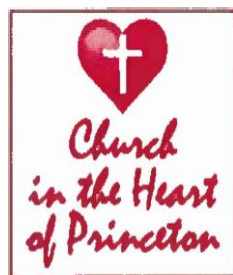


## THE REMARKER JULY - SEPTEMBER



The next edition of The Remarker is scheduled to go out July 1<sup>st</sup>. Articles for that issue will be due no later than Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup>. As a reminder The Remarker will still be published quarterly. It will go out January, April, July, and October. Please submit articles (**preferable in Word format**) via email to [fumcprinceton@gmail.com](mailto:fumcprinceton@gmail.com) or you may bring information to the church office.



100 Center Street/PO Box 304  
Princeton, WV 24740  
(304)425-2283  
[fumcprinceton@gmail.com](mailto:fumcprinceton@gmail.com)  
[princetonfumc.org](http://princetonfumc.org)  
Sunday School – 9:30 AM  
Sunday Worship – 10:50 AM

### Home Again—and Full of Hope!

After several years away studying in Kentucky, it feels *so good* to be back in the heart of Princeton. I recently completed my Master of Divinity at Asbury Theological Seminary, and now I find myself stepping into this new season with excitement, vision, and a deep sense of gratitude. Returning home to serve the community that first planted seeds of faith in my heart is a dream come true.

There's something special about Princeton—the people, the stories, the way faith is passed down generation to generation. And now, I have the incredible joy of walking alongside our kids and teens as they grow in faith, ask big questions, and discover what it means to follow Jesus in today's world.

Our children's and youth ministries are more than programs—they're spaces of belonging, laughter, learning, and transformation. I'm looking forward to building ministries that are fun, faith-filled, and firmly rooted in God's Word. From Vacation Bible School and Sunday School to movie nights, service projects, and meaningful conversations over pizza—there's so much ahead!

I can't wait to get to know each family, partner with parents and volunteers, and invest in the spiritual lives of the next generation. The heartbeat of this ministry is simple: love God, love others, and grow together.

It's an honor to be here. Let's build something beautiful together.

Kalin Folden



## Our Mission and Vision

An oft partially-quoted Bible verse among church leadership is Proverbs 29:18a which states in the KJV, “Where there is no vision, the people perish . . .” The second part of the verse, which is almost always neglected is “But he that keepeth the law, happy is he.” A really good modern translation of this verse comes from the NLT (New Living Translation) where it says, “When people do not accept divine guidance, they run wild, but whoever obeys the law is joyful.”

What I like about the NLT translation is that it gets at the true meaning of the passage in a way that the KJV no longer does. I’m sure the KJV rendering of this verse was a good translation four hundred years ago when it was originally written. However, what English words meant in 1611 England do not always carry the same meaning in 2025 America, hence the need for updated translations. Where the KJV has “vision”, the original Hebrew is clearly alluding to something that comes from the divine. This is not a vision that **we cast**, but one that **we receive** from God. It’s not something that we come up with and develop on our own, but something that is given to us from God. That’s why I love the NLT way of translating the verse, saying, “When people do not accept divine guidance, they run wild.” The vision spoken of in the verse is of the divine guidance that God gives if only we will receive it. And if we do not receive it, we tend to run wild and do our own thing all to our own demise.

