



Jefferson United Methodist Church  
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Office hours are 8:30 - 2:00 M-F  
Office closed 11:30 – 12:00 daily for lunch.

**Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ  
for the transformation of the world.  
Our Motto: Love God ~ Love Others ~ Serve the World**

**May, 2024**

**Volume 115**



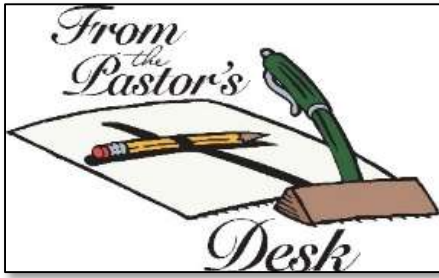


# May

## BIRTHDAYS

- |    |                   |
|----|-------------------|
| 1  | Kylie Roseberry   |
| 5  | Tim Woodruff      |
| 6  | Glenn Jackson III |
| 10 | Cheyenne Hobson   |
| 11 | Nancy Patterson   |
| 14 | Annette Sheldon   |
| 16 | Lorna Westlake    |
| 17 | Jessica Bumgarner |
| 19 | Mary Howe         |
|    | Kelly Cooke       |
| 20 | Aiden O'Neill     |
| 24 | Jackie Bernardo   |
| 26 | Bethany Brail     |





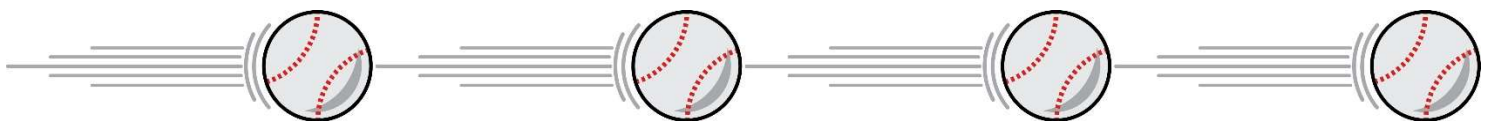
Spring is finally (we hope!) here! And for *our* family that means softball season has begun. Indeed, I now find myself at the JAGS softball field 3-4 times a week, and I am sure it will only ramp up from here in the next couple of months. For my girls (particularly Kylie) love to play softball!!! Their excitement is contagious and I certainly love to see them so happy

when this time of year comes. It draws me back to my years of summer baseball when I was growing up. For I too looked forward to those times and it certainly was always a highlight of my summer. Yes, there is nothing quite like baseball or softball on a summer evening night.

The other night, one of the girls was playing right field and I was reminded of the classic song by the folk music trio Peter, Paul, and Mary titled simply, “Right Field.” In this song, a boy recalls his summer baseball experiences and how he was always stuck in right field because that is where they would put the less talented members of the team since not many balls were hit out there. (I can relate, because I played a lot of right field for the same reason!)

Well, in addition to having this song stuck in my head the entire week, I have also been reflecting on what this little tune says about our faith. See, in the song, the boy dreams about being the hero, but he also laments that he was not one of the faster and stronger people on the team, and so these games were always a test of his self-esteem. How many times in our lives have we found ourself in this situation? That is, have *you* ever prayed to God about a desire to be the “hero,” while at the same time claiming that you are not very “strong” or “fast?”

Throughout my life in the Church, I have heard this numerous times. “I am not special. There is nothing I can do because I am not talented enough. God doesn’t want me to serve because I would just mess it up.” These are just a few of the excuses we all like to make from time to time. But see, these statements are just not true. For God has created us to be who we are...just as we are. All of us may not be the first baseman or shortstop, but we are still a valuable part of the team. As the boy in the song discovers at the end – after finally getting the chance to catch a fly ball – being in right field is just as important.



I say this from the pulpit rather frequently, but we *all* are a valuable part of the Body of Christ. God has given *each* of us gifts and talents to serve, and none of them are more valuable than the next. And it takes *all* of us working together to be the Church God calls us to be – just like you need a shortstop *and* a right fielder to win the game.

We are in the middle of a church-wide focus on prayer and the first week of May, we as a country will observe the National Day of Prayer. I sincerely hope you have taken – or will take – the opportunity to get involved in some of our new prayer activities. Or if this is not possible for you, I hope that you are at least spending some intentional time in prayer for yourself, others, and our church as we move forward to discover the vision God has for us.

