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# The ECHO

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Church toll free and The Learning Center - (636) 274-4797  
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Volume 69 Issue 5

May 2022

## May 2022 CALENDAR

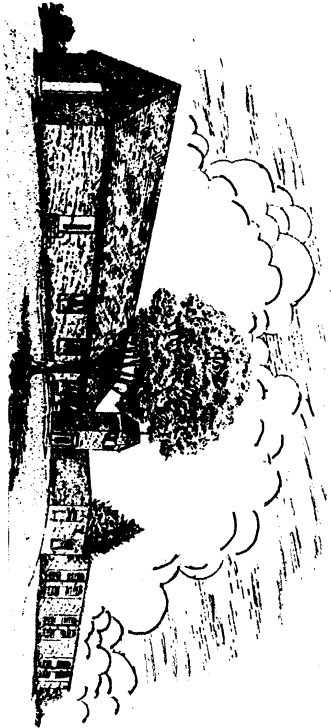
SUNDAY, May 1  
10 am Worship & Sunday school  
MONDAY, May 2  
4:30 Dining at Pegg's  
THURSDAY, May 5  
11:30 Women's Fellowship  
5:00 Women's Book Study  
SUNDAY, May 8 -  
10:00 Worship & Sunday school  
Youth Meeting following worship  
MONDAY, May 9  
ECHO INFORMATION DUE  
TUESDAY, May 10  
6:30 Church Council Meeting  
THURSDAY, May 12  
5:00 Women's Book Study  
SUNDAY, May 15  
10 am Worship & Sunday school  
Tues., May 17  
6:30 LEARNING CENTER  
GRADUATION  
WEDNESDAY, May 18  
7:00 Men's Fellowship  
THURSDAY, May 19  
5:00 Women's Book Study  
SUNDAY, May 22  
10 am Worship & Sunday school  
THURSDAY, May 26  
5:00 Women's Book Study  
SUNDAY, May 29 YOUTH SUNDAY  
10 am Worship & Sunday school  
MONDAY, May 30 CHURCH OFFICE  
AND LEARNING CENTER OFFICES  
ARE CLOSED

## FAITHFUL SERVERS FOR MAY

May 1  
Hopper Usher Team  
Lay Reader: Kathy Heincker  
Nursery: Amy May  
Children's Church: Charlotte & Rayna Meyer  
May 8  
Weckback Usher Team  
Lay Reader: Bryan Meyer  
Nursery: Christie Kavanagh  
Children's Church: Stacy Spicer  
May 15  
Bohle Usher Team  
Lay Reader Michael Williams  
Nursery: Charlotte & Rayna Meyer  
Children's Church: Dani Jetensky  
May 22  
Wakeland Usher Team  
Lay Reader: Rich Koenig  
Nursery: Tammy Birkenbach  
Children's Church: Racheal Wakeland  
May 29  
Youth Sunday

ST. MARTIN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
7890 Dittmer Ridge Road  
Dittmer, MO 63023-1112  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL  
May 2022



NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
DITTMER,  
MISSOURI  
63023  
PERMIT #1



For the month of May in Children's Church during the 10 a.m. worship hour, we are going to be learning all about Moms in the Bible!

We will begin with Eve of course whom God created from Adam in order to be the completeness of humans being formed in our Creator's image. Because she is the mother of us all,

she reminds us that we are all one big human family.

We will meet and learn about Jochabed, the mother of Moses. What a heart-breaking decision she had to make to give up her baby boy; but the fact that Moses was rescued and she actually got him back is an important lesson to us about trusting in the Lord.

Sarah is the wife of Abraham. Together they are the Father and Mother of the important lesson that having faith in God is all that we need to do in order to be in a right relationship with God. Sarah had a difficult time waiting patiently for God to make her a mother and when it happened she laughed – so she named her son Isaac which means 'laughter'! Sarah learns that nothing is too difficult with God.

Rachel became the mother of all of the 12 tribes of Israel. Her heart knew great joy as well as tragedy for her children. We will learn the fascinating lesson about Joseph, the favored son of both her and his father Jacob. In the end, Joseph's message to his brothers who treated him badly was that – what they meant for bad God meant for good. This is a powerful story about trust and forgiveness.

Finally, Mary is the maiden whom God chose to become the mother of Jesus. It is her willingness to serve God and do whatever the Lord expects of her which her part in the story of our salvation teaches us.

Hope to see you, and your youngsters, in church this summer as we honor MOM for the who month of May.

*Pastor Scott*

**If you give your tithe to the church electronically, please notice the new change.**

Now is the time to download the Vanco Mobile app, your church's new giving app, and delete GivePlus Mobile from your devices. Your church is now using Vanco Mobile! Getting the app is easy! Just download it from your app store. Once you've downloaded the app, all you have to do is log in with your same username and password to make your gifts.