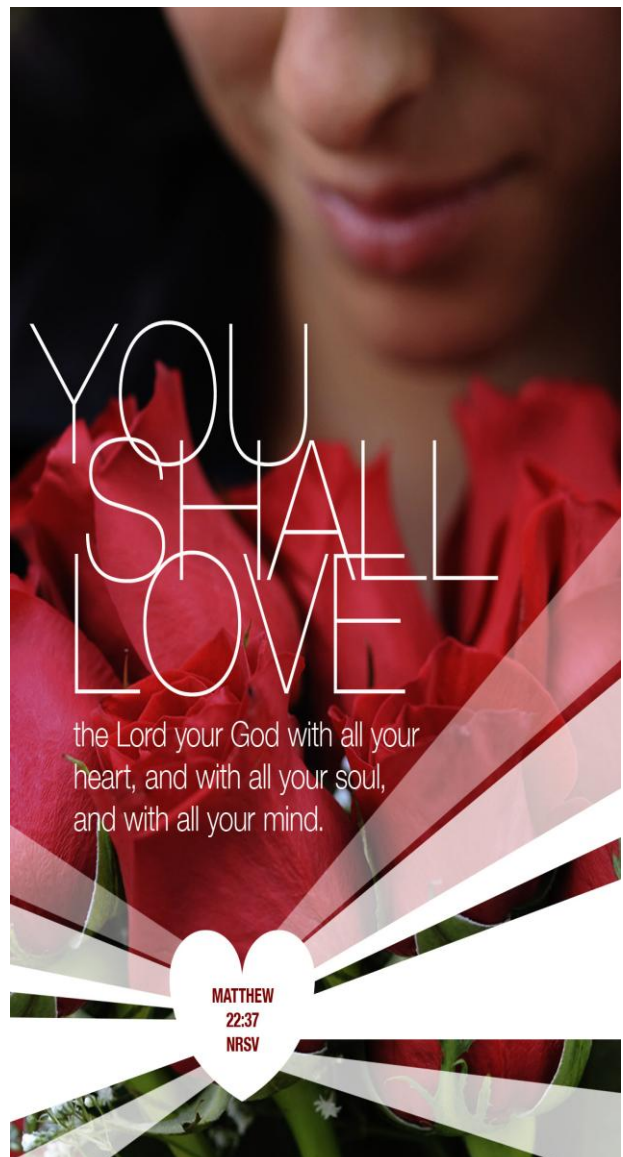
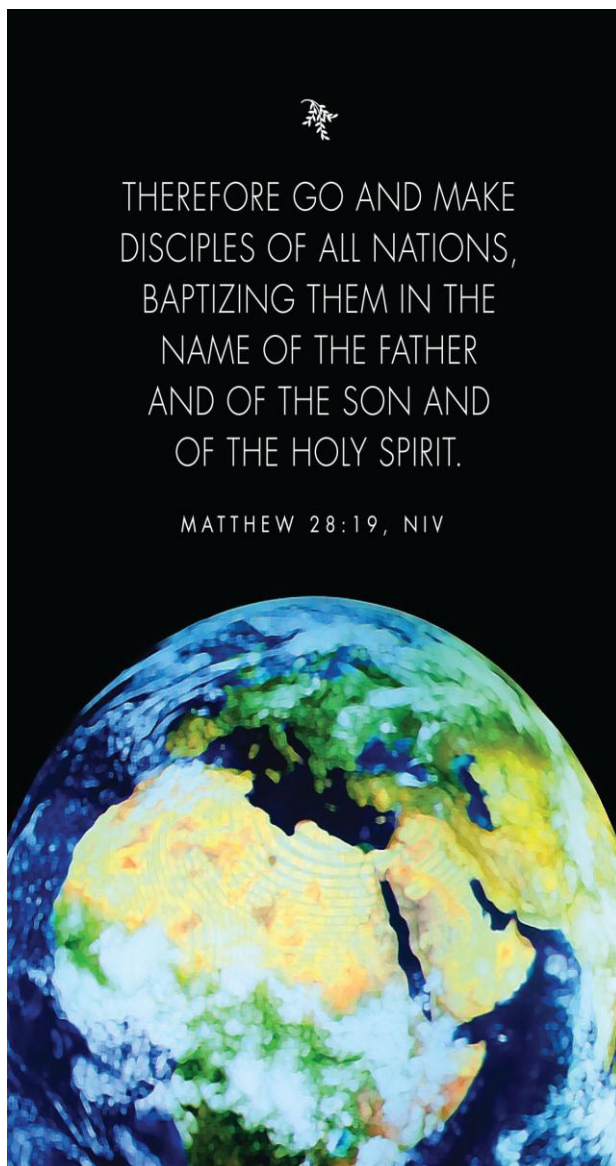
But how does God reveal to us his vision (a.k.a. divine guidance)? The answer is found in the second part of the verse—by keeping the law. The law of God reveals the vision of God. God’s law reveals God’s character. When we follow God’s law, we reflect the character of God and truly show ourselves to be made in God’s image. If we want to hear from God and know God and receive from God, we must know his word and keep it. The best part is that those who keep God’s law find themselves to be happy, for they are living in the center of God’s will and presence, being who God intended for them to be. Where can one find greater happiness and peace?

The vision I have for our church is for us to know God’s peace. We must know this peace in relation to God, in relation to ourselves, in relation to others, and in relation to all creation. I envision what it would be like if we were able to fully live into this as individuals and as a church body. It would be utterly transformational. But it would not come easy. It requires us to be fully submissive to God, to live according to God’s ways and not our own. It requires taking up our cross and following Jesus, embracing his suffering for ourselves. In God’s economy, where the first shall be last and the last shall be first, we only experience the peace of God once we have learned to suffer with God.

I find the experiencing of God’s peace to be the overarching narrative to which all of scripture, from Genesis to Revelation, is pointing us. God’s peace enables us to carry out both the Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20) and the Great Commandment (Matthew 22:37-40), two passages that are often at the heart of church mission and vision statements. As I said above, God’s peace doesn’t come to us without conflict. But God’s peace will bring within us an inner peace that assures us that we have been made whole in Christ no matter what suffering may come our way.

I still haven't figured out how to verbalize all of this in catchy mission statements and vision statements that can be put on banners, posters, bumper stickers, and whatnot for the local church to rally around. Perhaps I never will. But what I have figured out is that God has come to us in the Prince of Peace that the peace we had at creation and was compromised by the Fall may be restored in us now and forevermore. God's desire is for all creation to know his peace. I pray that we as individuals and as a church will know the wholeness that God intends for us all to know through peace with God, peace with ourselves, peace with others, and peace with all God's creation. "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those one whom his favor rests" (Luke 2:14).

Shalom,  
Pastor Michael Rexroad





## Church family at First United Methodist Church,

I personally want to thank you for the opportunity to lead and mentor the young people of this church for the past 8 years. It has been an incredible journey, and I plan on taking the lessons I have learned with me. You trusted me to build a youth program and to continue the amazing reputation of the Upward Sports ministry and I will forever be grateful for that.

I also want to thank you for being such a wonderful support system to our family. From day one, you took us in and made us feel like this was home. I want to thank you for all the love, support and prayers that our family has received. You lifted us up in the scariest of times and helped us celebrate the many joys and milestones we have experienced here as well.

FUMC will always hold a special place in our hearts. We love every one of you. We also look forward to what God has planned for the future of FUMC and how we can continue to ministry to this community together.

