



CALVARY CONNECTION

November 2025

Calvary United Methodist Church
205 Court Street Ripley, West Virginia
Office 372-3203

Email – calvaryumc316@gmail.com

Web Page – www.calvaryunitedmethodistchurch.com

Pastor's Ponderings

Welcome to the month of November, the month of Thanksgiving. So, what are the things for which you are thankful? This is normally a good exercise to put things in perspective. One old Southern Gospel song said, "Count your blessings, name them one by one." Focus on the positive is another way to phrase it. The idea is that if you are struggling or feeling sorry for yourself or facing challenges, stop for just a minute and think about and name your blessings.

However, consider these Bible verses:

James 1:2 - My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy,

1 Thess 5:16-18 - Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Really? Consider it joy in times of trials and give thanks in ALL circumstances? Really? The choir is practicing a Thanksgiving song called, "Sing Your Thanks to God," by Storm, Backstrom, Cory, and Larson. Listen to some of the selected lyrics:

For new life we see in springtime, thanks for colors of the fall. Thanks for tears we've long forgotten and for peace within the soul.

Okay, so far so good. Then we get to this: ***Thanks for prayers that have been answered and for those that were denied. Thanks for storms of life we've weathered. Thanks for pain and for pleasure. Thanks for comfort in***

despair. Thanks for roses by the wayside and for thorns their stems contain. Thanks for joy and thanks for sorrow...

When was the last time you gave God thanks for trials, trouble, heartache, pain, affliction, storms, sorrow, etc.? That doesn't even sound right when I speak it out loud. So, here is my take.

The passage from 1 Thessalonians does not say to give thanks FOR all circumstances, but rather IN all circumstances – that is the will of God for us. While I may not be able to give thanks that a painful situation is occurring in my life, I should be able to give thanks to God who is with me in the pain. Sometimes God removes storms and at other times God walks with us through the heart of the storm. We are never alone.

But there is one caveat – there is a reason to give God thanks FOR the difficult circumstances in my life. Romans 8:28 says that ALL things work together for good for those who love God and are called according to his purpose. We see that ultimately fulfilled in the cross of Christ. There is nothing in this life that could be worse than murdering the Son of God! And yet, God used that for the greatest good we could experience – the forgiveness of sins and an eternal relationship with God! God is the great recycler – He takes our junk and turns it into something beautiful. Therefore, whatever evil or distressful or challenging or hurtful thing happens in my life, I have the promise that God will use that very thing to bring about something good. So, if my attitude is, "Okay God, this is terrible,

what good thing are you going to bring about because of this tragedy? How will you redeem this circumstance or situation?”, then I have a reason to thank God for the thorns and not just the roses.

And while I know this is true, when it takes what seems like a long time for God to bring the good (and I may never even actually see what the good is), it sure is hard for me to keep giving thanks FOR the hurt... That is when I focus on giving God thanks IN the pain and not FOR the pain, because I know that God is with me and will never leave me.

Friends, I am thankful for many things because I am blessed beyond measure. I consider the people of Calvary to be one of my greatest blessings for which I am most thankful. Have you stopped to give God thanks lately? If you think about it, I am sure you can find many reasons to be thankful.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Steve



**The church office is open
Monday through Friday
8:00am – 12:00 noon.**

BE PREPARED FOR WORSHIP

Worship is supposed to be participatory with each person contributing to the worship of Almighty God. One way that you can participate more fully, is to come to Sunday worship prepared and expecting God's presence. To assist your preparation, read and reflect on these scriptures and themes the entire week before worship:

Nov 2 – Saints & a Saintly Life- Eph 1:11-23
Nov 9 – Where Do We Go From Here? –
2 Thess 2:1-5, 13-17 - Holy Communion
Nov 16 – Still Looking – Isa 65:17-25
Nov 23 - Christ The King! - Col 1:11-20
Nov 30 – What Time Is It? – Rom 13:11-14



Dec 6 UWF Christmas Bazaar
Dec 14 Christmas Dinner
Dec 20 Adopt a Family Distribution
Dec 21 Chancel Choir Cantata
Dec 21 Youth Program
Dec 24 Candlelight Communion Service
Dec 25 Christmas Day - Office Closed
Dec 31 New Years Eve Game Night



The chancel Choir is starting rehearsal of the Christmas Cantata at our weekly practices on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. We would love for you to join us as we prepare our music for the Christmas season.



