

# THE

# COMMUNICATOR

Volume XXX No. 5/6

May/June, 2021

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## KEVIN'S KORNER

After spending most of April reflecting on the meaning of Jesus' resurrection, during May we turn our attention more to the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is God's personal, empowering presence, working in our lives as we follow Jesus, individually and together. The Holy Spirit has many roles in the life of the church. One of these jobs is to sanctify believers.

Sanctification is basically about growing in holiness, which means being made more and more into the likeness of Christ. John Wesley, one of the great figures in the Methodist movement, used the analogy of a house to describe the ongoing experience of salvation. He said that prevenient grace, that is, God's divine love that reaches out to us and awakens in us our need for deliverance, is like the front porch. Justification, that is, pardon or forgiveness, is the door. And sanctification, that is, holiness or new birth, is what enables us to walk around in the rooms of the house. In the 1740s, Wesley told some of his followers, "God can do something with sin beyond forgiving it!" In other words, God wants to take us beyond forgiveness and into transformation. He wants to restore his image in us. He wants us to be holy, as he is holy.

Throughout the history of the church, Christians have prayed, "Come, Holy Spirit!" Praying that kind of prayer shows that we trust

God to meet us where we are. We don't have to attain to great spiritual heights in order to encounter God and be changed. No, God descends to us in order to remake us through Christ. God shows up in all kinds of circumstances, including our present journey through and beyond the coronavirus pandemic. We can count on the Holy Spirit to take our present situation and use it as an opportunity for doing new things.

But we have to be open and receptive to the operation of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in our church. God doesn't take newness and impose it on us. If we as a church want to learn from our COVID-19 experience, and be renewed to go forward with fresh energy, then we need to stay humble and repentant, ready to grow and mature in our faith. We need to keep praying, "Come, Holy Spirit!" To that end, I share with you another prayer, from the book *Gathering for Worship*:

*Spirit of God,  
you are the breath of creation,  
the wind of change that blows through our lives,  
opening us up to new dreams, and new hopes,  
new life in Jesus Christ.  
Forgive us our closed minds  
which barricade themselves against new ideas,  
preferring the past to what you might want to do  
through us tomorrow.  
Forgive us our closed eyes  
which fail to see the needs of your world,  
blind to opportunities of service and love.*

*Forgive us our closed hands  
which clutch our gifts and our wealth  
for our own use alone.  
Forgive us our closed hearts  
which limit our affections to ourselves and our  
own.*

*Spirit of new life, forgive us  
and break down the prison walls of our  
selfishness,  
that we might be open to your love  
and open for the service of your world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

May the Holy Spirit continue to bring renewal  
to you and to our life together as a  
congregation.

Faithfully,

Pastor Kevin

## **FROM THE COMMUNICATOR STAFF**

By Jenny Boswell

The Deacon of the Month for May is David  
Stouffer.

May 1 – May Day



May 2 is the Holocaust Remembrance Day.

National Teachers' Day is May 4

The first Thursday of the month, May 6 is the  
National Day of Prayer.

On May 6 is also National Nurses' Day.

Sunday, May 9 is Mother's Day. Happy  
Mother's Day to all mothers, grandmothers and  
great-grandmothers. If you are lucky enough to  
have any of them in your life, please express  
your love and appreciation for all that they do  
for their children and families. Please be careful  
and diligent in keeping your loved ones safe  
this year and pray that we all can get back to  
normal activities with our family and friends.

May 15 is Armed Forces Day.

May 31 is Memorial Day. The church office will  
be closed.



The Deacon of the Month for June is Jerry  
Coombs.

June 6: D-Day – The Allied Invasion of Europe  
(1944)

June 14: U.S. Army founded (1775)

June 14: Flag Day, please display the American  
Flag proudly.

Sunday, June 20 is Father's Day, the day that  
we honor our fathers, grandfathers, and great-  
grandfathers. If you are lucky enough to have  
any of them in your life, tell them and show  
them how much you care, love, admire and  
appreciate them.

Summer begins on June 21.

June 22: The Pledge of Allegiance was  
recognized by Congress in 1942.

June 25: Korean War began in 1950.

Articles for the July/August issue of the  
*Communicator* are due to me by June 6.

## THE SCRIPTURES SAY...

### *About Mothers and Fathers*

"From birth I have relied on you: you brought me forth from my mother's womb. I will ever praise you." Psalm 7:1-6

"As a mother comforts her child, so will I (God) comfort you..." Isaiah 66:13 (NIV)

"Yet, O Lord, you are our Father..." Isaiah 64:8 (NIV)

"Each of you must respect his mother and father..." Leviticus 19:3

"A wise son brings joy to his father, but a foolish son grief to his mother."  
Proverbs 10:1

"Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you." Exodus 20:12



## YOUTH GROUP MEETING

The next meeting will be at 7:00 PM on May 7. This meetings will be a blend of in-person and virtual.