In Christ's Love

Brandon, BJ, Milo & Ezra Roland





This summer, we're heading to **Camp Firelight: A Summer Camp Adventure with God!** Based on Psalm 56:3 — *"Whenever I'm afraid, I put my trust in You"* — this unforgettable four-day experience is designed just for kids **Pre-K through 5th grade** who are ready to grow in faith, friendship, and fun!

From **July 27–30**, your child will join other young campers for an exciting journey through Bible stories, worship, games, crafts, music, and more—all in a camp-themed setting that brings the outdoors *in* and God's Word *alive*. Each day, kids will explore how to face their fears, trust God no matter what, and discover that they are never alone—because God is our Light, our Guide, and our Protector.

Whether it's singing around a pretend campfire, racing through a faith-filled obstacle course, or creating crafts that connect to Scripture, **Camp Firelight** is more than just Vacation Bible School—it's an adventure where kids will make memories, grow in courage, and experience the love of Jesus in every moment.

So grab your gear, invite your friends, and get ready to blaze a trail of trust this summer. We can't wait to welcome your camper to **Camp Firelight**, where faith shines bright—even when the path gets dark! **Register now at** <https://forms.gle/3iXPYXo2HDMhsMBL8>.





# Summer Calendar

2025

First United Methodist

Princetonfumc.org

## JULY

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## AUGUST

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

### Correction

July 2, Pool Party, Splish Splash, come take a dive with us! 7 PM- 9 PM, Boulder Park Pool.

**1 Amy's House of Hope**  
Volunteer in our Community  
Join us to make a difference!  
4pm - 6pm | Youth room

**19 Car Wash**  
Soap. Rinse. Repeat.  
Raise Money for HEGF  
10am - 3pm | ROBO/Autozone

**23 Putt-Putt Golf**  
Holy-Hole in One  
Dino Putt-Putt & Ice Cream to Follow  
6pm - 7:30pm | Reel Catch/DQ

**2 Dollywood**  
Youth Roadtrip  
Make sure to join us!  
7am - 9pm | gatlingsburg, TN

**5 Amy's House of Hope**  
Volunteer in our Community  
Join us to make a difference!  
4pm - 6pm | Youth room

**13 Back to School Event**  
All Church Event  
More Details to Come!  
3pm - 5pm | TBD

### Weekly Events:

Sunday Evening Bible Study  
Come learn about God's Word!  
Weekly 4pm - 5:30 pm | Youth room

Thursday Night Open Gym  
Basketball, Volleyball, Pickleball, etc.  
Weekly 7pm - 9 pm | Gymnasium



*Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!!!* The wonderful folks on our Visitation Ministry listing wish to express their appreciation for the letters, cards, and gifts you share with them throughout the year, whether it be through the Letters of Love in February or the Harvest of Love in the fall, the cards you send on special occasions such as birthdays and anniversaries, or cards and notes sent for holidays throughout the year... they mean so much. They also enjoy visits anytime and, more recently, they are feeling blessed that the communion table has been extended to the "unwillingly absent". This ministry, currently made up of four teams, enables those who cannot be physically present to receive communion on the same schedule as those attending worship. In addition, they are able to get to know, and enjoy visiting with, the team members who bring communion to them. This ministry is a blessing to team members as well... there are so many stories to share and memories to recall... It is a wonderful way to share community!



Anyone who would like to participate in this ministry of visitation, or receive a list of names, may contact me at 304.888.3008. Cards may be sent, and phone calls may be made at any time. Visits are welcome, and you will find this to be very rewarding! Several of our folks enjoy reading, so it is possible you may find you share a common interest in certain books and authors. Like everyone else, cards celebrating special events bring much happiness to our visitation folks. Remember... a little thoughtfulness can fill a heart in amazing proportions!

Listed below are celebrations for the months of June, July and August.

**Victoria Horton**  
Minister of Visitation

### *Birthdays:*

July 06 – Ethel McColgan (92)  
August 06 – Nancy Jones (90)  
August 15 – Louie Weikle  
September 11 – Miranda Stutler  
September 22 – June Griffith (98)  
September 30 – Russell Crump



### *Anniversaries:*

July 19 – Gail and Jim Burks

### *In Memory:*

Mrs. Mary Helen Coulter - April 25, 1944 – May 27, 2025







A hymn, written by Luther B. Bridgers in 1910, begins with the words "There's within my heart a melody...", and the refrain ends with, "...keeps me singing as I go." Ellen Knight is the personification of that wonderful hymn, for she has kept folks singing wherever she goes for a long time... at home, in schools, in Sunday School and worship, and at the Havens, where she currently resides.

Have you ever wondered how often a musician raises her arms to direct a choir or sits at a piano to accompany a group or soloist... or even to play for the joy of it? I believe this has been such a part of Ellen's life that she lost track of those numbers long ago! Ellen Mae Maples was born in Beckley, WV on February 7, 1933, the elder daughter of Cecil W. and Kata Maples. She grew up in Beckley and graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School. Because of her love of music, she attended Concord [College] University and graduated with a major in music. She began her teaching career at Mount Hope, beginning in the fall following graduation from Concord. During the summer after graduation, Ellen worked in the drafting department at Appalachian, a business in Beckley at the time.

As often happens, she met a guy while attending college... Invited to a dance at the college by not one, but two young men, she had to make a choice. After careful consideration, she chose to attend the dance with David Knight... and the rest, as they say, is history! She and David dated while he finished his studies at Concord and were married in December of 1956. They reared a family of three children... Terry, Tamara (Tammy), and Christopher (Chris). That core family has grown to include nearly 45 grandchildren and great-grandchildren, including those adopted into the family. What a legacy! Ellen proudly declares that her greatest joy is her children and all her grandchildren! She is most blessed!!

