



Weekly Newsletter

April 25, 2021

Please remember in prayer those listed below:

Prayer requests are taken on an ongoing basis. A new list begins the second Sunday of each month. (Be sure to obtain the individuals' permission to submit the name(s) to be published.)

- Coby Andrews, Melva Armstrong, Carl Brundin, Aryn Rae Davis, Gloria Donati, Ted Lowder, Mary Rackley, Viola Watson

The Families of Joyce Butterworth, Austin McMillian and Richard Taylor

Friends,

FROM THE Pastor's Desk

As you may know, Earth Day is April 22. The United Methodist Church designates one Sunday each year as a Festival of God's Creation, celebrating God's gracious work in creating the earth and all living things. We celebrate this festival on April 25. This week, I encourage you take time to step outside and look at the world around you, and to not only look but to see. See the beauty that surrounds us, from the brilliant colors of the sky at sunset to all the growth (and pollen unfortunately!) that comes with Spring. You might just feel moved to stop and thank God.

There are plenty of bad things happening all the time to remind us that not everything in this world is beautiful. Perhaps the beautiful and the good are that much more valuable because of it. We take time this week to reflect on how we can be good stewards of this world God has made.

With love, Scott 804-712-4725 scotthonaker@vaumc.org

Genesis says it was God who created the very first Earth Day: "The second day God said, 'Let there be space to divide the waters into two parts.' And it was so. God called the space Sky. 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place and let dry land appear.' ... God called the dry land Earth and the waters that were gathered together, Seas. God saw that it was good." Genesis 1:9-10, New Revised Standard Version

On April 22, 1970, the United States began celebrating Earth Day annually, creating a movement that now motivates people around the world to use the day to consider the planet, demonstrate their love for it and enact ways to protect it. Organizers anticipate more than one billion people around the globe will take part in events this year engaging in environmental issues.

(resourceumc.org)



Continuing this Sunday, thanks to our loving and dedicated volunteers, First UMC will offer nursery services at 11:00 AM for all children thru age 5 every Sunday! Children are also welcome to remain in our worship services to learn about Jesus and His love. Hope to see you every Sunday!

IN-PERSON AND LIVE-STREAM WORSHIP CONTINUES.

MAY USHERS

- Bill Henry, Mike Bujakowski, Bruce Clark, Clarence Moseley, Ben Rackley

MAY GREETERS - Wesley UMW Circle

Report for the Week of April 18, 2021

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Includes Operating Budget Offering (\$4,260.00), Initial Offering (\$20.00), Major Needs (\$60.00), Memorials (\$365.00), TOTAL OFFERING (\$4,705.00), and IN-PERSON WORSHIP ATTENDANCE (42).

Thank you for your faithfulness in sending in your pledges and offerings. First UMC, P.O. Box 636, Hopewell, VA. 23860



The flowers in our Sanctuary this Sunday are presented to the Glory of God by Randy and Nancy Honaker in honor of the April 26th birthday of their son, Scott.



- Roger Miles (4), Kathy Anderson (6), Louise Conover (6), Thurman Elmore (6), Kym Richey (6), Chris Hodson (8), Mary Hamilton (13), Elsie Mae Atkins (15), Trey Birchett (17), Curly Moore (20), Betsy Bradshaw (22), Diane Parr (25), Nancy Karabaich (28), Bert Rackley (29), Sachi Blevins (30), Barbara Hammond (31)

- Billy and Tonda Williamson (2), Kevin and Christy Frank (8), Bunn and Melva Armstrong (21), Tony and Teresa Sherrill (29)



Dear Lord, thank you for opening our eyes and allowing us to see the beauty of spring. As flowers begin to bloom, and birds begin to sing, remind us, Oh Lord, to breathe in the sweet, sweet aroma of your presence. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen. (Theresa Gee, First UMC Admin. Asst.)