Sounds Of The Season
WITH
**Keith Burdette
& Friends**
November 30
CUMC @ 7:00 p.m.



Do You Need a Ride to an appointment? We have several drivers that would like to help you. Give us plenty of time, just let the church office know and we will help get you there.
Call 304 372-3203 between 8am and noon Monday thru Friday.



United Methodist Men

The UMM will meet November 3 at 6:30 pm with a covered dish meeting. All men of the church are welcome to attend and bring a covered dish.

United Women in Faith



The General meeting of United Women in Faith will be held on Monday, November 17th at 7:00.

(Please note the change in the date.) Jenny Parsons will be presenting the World Thank Offering program. Deborah / Miriam will be providing refreshments. If you cannot attend the meeting please give your thank offering to Jenny. **The World Thank Offering is a way for members of United Women in Faith to show gratitude for God's blessings and find creative ways to raise funds to improve the lives of women, children, and youth. Some women drop a coin in a box each day to give thanks for their daily blessings, while others add coins and dollars on special occasions in their lives. Through your gifts to the World Thank Offering, you support the women, children, and youth in our neighborhoods and around the world.**

The Mary Martha circle will meet Nov 9 @ 2pm at the Casto residence with Stephanie Casto as hostess and providing the program.

The Deborah Miriam circle will meet Nov 12 @ 10:00 am at the church with hostesses Betty French & Linda Waybright and Kathy Marlow the program leader.

The Discovery circle is scheduled to meet Nov 23 with Hostess Staci Cummings and Program Kayla Patterson.



Blood Drive

The Blood Drive will be held November 20th. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the drive by checking in donors, running the

canteen by giving snacks to and monitoring the donors after giving, or providing food for the Red Cross workers please let Kathy Marlow or Lora Sturm know. The time is broken up into 2 periods and it takes 3 people per period. If you are interested in helping for 3 hours every 2 months please let us know.



**Calvary UMC
Women of Faith
Christmas Bazaar
Saturday, December
6, 2025
8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Your donation of **crafts and baked goods** are needed for our church table.

If you would like to **rent a table** to sell your items, the fee is **\$20.00**. Crafters from the community may rent a table as well.

Breakfast and lunch will be served. **Activities for Kids** will be available.

Plan to join us for **breakfast and lunch** and to also buy that **special baked item or gift** for someone special.

Call the church office (304) 372-3203 for more information and to rent your table.

GriefShare



The current series of GriefShare meetings will conclude with the special session titled, "Surviving the

Holidays." This is a stand-alone session intended to help you navigate the many emotions and difficulties in the holiday season after a loved one has passed away. We will meet on Tuesday, November 11th, at 6:30pm in the conference room. Please share with anyone you know who may be struggling. All are welcome.



John 3:16 Fellowship

What could be better on a cool October day than sharing Christian fellowship while enjoying a bowl of soup and corn

bread? Thanks to all those who assisted with the preparations (we had seven different types).

Our guest for the afternoon was Susie Azeredo from the state Attorney General's office. She provided helpful information and tips for avoiding telephone scams and eliminating those annoying sales calls along with listing some of the pitfalls that can happen from involvement with social media. Basically, just be cautious and smart.

We prayed for the members of our church family who are struggling with health issues, awaiting test results or are physically unable to be out and about.

Also, it was the last time to have Mike and Sharon with us as they are moving soon. They are both very special to our church family, will be greatly missed and are dearly loved.

Our final time together for the fall season will be November 18th. Just a reminder if you are wondering about our group –anyone is welcome to come join us. It is a wonderful opportunity to spend time with other Christians for an afternoon.

Vanessa Rothrock

Prayers and Squares Ministry

The Prayers and Squares group meets on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month from 1:00-3:00 p.m. And, on as needed times if they have special projects. If you are interested in being part of this ministry, please call Joyce Davis at 372-4555.