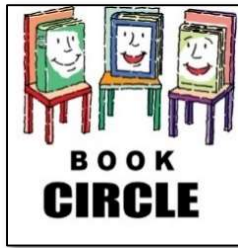
Furthermore, I invite you to Giddings Park on Thursday, May 2 at 6:30 p.m. for the Community National Day of Prayer Event. Come and pray for all aspects of our country and world. Pray that we can have healing, peace, and unity. Pray for direction and guidance. Pray that everyone may know and experience the love of Christ. Pray for hope and light.

But also pray for God to show you how special you are and where He is calling you. Maybe it is to play shortstop, maybe it is to pitch, or maybe it *is* to play right field. Whatever the case may be, *you* are an MVP and an integral part of the team. So always remember that promise, embrace what God has called you to be, and offer yourselves up in service for our Lord and Savior. Play ball!!!



**CALLED**  
▶ **FOR A** ◀  
**PURPOSE**





We've switched to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday  
of the month!

**Tuesday, May 14 at noon.**

Meet at the church. We'll buy & share pizza  
again. Let Mary Howe know if you'll be  
attending!

**May**

*The Bean Trees*

by Barbara Kingsolver

This is also the book for our combined book  
gathering on May 28 with Trinity Church  
book club.

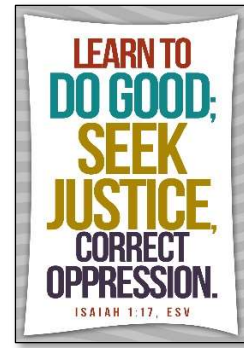
We decided to read *Nature's Best Hope* by  
Doug Tallamy (an all county read) on our  
own and attend his speaking at Lakeside HS  
on June 7 at 7 PM.

**June**

We'll all read and report on a favorite book  
– whether read before or a new book to  
read. We'll meet on Tues., June 11 for that.

**Open to other suggestions for books to  
read!!**

**Please join us & keep reading!**



## Verse of the Day

When justice is done, it is a joy to the  
righteous but dismay to evildoers.

- Proverbs 21:15

## Voice of the Day

Every war is a war against children.

- Eglantyne Jebb

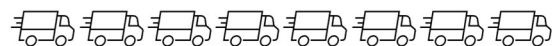
## Prayer of the Day

God of peace, remind us that the terrors  
of war are not your vision for our lives.  
May we seek justice for ourselves and  
our children.



Thank you all SOO much for your donations to the Change the World  
Fund through your purchase of Easter butterflies and your Coins for  
Lent. We collected a total of \$1392 as of 4/18/24. That almost covers  
the year for the 3 young women we support in Cambodia. The monthly  
Loose Change Offering also goes into the Change the World and after  
the donations for the Cambodian women last year, it was split between  
3 missions. We'll do the same with this year's. Keep up the good work  
for missions!

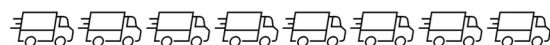
# SUSANNA'S CUPBOARD



## MANNA DRIVERS

Our church is proud of our Manna drivers! Some deliver alone, and some are partners.

Together, eight drivers or teams of drivers deliver to 16 clients on the second and fourth Thursdays of every month. If a driver is ill, or away, the others step in to cover for the missing one. It's positive way to serve Jesus and care for His sheep. If you ever want to see about joining us, as a full driver, or as a substitute for emergencies, please call 440-479-8252.



HELLO, DEAR ONES

It seems we have passed through the hardest part of the year, and entered into spring.

Now, in the gentler seasons, we offer different items in our little cupboard. We are not so concerned with high-energy heavy food, and we can suggest donations of a lighter order. If you are so moved to drop off lemonade or other favorite drink powders, our clients will be delighted to find them.

We have stored our remaining hats and gloves. We will continue to offer socks until we run out. We will replenish those with another "Sock Sunday" in October.

This is the season when we begin to receive donations of kids' sneakers, play clothes, and tiny swim suits! Of course, we cannot pass these along to our clients, and must take them to the Planet Aid boxes around town. Sigh...

If you have donations but cannot get to the church to deliver them, I will be happy to pick them up. Please call 440-479-8252 😊

Thank you,  
Susanna



# UNITED METHODIST SPECIAL SUNDAY PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY



Image credit: clipartmax.com

50%

REMAINS IN  
THE ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE

## SUPPORT

Donations support programs and ministries to educate, equip and mobilize networks to engage in social advocacy and action.

