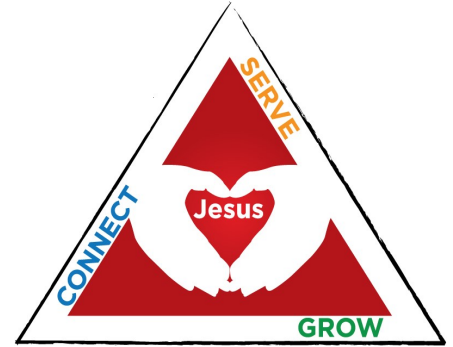




# From the Hill

Fort Hill United Methodist Church  
106 Oakridge Blvd.  
Lynchburg, VA 24502  
Phone (434) 847-1251  
Corner of Memorial and Oakridge  
Website: [www.forthillumc.com](http://www.forthillumc.com)



Volume 58, No.5

May, 2023

## Graduate Sunday Coming!

We are planning our annual Graduate Recognition Sunday Celebration. If you know of any individuals, who are graduating from High School, College or Graduate School Programs, that are members of Fort Hill United Methodist Church, please contact us with their information, i.e. school they will be graduating from, plans after graduation and, if they are a college graduate, the degree they will be receiving. Please call the church office (847-1251) with your information by May 24, or email to [secretary@forthillumc.com](mailto:secretary@forthillumc.com). Thank you for your assistance with this worthy task and celebration.



## McPherson Scholarship Applications Now Being Accepted

It is a great privilege to offer scholarships, from the McPherson Scholarship Endowment, each year. All first year college students (2023 high school graduates), who are members of Fort Hill UMC, are encouraged to apply. Second thru fourth year students may apply also. Applications can be picked up in the church office, starting May 1, and must be returned no later than June 11. Scholarship awards will be made in July.



## Fort Hill Members and Friends Share Favorite Bible Verses

A few months ago, Pastor Marc invited members and friends of Fort Hill to let him know what their favorite Bible verses are, and why these verses are meaningful to their faith. This month, our Director of Music & Communications, Jacob Dishman, is sharing his favorite Bible verse.

Revelation 22: 1-2

*"Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations."*

"I love this verse, not least because it is some of the most beautiful and comforting imagery in the entirety of the Bible. I like to imagine a cool, fresh breeze coming off the river, and people enjoying the shade under the trees lining the crystal clear waters. All is set right, and we live abundantly with the literal living presence of Christ beaming with light.

These verses settle my heart. These verses remind me that God has provided for us in so many ways, with blessings flowing from heaven like the water from the center of the Holy City. They remind me of Jesus' words, when he said that anyone who believes in him will have rivers of living water flowing from their heart. (John 7:38) Finally, they remind me to be joyful and at peace, knowing that God has something incomprehensibly wonderful in the works for His creation. It is a beautiful hope."

If you have a favorite Bible verse you would like to share, please email it to Pastor Marc at [MarcBrown@forthillumc.com](mailto:MarcBrown@forthillumc.com).

Rev. Dr. F. Douglas Dillard, Jr. was a mentor and friend who modeled what a pastor should be. I had the privilege of serving for three years as the associate pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church where Doug was serving as senior pastor. In addition to being a gifted pastor, Doug was a gifted preacher. The theological depth and the practical application of his sermons were always a call to faith.

One of Doug's sermons, recorded in the book, *Journeying with God*, (ACW Press) is entitled "Oh, if I had Wings." Based on Psalm 55:5: 'Oh, that I had wings like a dove! For then would I fly away, and be at rest,' Doug proposes "a word in favor of flight. Some change of scenery, some form of alternating activity with leisure, is frequently essential for renewal and revitalization. ... and the wonderful thing is that one can take a dozen or so flights on a given day – each one lasting for just a minute or so. In the middle of some pressure-packed day, between appointments, before the trial begins, or the patient arrives, or a customer is to be seen, or the children come in, or the telephone rings, one can say with the psalmist, 'Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and the Lord shall strengthen your heart' (Psalm 27:14). "And that's a four-second flight.



"Or, 'Return unto your rest, O my soul, for the Lord had dealt bountifully with you' (Psalm 13:6). A five-second flight. Alternating activity with leisure, or periodic flight, is essential to balance. The juices of life have a way of souring when they are pressed without letup. But there is another side to it. The flight into tranquility prepares us for the return to activity. ... What are you facing? What problems? What fears? Do you feel like saying, 'Oh, that I had wings like a dove?'"

