

Fellowship Informer

Stephens City Mennonite Church

Stephens City, Virginia

The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts:
and though all its parts are many, they form one body.
So it is with Christ. I Corinthians 12:1

Worshiping: May and June

May 1 – Ecclesia Sunday

Reflection question: What “living hope” is Jesus calling you to? Our congregation? Do you believe that you are a living hope? If not, why not? – I Peter 1:3-9)

May 8 – Confusion & clarity – Road to Emmaus – Luke 24:13-35

May 15 – **Joint worship service** with Deliverance Pentecostal Church – Doug Sloane, guest speaker, Picnic following

May 22 – Rejected and Chosen – Stephen in Acts 7

May 29 – **Marriage Covenant Sunday** – Glenn and Velma Horst

Planning Ahead:

June 5 – **Graduation Sunday** – Celebrating the completion of 12 years of school for Malinda Kleman, Matthew Heisey, and Kristy Steenson ~ Outdoor service & fellowship meal

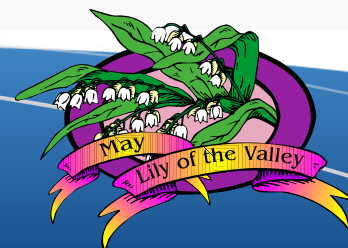
June 12 – **Pentecost** – Transformed – Drama – Acts 2

June 19 – Ecclesia Sunday

Upcoming Activities

- May 7 Bike hike rescheduled
Book study: 7 P.M. at Snodgrass home
- May 11 Quarterly Congregational Meeting at 7 P.M.
- May 14 Men’s Breakfast: 7:30 A.M.

Women’s group Flowerbed care activity: 8:30 A.M.
- May 15 Joint service followed by picnic in pavilion
- May 21 Intergenerational Soul-Care event: 8-10 A.M.
- May 22 Evening Worship– Contemporary songs of the church: 6 P.M.



FRIENDS AND VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

May 15 Service

May 15: SCMC will gather as usual for the 9:30-10:25 Christian Education hour. At 10:30-10:45 A.M.: Praise & Worship @ SCMC By 11:00 A.M. we will join the Deliverance Pentecostal Church up the street for Worship with Doug Sloane from Reading, Pennsylvania, as the guest speaker.

We have been looking for opportunities to connect with our neighbors. Bill Palmer, pastor of Deliverance Pentecostal Church was the guest speaker on Easter sunrise service. This is the nearest group of believers who gather to worship God on a Sunday morning.

They are excited to have us join them in their worship place. Then at 1:00 P.M. we will have a meal in the pavilion at SCMC.

We can plan to have a longer day than usual around the tables at the



fellowship meal.



Doug Sloane and his family of origin were involved with a church plant in Reading in the 1970's. Aldine Musser was also involved at the same

time. Doug and his wife, Shirley, are currently involved at Holy Trinity Church of God on Buttonwood Street in Reading. Doug is one of the pastors, and his wife is a worship leader.

M-O-T-H-E-R

Lyrics by Howard Johnson, music by Theodore Morse, 1915

I've been around the world, you bet, But never went to school,
Hard knocks are all I seem to get, Perhaps I've been a fool;
But still, some educated folks, supposed to be so swell,
Would fail if they were called upon a simple word to spell.
Now if you'd like to put me to the test,
There's one dear name that I can spell the best:

"M" is for the million things she gave me,
"O" means only that she's growing old,
"T" is for the tears she shed to save me,
"H" is for her heart of purest gold;
"E" is for her eyes with love-light shining,
"R" means right and right she'll always be,
Put them all together they spell "MOTHER,"
A word that means the world to me.

When I was but a baby, long before I learned to walk,
While lying in my cradle, I would try my best to talk;
It wasn't long, before I spoke and all the neighbors heard,
My folks were very proud of me for "Mother" was the word.
Although I'll never lay a claim to fame,
I'm satisfied that I can spell the name:

"M" is for the mercy she possesses,
"O" means that I owe her all I own,
"T" is for her tender, sweet caresses,
"H" is for her hands that made a home;
"E" means ev'rything she's done to help me
"R" means real and regular, you see
Put them all together they spell "MOTHER,"
A word that means the world to me.