50%

FUNDS  
PEACEMAKING  
MINISTRIES  
AND GRANTS



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.  
The people of The United Methodist Church®





## **Heartsaver CPR/AED Classes for May**

### **JERD (Jefferson Emergency Rescue District)**

**11 South Market Street, Jefferson**

**216 319 0233**

**May 7<sup>th</sup> 5-7 PM**

**May 23<sup>rd</sup> 12-2 PM**

**June 4<sup>th</sup> 12-2 PM**

**June 18<sup>th</sup> 5-7 PM**

### **SCAD (South Central Ambulance District)**

**3100 US Highway 6, Rome**

**440 563 5619**

**May 30<sup>th</sup> 6-8 PM**

**Please consider taking a CPR/AED Heartsaver class –  
it could save someone's life!**

**Both have online sites for signing up for classes, or call the number listed for additional information. Classes do not require kneeling and do not include mouth to mouth breathing. If you need additional information, please contact me.**

*Martha Haluszka, Health Ministry 440 862 2331*



# YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

Our church programs depend on the generous contributions of our church family. As of the first quarter of 2024, we are experiencing a significant shortfall, and the Finance Committee is asking everyone to prayerfully consider increasing your support of our General Fund. Many of the missions and ministries of the church have specific “dedicated” funds, **but those funds can’t be used for the operations of the church itself.** The General Fund allows us to pay for the staff, utilities, maintenance, and other expenses that are essential for fulfilling our purpose, The following is a breakdown of the average monthly General Fund income and expenses for the first 3 months of 2024:

<b>Average Monthly Income</b>	<b>\$19,722</b>
<b>Average Monthly Expenses</b>	Jan-Mar 2024 Averages
Salaries & Benefits	\$14,474
Church & Parsonage Maintenance and Utilities, Snow & Lawn Care, Property Taxes	\$8,754
Conference Shared Ministries (apportionments) <i>*See note below</i>	\$2,006*
Administrative Expenses (office supplies, equipment maintenance contracts, postage)	\$1,090
Worship & Communion, Piano & Organ Tuning, Spiritual Formation	\$364
<b>Total Average Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>\$26,688</b>



*\*We have paused our Shared Ministries (conference apportionments) payments of \$3,009.42/month until our financial outlook improves. As of April 30, we are currently a month and a half behind in our payments.*

As you can see, we will not be able to sustain this deficit if it continues throughout the year. The leadership team has been doing a great job of cutting back on expenditures and looking into cost saving measures, but WE NEED YOUR HELP to be able to continue offering the ministries that we believe are important to our community and beyond. Thank you for your continued (and hopefully increased) support!

*The Jefferson United Methodist Church Finance Committee*

# Susanna Wesley Ministries

Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Susanna Wesley House

Shine Project

Children's Ministry

## Grateful Gifts! *(Written by Reasey)*

A prayer with a faithful heart God always answers because He knows what we need. To have computers at the dorm has been many of our students' prayers that we always pray and God answered our prayer! It has been our privilege to have our friends from Hawaii who came to visit us this month. We had a wonderful time to listen to their Christian journey, play some games and making spam musubi. And they gifted us with four desktop computers for all students to use. We really appreciate their generous gifts to SWH students to use for our studies and research papers. God is good!



## Happy Easter! Jesus Rose Again *(Written by Reasey)*

Happy Easter! Jesus came to the world to die for our sins. But He is rose again and this is the reason that we have hope in Him. We give thanks to His love for His children. Because His love is for everyone, we have to share His love with others as well. Since the Hawaii team taught us how to make spam musubi last week, we made our first musubi for our church member as well for Easter potluck!





# Shine Project - Vocational Training Program



For this new month, we are really happy to have a new participant. Her name is Sev Pach, she is from Rotanakiri province in the north of Cambodia. Most people in Rotanakiri are from tribes. Sev Pach is from Jarai tribe. As a tribal person, she got bullied by other people because she cannot speak and write Khmer language well. Sev Pach is a



middle child and she had to work harder to support her family and her brother and sister who are studying. She was really happy when she found our program to get licensed in Khmer food. She was so patient to wait to join us because she had a full time job so she had to ask her boss to work a part time. Nowaday she is studying so hard to catch her dream. *(Written by Youlika)*

