

"THE VILLAGER" - JULY 24, 2025

STORY-TELLING AS A DEFINING FEATURE!

Summer is a great time for telling stories! Maybe while sitting around a campfire roasting marshmallows or lazily rocking on a porch; maybe while gathering with family at the beach or laughing about a cross country trip when grandma's suitcase fell off the station wagon roof!

Stories are not just reporting the facts. Instead they strive to entertain or teach or reveal. For example, the Vandalia Rotary Club is hosting exchange students from Slovakia throughout July. I was trying to tell one about a cookout we were hosting at Rea of Hope. I explained that the women there were recovering from addiction. They had lost jobs and houses, family, and access to their kids as a result. They were all working hard to beat their addictions and recover what they had lost. So at the cook out every kid running around, every baby being handed from one set of arms to another is testimony to their hard work of recovery!

We are telling stories this summer as part of a series on difficult texts. These are not the stories we are most proud of. Instead they are troubling, embarrassing, hard to stomach. And yet they are in our Bibles because they are part of our history, and by telling them we reveal something about who we are and what we value; and anybody listening knows we are being brutally transparent.

We've also told a lot of stories as part of our 75th anniversary celebration. Most have highlighted our best qualities. And yet any honest history would tell of places where we've stumbled or fallen short of God's call to holiness. Fortunately the biggest theme in the stories of God is ... GRACE!

So what stories will you be telling this summer?



WORSHIP NOTES 🖶

Join us in person or virtually for worship this summer!

July 27 Difficult Texts 2 Exodus 32:1-4, 15-16, 25-29 and Judges 11:29-40

August 3 Guest preacher - Bill Hairston Luke 12:13-21

August 10 Difficult Texts 3 Matthew 10:1-4, 26:14-16, 17-25, 26-28, 47-50,

and 27:3-10

August 17 Difficult Texts 4 1 Timothy 2:8-15
August 24 Difficult Texts 5 Revelation 16:1-21

August 31 Difficult Texts 6 Ephesians 2:1-10 vs. James 2:14-17

TRAVELING COMMUNION

Following the celebration of the Lord's Supper during worship, on Sunday, August 10th, teams of elders will take communion out to members of the church who are no longer able to come to church.



If you know of someone who would like to receive communion, please contact the church office and we will do our best to make it happen!



11:30 AM - 1:00 PM • Brunch

1:00 PM · Program

ALL EVENTS WILL BE HELD AT THE SYNAGOGUE

1599 Virginia St. East Charleston, WV 25311 PLEASE RESERVE BY JULY 18

email: nancy@bnaijacob.com phone: 304-346-4722

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

If you are in the habit of attending Sunday School, what will you do for theological reflection, fellowship, and Bible study during the months your class is on recess?



Come to Coffee & Conversation
Sundays, 10 AM, in the Library & on
Zoom, until August 24th!

PAY IT FORWARD

Save the date! Pay-it-Forward 2025 will be on Saturday

October 18th! Don't get rid of household items! Save them for Pay-it-Forward!

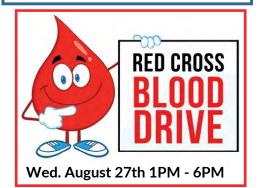


If you need items picked up prior to October, please reach out to Sarah Gottlieb (345-4417) or Heather Barry (539-4949).

ONC CONTINUES

The Officer Nominating Committee has met a couple time to try and discern who God might be calling to serve as an elder in the class of 2028.

The goal is to put a slate before the congregation for their vote in September.



BACKPACKS FOR BOOKWORMS

The Service committee will sponsor the annual "Backpacks for Bookworms!"

The committee is asking the congregation to bring backpacks with tissues, Clorox wipes, hand sanitizer, baby wipes, water bottle with a snap top for refills, notebooks...

For more information, contact Sarah Gottlieb at: 304-345-4417 <a href="mailto:m

MEN'S DINNER

Please join the men of Village Chapel for the next men's dinner! It will take place on Wednesday July 30th at Aladin's at 6:00 PM.

gift cards or money. For any questions please contact Kathy





VCPC mends,

I'll be on vacation and study leave June 27 through August 3.

Rick & Debbie Hanna and Vicki Cunningham will take care of streaming worship services on Sunday, and Leslie will be doing the weekly software setup.

Everything else can wait till August, and I'll be glad to see you then!



Kruk or Vicki Cunningham.

PRAYER CHAIN

An important part of our caring for each other is the Prayer Chain.

Please let Betsy White (betsywhite06@yahoo.com) know of any prayer concerns you may have.

You may also contact Leslie Bremar in the church office (304-925-7265 or leslie@vcpresby.org). Leslie will direct your prayer request to Betsy.