Suggested by Monica Carr



Used by permission



From the Parish Nurse

Mother Teresa's Anyway Poem

People are often unreasonable, illogical and self-centered.

Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.

Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies.

Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you.

Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight.

Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they maybe jealous;

Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow.

Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough.

Give the world the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and your God.

It was never between you and them anyway.

(Reportedly inscribed on the wall of Mother Teresa's children's home in Calcutta, and attributed to her.)

Have a good day,

Joan Rosenberger, RN, Parish Nurse

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED IN PULASKI, VIRGINIA

The Shenandoah Valley MDS Unit has investigated tornado damage in Pulaski, Virginia, from a tornado that touched down on Friday, April 8. It destroyed 82 homes, more than 190 homes sustained major damage, and approximately 190 homes have minor damage. The director of the County Relief Center reports that Pulaski is the second poorest county in Virginia and this tornado hit the poorest of the poor in the city of Pulaski.

After a second investigational trip on Thursday, April 21, the MDS Virginia Unit is taking action to respond and set up a project site. A local church has invited MDS to use their facility, located about two miles from the disaster area. The work will begin with repairing shingles, installing new windows and replacing siding. Later on, the work will include house rebuilds. The plan is to get as many families back into their homes as quickly as possible before rebuilding begins.

We will need many volunteers over the next 6 months. We would like to send a van-load (8-12 people) every week, Monday to Friday. We hope to schedule groups beginning May 1, 2011. This need for volunteers from the Valley churches is key in helping families to again have a place to live. Many are being housed in motels until other arrangements can be provided.



Upcoming Events



Vacation Bible School Monday June 20 – Friday 24

Theme: Taste and See: God is Good
Time: 6:30–8:45 P.M.
Location: Stephens City Mennonite Church

If you would like to help in anyway, please contact Malinda Kleman at malindakleman@gmail.com or Phone: 540-535-8810

Intergenerational Soul-Care

Sharing God's Love: Intergenerational Faith-Sharing

May 21, 2011 from 8:00–10:00 A.M. at SCMC
 Breakfast included along the Emmaus Walk
 Luke 24:13-35

SCMC has planned Soul-Care events for teachers for a number of years, however this year all interested people are welcome. There will be six stations on the walk. Breakfast is included.

On the way—located at the fire circle

Tell one thing that happened to you in the last days or weeks that make you think about God.

The Bible speaks—located at Musser patio

Tell a favorite Bible story from your childhood and why it is important to you. Read Psalm 148, and complete the sentence, "I praise God for. . ."

Friends along the way located—blanket on the north side of the property

Tell a story about how someone helped you understand God & Jesus better.

Making room for God at home—located at pavilion

Talk about the table graces or rituals you have in your home around the table. Eat together.

What is God like for you—located in the sanctuary

Think about a time when you felt close to God.

Practicing God's Love—located at steps in the back of the church

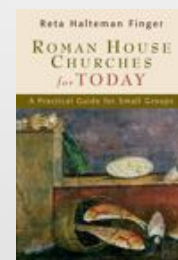
What is one way that you can practice God's love to someone you do not know or like very well?

If you wish to attend, please let Aldine know how many from your family would like to participate.

Marriage Covenant Sunday

May 29 is Marriage Covenant Sunday. For a number of years we have been recognizing couples that keep their commitment. This year we have Glenn and Velma Horst speaking.

Bible Study



Bible Study coming in June:

Christian Education is offering an exciting hands-on approach to studying Paul's letter to the Romans. Placing the book of Romans in its historical and cultural context, Reta Halteman Finger creates in her book, *Roman House Churches for Today*, a simulation of the Roman house churches that first heard Paul's letters to the Romans and its call for inclusiveness among the people of God.

The book includes aids and suggestions for leaders, sample character sketches, and website links with resources for further deeper study. You are invited to join this study this summer with or without a copy of the book.

This class will meet during the Christian Education hour, June through August.