"The psalmist was wise: Alternate activity with leisure and rest. But we fly back, remembering that God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and love and discipline. And we face and go through whatever life has placed before us."

Thanks Doug.

-Marc

## Ongoing Prayer Concerns

We are now listing our ongoing prayer concerns for those who are in nursing or rehab facilities or recovering at home. Only immediate prayer concerns will be listed in the weekly bulletin. Our current prayer concerns are as follows:

### Runk & Pratt (Leesville Road)

Fred & Dodie Fauber

### Bentley Commons

Charlie Loving  
Frances White

### Heritage Green

Doris Conner  
Jean Poindexter

### Liberty Ridge

Mike & Jim Hill

### Others who need our prayers:

Elizabeth Adams      Mary Murphy  
Susan Akers              Becky Spangler  
Bryan & Lisa Garra      Kendra Toney

## May Communion Offering to Benefit Society of St. Andrew

One half of our communion offering, received on the first Sunday of May, will be given to the Society of St. Andrew, to help feed the hungry. The other half will go to our own Local Relief Fund, which is sent to Interfaith Outreach Association, to help those in need of rental or utility assistance, etc. Your gift on this Sunday will help feed, clothe or provide shelter for someone who is in need.



Thank you for your gift!

## Observing a National Day of Prayer

The National Day of Prayer is observed annually on the first Thursday in May. This day observance, designated by the United States Congress, asks people "to turn to God in prayer and meditation."

In the early 1950s, an evangelical movement called for Congress and the President to proclaim a National Day of Prayer. The movement grew and a young leader, Evangelist Billy Graham, led services for approximately 20,000 on the steps of the Capitol on February 3, 1952. Later that year, Congress proclaimed a joint resolution for a National Day of Prayer. President Harry S. Truman proclaimed a National Day of Prayer to be observed on July 4, 1952. Each year since that date, Americans have observed the day in their own way. The observance was moved to the first Thursday in May by President Ronald Reagan and has been proclaimed each year since.



# Bits and Pieces

## Perrymont School Update

Thank you to those who contributed financially to the lunch that will be provided to the Staff of Perrymont on May 8<sup>th</sup>. A potato and salad bar will be set up for the Staff to enjoy!

Volunteers will still be reading to the PreK class, making copies, and sorting the vegetables and fruits throughout the month of May.

As you are shopping over the summer, please consider adding school supplies or youth clothing to your cart. We will start collecting these items now, and deliver them to the school when they return from summer break. Look for more detailed information about what we will be collecting in upcoming newsletters.

Please continue to keep the Staff of Perrymont in your prayers. We look forward to continuing our partnership for the 2023-2024 school year.

-Kim Beuerle Perrymont Outreach

## From Our Librarian . . .

*Why? Answers to Weather the Storms of Life*  
by Vernon Brewer, World Help, Inc., 2006



"Life is tough...it's a real struggle! Let's face it – the reality of life is that you are either entering a storm, going through a storm, or coming out of a storm. Some storms are worse than others...but they are all inevitable." Vernon Brewer, founder and president of World Help in Forest, Virginia, takes us through his own storm – cancer. He relates incredible life experience in dealing with this storm and is a source of great encouragement to many people facing difficult situations. Through his struggles with pain and illness, he discovers greater compassion for others and a renewed purpose in his life. "Now, every day, I try to live my life in such a way that I accomplish at least one thing that will outlive me and last for eternity." [Quotes from Vernon Brewer]

## A Word From Amos

**Hello my Fort Hill friends!** This is Amos, your friendly church mouse reporting in again. I'm so happy that warmer weather is beginning.

This month, I want to mention a very dedicated staff member at Fort Hill UMC. I'm referring to Crystal Womack, your Nursery Coordinator! Crystal has been so dedicated to the Fort Hill children, and their parents, since joining the staff in October, 2017. She is present every Sunday, unless she is sick or has a family need. She coordinates the volunteers as well as making sure the Nursery is kept clean, neat, organized and has ample supplies.



Some Sundays, she doesn't have any children in the Nursery, but she is still there! I try to keep her company, but try to stay in a corner so I don't frighten her or any children that may come into the Nursery. I'm really not a scary little mouse - just a curious one!