Upon completing classes at Concord, David attended WVU pursuing a degree in law. After moving to Morgantown, Ellen concentrated on child rearing and put teaching in public schools on hold for a while. She remembers that at David's graduation she and Terry were seated high in the auditorium. As a soprano presented special music during the program, Terry, to the great delight of those around them, joined her! (Everybody needs a little help now and then!!!) Following David's graduation, the young family moved to Bristol... Virginia and Tennessee, where David had taken a job with an insurance company. It was not too long until they returned to the Princeton area where David became established in his law practice, and Ellen returned to teaching. She began her tenure at Oakvale in Mercer County, teaching music to students in grades... Kindergarten through twelfth grade. While she was on medical leave during that tenure, Mr. Roni, the principal of Glenwood Elementary School, contacted her to say a job opening had become available in his school. Having taught at Oakvale for 8 or 9 years, she was hesitant to leave but decided to accept Mr. Roni's offer. She remembers the adjustments she had to make as she changed from one school to the other... Oakvale was a small school with only a few students per class. Glenwood seemed like a much larger setting with a greater number of students per class, as well as a much larger total enrollment. Being the resilient person she is, she soon found herself feeling right at home, and continued teaching there until her retirement.

Ellen and David became members of First United Methodist Church – Princeton in 1962. She and her family were right at home there, too, becoming involved in music programs and the handbell choirs, Sunday School classes, drama, and meeting folks who would become life-long friends. Due to health and



---

mobility issues, Ellen is unable to attend worship in person now; however, she seldom misses a Sunday as she is present electronically! She is most grateful for our livestream option and for the fact that the church is now extending communion to our unwillingly absent folks. The community this ministry provides is truly a blessing to Ellen, and to other members, who dearly miss being part of the congregation.

Ellen fondly remembered several vacations the family shared. One was a special vacation they took across the country. They loaded everyone into the station wagon, and it was westward ho! Chris was quite young at this time, but she recollects what a wonderful time they had...she is caring for Chris while David, Terry and Tammy explored. She recalled the many sights they saw, the parks and recreation areas they visited, the adventures they experienced, and the joy that highlighted the trip. She also recounted another trip... one that was more difficult but proved to be quite therapeutic for her. David was to attend a meeting in Las Vegas prior to his tenure to judgeship and Ellen was to accompany him. This trip was made while Chris was just a baby and while Ellen was reeling from the unexpected loss of her father. Only she and David made this trip, which allowed her time to mourn and regroup. Despite the pain of this memory, she recalled how thankful she was for the therapy the trip provided her, and how thrilled her sister, Celia, was to be able to babysit Chris and his older siblings! Ellen also cherishes memories of a trip she and David made to New York when David retired. They were gifted tickets to the theatre on Broadway, an apt gift for a couple who were so attuned to music and drama!

Perhaps you recall the big house on KB Lane that was home to the Knight family for many years? They moved into this house just prior to Christopher's birth in 1971. It was to this house that their children and grandchildren returned home. As large as this big ole house was, it was filled to the rooftop with wonderful memories... for family and friends alike.

As happens to most of us, age creeps in and causes us to make changes in our lives. Failing health and limited mobility played the same trick on Ellen and David. In August of 2020, they moved to The Havens. Despite arthritis and failing eyesight, Ellen -- sometimes wearing two pairs of glasses -- continued playing piano for music sessions and special programs for as long as she possibly could. It is amazing to think of all the hearts Ellen has touched with her music over the years! What a beautiful gift, such dedication, and what a wonderful blessing as well.

Besides music, Ellen enjoyed collecting "old" dishes that had been passed down thru the years, especially dishes from the kitchens of her mother and grandmothers. They were filled with great sentimental value. When she was not involved in music, Ellen's hobby was crocheting. She is proud of the fact that each grandchild and great-grandchild have a blanket made by their Nana. David asked her once if she thought the grandchildren appreciated all the labor and love that went into those blankets. She answered that question by sharing a story of one grandson who "loved" his blanket so much that it became threadbare... so she made him another one! How sweet to think of all those children wrapped in so much love! To this day, Ellen keeps her crochet bag right next to her chair... at the ready for when she feels like she can crochet for a little while!

What a sweet and lovely lady Ellen is and has always been. How blessed I am to count her among my friends.



You may know her as Gail Rector, Miss Rector, Melba Rector's daughter, or even as "the Queen", but to her students she was Mademoiselle Rector. From the time she, as a little girl, stood in front of her grandfather's cabinet radio and listened to garbled foreign language broadcasts, Gail knew she wanted to learn and teach a foreign language. Her mother was a teacher, and Gail realized early on that she would follow in her footsteps.

Born in Welch, WV on June 20, 1942, Gail's family moved to Princeton when she was 4 or 5 years old and Don (her brother) was just a toddler. Her grandparents were a great influence on Gail's life, and she attributes to them much of her desire to learn. She was enrolled in school (in McDowell County) at an early age and was promoted to second grade after only a half day in first grade! After moving to Mercer County, she transferred to Mercer School. Following completion of grade school, she moved on to Princeton High School where she not only studied French, but Latin as well. Concord College [now University] provided Gail with the skills needed to teach and further influenced her love of the French language. She was also introduced to the works of Shakespeare and accumulated six hours of credit in four years. After graduation from Concord, she pursued a master's degree by enrolling in a special program at the University of North Carolina, and then the University of Tennessee. She was delighted to have the opportunity to speak with scholars whose native language was French.

