



PHOTO BY ALAN BARBOUR

Rectortown Reporter

May 2018

From the Pastor

Reasons for Celebration

Greetings in the name of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ!



Lent is behind us and Easter has come and gone; but, that doesn't mean that Easter is over! "The Easter Season, also known as the *Great Fifty Days*, begins at sunset Easter Eve and continues through the Day of Pentecost" (UM BOW, 368). While Lent is a season of reflecting on our relationship with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit as we seek to grow in faith and discipleship; Easter is a season of joyous celebration focused on "Christ's resurrection and ascension and on the givings of the Holy Spirit on the first Easter (John 20:22-23) and the day of Pentecost (Acts 2). Lessons from the Acts of the Apostles replace readings from the Old Testament because the early church, empowered by the Holy Spirit, is the best witness to the Resurrection" (UM BOW, 368). There is indeed much to celebrate and much to give thanks for in what God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; and for all that God continues to do for us today, and in all of our tomorrows!

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Psalm of the Month

Psalm 8:3-5

³When I look up at your skies, at what your fingers made—the moon and the stars that you set firmly in place—

⁴what are human beings that you think about them;

what are human beings that you pay attention to them?

⁵You've made them only slightly less than divine, crowning them with glory and grandeur.

We would, however, be remiss if we did not acknowledge that there is another reason to celebrate in May — specifically on the second Sunday of May; and that is Mother's Day. Did you know that Mother's Day is a peculiarly Methodist thing? It is! "It began in its present form with a special service in May 1907 at the [St. Andrews] Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton, West Virginia. The service was organized by a Methodist laywoman, Anna Jarvis, to honor her mother... By 1908, Anna was advocating that all mothers be honored on the second Sunday in May, and in 1912 the Methodist Episcopal Church recognized the day and raised it to the national agenda" (UM BOW, 438-439). And, "in 1914, Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating Mother's Day, held on the second Sunday in May, as a national holiday to honor mothers." (wikipedia.org/wiki/Mother's_Day)

While Mother's Day means different things to different cultures in different places around the world, it is generally acknowledged as a special day to remember and celebrate someone of tremendous significance in each of our lives; regardless of whether or not she was our birth mother, or a special someone who chose to be mother to us. Thank you, most loving and gracious God, for the gift of our moms!

Grace and peace to each and everyone of you!

Pastor Steve

Snapshots from Claude Thompson Elementary



Pastor Steve helps hold hoops



From the Mailbox

Dear Dad,

It is with great regret and sorrow that I am writing you. I had to elope with my new girlfriend because I wanted to avoid a scene with Mom and you. I've been finding real passion with Stacy, and she is so nice, but I knew you wouldn't approve because of her piercings, tattoos, tight motorcycle clothes, and the fact that she's much older than I. But it's not only passion, Dad—she's pregnant. Stacy said that we will be very happy. She owns a trailer in the woods and has a stack of firewood for the whole winter. We share a dream of having many more children.

Stacy has opened my eyes to the fact that marijuana doesn't really hurt anyone. We'll be growing it for ourselves and trading it with other people in the commune for all the cocaine and ecstasy we want. In the meantime, we pray that science will find a cure for AIDS so that Stacy can get better. She sure deserves it!

Don't worry, Dad, I'm 15. I know how to take care of myself. Someday, I am sure we'll be back to visit so that you can get to know your many grandchildren.

Love,

Your son, *Joshua*

P.S. Dad, none of this is true. I am over at Jason's house. I just wanted to remind you that there are worse things in life than the school report card that's on the kitchen table. Call me when it's safe for me to come home!

-from *Hospice Support Magazine*, mailed in to share by Shirley

All Set for **Easter**



Invite Your Friends and Family... All Are Welcome!
Sunday, May 20

RUMC 125TH HOMECOMING

& POTLUCK LUNCH immediately follows the worship service. RUMC will provide drinks and meat but please bring a dessert or side dish to share. **Pastor Bill Wade** will be our guest speaker. **Blue Ridge Barbershoppers** will perform after the luncheon. If you have questions, please contact Debbie Hall by phone at 540-229-9969 or by email at debhall@drhengineering.com.



Save the Date... **Sunday, June 3** **Graduation Celebration Day**

Join us as we honor our students graduating in 2018.

From the **Board of Trustees**

It is that time of year again, and your help is needed in keeping the outside grounds looking good. One of the key efforts is mowing and trimming the grass. The **summer sign up sheet** has been posted on the entry bulletin board. Options for signing up include; using the church equipment, donating the cost for Trustees to have someone come in and mow or have your lawn service take care of it. Thanks for your prayerful support on this important need.

Please contact any of the Trustees if you have questions.

May Birthdays



Anniversaries

John Stolte	5/12	Roger & Linda Daniels . . .	5/1
Ben Wegdam	5/13	Joe & Amy Riggio . . .	5/19
Roy Sisk	5/13	Ward & Lori Ponn . . .	5/21
Vicki Willis	5/16	Tom & Debbie	
Gary Garrett	5/19	McLaughlin	5/21
Kayla Ryder	5/24	Ben & Yeshi Pisarcik . . .	5/28
Lori Ponn	5/27		

Upcoming Meetings & Events

All events take place at RUMC unless otherwise indicated.

Wed – May 2	6:00pm	Bible Study
Wed – May 2*	7:30pm	Choir Practice
Thur – May 3	7:00pm	Admin Council Meets
Sat – May 5		Church Clean up
Tue – May 8	6:00pm	Trustee's Meet
Wed – May 9	6:00pm	Bible Study
Mon – May 14	7:00pm	Worship Meets
Sun – May 13	All day	Mother's Day
Sun – May 20	11:00am	Homecoming

*NOTE: Meets weekly

Every Week at RUMC

Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
Worship for Adults and Children.
Nursery provided.

Sunday School
Adults: 8:45-9:45 a.m.
Children: 9-9:45 a.m.

RUMC Wants to know...

If you have any photos
from our events, news or
recipes you'd like to share,
we'd love to hear from you.
Please e-mail Laura at [Laura@
NatsukoGraphicDesign.com](mailto:Laura@NatsukoGraphicDesign.com).
Article submissions are **due by
the 15th of the month.**



Our Mission Statement

Being servants of God through prayer, love and action.