## NEW ARRIVAL

We rejoice and give thanks with Amber Burgess and her husband Chris Quade on the birth of their daughter Audrey Rose Quade. Audrey arrived on March 29 and weighed 8 lbs. 1 oz.

And congratulations to the proud grandparents, Bob and Connie Curtin.



## GRADUATES FROM OUR CHURCH

Tobias Coombs: Graduates from the University of Maryland Baltimore County. He graduates with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

Kendra Heinbuch: Graduates from West Virginia Wesleyan College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing.

Bethany Holder: Graduates from La Plata High School. She will be attending San Diego State University this fall.

Amalia Proper: Graduates from Basis D.C. and plans to attend college in the fall.

## MINDY'S PEACE

By Mindy Adams

### In Honor of Mother's Day:

#### GUIDING STAR

By Mindy Adams

You listen when I want to talk.  
Yet, understand when I want to be alone.  
You let me learn and grow.  
Yet, you still consider me your baby.  
You let me choose which path to take.  
Yet, you point the right direction.  
You taught me to walk alone.  
Yet, you are always there to catch me if I fall.  
To me, my mother, you are  
My guiding star.

Happy Mother's Day to all you moms out there. Remember Armed Forces Day on May 15. We celebrate Memorial Day on May 31. Memorial Day is the day we honor all those who have given their lives in all armed conflicts fought by U.S. Forces.

### In Honor of Father's Day:

Forever by my side  
Always ready to listen  
Tender and loving  
Helping everyone  
Ever mindful of my feelings  
Really important to me

Devoted father  
Arms to hug  
Dearly loved

Happy Father's Day to all you dads out there. Remember June 14<sup>th</sup> is flag day. Don't forget to give thanks to those who died for it. And let's pray for those who are still fighting for it. June 20<sup>th</sup> is the first day of summer.

## GRACE'S RECIPE BOX

### Oatmeal Apple Raisin Muffins

1 egg  
¾ cup milk  
1 cup raisins  
1 chopped apple  
½ cup oil  
1 cup all-purpose flour  
1 cup quick oats  
1/3 cup sugar  
3 teaspoons baking powder  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon nutmeg  
2 teaspoons cinnamon

Beat egg; stir in remaining ingredients, mixing just to moisten. Pour into 12 greased muffin cups until ¾ full. Bake at 400° for 15 to 20 minutes. Serve cool or piping hot with butter.

### Mother's Day Breakfast Casserole

Jan Thompson

This can be made the night before and baked in the morning...

12 eggs scrambled real soft – still runny. Pour into 9 x 13 pan sprayed with Pam. Add 1 cup sour cream, stirring and spreading over eggs while still hot. Sprinkle with 1 lb crumbled crisp bacon, 10 oz grated cheddar cheese, and 10 oz tater tots over top. Bake at 325° for 30 minutes or until eggs are set and cheese is melted and bubbly.



## DIRECTORY UPDATE

**Jerry and Sheri Cushman** had moved to Virginia. Sheri retired from the Day Care Center last fall. We wish them well in their new home. This is their new address and phone number:

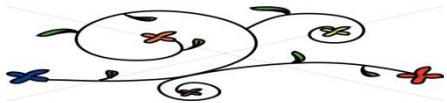
Jerry and Sheri Cushman  
276 Lakeview Circle  
Louisa, VA 23093

Home number: 540-500-5888

Cell phone number has not changed.

### Update for Karen Pulliam:

Karen Pulliam  
44779 King Way, Apt. D  
California, MD 20619



## THOUGHTS FOR THE DAYS AHEAD

Yesterday is history, tomorrow a promise, and today is a gift from God.

### JOY

I've heard it said that JOY's a word that when taken letter by letter, can make us understand just how such a small word makes things better.

The J, of course, is Jesus. The O, why, that means others. The Y means you come last yourself, after all your sisters and brothers.

So when you're putting Jesus first in everything that you do, then it really is no wonder that others see JOY in you!

## POETRY CORNER

### THE GRADUATE

By Richard Gold

Congratulations to the graduate  
You've finally made the cut  
Through many years you've worked  
Always new, never in a rut

This is a time of change  
When you start on a thing new  
In the coming life you will be tested  
To find what is good and true

Graduation is not a hurdle  
It is to the future a door  
Where there may be troubles  
Opportunities and much, much more

So remember what you've learned  
Remember, it will do you good  
For in the wide world  
There's what you can and what you should

Stick to the teachings of your mother  
Follow your father's way  
You will find as you live your life  
Much good dividend they will pay

## HOW TO DISPLAY THE AMERICAN FLAG

Hours: Flags should be flown from sun-up until sun-down unless there is a spot light for night.

Conditions: Unless you have an all weather flag, you should bring in the flag in bad weather conditions.

