



The Grapevine

Clarksbury United Methodist Church

15924 General Puller Highway, Hardyville, Virginia June 2020

www.clarksburyumc.com

Our Mission:

To receive and share God's love through worship, education, service and outreach.

Pastor Ken's Corner

Romans 5:1-8 (NRSV)

¹ Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. ⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die.

⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

2020...May has Flown by and we are still in a year of "first ever".

School Graduations are not what we have been accustomed to in years gone by, but life goes on.

Prayers For our graduates and we will have a service later this summer to recognize their Accomplishment. Congratulations Sydney, Sierra and Alex!!!

We are adjusting to the social **distancing** and **stay at home** orders, as well as hopeful for the gradual reopening of business. We can emerge from this year's changing social dynamics and pandemic precautions as well just learning to cope with very limited personal social interaction, I think I miss hugging more than I ever thought I would....

We have reached out over the last few months with new (and each time improving just a bit) **Facebook** services and now we are adding our services on **YouTube** so if you have cable or satellite TV you should be able to tune in to "Clarksbury UMC" worship services. Our thanks go to Becky, Janis, Vaughan, Sydney and Sierra. They have contributed so much to each service. I pray that you have taken some comfort and joy from these online services, and I look forward eagerly to the time when we can be back in the pews worshipping together. Until that time we will continue to hold each other close through the common connection we have amid our bonds of worship, service, and prayer.

Our "Prayer Warriors" have expanded to include our "Prayer Partners". I praise each and everyone of you for being faithful in maintaining these connections to our Brothers and sisters.

The Cryer Center Mobile Food Pantry will be at Clarksbury on **Saturday, May 6**. Our church has the lead again. The Food Pantry and the Soup Ministry have modified the way these ministries are conducted to be in compliance with the CDC and Virginia COVID-19 requirements. Warren and Kathy Wright will supply additional directions to the participants. For the rest of you...we always need prayers; so even if you can't be here to work the Food Pantry, pray for us and the people we serve.

June is very full...no surprise there, I'm sure.

- Trinity Sunday – Sunday, June 7
- Father's Day – Sunday, June 21

We know the pending process of returning to some normalcy will have great impact on how and where and How We worship in the coming months. Our Bishop, Sharma Lewis, keeps us updated on the process and shares with us all of the information she has. Check out her latest guidance and message at <http://doc.vaumc.org/News2020/ReminderofIn-PersonWorship.pdf>

and more info at <https://vaumc.org/return/>

We will continue to worship online until we are authorized to resume in-person services.

This Process begins with following process where we establish a Healthy Church Team In accordance with the Handbook Guidance.

I am **appealing** to each of you to assist me and our church in developing these plans and I implore **each** of you to prayerfully consider being part of the **Health Church Team (HCT)** and **contact me**.

Everyone needs to check these links out and familiarize themselves to the process that will be Key to resuming In Person Church.

First: setting up a **Healthy Church Team (HCT)** In Accordance with the Handbook...and the guidance from the documents in the Links below:

<http://doc.vaumc.org/News2020/BacktoIn-PersonWorshipPlan.pdf>

<http://doc.vaumc.org/News2020/PlanSummary-ResumingIn-PersonWorship.pdf>

<http://doc.vaumc.org/News2020/HandbookforLocalChurches.pdf>

<http://doc.vaumc.org/News2020/HealthAcknowledgementform.pdf>

¹ Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

As a calm assurance for us in these turbulent times we can have absolute **faith** in the Christ who has gained access for us to the **Grace** in which we stand before our Maker and God the Father. Let us together boast in our sharing of the Good News that is the Glory of God.

³ And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. ⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

We will work together In **staying the course** in spite of the worldly challenges.

We know we will have **sufferings** as we adjust to the new order of our lives around us. We know that that **suffering** produces **endurance**, and **endurance** produces **HOPE**, and **HOPE** does not disappoint us because God's Love has been POURED into our hearts through the **Holy Spirit**. While we might be weak, He is strong and has overcome the world. He overcame death itself for our salvation even while we were sinners.

I know Christ never leaves anyone in the same condition in which he finds them, Praise the Lord on that! I challenge **EACH** of **US** to commit ourselves to read **HIS WORD** more often and more deeply this year. **Let us be newly resolved to be more attuned to HIS WORD.**

Help me keep the Prayer warrior e-mails updated as information and changes become available. Let us continue in faith and hope to be children of God infused with the Holy Spirit throughout all the travails and trials of life in this world.

Let us resolve to not let COVID-19 define who we are...let us be defined by the words, the example and the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ! I am humbled by how all of you, as a congregation, have reacted to this ever changing situation. The very uncertainty of when anything will happen based on the data acquired by the Virginia Department of Health and the CDC is moving target of COVID status and response.

Please continue and if possible redouble your efforts in keeping contact with people by calling and caring for members of our congregation more closely than they might have otherwise done in **NORMAL** circumstances. Keep those cards, letters, and calls which are so important in maintaining our connection as a family and as children of God.

