BLOUNTSTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- May 4 National Day of Prayer
- May 14 -Mother's Day
- May 21 -AscensionSunday
- May 28 -Pentecost
- May 29 -Memorial Day

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# Circuit Writer

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M A Y 2023

# Our Proper Role

"We're called to be witnesses, not lawyers or judges." This quip may bring a chuckle, but it's also a good reminder as we celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord (May 18 this year). Jesus directed his disciples to spread the good news he had taught them: "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses..." (Acts 1:8, NRSV).



While professional lawyers and judges certainly have their place in society and can serve God by working for genuine justice for all, we are not called in daily life to judge others' morality or relationship with God. "Do not judge," Jesus says, "and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven" (Luke 6:37, NIV). And what is one of the most powerful forms of witness to Christ? Forgiveness.

# Breath of the Spirit

The breathing I did yesterday will not keep me alive today. I must continue to breathe afresh every moment, or my life will cease. In like manner, yesterday's grace and spiritual strength must be renewed and the Holy Spirit must continue to breathe on my soul from moment to moment in order that I may continue to enjoy him and to work the works he has assigned me.

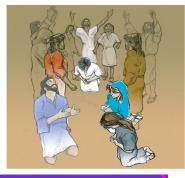
-Augustus Toplady



"The mothers in our lives leave a legacy that last forever."

Her children arise and call her blessed;...

Proverbs 31:28



## A Legacy that Lasts Forever

"Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come.

She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.

She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.

Her children rise up and call her happy:" - Proverbs 31:25-28

May is the month we celebrate the impact of mothers and the women in our lives who shared their motherly love with us. Throughout history mothers have impacted the lives of those who would later impact the lives of many. George Washington once said, "All I am I owe to my mother, I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual and physical education I received from her." Abraham Lincoln made it clear, "All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother."

The mothers in our lives leave a legacy that lasts forever. Billy Graham observed, "Only God Himself fully appreciates the influence of a Christian mother in the molding of character in her children." God has specially equipped women for that very purpose.

Thomas Edison once said this about his mother, "I did not have my mother long, but she cast over me an influence which has lasted all my life. The good effects of her early training I can never lose. If it had not been for her appreciation and her faith in me at a critical time in my experience, I should never likely have become an inventor. I was always a careless boy, and with a mother of different mental caliber, I should have turned out badly. But her firmness, her sweetness, her goodness, were potent powers to keep me in the right path. My mother was the making of me. The memory of her will always be a blessing to me."

As Proverbs 31 points out, our mothers and those women who

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### A Legacy that Last Forever cont' from page 2

shared their motherly love with us provide a lasting legacy and hope. It is this hope that blossoms our personal faith and character. This is the reason for celebrating mothers whose "hope in the Lord" has proven contagious!

Grace and Peace

Pastor Tyler

### Life Immortal

At the end of May, Americans honor those who've died for our country—and remember all deceased loved ones. These times of reflection, often in cemeteries, can make us ponder our own mortality. Even some Christians may fear the unknown of death.

Yet because of our faith, followers of Jesus can aim to make productive use of whatever earthly time we have left. We know the grave isn't the end. Consider this poetic description of life everlasting from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow: "Dust thou art, to dust returnest / was not spoken of the soul."

To our death-defying, death-defeating God we pray: Eternal God, empower us to take hold of the eternal life to which Christ calls us, and to boldly testify of it to anyone who asks the reason for our hope. To the immortal King of the ages, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, to him be honor, glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.





### **Christian Symbol**

**TONGUES OF FIRE** — Reminiscent of the Pentecost account in Acts 2 when "tongues of fire" rested on the disciples' heads as the Holy Spirit birthed the church, images of flames symbolize the Spirit. Sometimes a tongue of fire is paired with a dove and set on a red background — other symbols of the Holy Spirit. Fire may also indicate spiritual fervor and zeal in a Christian's Life.



# Our Caring Ministry

... let your request be made known to God.

"Happiness is
like jam. You
can't spread
even a little
without getting
some on
yourself."