Despite her natural inclination to be shy, Gail began her teaching career at Central Junior High School in Bluefield. Teaching quickly helped her overcome her shyness and boosted her desire to help students learn. When the French teacher at Princeton High School (now PSHS) retired, Gail applied for and received that teaching position. She taught at PSHS for more than forty years! Imagine the number of people who speak French due to Gail's tutelage. Throughout all those years she was continuously rewarded as she watched progress in the understanding of the language. She never lost the delight brought about by seeing the expressions on students' faces when they finally comprehended what they were studying, becoming fluent in the language, but not conversationalists. Teaching included more than conjugation of verbs and definitions of words; students found learning even more fun when singing (in French, of course) and drama were added to the agenda. During the Christmas season, the students would parade the halls of the school singing Christmas carols in French!

Throughout the years, Gail traveled with her students to Canada and New Orleans. In Canada, they found that the language was more relevant to their studies. However, the language in New Orleans was quite different, with a flavor all its own! A highlight of her teaching career was taking groups of students to France. Besides the fact that students heard and interacted with native speakers and customs, they were afforded the opportunity to view the amazing buildings, statues, and paintings. Gail said they were amazed at the age of the structures... they were not used to seeing things that "old". For Gail, these trips were very special, too. She is forever thankful she was able to see Notre Dame before it burned. What wonderful memories for everyone! As a faculty member, Gail also traveled as a chaperone with groups from the music, speech and drama departments.

An annual Spring highlight for Gail's students was the French Club Dinner. The students, under the direction of a "chef", helped prepare the dinners. George Santon was a loyal helper for these dinners, and Buddy Frye also helped on occasion. In addition to cooking, the students prepared a program that included singing, dancing, skits and plays. For many years, this event was held in the Fellowship Hall in the basement of FUMC.

Thinking back on her years of teaching brings wonderful memories for Gail. Although she retired from teaching in 2006, she is delighted by the number of former students who keep in touch with her. She remembers, too, how honored she was to be named Teacher of the Year at PSHS and when she was inducted into the Princeton Senior High School Hall of Fame.

Although the time Gail spent in the teaching field is a wonderful part of her life, she is also very blessed to be part of the family of First United Methodist Church – Princeton. When she was eleven years old, Gail knew she wanted to receive Christ into her life. In her words, she "accepted the Lord with my heart open." She became a member of the church on March 29, 1953. She was very active in the church and holds many memories that are dear to her heart. She remembers that Odell Huffman was the teacher of her high school/college Sunday school class. Likewise, she remembers that she played piano for her class. When she graduated from high school, Gail led the invocation at the graduation ceremony. Rev. R. S. (Ross) McClung, who was the pastor at First Methodist Church at the time, helped her compose the prayer. Always musically inclined, Gail was a member of the Chancel Choir for years, singing under the direction of Frances Moody, Betty Moody, and Linda Hawkins. Even more dear to her heart was the Handbell Choir, long directed by Patty Linkenhoker. She was heart-broken when her physical condition no longer allowed her to participate. It was here that Gail was blessed with the name "the Queen", a name she wears with evident pride. Worship Leader/Liturgist was another responsibility Gail took seriously...this was one of her greatest pleasures. She remembers a compliment that was relayed to her from Emory Reaser; she carried those words close to her heart and always gave her best effort when leading the congregation.

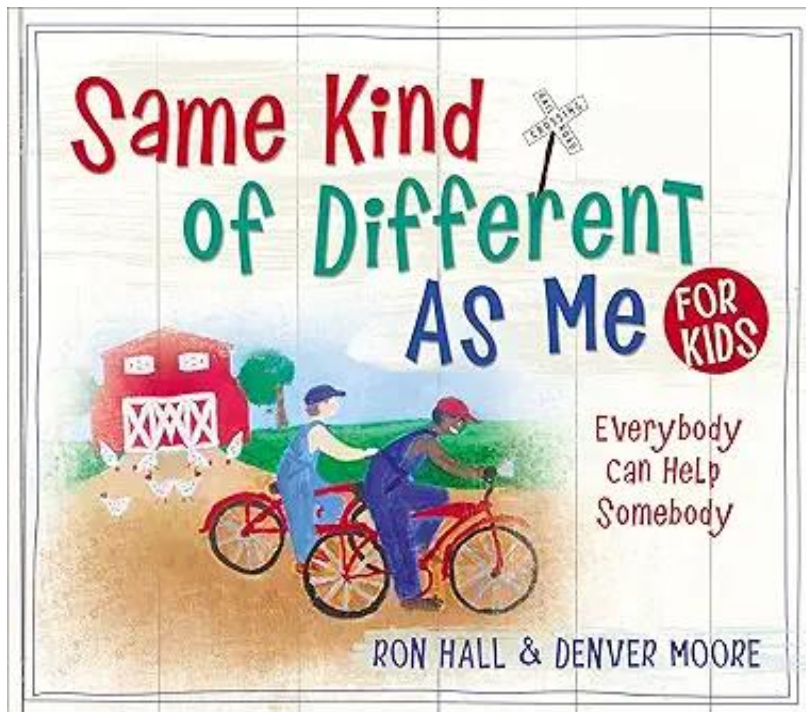
Because time catches us with each of us, so it has with Gail. Due to health and difficulty in motivating, she now attends worship at FUMC-P via electronics. She is present every Sunday. Although she says being present in this manner is not the same as attending in person, she is so grateful the church offers this option. She misses her church family very much, but she is thankful, once again, for the ministry which shares communion with those who are unwillingly absent. Being able to receive communion is a true blessing, as is visiting with the community of servers. Gail is truly a people-person and these visits are quite precious to her.