Thank you all for those offers to make pick-ups of food or other supplies for people who are "stay at home" have been made by members of our church. Call, text or email Warren or me and we will get anyone with that need connected with people who have offered this service.

The grave could not hold Him and death has no claim on Him! He is risen and He will come again! We can celebrate The Risen Lord who has ascended to His Father and Has sent the Holy Spirit to Bring us the Power and miracles of Pentecost as we celebrate Trinity Sunday this Month.

May his GRACE, MERCY and LOVE be with you every day, and may every day your awareness of HIS presence through HIS unbreakable gifts to YOU grow.

Peace & Grace Pastor Ken



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|---|---------------------|
| Annual Budget for 2020 Operating Funds: | \$118,339.00 |
| Total Received for Operating Funds as of May 24, 2020: | 47,852.64 |
| Total Income Needed to Meet Budget by end of June: | 59,170.00 |

Coffee Hour

Thank you to all who provide cookies for the church services. For the month of June we need to enjoy the sweets and fruits of the Lord at home.

If you would like to be a part of this church ministry, contact
Polly Van Benschoten, 776-0569

A Message from Your Lay Leader *Warren Wright*



While reading this month I came across **Section IV, Social Principles** and became intrigued by what this part of the discipline had to say. For my message to you this month, I want to share with you what this section says about us as United Methodist.

"We, the people called United Methodists, affirm our faith in God our creator and Father, in Jesus Christ our Savior, and in the Holy Spirit, our Guide and Guard.

We acknowledge our complete dependence upon God in birth, in life, in death, and in life eternal. Secure in God's love, we affirm the goodness of life and confess our many sins against God's will for us as we find it in Jesus Christ. We have not always been faithful stewards of all that has been committed to us by God the Creator. We have been reluctant followers of Jesus Christ in his mission to bring all persons to a community of love. Though called by the Holy Spirit to become new creatures in Christ, we have resisted the further call to become people of God in our dealings with each other and the earth on which we live.

We pledge to continue to be in respectful conversation with those with whom we differ, to explore the sources of our differences, to honor the sacred worth of all persons as we continue to seek the mind of Christ and to do the will of God in all things.

Grateful for God's forgiving love, in which we live and by which we are judged, and affirming our belief in the inestimable worth of each individual, we renew our commitment to become faithful witnesses to the gospel, not alone to the ends of earth, but also to the depths of our common life and work."

Thought for the month---*"Great is the Lord, and most worthy of praise" - Psalm 48:1*

United Methodist Men News
Warren Wright-UMM President



The UMM will not meet in June due to the COVID-19 Virus. Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday July 27th. The UMM BBQ dinner scheduled for June 12th has been canceled.

Remember that there are no membership or dues requirements to be a part of the United Methodist Men of Clarksbury, just a willingness to serve Jesus Christ within your church and community.

Mission-To Help Men Grow In Christ, So Others May Know Christ.

Scholarship Committee
Fran Miller



If you are a high school senior or college student, applications are being accepted for our scholarship. You can get a copy of the application on the church's website under 'Resources'. Your latest transcript must be included. The deadline is June 10. Please mail your applications to the church, attention "Scholarship Committee".

**CLAIM THE JOY THAT IS YOURS. PRAY AND KNOW YOUR JOY IS
USED BY GOD TO REACH OTHERS.**

The ladies of the children's Sunday school class (Mary, Betty and Diane) again prepared "goodie buckets" for the Sunday school children. This time the theme was creation and being creative. The Sunday school lessons were all about the creation of the world and then how Adam and Eve disobeyed God. The lessons were complete with coloring and word searches that corresponded with the lessons. The rest of the bucket was all about having fun and being creative. To help with this we included crayons, paints, brushes, canvases, stickers, hats and picture frames. Of course, no bucket would be complete without some snacks to enjoy. Jerry delivered the buckets to all the children.



NURTURE & Outreach *Jerry Dant*

Nurture

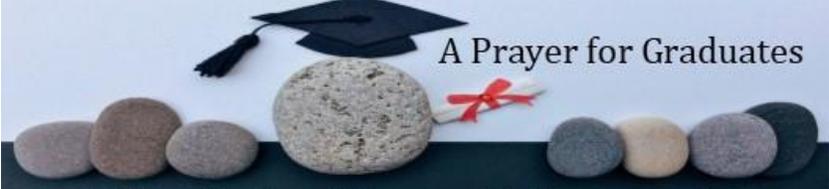
It has been a long month and we are sure our Home Bound friends feel like "will I see visitors" soon. We are not sure when we will be visiting but hope it will be SOON. Each mother received a Mother's Day card with a cute chicken on the corner of the card. So, let's keep the cards, notes and phone calls going to our friends until we can visit.



OUTREACH

Linda Bartz, a member of the Nurture and Outreach Committee, wanted our church to remember the ladies at Dockside for Mother's Day. She ordered carnations, picked them up, carried them to Dockside and the staff passed them out on Mother's Day. Family members could not be with them for the special day and our church put a flower in their hand and a smile on their face. Thank you, Linda.