Prayer Shawl Ministry



The Prayer Shawl Ministry continues to create beautiful prayer shawls for comfort and hope. Currently they are working on Prayer Scarves for our graduating seniors to remind them when they are away, their home church continues to pray for them. People knit/crochet shawls and lap robes for many reasons, to console those who are grieving, comfort those who are ill, and bring hope to those in despair. They may also be knit/crocheted to celebrate life and its milestones. The reasons to knit/crochet a shawl or lap robe are as numerous as the people who knit/crochet them. If you can knit or crochet (or would like to learn) and are interested in this mission, please contact Faye Milhoan or call the church office at 304-372-3203. Get those needles creating.



Wee Read & Feed

Our mission is to bring children and their families to Jesus and to improve literacy skills by making books available at no cost. Donated books may be left at the desk by the church office. Leave a note so we will know they are for Wee Read & Feed. Joyce Groves 372-8612.



Confirmation Class – with a new twist!



It is time to once again be thinking about a confirmation class. As a reminder, the purpose of confirmation is to give young people (typically between the ages of 10 and 15, with 12-13 being most common) resources and directed teaching about the Christian faith so they can claim the faith as their own.

Frequently, young people in the church were baptized as a baby and “adopted” as a child of the church. The family and the church pledged to help teach the child about Jesus and the Christian faith until they are ready to make that decision for themselves. In other words, the young person will now be confirming the faith pledged on their behalf when they were baptized.

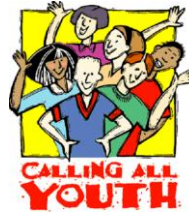
However, it is also often the case that some (or all) of the kids in any particular year’s confirmation class have not yet been baptized. When that is true, the kids will have the opportunity to be baptized as part of this process. But no one will be baptized more than once.

For the last few years, Calvary has been using a mentor approach to confirmation that pairs one youth with one adult who has been a Christian for a few years to share this part of their faith journey. The program curriculum we use has 13 sessions. We have been starting the class close to the beginning of the year in an attempt to complete the course sometime between Easter and June 1st.

Here is the new twist...We are considering making a retreat at Spring Heights part of confirmation. We are working with camp director, Louisa Smith (who will be transferring her membership to Calvary in October), to plan and implement this aspect of confirmation. Being in a retreat setting would help remove a few distractions and should greatly enhance the experience.

What I need from you – please help us identify youth in the 11-14 age range who may be ready to participate and make the decision to claim the Christian faith as their own and make a commitment to follow Jesus. They will also have the option (and most choose it) to join the church as a full member at the conclusion of the class. But no one will be under the obligation or forced or coerced into making this decision and we will emphasize

this throughout the experience. So, if your child or grandchild or other kid you know, is ready to start this journey, please let Pastor Steve know by November 1st so we can make the necessary arrangements and plans.



!!! ATTENTION ALL YOUTH !!!

Calvary Youth had a very busy, fun-filled October. We spent the first, beautiful Sunday afternoon at Gritt’s Farm enjoying all the activities the farm had to offer: corn bin, slides, ropes courses, apple cannons and yummy treats! The following Sunday we headed to the Francis Farm for a scavenger hunt, cookout and hayride. This is always one of the kid’s (and families) favorite events each year and we can’t thank the Francis family enough for continuing to host us. More fall fun was had in the middle school class by carving pumpkins and talking about ways we can shine our light for Jesus. We ended October with the Youth Sabbath and Fall Festival this past Sunday where the youth led the congregation in song, scripture, offering, prayer and delivering the message. We hope everyone was blessed by this special service; we were so proud of all of our youth for sharing their special gifts and talents with us! Also, many thanks to everyone who participated Sunday evening in our Trunk-or-Treat by dressing up, decorating trunks and playing games with the younger children from our church and community.

This coming week, youth will begin practicing for their Christmas play, Star Search, from 5-6pm (note earlier time) in preparation for our annual Christmas youth program on Sunday, December 21st at 6pm. All youth, ages 1st to 12th grade, are invited & encouraged to participate.

