to earning her bachelor's degree. Angela Oldham, a parent representative on the MEC Board, and her family joined the church on Easter Sunday. Her two sons, Nash and Easton, were baptized that day as well.



We had a special graduation for one of our Pre-K students who was going to be out of the country at the May 19<sup>th</sup> ceremony. It was important for the student, his family and the staff that he not miss the event! You are all cordially invited to attend the MEC Pre-K Graduation on May 19<sup>th</sup>. The ceremony begins at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.