**GivePlus Mobile will be retired on April 30, 2022, so you won't be able to make new or edit existing gifts through GivePlus Mobile after that.**

**WHAT TO DO WHEN THE WORLD IS FALLING APART**

Support your faith with goodness, and goodness with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with endurance, and endurance with godliness, and godliness with mutual affection, and mutual affection with love.

2 Peter 1:5-7

Last week, I shared some brilliant wisdom from the children of my churches. This week, I am back with more! Out of the mouths of babes, Right?

Yesterday during worship, I asked our young folks what prayers they had. A young girl raised her hand and said, "For Ukrainian people." There were lots of nods around the room. I asked them what they heard about Ukraine and how they were feeling. I could sense a lot a fear and worry in them, so I pivoted my message: "Sometimes when the world feels really chaotic and scary, it's important to take care of ourselves. What do you do to take care of yourself?"

A little boy raised his hand: "Eat Vegetables."

The girl next to him: "Stay hydrated."

Another young one: "Go outside."

"Exercise."

"Get lots of sleep."

"Pray."

"Take deep breaths."

I turned to the adults and said, "I think y'all are teaching a lesson the adults need too. Right?"

There was a resounding yes.

Sometimes, when the world is falling apart, the best thing we can do is take care of ourselves. Maybe that sounds counter-intuitive, but here is the thing: I have learned that one of the best ways to love and care for my husband is to make loving and caring for myself a priority. We all know that cliché: you can't pour from an empty cup. That exists for a reason.

One way we can care for the world is by caring for ourselves.

Today I invite you to do just that. Drink some water. Go outside. Take a deep breath.

Holding you and our world in love,

Rev. Kelsey

***First Rites of Passage: 40 Hours in the Wilderness  
A Son/Father Depth Spiritual Retreat for Boys\****

Shannondale Retreat Center – Ozark National Scenic Riverways  
Friday, June 3, 2022, 6:00 pm – Sunday, June 5, 2022, 2:00 pm  
\$150 for son and father together

The general assumption underlying all initiatory rites is that unless a young male is shown real power through a community of wise elders, he will always seek false power and likely will spend much of his life seeking prestige, perks and possessions. The pattern of the monolith of the hero in the Hero's Journey is universal: 1) Separation from business as usual, old roles, dependent affirmation... 2) This moves the initiate into a threshold or liminal space where God can be heard. 3) Here a numinous, mystical, spiritual encounter is possible, desired, required. Wilderness space provides for this. 4) Now the initiate returns to his community with a new identity and a gift for the community, although his primary gift is the man he has become. Dads will be empowered to live in this too.

Travelers are encouraged to eat Friday dinner in either Salem or Eminence. Sleeping will be in communal bunks at Timber Lodge unless there is a specific need. Bring linens, toiletries, sunscreen, insect repellent, Bible, and especially a journal. Boys will be given a chance to swim so bring trunks or cut-offs. Sunday worship will be at Shannondale UCC – casual outdoor dress.

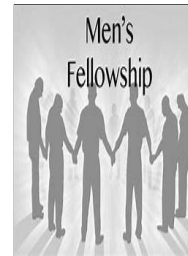
\*The Rites include all meals, bonfire snacks and materials for a major project to keep. Please come regardless of ability to pay! A male elder may accompany the young man if a dad's participation is not possible. All who identify as men, boys, or non-binary individuals are welcomed here. A few older young men who might serve as peer mentors (and older brothers) would be welcomed with their dads. Boys and men from other congregations or faith communities, the neighborhood, scouting, the gym...will feel wholly welcomed.

Scholarships are available  
For more information, please contact  
Jack Nobles. 636-375-0605



Our April 7th meeting started with a pot luck lunch enjoyed by 14 ladies and Pastor Scott. Sandy gave a short bible lesson inspired by April Fool's Day. We had a brief business meeting followed by a demonstration of facials by Debby Utteback. We shared lots of laughs and good fellowship. Our next meeting is in Fellowship Hall on May 5th and will be a potluck lunch celebrating Cinco De Mayo, so bring something Mexican to share. We also are holding our Annual Baby Shower with the gifts going to the Jefferson County My Life Medical and Resource Center to help families in need with newborns. We invite all who are able to bring unwrapped baby gifts. Cash donations are always welcome as well. With the possibility once again of church activities opening up, it's time to give consideration to updating health certifications to make sure our kitchen meets local health requirements. Information about opportunities to become certified will be upcoming. Please volunteer to be certified. All women of the church are invited to join in fun and fellowship at 11:30am on the first Thursday of each month.

Respectfully submitted  
by Sandy Roland, President



Please come and be a part of Men's Fellowship. The May meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 18, 2022 in the Conference Room at 7:00 pm.