The middle school class will be kicking off November with a new study called

Christmas Madness and doing all things Christmas while the High School will begin making plans for their live nativity in December. A combination of Fall/Thanksgiving and Christmas-focused lessons are planned for the elementary youth over the next few weeks.

Any questions or haven't been able to join us yet? Don't hesitate to reach out to one of our youth leaders (see contact info below) or attend one of our Sunday evening gatherings at any time. *Don't forget- youth choir starts @ 5pm this month with all groups meeting from 6-7pm. We hope to see you there!

Contact information & Remind group info can be found below.

Elementary Youth: Taran Welford –

Cell: (304)532-2317 –

Remind: Text @efgfk86 to 81010

Middle School (M&M's):

Ashley Hosaflook – Cell: (304)786-0046 –

Remind: Text@fd9e to 81010

High School: Jimmy Groves –

Cell: (304) 532-7649

Youth Choir: Hilary Groves – Cell: (304) 532-7648

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.

[Romans 12:9](#)

GROUP TRAVEL 2026

I am a tour host with Educational Opportunities (EO) and each year they have dozens of trips to places all around the world. This is the company we traveled with in February 2025 to Greece, Turkey, and Rome. Our next trip is scheduled to depart on October 25, 2026 and we will be cruising the Rhine River, returning November 2, 2026! I have brochures for this trip available and registration is open. We already have 13 people registered to go! Yay! I expect close

to 20 by the time registration closes. You are encouraged to invite other people to travel with us.

We will spend 7 nights aboard the Amadeus Riva departing from Basel, Switzerland, and we will visit Strasbourg, France, Speyer, Mannheim, Heidelberg, Cologne, and other cities in Germany, and end up in Amsterdam in the Netherlands. We will visit many castles and ancient cathedrals and churches as well as historically significant sites from WWII and more. Check out this trip on the EO website here:

<https://www.eo.travelwithus.com/tours/rc26102526r#eotours>

Take a look at the vessel here:

<https://www.amadeus-rivercruises.com/our-amadeus-fleet/detail/amadeus-riva.html>

Pastor at The Grind

Just a reminder that most weeks I am at The Grind coffee shop in Ripley on Tuesday and Wednesday from 9:00am - 10:00am and Thursday from 7:30am - 8:30am. This is a great opportunity to sit a spell and chat. If you have something on your mind, or have a question about the church or theology, or have a great story to share with me, or just want to talk about the weather, (or talk about nothing in particular), The Grind is a great venue. If your concern is more of a private matter or confidential, we need to talk in my office.

I am more than willing to meet you at The Grind at other times that are more convenient for you. Just call or text me (681-368-4040) and we will set

something up. I am typically in my office during church office hours: Monday through Thursday 8am - 12pm. Fridays are normally my day off. If you need to talk to me and your schedule does not permit you to be at the church during office hours, let me know and we will make other arrangements.



EMAIL PRAYER CHAIN

Did you know that Calvary has an email group for the “soul” purpose of intercessory prayer? When a church member (or person actively involved at Calvary) becomes aware of a specific prayer need, the information is communicated to Judy Lieving, our prayer coordinator, who then forwards the request via email. When we receive the email, we then enter into a time of prayer for the need listed. Do you feel called to a ministry of intercessory prayer? Would you be willing and available to join with us in intentional prayer? This is not intended to be a source of information—just to let you know there is a need. It is intended to be a form of communication to allow you to pray for a specific need. If you feel called to intercessory prayer for the needs that might be shared in this way, please contact Judy Lieving at judithlieving@gmail.com to be included on the email prayer chain.



Food Pantry Report for October

For the month of October we served 204 households with 609 people. We had 2593.5 pounds of food donated and purchased 2188 pounds of food costing \$2701.