## Children's Ministry

## New Webpage IS Here!

This month, the MCC pastors and the GBGM staffs finally finished 3-year Sunday school lessons! That's 156 lessons with over 300 children's music videos! To make this easier to access, we launched a new website. It's <http://lovemcc.org>. We have all lessons divided into 3 years with dates and videos (for both teachers and children), music videos, and pdfs so that anyone can just visit the website and be able to find all they need for a selected week's Sunday school lesson for children! You can use these materials for your mission week to introduce Cambodia mission as well as Cambodian children! All glory be to God! *(Written by Janice)*

**How to Support:** An annual tuition for most of the universities in Phnom Penh is about \$600.

**Online support:** <https://advance.umcmmission.org/p-393-children-and-youth-scholarships.aspx>

Children and Youth Scholarships - Advance # 3020791

**To donate by check:** Please make your check payable to **Advance GCFA** and write the **Advance # 3020791** on the memo line. (Address: Advance GCFA PO Box 9068 GPO New York, NY 10087-9068)

**Contact:** Janice Lee (Susanna Wesley Ministries Coordinator) - [janicechristian@gmail.com](mailto:janicechristian@gmail.com)

# May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>28</p> <p>Loose Change Sunday</p> <p>9:30am - Worship</p> <p>10:30am - Fellowship</p> <p>10:30am - Sunday</p> <p>5pm - Youth Group</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Yoga -</p> <p>6:30pm - Scouts</p> <p>6:30pm - Yoga - Slow</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10am - Ministry Team</p>	<p>1</p> <p>6:30pm - Bell Choir</p> <p>7pm - Chancel Choir</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Women's</p> <p>1pm - Community</p>	<p>3</p> <p>4pm - CHRISTO retreat @ Asbury</p> <p>8am - WIC</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8am - Men @ Mugs</p>
<p>5</p> <p>9:30am - Worship</p> <p>10:30am - Fellowship</p> <p>10:30am - Sunday</p> <p>5pm - Youth Group</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Yoga -</p> <p>6:30pm - Scouts</p> <p>6:30pm - Yoga - Slow</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10am - Ministry Team</p> <p>4pm - Christian Cafe @</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:30pm - Bell Choir</p> <p>7pm - Chancel Choir</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Women's</p> <p>12pm - Quilters</p> <p>1pm - Community</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8am - WIC</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8am - Men @ Mugs</p> <p>8:30am - Stephen Min.</p>
<p>12</p> <p>9:30am - Worship</p> <p>10:30am - Fellowship</p> <p>10:30am - Sunday</p> <p>5pm - Youth Group</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Yoga -</p> <p>6:30pm - Scouts</p> <p>6:30pm - Yoga - Slow</p> <p>7pm - Ad Board</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10am - Ministry Team</p> <p>12pm - Book Circle</p>	<p>15</p> <p>5:30pm - Praise Team</p> <p>6:30pm - Bell Choir</p> <p>7pm - Chancel Choir</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Women's</p> <p>1pm - Community</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8am - WIC</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8am - Men @ Mugs</p> <p>11am - Private Event</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9:30am - Worship</p> <p>10:30am - Fellowship</p> <p>10:30am - Sunday</p> <p>5pm - Youth Group</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Yoga -</p> <p>6:30pm - Scouts</p> <p>6:30pm - Yoga - Slow</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10am - Ministry Team</p> <p>4pm - Christian Cafe @</p>	<p>22</p> <p>5:30pm - Praise Team</p> <p>6:30pm - Bell Choir</p> <p>7pm - Chancel Choir</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Women's</p> <p>12pm - R &amp; R Pasta</p> <p>1pm - Community</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8am - WIC</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8am - Men @ Mugs</p> <p>10am - Quilters</p>
<p>26</p> <p>Loose Change Sunday</p> <p>9:30am - Worship</p> <p>10:30am - Fellowship</p> <p>10:30am - Sunday</p> <p>5pm - Youth Group</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Office Closed</p> <p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Yoga -</p> <p>6:30pm - Scouts</p> <p>6:30pm - Yoga - Slow</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10am - Ministry Team</p> <p>6:30pm - NWD</p>	<p>29</p> <p>6:30pm - Bell Choir</p> <p>7pm - Chancel Choir</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9am - Pickle Ball</p> <p>10:30am - Women's</p> <p>1pm - Community</p>	<p>31</p> <p>8am - WIC</p>	<p>1</p> <p>8am - Men @ Mugs</p>