So, be sure to stop by the Nursery and thank Crystal for her dedication - even if you don't have any children there.

Well, that's my report for May. I'm looking forward to seeing what will be happening at Fort Hill in the next month. Until then, I remain your faithful church reporter,  
-Amos

## Look What's Coming in June!



It's been a few years, but the JOY Team is planning a church-wide picnic at the American Legion pavilion on Greenview Drive. The date and time is June 10, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. More information will be available as that date draws near. In the meantime, mark your calendar for this event.

## We want to hear from you but . . . . .

if you happen to call during regular office hours (9 AM - 2 PM, M-TH & 9 AM - 1 PM on Fridays), and there is no answer, it's not because we have left for the day, but most likely because there is only one staff person available (with no volunteer in the office), and that person is answering another call. Please call again, or leave a voice message, and someone will call you back as soon as possible. Your call is important to us. Thank you!



# More Bits and Pieces

## UMW Circle Meeting Dates

**Martha Circle** - Wednesday, May 3, 2:00 p.m. in the church Conference Room

**Genesis Circle** - Thursday, May 4, 7:00 p.m. in Oxford Hall

If you are not a member of the UMW, you are invited to visit one of the circles at any time.

## It's Free!

Have you "browsed through" the greetings cards available in the Welcome Center lately? New greeting cards include more than a baker's dozen of beautiful "God's Creation" cards.

You can find unusual cards for any occasion, or no occasion at all, at the ideal price of free! Check it out!

## Jokes Only a Mother Could Love

Why is a computer so smart?  
*It listens to its motherboard.*

Why did you chop the joke book in half?  
*Mom said to cut the comedy.*

Why do mother kangaroos hate rainy days?  
*Because their kids have to play inside!*

What did the mother rope say to her child?  
*"Don't be knotty."*

## Joys of Motherhood

- A hug for no reason.
- Belly laughs.
- The light-bulb moment when your child understands something you've been trying to teach them.
- Smiles and giggles.
- Mud pies.
- Arms raised in the air after a big accomplishment.
- Hearing Scripture and prayer from your child's lips.
- Quiet moments on the couch.
- Reading aloud together.
- A family meal filled with conversation and laughter.
- Watching your child be kind to another.
- Recognizing a moment you'd like to freeze in time.
- A child's look of surprise and joy.
- A quiet conversation that heals a wounded heart.
- The words "I love you" — and a sticky kiss.

—Unknown

## Fort Hill UMW Reading Program Continues

For May, we will be reading, ***They Call Me Guero***. This is an award-winning novel, in verse, about a boy who navigates the start of 7<sup>th</sup> grade and life growing up on the border, the only way that feels right — through poetry. They call him Guero because of his red hair, pale skin, and freckles.

For next month, the Fort Hill UMW has selected the book ***January First: A Child's Descent into Madness and Her Father's Struggle to Save Her*** By Michael Schofield

This book can be checked out from the UMW Reading Shelf in the church Library. Some are available at the local library or on E-Books. Join the experience! For more information, please contact Kim Beuerle (434-23-4598).

## Honor Your Mother

Anna Jarvis, the woman who first suggested a national day to honor mothers, had an incredible mother to honor. Her mom, Ann Reeves Jarvis (1832 -1905), was a Sunday school teacher and activist who helped lower infant-mortality rates in Appalachia and promoted friendship among families of Civil War soldiers.

At a memorial service for her mother, Anna Jarvis distributed carnations — her mom's favorite flower — to attendees. Her idea to set apart one day each year for moms gained traction, and in 1914, President Wilson proclaimed the second Sunday of May Mother's Day. It was customary by then to wear white carnations in honor of departed mothers and red carnations to honor the living.

Of the white flowers, Jarvis said they "symbolize the truth, purity and broad-charity of mother love; its fragrance, her memory, and her prayers. The carnation does not drop its petals, but hugs them to its heart as it dies, and so, too, mothers hug their children to their hearts, their mother love never dying."





