

# The Valley Voice

Our Mission:  
to Make Disciples of Jesus

[MtJacksonUMC.org](http://MtJacksonUMC.org)

Mt. Jackson United Methodist Church

August 2023

## Tailgate Party Grilled Up Hotdogs and Hit Music

The United Methodist Women fired up the grills and transformed our parking lot into a party for the neighbors to gather. Members, family, and friends enjoyed hotdogs and listened to toe-tapping music provided by Tim Ambrose. Many thanks to all who worked hard to create a relaxing environment to unwind and enjoy friendly conversation.



### National Night Out (Tues.) Aug. 1st, 4:45 pm

The *National Night Out* enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. It offers a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

The Mt. Jackson Police Department will host its annual National Night Out event at Mayors Park. There will be food, drinks, bounce houses, raffles, and live music. The Mt. Jackson Rescue and Fire Department, as well as other community members and businesses will be there too.

Like last year, our church will be serving free cold bottled water to our neighbors. Our tent will be set up in the same location as last year. Wear your green SERVE TEAM shirt and help serve God's love to our community. Meet us there at 4:45 pm.

### Mt. Jackson Homecoming (Sun.) Aug. 27th

Our annual Homecoming will be Aug. 27. We will gather for worship, and then have a meal together in the Social Hall. Invite your friends and neighbors to celebrate with us.

### Worship Service Change

Quicksburg UMC will celebrate their Homecoming on Sept. 10, at 11:00 am. We will switch worship service times, so Mt. Jackson's worship service will be at 9:30 am on that Sunday.



## From the Pastor...

I was watching a *Star Trek* movie where Spock had a conversation with...his future self. I wondered what that would be like. Imagine stepping back in time, twenty years ago...and having a conversation with yourself. And due to the obvious quantum time travel continuum...you only had ten minutes to talk, what advice would you give yourself? No, you can't reveal the Mega-Million Lottery number. What helpful advice would it be? Take your time and think through that question.

Now, on your return to the present time after a slingshot around the sun, a small malfunction of warp drive crystallization has caused you to arrive ten years into the future. You are face-to-face with yourself again. What advice do you think that your future self would say to you? I tried this exercise, and my future self said, "You should stop watching Sci-Fi movies." No, not really...

Now, take it one more step. Go to God in prayer, and ask him for advice for the future of your life. What would he say to you?

(James 1:5) *If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you.*

Ask God and listen for an answer. It may help you to *live long and prosper* (do the split-fingers thing).

**The Valley Voice** is a monthly newsletter of Mt. Jackson United Methodist Church. All articles or photos for the next issue should be submitted to Pastor Lee by the 20th of each month. Email it to [leecrosby@vaumc.org](mailto:leecrosby@vaumc.org). Use the same address to be put on our email list.

## Teacher Appreciation Snacks

**Collection Sundays—August 6 & 13**

We will be collecting snack donations for our local school teachers at Honey Run Elementary, North Fork Middle School, Mountain View High School, and Triplett Tech. We did this last year and it was greatly appreciated by the teachers. Make sure the snacks are individually wrapped. The snacks will be delivered on the first day of school (Aug. 15). You can drop off the snacks in the Social Hall on Sunday, August 6 & 13. Let's demonstrate our appreciation for the teacher's hard work and dedication.



## Ladies Nite & Two Tots Too!

**by Cindy Crosby**

What a wonderful evening of fellowship for the women's night out. A record setting number of 20 ladies and two tots too. It is a blessing to see and talk with old and new friends, enjoy a scrumptious meal and share in prayer. See you next time!





## Fairy Tales

Is the Bible only fairy tales?  
In this sermon series, discover  
a tale where *make-believe*,  
makes us believe.