Have you realized yet that Gail's birthday is on West Virginia Day – June 20? As a result, she has enjoyed some extraordinary celebrations over the years. The day West Virginia celebrated 100 years of statehood, Gail celebrated her 21st birthday! Friends arranged for a specially designed and decorated cake to be delivered to help commemorate the distinctive occasion. But birthday or not, any time I have visited or spoken with Gail, it has been an honor for me and I count myself blessed by the friendship of our own delightful "Queen".



---

*BEST OF THE BEST...LIBRARY DEN  
(1-18 year olds-2nd floor-main building)*



*2024 American Legacy Book Awards in children's nonfiction*

*This remarkable story shows what can happen when we choose to be kind. Share the inspirational message that we can all make a difference--no matter how big or small we are and no matter how big or small the task. This heartwarming tale about poverty, homelessness, and the kind, gentle love of Jesus will inspire kids to be difference makers.*

# SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

Date	Worship	Online	Sunday School	Date	Worship	Online	Sunday School
1.5.25	66	47	49				
1.12.25	98	37					
1.19.25	33	47	32				
1.26.25	103	27	53				
2.2.25	75	32	47				
2.9.25	84	35	48				
2.16.25							
2.23.25	80	38	47				
3.2.25	74	31	47				
3.9.25	76	37	48				
3.16.25	83	35	55				
3.22.25	90	38	48				
3.30.25	83	18	42				
4.6.25	84	29	42				
4.13.25	113	25	55				
4.20.25	190	29	24				
4.27.25	63	29	41				
5.4.25	79	29	48				
5.11.25	106	21	46				
5.18.25	99	20	51				
5.25.25	74	24	39				
6.1.25	101	28	53				
6.8.25	72	29	44				
6.15.25	82	23	41				
6.22.25	45	19	41				
6.29.25	86	26	41				



# Community Emergency Assistance Fund (CEAF)

2025

Month	Totals by Month	Princeton/Athens Peterstown Area	Bluefield Area	Montcalm Area	Rock/Freemon Area	Lerona Area	Falls Mills /Tazewell Area	Oakevale Area
JANUARY	6	3	2		1			
FEBRUARY	19	13	4	2				
March	15	7	7		1			
APRIL	25	15	9		1			
MAY	11	5	5				1	
JUNE	4	2	1		1			



*Any offering placed in the stationary plates in the front of the sanctuary on Communion Sundays will specifically go towards CEAF (Community Emergency Assistance Fund) which is used to help those who come to us with shut-off notices on their utilities.*



# BACK THEN...

Your church library collection includes numerous cookbooks, some from years ago. Check each addition of the REMARKER for the "BACK THEN..." article to find some amazing recipes from our church family. The recipes in this issue of BACK THEN are from "Favorite Recipes of Members and Friends of the Women's Society of Christian Service." (\*Recipes as printed in booklet)



## **Jello Pecan Salad Hazel Crotty**

Combine 1 pkg. lime Jello,  
1 cup boiling water. Cool.  
Add small pkg. cream cheese  
and  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup milk.  
Add 1 cup crushed pineapple.  
1 cup chopped pecans,  
1 cup marshmallow chunks.  
Refrigerate to set.

## **Pineapple Punch Mrs. B.T. Elmore**

One large can pineapple juice  
2 pts. lime sherbert  
2 qts. ginger ale  
Put 1 pt. sherbert in punch bowl.  
Pour in pineapple juice and mix thoroughly.  
Just before serving put ginger ale in the bowl, add  
sherbert last by the tablespoonful.  
Serves about 20.

## **Green Salad Mae Dunn**

1 pkg. lime gelatin (family size)	1 can crushed pineapple drained
2 cups hot water	1 - 8oz. pkg cream cheese
16 marshmallows, cut up	$\frac{1}{2}$ cup pecan, cut up
$\frac{1}{2}$ pt. whipping cream	

Mix gelatin in hot water. Add marshmallows and dissolve. Cool. Add pineapple, cream cheese and pecans. Fold in whipped cream. Put in dish and chill.

# Feeding Hungry Children Update

Another school year is “in the books” for this ministry. Throughout the school year, weekend food bags for approximately 180 children were delivered to four Princeton area schools. (numbers periodically fluctuate due to children transferring in and out of schools).

HUGE THANKS to:

- God who provided strength, wisdom, and resources
- The Mercer County Board of Education who supplemented our food supplies through most of the school year.
- Our congregation who continued to provide financing and prayers
- Our incredible FHC mission team who faithfully showed up to do a wide variety of tasks
- Our school contacts who diligently partnered with us to make things work on their end of the process

Please keep these children and their families in your prayers throughout the summer months.