If you would like to be added to the Prayer Chain, please contact the office.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS <u>ON</u> THESE DATES:

August

1 Tonja Parsons

2 Allyson Peck

3 Ben Peck

Carolyn Perrine

5 **Bob Pogue**

6 Patty Pogue

Maggie Powell

8 Angie Price

Greg Rader

10 Terri Rader

11 Sharon Richardson

12 Jay Rorrer

13 Janet Rorrer

14 Kelsey Rorrer

15 Samantha Rorrer

16 Abigail Rorrer

17 Alyssa Rorrer

18 David Salisbury

19 Howard Salisbury

20 Patti Salisbury

21 Ellen Sears

22 Butch Singleton

23 Sandy Singleton

24 Cherrie Sizemore

25 Rick Skaff

26 Patty Skaff

27 Lynne Slamick

28 Jim Slamick

29 Sara Slamick Wood

30 Cindy Sloan 31 Jeff Smith

COMMON GROUNDS Toilet Paper Request

We so appreciate your dedication in donating toilet paper!

We are adjusting how we would like to continue this mission, and ask that in future you provide monetary donations for the purchase of toilet paper because we are able to buy in bulk at a lower cost.

We will have a box for donations at the back of the church that looks a lot like a toilet roll, or you can put it in the offering plate designating it for the purchase of toilet paper.



Nurturing faith ideas



I have a plant on my desk that came Mur uring with clear instructions on how to nurture it - optimum sunlight, water, and temperature. 'Wouldn't it be nice to

have similar information to help us nurture our own faith ... or that of our children or grandchildren? Well, the Presbytery of WV is providing weekly ideas for nurturing faith.

June 29: Third Sunday after Pentecost

Read Galatians 3:22-25

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. These aren't many fruit among many; we don't get to pick and choose which we want to do most. Led by the Spirit, our lives are to reflect all of these. Which aspects do you celebrate most in yourself; which aspect do you need to ask the Spirit to help you with?

July 6: Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Read Galatians 6:7-10

In this passage, we are encouraged to keep doing what is right and working for the good of all. What are some things you could do this week that would help people? Make a list of at least three things and do them.

July 13: Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Read Luke 10:25-37

When the lawyer wanted to know exactly who his neighbor was that he was to love, Jesus told the Story of the Good Samaritan, where the one considered "enemy" and "foreigner" was the one who stopped to help. Who is someone you know, who may be different from you, that needs to know they are cared for and loved? Consider what you might do to help them and then do it.

July 20: Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Read Luke 10:38-42

When Jesus visited, Mary took the time to sit at his feet and listen to what he said: Martha was focused on her tasks, perhaps she was trying to get a meal ready for all of them. Jesus pointed out the importance of spending time in his presence. Are you more like Mary or Martha? Take some time to focus on Jesus today; take a walk, read a book, play music, be silent, pray, whatever makes you aware of Jesus' presence with you.

July 27: Seventh Sunday after Pentecost Read Psalm 138

God wants us to praise God with all our heart. That is a lot of praising! Cut out a heart from a piece of paper then fill up the heart with words and phrases that tell of the wonderful things you believe about God. Tape the heart up somewhere where you will see it all week, reminding you to praise God with all your

STATISTICAL REPORT	7/20/25	7/13/25	7/6/25	6/2925
In-Person Attendance	48	39	47	47
Non-Pledged	\$2,580	\$120	\$2,677.56	\$40
Pledged Contribution	\$5,380	\$605	\$5,052	\$4,475
Miscellaneous Income	\$461	\$43	\$813	\$221.50
Total Contributions	\$8,421	\$768	\$8,542.56	\$4,739.50



2022 AUGUST

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
August Birthdays: 1 - Keri Velasco; 11 - Peggy Palmer Johnston; 12 - Mary Misiti; 13 - Barbara Smith; 14 - Be 18 - T'Aja Blank; 19 - Noah Lawson; 20 - Leslie Bremar, Sara Gottlieb; 26 - Bob Hiser; 29 - Vicki Cunningham	elasco; 11 - Peggy Palmer J .awson; 20 - Leslie Bremar,	ohnston; 12 - Mary Misiti; Sara Gottlieb; 26 - Bob H	; 13 - Barbara Smith; 14 - iser; 29 - Vicki Cunningh	Smith; 14 - Becky Lippitt; Cunningham	1 7 PM NA Group	2
3 10 AM Coffee & Conversation 11 AM Worship Service	4 10 AM Bridge 7 PM ONC Meeting	5	9	7	S 7 PM NA Group	9 12 PM Devon Quilters
10 AM Coffee & Conversation 11 AM Worship Service 12 PM Fellowship Time	11 10 AM Bridge	12 7 PM Worship Team Meeting	7:30 AM Rotary Club 7 PM Stewardship Team Meeting	14	15 7 PM NA Group	16 PWV Meeting at Fleming Memorial
17 10 AM Coffee & Conversation 11 AM Worship Service	18 10 AM Bridge	19	20 7 PM Session Meeting	21	22 7 PM NA Group	23
24 10 AM Coffee & Conversation 11 AM Worship Service 12 PM Bairefoot/Knight Wedding Shower 2:15 PM PWV Youth Council	25 10 AM Bridge	26	27 7:30 AM Rotary Club 1 PM Blood Drive	28 NEWSLETTER	29 7 PM NA Group	30 12 PM Devon Quilters
31 11 AM Worship Service						