Food Pantry Ministry Annual Statistics

	2022	2023	2024
# HH	1,878	2,076	1,929
# Individuals	5,673	6,023	5,402
Total lbs.	63,069	62,536	59,671

The following items are needed on a daily basis to support the church food pantry:

Chicken & Beef	Canned Corn
Broth	Dried Beans
Mac & Cheese	Canned Green Beans
Soups	Canned Meat
Corn Bread Mix	Chicken
Spaghetti Sauce	Spam
Spaghetti	Treet
Elbow Macaroni	Tuna

HVAC ISSUES

The HVAC unit that supplies the conference room, library, and the Sothenal classroom is currently not working. We hope to get the defective part replaced and have it back up and running sometime during the first week of November (but it may take longer to get the part). If you are meeting in any of those rooms, please dress appropriately because they will probably be a little cool.

Bet Ya Didn't Know (or maybe you did)

From online sources that summarize it well:

Origins and Establishment

All Saints Day, also known as All Hallows' Day or Hallowmas, has roots tracing back to the early Christian Church. Initially, Christians commemorated martyrs who died for their faith, dedicating specific days to remember those who sacrificed their lives. As the number of martyrs grew, it became increasingly difficult to assign individual feast days for each one. To address this, the Church created a collective feast to honor all martyrs, which laid the foundation for what would eventually become All Saints Day.

The first evidence of a specific date for All Saints Day is linked to Pope Gregory III (731-741), who dedicated a chapel in St. Peter's Basilica on November 1 in honor of all saints. This act formalized the observance of the day and broadened its scope to include not just martyrs but all saints who had attained eternal life in Heaven. In 837, Pope Gregory IV ordered its general observance on November 1, solidifying its place in the Church's calendar.

Celebration and Significance

In Western Christianity, All Saints Day is celebrated on November 1, while the Eastern Orthodox Church observes it on the first Sunday after

Pentecost. The day is significant as it emphasizes the communion of saints—a belief that saints continue to intercede for those on Earth. It is a Holy Day of Obligation in Roman Catholicism, where the faithful are encouraged to attend Mass.

The celebration begins with its first vespers on the evening of October 31, known as All Hallows' Eve or Halloween, and concludes with the Compline of November 1. This three-day observance, which includes All Souls' Day on November 2, is a time for Christians to remember and honor all the faithful departed.

Cultural Practices

All Saints Day is marked by various cultural practices around the world. In many countries, it is a public holiday, and traditions include visiting cemeteries, lighting candles, and offering prayers for deceased loved ones. In some cultures, families create altars featuring images of saints and deceased relatives, while in others, special foods are prepared to honor the day.

In summary, All Saints Day serves as a profound reminder of the spiritual connection between the living and the saints, celebrating their lives and contributions to the Christian faith throughout history. It reflects the Church's understanding of the communion of saints and the belief in

the intercession of those who have attained eternal life.

During the All Saints' Day at Calvary, the following people will be honored:

Virginia Rouse
Stephen Stover
Eugene "Gene" Deal
Randy Davis
Carol Daniel
Cecil "Clyde" Peters
Gene Smith
Sue Thomas
Jim Hunter
Phyllis Nuckles Smith



NEWS FROM YOUR MISSION TEAM

Our congregation has been busy this fall with all the activities and projects that we have participated in. A great thank you to all who donated coats and those who helped get them ready to be distributed. We still have coats and if you know of any need, please let us know. Thanks to members of the team who were at the food pantry to take applications and distribute. It was greatly appreciated.

The Mission Team had a presence at Monster Bash on Saturday evening. We had a table set up to offer snacks and water. We also had glow sticks with our church information on a tag that was on the glow stick. Trevor Cummings popped popcorn all evening. Thanks to those who came out to help,

who judged the costume contest and all to make it a successful evening.

It is almost time for the Adopt A Family Angel Tree to be set up. Can you believe it? Seems like we just did the Junior Fair and here it is, CHRISTMAS!! We have chosen 25 families with 75 children. We will soon have the tree up for you to select your Angel along with guidelines from Rotary as to what should be purchased for each child. Please be attentive to these guidelines and the dates set for bringing in items. If you would like to help with the distribution, it would be appreciated.