17



# AUGUST

2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY 1	SATURDAY 2
<b>Anniversaries</b> <b>Birthdays</b>					Men's Prayer Breakfast 7 AM <b>Brian &amp; Ann Struble</b> Bill Lewis Randall Veneri	Youth – Dollywood Road trip 7 AM-9PM
<b>3</b> Youth Bible Study, 4-5:30 PM Kathy Casey	<b>4</b> Finance Committee Meeting, Schell Hall, 6 PM Remarker Articles Due See below for the birthdays.	<b>5</b> Youth Amy's House of Hope, 4-6 PM Game Night, 6 PM Arley Saddler	<b>6</b> Adult Bible Study 6 PM Jackie Davis Betty Farley Nancy Jones	<b>7</b> TLC – 9 AM Open Gym 7-9 PM All ages See below for the birthdays.	<b>8</b> Hattie Price	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> Church Picnic, The Bay's, 6 PM	<b>11</b> TLC Evening Group 6-8 PM	<b>12</b> Women in Faith Meeting, Schell Hall, 1 PM Church Council, Schell Hall, 6:30 PM	<b>13</b> Youth Back to School Event, 3-9 PM Adult Bible Study 6 PM <b>John &amp; Sue Backus</b> Jenna Bowling	<b>14</b> TLC – 9 AM Open Gym 7-9 PM All ages Louie Weikle	<b>15</b> Men's Prayer Breakfast 7 AM <b>Tony and Becky Veneri</b>	<b>16</b> John Painter
<b>17</b> Youth Bible Study, 4-5:30 PM <b>Nathan and Whitney Sigmon</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>John &amp; Valeda O'Dell</b> Todd Craft Nancy Clark	<b>20</b> Adult Bible Study 6 PM	<b>21</b> TLC – 9 AM Open Gym 7-9 PM All ages Tyler Comer	<b>22</b> Carson Hamm	<b>23</b> Pam Stafford
<b>24</b> Youth Bible Study, 4-5:30 PM	<b>25</b> TLC Evening Group 6-8 PM <b>John &amp; Janet Painter</b>	<b>26</b> <b>Jerry &amp; Melody Jenkins</b>	<b>27</b> Adult Bible Study 6 PM	<b>28</b> TLC – 9 AM Open Gym 7-9 PM All ages Michael Rexroad	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> Youth Bible Study, 4-5:30 PM Goodwill Trailer, Back Parking Lot (Missions) Bettye Sue Bolen	<b>8/4 Birthdays</b> Patty Flanagan Susan Stafford Timothy Merritt Brenda Thompson	<b>8/7 Birthdays</b> Logan Austin Tammy Hill Tonya Hill Brayden Quesenberry				

# SEPTEMBER

2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Anniversaries</b> <b>Birthdays</b> 9/1 Birthdays Ann Struble	Labor Day <b>1</b> Church Office Closed Goodwill Trailer, Back Parking Lot (Missions)	<b>2</b> Goodwill Trailer, Back Parking Lot (Missions)	<b>3</b> Adult Bible Study 6 PM Goodwill Trailer, Back Parking Lot (Missions)	<b>4</b> TLC – 9 AM Open Gym 7-9 PM All ages Goodwill Trailer, Back Parking Lot (Missions)	<b>5</b> <b>Adeline Bowling</b> Men's Prayer Breakfast 7 AM Goodwill Trailer, Back Parking Lot (Missions)	<b>6</b> Goodwill Trailer, Back Parking Lot (Missions)
<b>7</b> Youth Bible Study, 4-5:30 PM Goodwill Trailer, Back Parking Lot (Missions) <b>Seth &amp; Lindsay Price</b> Grandparents Day	<b>8</b> TLC Evening Group 6-8 PM	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Adult Bible Study 6 PM	<b>11</b> Patriot Day TLC – 9 AM Open Gym 7-9 PM All ages <b>John O'Dell</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> Youth Bible Study, 4-5:30 PM	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Adult Bible Study 6 PM <b>Terri Vest</b> <b>Terry Wells</b>	<b>18</b> TLC – 9 AM Open Gym 7-9 PM All ages <b>Adam Sarver</b>	<b>19</b> Men's Prayer Breakfast 7 AM	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> Youth Bible Study, 4-5:30 PM <b>Melody Jenkins</b> <b>Mary Ann Thomas</b>	<b>22</b> Autumn Begins TLC Evening Group 6-8 PM <b>Jeremy &amp; Amanda</b> <b>Wenisch</b> <b>June Griffith</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Adult Bible Study 6 PM <b>Milo Roland</b>	<b>25</b> TLC – 9 AM Open Gym 7-9 PM All ages	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>Jett Bowling</b>
<b>28</b> Youth Bible Study, 4-5:30 PM	<b>29</b> <b>Mary Lou Fensom</b>	<b>30</b> <b>Russ Crump</b>				