# Our Caring Ministry

#### **Short Term Concerns**

Sonny Harrison
Paul Hoff
Angie Jordan
Joyce Little
Joe Rector
Sofia Rodriguez
Joe Schruefer
Mary Schruefer
Willard Smith
Sarah Lynn White

### Intercessory

Eric Alford Rhett Bozeman Connie Carpenter Bonnie Hall Laura Williams Virginia Williams

# Caregivers Persecuted Christians

#### **Those Battling Cancer**

Grace Barfield
Terry Blair
Robert Hughes
Iann Kollarik
Heather Leonard
Luke Melvin
Karen Pilcher

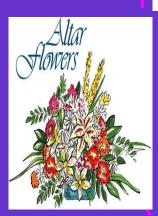
#### **Our Shut-Ins**

Joe Webb Ann Weiler

### Our Military Ukraine

Please contact the office with any updates to this list – Thank You!

Just a reminder names placed on Our Caring Ministry List must be submitted through the church office. Requests can be done by emails, or phone calls.



### FLOWER CALENDAR

May 07 - Mr. & Mrs. Mike Tucker

May 14 - Mr. & Mrs. Henry McCrone

May 21 - Dr. & Mrs. Finlay Corbin

May 28 - Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Hand

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Chancel Choir Youth Wednesdays



Healthy Living Group Thursdays @ 5 P.M.

| Sunday  | Monday                            | Tuesday  | Wednesday                  | Thursday  | Friday                            | Saturday                       |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Communion Cathy & Glenn Kimbrel Offering Golden Cross | 1                                 | <b>2</b><br><b>♥</b> Barbara &<br>Hentz<br>McClellan | <b>3</b>                   |   | 5<br>♪ Mike<br>McCaskill          | Ashley Whitfield NKelby Durham |
| <b>7</b> Ryan Whitfield                               | 8                                 | <b>9</b><br>♪Mike Mayo                               | Sister Friends 10:00 am    | Jones  Jones  Mary Ann  Willams                           | 12                                | 13                             |
| Mother's Day  Gale Ferguson                           | <b>15 ♥</b> Jackie & David House  | UMW Meeting 10:00 am Chris Herndon                   | 17                         | 18<br>Sister<br>Friends<br>10:00 am                       | 19                                | 20                             |
| Ascension Sunday Prayton Hayes                        | 22                                | <b>23</b>  | 24 Sister Friends 10:00 am | <b>25</b> ♥Cheri & Quentin Henderson                      | 26                                | <b>27</b> Jackie     House     |
| Pentecost Sharon McCrone                              | <b>Memorial Day</b> Jagger Weiler | <b>30 ♥</b> Laurie & Brian James                     | 31                         | <b>Ush</b><br>Hentz M<br>Finlay<br><b>Stan</b><br>Glen Mo | cClellan<br>Corbin<br><b>idby</b> |                                |



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Glorifying God by loving and leading all people to Christ.

### PRAY FOR THESE FAMILIES

- Nick Hughes Family / Brian James Family
- 2. Sandra & Jim Jines / Billy Jordan Family
- Kinsey & Seth Jones / Becky Kastli Family
- Cathy & Glenn Kimbrel / Jonathan Kimbrel Family
- Clay Knight / Richard Leath
- 6. Alva Martin / Sally & Mike Mayo
- Gail & Joe Mike McCaskill / March McCaskill Family
- Michael McCaskill Family / Danita & Glen McClellan
- 9. Heath McClellan Family / Hentz McClellan Family
- 10. Kyle McClellan Family / Sharon & Henry McCrone
- 11. Helen McCowen / Phyllis & Frank Miller
- 12. Kathryn McMillan Mitchell / Betty Monford

- 13. Brenda Parrish / Gary Parrish
- 14. Joyce Peacock / Michelle Pettis Family
- 15. Charmian & Jerry Register / Diane & Russell Scholz
- 16. DellAnne & Michael Schruefer Shelia Shelton
- 17. Ken Sheppard Family / Stacy Sims
- 18. Brittany Smith Family / Rodney Smith Family
- 19. Donald Stanley Family / Sue & Don Stanley
- 20. Mert Stephens / Scott Stephens Family
- 21. Virginia House Szrowics / Chris & John Tomlinson
- 22. Ann & Mike Tucker Ann Weiler
- 23. Janis & Jack Weiler / Jarred Weiler Family
- 24. Joe Webb / Cherie White Family

- 25. Esther Alford / Gina Averett Family
- 26. Dresa Barfield / John Barfield Family
- 27. Wynelle Bateman /Mary Margaret & Bob Barsch
- 28. Connie & Alton Carpenter / Betty Ann Cayson
- 29. Finlay Corbin Family / Jimmy Cox Family
- 30. Gina & Tyler Cox / Joe Durden Family
- 31. Kelby Durham /
  Debbie & Tommy Edwards