The Education Committee plans to have Sunday School on the first Sunday of each month during the summer (June, July, August). A nursery will be provided each Sunday provided helpers can be found. Kim Taylor plans to direct Vacation Bible School during the last week of July. More details coming soon. Church Council approved the repair of the roof over the Narthex and office area by Stark Roofing at a cost of \$17,500. The roof has been temporarily patched until the repairs can be made. The wood on the roof is also rotten in places and will need to be replaced. This amount will be taken from the Special Projects account. We still need all food servers to be certified with Safe Serve so that any future church dinners will be appropriately staffed as required by the Health Department. More information about this will be forthcoming.



In the past, Peace Pantry has made monthly suggestions for donations. This has changed. The following items are needed all year. Please feel free to donate at any time: ketchup, mustard, jelly, sugar, flour, spices, cake mixes and icings, hamburger helper, rice-a-roni, canned potatoes, canned mixed vegetables, instant potatoes, canned ravioli, or other like items. Thank you.



## Youth Group

We would like to congratulate and welcome our new confirmands; Luke Meier, Logan Spicer, and Jayden Green. It's an exciting time in the life of the church when young people make the decision to follow and grow in their faith.

Easter was busy as usual. The youth helped set up for Sunrise Service, they served donuts and drinks after Sunrise Service, filled eggs during the 8:00am service and hid the eggs at the beginning of the 10:00am service after which they enjoyed the message delivered in music by the choir. After church they assisted in the egg hunt for all the children that attended.

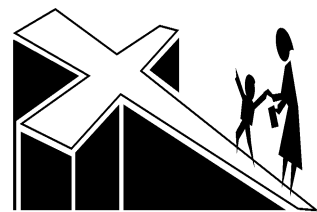
Our Mission Trip to Bayou La Batre is quickly approaching and we are in the final stages of preparation. We have 9 youth attending and 3 adults. We are all looking forward to this amazing opportunity to serve Christ outside our community and meet other faith minded youth. We leave June 26 and will return on July 1.

We will be honoring all the women in the church on May 8<sup>th</sup> for Mother's Day. We consider every woman in the congregation as our "Mother", each and every one of you support and love our youth and this is our way of thanking you!!!!

Terri Green, Donna Scanlon, Kathy Hopper

# ATTENTION!

Just a reminder that the Women's fellowship is still collecting labels from all Best Choice products. Best Choice products are found at Radeackars and Price Chopper. As of March 27<sup>th</sup>, we had 704 labels. We need 1000 before we can send them in. You only need to bring in the bar code from the product labels. Please put your labels in the large jar on the table in the narthex. Let's see how fast we can make it to the 1000 label goal. Thank you, June Roberts.



## VBS TEACHERS WANTED

Vacation Bible School will be held July 25—July 29. Kim Hopper will be directing again this year. We are needing teachers, and assistants to help. If you are available and interested in helping, please contact Kim Taylor, Ruth Ann Meyer, or the church office. It takes a village to guide our youth and we need your help.



Corbin Thomas Pollard  
March 22, 2022

Parents: Bryan & Kelsey Pollard  
Grandparent: Kathy McCart  
Great Grandparents: Tom & Judy Davis

Oliver Louis Hinch  
March 31, 2022

Great Grandparents: Roger & Kathy Hopper

Bryce Matthew Tubb  
April 6, 2022

Great Grandparents: Roger & Kathy Hopper



Heartfelt thanks to our church family for the prayers, cards, and phone calls during Roger's surgery and recovery.

Roger & Kathy Hopper

THANK YOU to our whole church family, Learning Center families & our community for the support we received for the Mega Sale. Between sales & cash donations, we made \$5,075—our biggest profit so far! We were able to share our "leftovers" with 2 NHS groups' service projects, My Life Resource Center & the Peace Panty, meaning that your donations have been spread far & wide to make life a little better for a lot of people. Our 27 volunteers "Mega Crew" was key to putting it all together & we are so thankful for them!

With Gratitude to all,  
Donna Scanlon, Gary & Gerry Jones



LOOK WHO IS HAVING A BIRTHDAY  
80 + years

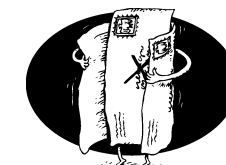
Lorrie Reardon	5/19
Mary Bonacker	5/20
Marilyn Norton	5/27

LOOK WHO HAS AN ANNIVERSARY  
25 + years

Delmar & Jill Gillman	5/1	46 years
Steve & Krissy Vandaveer	5/3	25 years
Jim & Tammy Birckenbach	5/12	43 years
Stewart & Charlene Polston	5/17	36 years
Warren & Darlene Ashwell	5/20	45 years
Daniel & Kathy Webster	5/21	39 years
Ken & Bonnie Terrell	5/22	51 years
Rich & Jennifer Meyer	5/31	31 years



Marilyn Viehland  
March 22, 2022



## Change of Address

Donna Kniep  
1352 Kensington Way  
Ellsville, MO  
63011