## Scheduled Meetings

### Trustee Meetings

All Meetings After Morning Worship

July 13<sup>th</sup>

October 12<sup>th</sup>

### SPRC Meeting

All Meetings Etta Belcher Room  
6:30 PM

July 15<sup>th</sup>,

September 16<sup>th</sup>

November 18<sup>th</sup>

### NLDC Meeting

All Meetings Etta Belcher Room  
6:30 PM

July 22<sup>nd</sup>

September 9<sup>th</sup>

November 11<sup>th</sup>

### Finance Meeting

All Meeting, Schell Hall,  
6 PM

August 4<sup>th</sup>

October 6<sup>th</sup>

December 8<sup>th</sup>

### Church Council

All Meeting, Schell Hall  
6 PM

August 12<sup>th</sup>

October 14<sup>th</sup>

December 9<sup>th</sup>



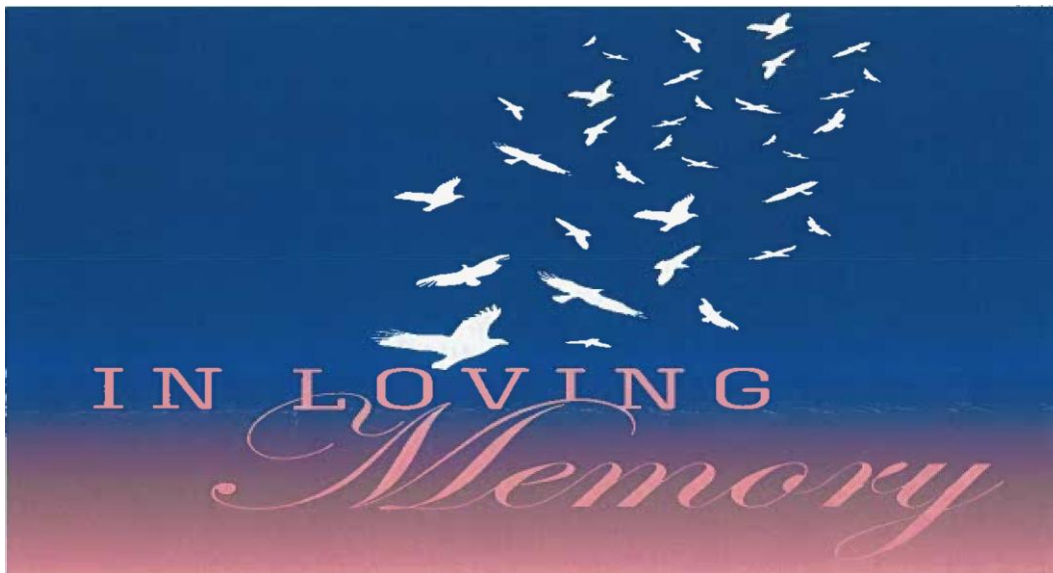




In loving memory of Mary Helen Coulter, a gift was given to Memorial Fund by,  
The Coulter Family  
Jerry and Patty Flanagan

Jerry and Patty Flanagan gave to:

- Feeding Hungry Children In loving memory of Lani Hill-Poat,
- Memorial Fund in Loving Memory of Carol Owen Meador.



If someone is missing from the list(s), please accept our sincere apologies. We are happy to make the corrections in our next newsletter. Please inform the Church Office (304) 425-2283 of any error, addition, or change to be made.

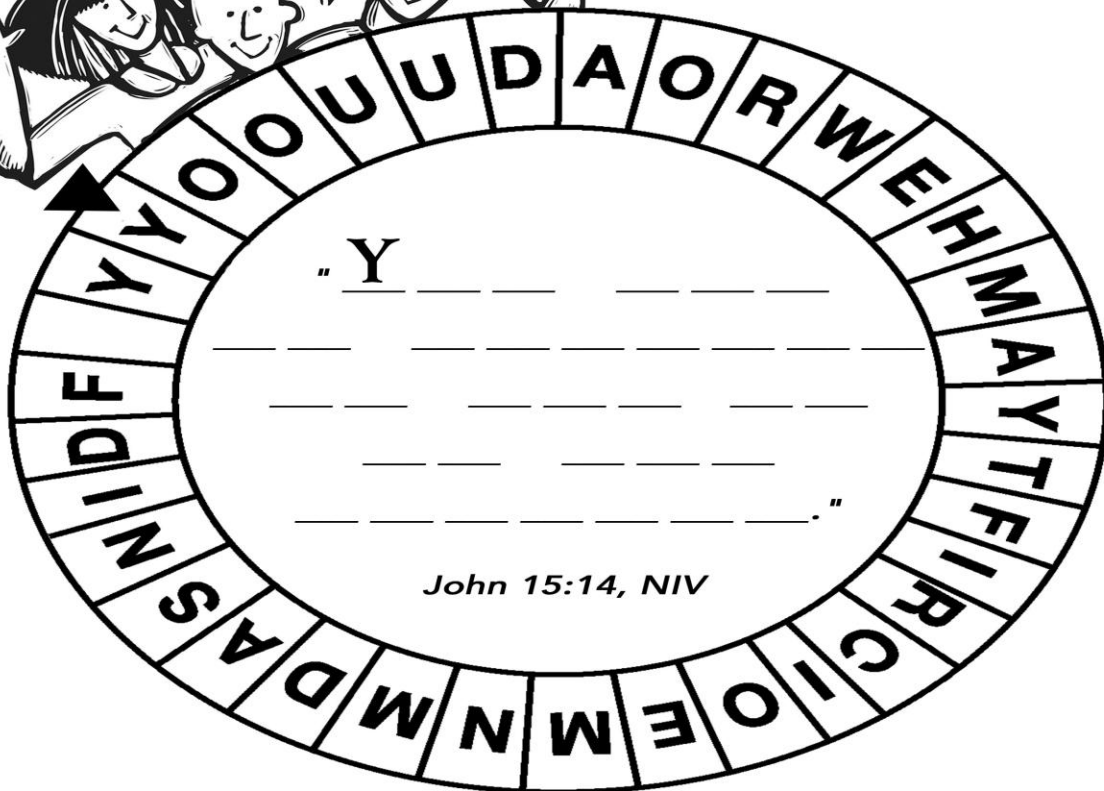


## WHO WERE JESUS' FRIENDS?

Jesus spent a lot of time with his friends. Whom did Jesus consider his friends?



Beginning at the arrow and moving clockwise, write every other letter on the spaces below.



Answer: "You are my friends if you do what I command." John 15:14, NIV