



MtJacksonUMC.org

Mt. Jackson United Methodist Church

October 2023

Ice Cream Bash Brought the Community Together

The U.M. Women's Ice Cream Bash was blessed with much needed rain that took the community event indoors. But the rain didn't stop the people from enjoying ice cream and cake. It was nice to see people from the community attend.



Trunk-or-Treat
(Tues.) Oct. 31, 6 pm

To serve our community, U.M. Men are organizing another Trunk-or-Treat. We *treated* over 150 kids last year, and expect the same this year. Your help is needed to make it a success. Bring a decorated truck of Halloween treats to hand out. You can be in a costume, or not. Please arrive by 5:20 pm to set up. If it rains, we will move everything inside. Some activities will be in the Social Hall. Join this fun outreach to our community.



(Sun.) Oct 15th at 11 am

We will hold our *Laity Sunday* worship service in the Town Park Shelter located at 326 Wunder St. It will be a potluck picnic. Let's worship together and enjoy food and fellowship in a outdoor setting. It will be a fun day to gather as family.



From the Pastor...

We love the story of when Jesus miraculously fed the multitudes with just a few fishes and loaves. But, we can overlook the fact that they had first gone all day without eating. They had experienced real hunger before they were fed.

Right after that, the disciples got into a boat while Jesus stayed behind. The disciples got caught in a terrible storm. They experienced fear of drowning before they saw Jesus walking on the water and calming the storm.

While the storm was still raging, Jesus also invited Peter to step out of the boat and walk on water. Peter did it...for a while. Then, he experienced his faith failing as he sunk into the sea before Jesus reached out, raising him back on top of the water.

Each case, people experienced a helpless situation before Jesus came to the rescue. If we had it our way, we would want Jesus to provide for our needs *before* we have to experience that helpless fear. We would want Jesus to feed us before the hunger pangs. We would want Jesus to calm the storm before getting into the boat. And we would want Jesus to hold us above water without sinking. But, that's how we strengthen our faith. More often than not, God allows us to experience those pauses between our need and his provision to exercise our faith muscle, drawing us nearer to him. Those *in between* pauses are as much a gift as his provision. So, look for him in the storms. He is coming!

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. Use the same address to be put on our email list.



5th Sunday Café by Bobby Clark

On Oct. 29, we will host a "Café" in the fellowship hall from 10 to 11 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!

Homecoming Pictures





Pastor's Sermon Retreat

By Pastor Lee

Every year, I take a week to pray and plan sermon topics for the next year. This allows me to collect ideas, illustrations, and content over the year to assist me in my preparation. The retreat also helps me organize sermon topics that fit a season (like Lent and Advent), or address various growth steps in the discipleship path (Belong, Grow, Serve, Love).

I invite the congregation to offer suggestions for a sermon or sermon series. I take these suggestions as I pray for discernment on this retreat. I also ask you to pray for me while I am on this retreat. Pray that the Lord will guide me. The planning retreat will be Oct. 15-19. If you have sermon topic ideas, please give it to me by Oct. 15. Thank you!



U.M. Men have a clean up day with some help

Financial Report

by Faye Cochran

August 2023

General Fund Income	\$ 7,809.00
Expenses	<u>\$ 7,447.51</u>
Difference	\$ 361.49

Designated Giving

Health & Welfare	\$ 51.00
Building Fund	\$ 40.00
Scholarship	\$ 400.00



Oct. 11—Grace Orndorff
Oct. 17—Wilma Miller
Oct. 18—Michelle Koontz
Oct. 25—Wanda Edwards
Oct. 26—Rick Joseph



United. Methodist Women enjoy Ladies Night Out