Position: The flag should always be displayed upright with the union to the top left. Flying with the union down is considered bad etiquette. It can be used as a call for help in extreme danger or need of assistance.

Locations: The flag should be displayed on or near every polling place on election days.

The flag should be displayed on or near the main administration building of all public institutions.

The flag should be displayed on or near every school house during school days, but it is not required.



## MAY DAY

The custom of celebrating May Day, May 1, can be traced to the ancient spring rituals connected with fertility and growth. In 15<sup>th</sup> century England, May Day festivities were celebrated with dances around the Maypole and were also tied to the figure of Robin Hood, whom local youths impersonated in MORRIS DANCES and dramatic performances.

May Day later was designated as a labor holiday celebrated by parades, demonstrations, and speeches by labor unions and political parties. May Day parades are often prominent displays of military strength.



## MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day, May 30, 1868, was established by Congress to honor U.S. soldiers who died in the Civil War. It was a day to decorate their graves with flowers. In the South it is sometimes called Decoration Day. But over the years it became a time to honor all those who have given their lives in all armed conflict

fought by U.S. Forces. Memorial Day is celebrated as one of our "Monday Holidays."

## MEMORIAL DAY RED POPPIES



Two days before the end of World War I, a UMCA worker, Moina Michael, inspired by John McCrae's poem "We Shall Not Sleep" (later renamed "In Flanders Fields") vowed to wear a red poppy of Flanders Fields as a remembrance of all who died. She promoted the idea of wearing red poppies on Memorial Day to honor America's war dead. She sold poppies to raise money to support servicemen in need of financial help. By 1922, the Veterans of Foreign Wars was distributing poppies nationally with sales to raise money to support disabled veterans. In 1948, Moina Michael was honored by the issue of a three-cent postage stamp showing her portrait, a poppy, and the words, "Founder of Memorial Poppy."

## MOTHER'S DAY

Mother's Day began in Grafton, West Virginia by Anna Jarvis in 1905 after the death of her mother. The first Mother's Day was held in the former Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in downtown Grafton which is now the International Mother's Day Shrine.

## FATHER'S DAY

Father's Day began in Spokane, Washington by Sonora Smart Dodd on the 19<sup>th</sup> of June in 1910. She got the idea from a Mother's Day sermon in 1909. She was raised by her father and wanted to honor him. Roses are the Father's Day flowers: red to be worn for a living father and white if the father passed away.

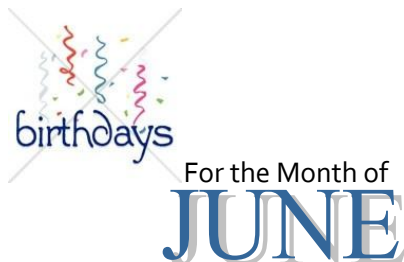


|                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| Penny Gold         | 05/10 |
| Jeannie Strickland | 05/10 |
| Angelina Zanakis   | 05/10 |
| Clement Tita       | 05/21 |



## Anniverseries for the Month of May

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Willis and Susan Proper | 05/02 |
| Dan and Amber Krivitsky | 05/24 |
| Don and Diane Bazzle    | 05/27 |



|                       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Kendra Heinbuch       | 06/02 |
| Jerry Coombs          | 06/09 |
| Patricia "Trish" Sams | 06/20 |
| Nadia (Tamukong) Tita | 06/21 |
| Geri Webb             | 06/21 |
| Samantha Jones        | 06/23 |
| Leah Smith            | 06/23 |
| Sheila Scott          | 06/25 |
| Nan Linville          | 06/28 |
| Riley Mitchell        | 06/30 |



## Anniversaries For the Month of June

|                                       |       |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| Mamusu Sesay and<br>Ayodele Warburton | 06/10 |
| Ed and Pam Weimer                     | 06/20 |
| Jerry and Sheri Cushman               | 06/21 |
| Tyler and Destynie Starner            | 06/24 |
| Pastor Kevin and Debby Holder         | 06/30 |

### UPCOMING EVENTS IN MAY

May 1 Deacons Meeting  
 May 2 Lord's Supper  
 May 7 Youth Group Meeting at 7:00pm  
 May 9 Mother's Day  
 May 15 Armed Forces Day  
 May 31 Memorial Day – Office Closed

**Pastor Kevin will be on vacation from May 10  
 – May 16.**

### UPCOMING EVENTS IN JUNE

June 5 Deacons Meeting  
 June 6 Lord's Supper  
 June 9 Business Meeting at 7:00 PM  
 June 14 Flag Day  
 June 20 Father's Day  
 June 21 Summer begins  
 June 25 Youth Meeting at 7:00 PM

All Sunday Mornings Services are at 11:00 AM

Sunday, June 6 Newsletter articles are due for  
 the July/August issue of the COMMUNICATOR.