5/1 Bonnie Tate	5/10 John Saville	5/15 George Erbacher	5/27 Carol Dee Robertson
5/1 Evan Meese	5/11 Jane Peters	5/15 Andrew Jenks	5/27 Stacey Lowe
5/2 Ciara Tolley	5/11 Ciara Hudson	5/15 Tyler Perrow	5/27 Ramona Davis
5/3 Jim Kiger	5/11 Sophie Minnick	5/16 Janet Murphy	5/27 Lynn Gittelman
5/3 Ashley Nickell	5/12 Cindy Castaldo	5/17 Jeff Gay	5/28 Richard Hawkins
5/4 Golda Winnagle	5/12 Christy Miller	5/18 Yvonne Tackett	5/28 Sallie Johnson
5/5 Lauren Lee	5/12 Olivia Beverly	5/19 Michele Chamot	5/28 Jennifer Neighbors
5/6 Ricky Sutor	5/13 Charlie Sumpter	5/20 Kerry Wilkinson	5/29 Nancy Zehmer
5/6 Nikki Burrington	5/13 Bubba Humphries	5/22 Jacob Dishman	5/29 Madeline Willis
5/7 Brenda Glass	5/13 Shelia Drinkard	5/23 Carolyn Green	5/29 Shelia Bourguignon
5/8 Gladys Sale	5/13 David Reid	5/24 Daryl Knott	5/29 Karl Lowe
5/9 Thomas Robertson	5/13 Hazel Grace Mistretta	5/24 Justus Hamilton	5/30 Kevin Wheelous
5/10 Betty Zieger	5/15 Dorothy Hagen	5/26 Fred Fauber	5/30 Duncan Daugherty

*If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, it may be because we do not have the date in our data base. Please call the church office at 847-1251 with your information.*

## May Wedding Anniversaries

5/2 Ricky & Robin Poindexter	42 years	5/23 Frank & Carolyn Coleman	59 years
5/17 Scott & Dana Bosiger	10 years	5/23 Mike & Alisha Decker	31 years
5/21 Marc & Beverly Brown	45 years	5/24 Fred & Dodie Fauber	65 years
5/26 Jeremy & Amanda Wood	5 years		



## Miscellaneous

### A NOTE OF



**Thank you** so much to our amazing church family for all the love and support given to us after the death of our special husband and father, John Carter.

*—With love, Mary Ann, Bev & Family*

**Dear Fort Hill Family,** Thank you for the encouraging words and gift cards sent to me at school. It was very thoughtful and appreciated. *—Ryan Marsh*

**Dear FHUMC Family,** It has been beyond a delight to read your heartfelt letters of support. I often replay memories in my head from my time in church; from 6-years-old to a senior in high school. I definitely consider Lynchburg as my first real hometown, and FHUMC is one of those reasons. As I sit here in Nimitz Library at 8:30 p.m. on a Thursday, I am reminded of how far I have come, and how far I have to go. I thank the Lord daily for my blessings, for which I have far too many to count. God bless you all for helping me, in one shape or another, to reach my goals in life. I have you all to thank for much of my faith.

*—Charlie Armes*

**We extend our sympathy to** Mike & Jim Hill upon the death of his son/his brother, Harry H. "Bucky" Hill, III on March 26; and to Bill & Megan Moseley & Annette & Willie Mosely and their families upon the death of their son/their grandson, Garrett Moseley, on April 7.



**Congratulations to** Gail DeNoon upon the arrival of her great-grandson, James Patrick Edmundson, on April 2.



**NOTICE:** If you know of a member, or a friend of the church, who is hospitalized, please let the church office know. The hospitals DO NOT call the church. Thank you!

# May, 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div> <b>In-Person Worship Each Sunday @ 10:30 a.m.</b>  <b>Java Stop 8:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.</b>  <b>Sunday School 9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.</b>  <b>Staffed Nursery Available 9:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.</b> </div>						
	<i>1</i>  11:00 Finance Committee	<i>2</i>  7:00 Choir Rehearsal	<i>3</i>  2:00 Martha Circle	<i>4</i> <b>National Day of Prayer</b>  7:00 Genesis Circle	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i> <b>Holy Communion</b>  9:00 SPRC meeting	<i>8</i>  2:30 Church Council	<i>9</i>  7:00 Choir Rehearsal	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>14</i> <b>Mother's Day</b>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>  7:00 Choir Rehearsal	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>21</i> <b>Ascension Sunday</b>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>  7:00 Choir Rehearsal	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i> <b>Pentecost Sunday</b>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>  FHUMC prepares meal for Park View			