Sept. 10—*Snow White*  
Sept. 17—*Pinocchio*  
Sept. 24—*Cinderella*  
Oct. 01—*Belle*



## Faith Community Nursing Ministry

by Catherine Ambrose

On a personal note from the Parish Nursing corner of our church, and on behalf of the Bruner family, I would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the entire church family. As many of you know, David Bruner underwent open heart surgery at the end of May, and a surprise pacemaker placement in June, necessitating several work/life adjustments in order to coordinate care for both David and Millie. It is because of God's wonderful grace and incredible support of this church we were able to successfully navigate this experience and ensure that David and Millie both received the care that they needed to remain safe, comfortable, and at home throughout the healing process. We cannot thank you all enough for your kind words, sweet cards, time spent visiting with Millie, the abundance of prayers, meal deliveries, and love gifts that you provided to the family. It has truly been a tremendous blessing, and provided much needed comfort, support, and love during this time. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.



## Lay Servant Training

by Wendell Cochran

The District Lay Servant Ministries Committee invites everyone to participate in our fall training session, Saturday, Sept. 16 at Strasburg UMC.

We will offer the Basic Lay Servant course, a class in Leading Prayer, a class in Accountable Leadership, and a Preaching class.

Christ has called each of us to be in service, using the gifts He has given to us. These classes can help you identify where you might be called to serve. They also can help develop skills and techniques you can use in whatever position you hold or whatever mission you serve.

Registration is \$20 for each class, lunch included. Registration closes Aug. 21. For more information and to register, go to: [shenandoahriverdistrict.org](http://shenandoahriverdistrict.org), click on "Ministries", then "Lay Servant Ministry Opportunities." If you have any questions, please ask me.



## Audio/Visual Update

by Cindy Crosby

Hello again with your update. The contracts with Visual Acuity for the audio/visual system were signed and the process has begun. The team is working together to ensure everything goes smoothly – one step at a time. The first images will be the NEW sound booth which contains all the necessary equipment to run the sound and visuals. Stay tuned for more. Questions, see Cindy Crosby.



## 5th Sunday Café

by Bobby Clark

On the 5th Sunday, we will host a “Café” in the fellowship hall from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Coffee, hot water, and snacks will be available. Warm your tummy with coffee, tea or cocoa. Warm your heart and other hearts with God’s love!

## Well, Imagine That

A lady went to the Pastor and said, “I won’t be attending Church anymore”. He said, “May I ask why?” She said, “I see people on their cell phones during the service, some are gossiping, some just ain’t living right, they are all just hypocrites.” The Pastor got silent and he said, “Ok... But can I ask you to do something for me before you make your final decision?” She said, “What’s that?” He said, “Take a glass of water and walk around the church two times and don’t let any water fall out the glass.” She said, “Yes I can do that.” She came back and said, “It’s done.” He asked her 3 questions:

1. Did you see anybody on their phone?
2. Did you see anybody gossiping?
3. Was anybody living wrong?

She said, “I didn’t see anything because I was so focused on this glass, so the water wouldn’t fall.” He told her, “When you come to church, you should be just that focused on God so that you don’t fall. That’s why Jesus said, “Follow me.” He did not say follow Christians.

Don’t let your relationship with God be determined by how others relate to God. Let it be determined by how focused YOU are on God.

## Financial Report

by Faye Cochran

June 2023

**General Fund Income** \$7,046.10

**Expenses** \$6,750.00

**Difference** \$296.10

### Designated Giving

Health & Welfare \$69.00

Building Fund \$50.00

Scholarship \$30.00



Aug. 4—Tammy Davidson

Aug. 11—Steve Weaver

Aug. 12—Sam Clark

Aug. 16—Kate Melanson

Aug. 18—Sandra Engle

Aug. 27—Florence Cochran



## A Night of Pure Worship

(Sat.) Sept. 9th, 7 pm



*A Night of Pure Worship* has been rescheduled to Saturday, Sept 9th at 7pm. It will be held at the Strasburg Presbyterian Church in Strasburg. This is a night filled with worship and prayer, lifting our hearts to the Lord. Hope to see you there. If you have any questions, contact Cindy Crosby