If you know of a need in the community please let us know so we can keep REACHING OUT.



A Prayer for Graduates

At this exciting time of changes and challenges, no matter what life brings, may you always be:

Gracious, your life a reflection of our good and gracious God.
"Grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus," 2 Pet. 3:18
"May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit," Pm.1:25

Reliant, on God in every area of life, work, and relationships.
"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding," Proverbs 3:5

Assured, of God's love, presence and protection always.
"Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you," Hebrews 13:5
"I have loved you with an everlasting love," Jeremiah 31:3

Diligent, remembering always—you serve the Lord Jesus.
"Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God," 1 Corinthians 10:31

Unwavering, in your commitment to what is right.
"So be careful to do what the LORD your God has commanded you; do not turn aside to the right or to the left." Deut. 5:32

Attentive to your Lord because he promises to guide you.
"Your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it." Isaiah 30:21

Truthful, never lying in any way to yourself or others.
"Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue lasts only a moment." Proverbs 12:19

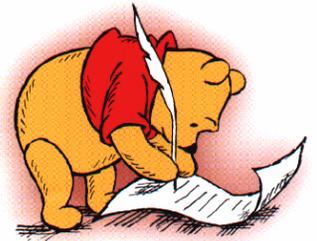
Eternally-focused, so all else in life is in proper perspective.
"Only one life, will soon be past.
Only what's done for Christ, will last."

Mail a letter or card of happiness to our home bound members!

If your last name starts with the letter listed below, please send a card or note to the shut-ins listed.

Why not make a home bound member smile by sending them a card often as well as on their birthday.

If we all participate, our home bound members will get a card frequently from church members, and will have more great memories of Clarksbury.



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| A-C | | |
| Roegean Speight 09/10 James River Convalescent ctr Aberthaw AVE Room 118 Newport News, VA 23061-4199 | Ivey Huff 10/12 233 Mae Lane Wake, VA 23176 | Jane Crittenden 8/22 P.O. 30 Hardyville, VA 23070 |
| D-G | | |
| | Reggie Jackson 7/12 672 Gloucester Road Saluda, VA 23149 | |
| H-L | | |
| | Myrtle Clark 10/2 P.O. Box 302 Deltaville, VA 23043 | Pastor Jim Salmon 5/24 26306 Mattaponi Trail Milford, VA 22524 |
| M-Z | | |
| | | |

Serving our Country

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| Floyd Andrew Forrest 3980-3 Buckeye Lane Ft. Wainwright, AK 99703 United States | | |
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JUNE POP

Ivey Huff



*"BE NOT DISMAYED WHAT E'ER BETIDE, GOD
WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU"*

This is a hymn we sang in my church when I was a little girl. Both my Mother and my Grandmother believed it to be true, so I did, too (sorta)

I had proof several years later when I was 17 years old. One summer day I went with some friends to one of the many lakes down Petersburg Turnpike, to swim. The driver chose Deep Water Lake, which my brother said had not bottom!

I had been sunning on one of the floating docks when I realized I was getting burned, so I headed back to shore to find a spot of shade. I saw a friend on one of the other piers and decided to stop off for a visit. Just at that moment, a man jumped into the water, actually landed feet first on my head, driving me deep into the "bottomless" lake. I rolled over several times looking for some light. . .

there was none! Suddenly, the hymn mentioned above came to mind. I said "Lord, show me the way up!"

Almost immediately I ran into something. It was the man, looking for me. He lifted me on to the dock and helped me catch my breath!

People my age love to give advice....this is mine.

1. Talk to the Lord every day.
2. Listen to Him!

P.S. I didn't see any light because I was under the dock!



The Grapevine

June 2020



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|-------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 Noon Prayer | 4 <i>Becky Wilhite</i> Noon Prayer | 5 Polly Van Benschoten Noon Prayer | 6 Mobile Food Pantry Clarksbury Noon Prayer |
| 7 <i>Trinity Sunday</i> Noon Prayer | 8 Noon Prayer | 9 <i>Carl Tate</i> Noon Prayer | 10 Noon Prayer | 11 Noon Prayer | 12 Noon Prayer | 13 Noon Prayer |
| 14 Noon Prayer | 15 Noon Prayer | 16 Noon Prayer | 17 Noon Prayer | 18 Noon Prayer | 19 Noon Prayer | 20 Noon Prayer |
| 21 <i>Father's Day</i> Noon Prayer | 22 Noon Prayer | 23 Noon Prayer | 24 <i>Jeannie Duke</i> Noon Prayer | 25 Noon Prayer | 26 Noon Prayer | 27 Noon Prayer |
| 28 Noon Prayer | 29 Noon Prayer | 30 <i>Mike Tullos</i> Noon Prayer | | | | |

The deadline for the July 2020 Grapevine will be Friday, July 24 Send items to: pwalian2@gmail.com

June Birthdays (If you know of any additions, deletions or corrections that should be made to the birthday calendar, please let the newsletter editor know.)