## THE BOX SCORE

*"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'" Psalm 122:1*

Average worship attendance in 2022 - 114

Average worship attendance as of April 23, 2023 - 121

NOTE: This attendance is for in-person & online worship beginning January 1, 2023

*"Bring the full tithe into the storehouse . . . And put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing." Malachi 3:10*

### BRIEF OPERATING FUND REPORT

*Your first line of giving — mission and ministry!*

**Budget for 2023** as approved by the Church Council is: \$401,311

**We need** an average of \$7,717.52 per week to meet this budget.

As of 17 weeks, our weekly receipts have averaged \$7,851.37

**Thank you for your support of the mission and ministry of your church!**

## Samaritan Offering Will Start on Mother's Day

The annual drive for support of the Virginia United Methodist Homes, through the Samaritan Offering, will begin on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14, and end on Father's Day, Sunday, June 18. Please consider giving a gift to this fund, in honor or memory of a loved one or friend. You may designate which home you wish to support. Make checks payable to FHUMC for credit on your giving record.

## Can You Help?



The church office needs a volunteer on Monday mornings to help answer phone calls, greet visitors or help with any other office duty. Hours are 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. If you can help in

this area, please contact the church office at 434-847-1251.

Also, if you know of someone who would be interested in the paid Nursery Coordinator position, please let the Staff-Parish Relations Committee chairperson, Susan Akers (434-221-3364) know or call the church office. A background check will be required for this position.

## From the Hill

is a publication of Fort Hill United Methodist Church, 106 Oakridge Boulevard, Lynchburg, VA 24502-1308  
Phone: 434-847-1251 Fax: 434-847-2536

### Times of Worship

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Staffed nursery provided from 9:15 a.m.- 12:00 Noon

Rev. Marc D. Brown, Pastor  
marcbrown@forthillumc.com  
Brown5129@verizon.net

Rev. Janet D. Hawkins, Minister of Visitation  
tuned2joy02@gmail.com

Jacob Dishman, Director of Music & Communications  
jacob.dishman@gmail.com

Timothy G. Chappell  
Audio Visual Technician  
larkinwolf@yahoo.com

Jeanette Seale, Administrative Assistant  
secretary@forthillumc.com

Crystal Womack, Nursery Attendant  
Crystal.womack72@yahoo.com

Rev. Denise Bates, District Superintendent  
Phone: 434-832-0401

The Rev. Sue Hauptert-Johnson, Bishop, Richmond, VA  
Phone: 1-800-768-6040

**"Fort Hill United Methodist Church seeks to nurture God's people so they can CONNECT, GROW and SERVE."**

*-Fort Hill UMC Vision Statement*

## ?? Bible Quiz ??

According to Peter, at what time of day did the Holy Spirit come upon the disciples on Pentecost?

- A. 9 a.m.
- B. Noon
- C. 3:30 p.m.
- D. 9 p.m.



**For answer, see Acts 2:15**

**Reminder to all Chairpersons:** Please remember to submit the number of persons attending your meetings to the church office! These numbers are reported to the Conference office each week and helps in preparing year-end reports. Thank you!



**Fort Hill United Methodist Church**  
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**Rev. Marc D. Brown**  
Pastor

**Rev. Janet D. Hawkins**  
Minister of Visitation

**Jacob Dishman**  
Director of Music & Communications

**Rev. Jonathan Park**  
Vietnam Missionary

**Worship Time:**  
9:00 a.m. Online Worship  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Service in the Sanctuary

**Next newsletter deadline  
is MAY 15TH! Please  
submit SHORT articles by  
this date.  
Thank you!**

**SPOT-  
LIGHT  
ON...**

**We Thank You for Your Service!**



More than 150 years ago, Memorial Day took shape amid the backdrop of the U.S. Civil War. Before it ended, women began decorating the graves of fallen soldiers. In 1868, when May 30 was designated as Decoration Day, loved ones placed flowers on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers alike.

By 1882, Decoration Day became known as Memorial Day, and soldiers who died in other wars were honored too. Over time, it became a day to remember all loved ones who have died — in war and otherwise. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be observed on the last Monday in May. On Memorial Day, we pause to remember people who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country and for our freedom. We also pray for those who continue serving, especially those in harm's way.

To those from Fort Hill UMC who have served in our armed forces, and those who are currently serving, we thank you for your service!