We will be collecting things again this year to make up a basket for each family. Items needed include:

Shampoo	Paper Towels
Body Wash	Toilet Paper
Soap	Dish Soap
Hand Soap	Washcloths
Deodorant	Blankets
Hairbrush/Comb	Towels
Laundry Detergent	Trash Bags
Disinfectant/All Purpose Cleaner	

Someone has graciously volunteered to provide all the laundry baskets. We would like to provide a Bible in each basket. This is something you can add when you bring your items. Thank you for all you do for the church and for our community. We have a great church!!

In God's Love, Your Mission Team.

Quote(s) of the Month

Thomas Merton OCSO (January 31, 1915 - December 10, 1968), was an American Trappist monk, writer, theologian, mystic, poet, social activist and scholar of comparative religion. He was a monk in the Trappist Abbey of Our Lady of Gethsemani, near Bardstown, Kentucky, living there from 1941 to his death.

Merton wrote more than 50 books in a period of 27 years, mostly on spirituality, social justice, and pacifism, as well as scores of essays and reviews. Here are a few quotes from Merton:

"To be grateful is to recognize the love of God in everything."

"The beginning of love is the will to let those we love be perfectly themselves."

"Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time."

"We must be content to live without watching ourselves live, to work without expecting any immediate reward."

"For each one of us, there is only one thing necessary: to fulfill our own destiny, according to God's will."

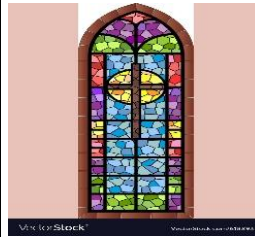
No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

1 John 4:12

Joke(s) of the Month

What do you call a sleepwalking nun? A roamin' Catholic.

I went for a run with my Bible. Now my Psalms are sweaty.



100 YEARS OF CALVARY Stained-Glass Restoration

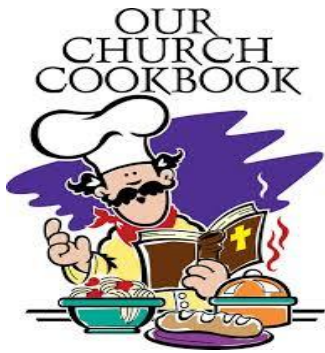
On or about September 19, 2025, Calvary entered into a contract with Lynchburg Stained Glass to restore the windows in our sanctuary. This has been an interesting and challenging process for the trustees! The farther we got into the process, the more we realized how little we knew! I think all of us are glad that this only happens about once every 100 years or so!

I want to commend the trustees for their diligent work with this project. Lynchburg was selected from four different contractors after much debate, revisions, the checking of references, etc.

The current anticipated schedule is that they will remove the windows with the sash sometime in early January 2026. They anticipate this project to take 4 – 6 months to complete. So, if all goes well, the restored windows will be in place by July 4th. They should definitely be in place for our 100-year celebration in October 2026. There are 56 windows and 54 of them have been funded. We will still accept any donations you want to make for the remaining 2.

We love because He first loved us.

1 John 4:19



CALVARY UNITED METHODIST 100TH ANNIVERSARY COOKBOOK

Dear Friends,

Our church is creating a custom cookbook featuring favorite recipes from our members. These cookbooks will be professionally published and are sure to be a treasured keepsake for us all. Money raised will be used for updating our stained-glass windows and missions.

Please submit 3-5 (or more if you choose) of your favorite recipes so you can be represented in our cookbook. Many recipes from all members will ensure that our cookbook is a success. We are using Morris Press Cookbook's web site to easily submit recipes online. If you do not have Internet access, our committee can enter them for you. Submit hardcopies of your recipes to Karen Facemyer or email to kfacemyer@me.com

Please submit your recipes online by April 1st 2026, so we can meet our deadline. We are aiming to have the books ready to sell by Sept./Oct. 2026 to coordinate with the celebration of our 100th anniversary. We will be asking later how many you would like to order and the price in order to prepare the amount to order. They will make wonderful family keepsakes and Christmas gifts for 2026.

Thank you!

To Submit Recipes Online:

- Go to www.typensave.com and click 'Login.'
- Enter the User Name: **kfacemyer**
- Enter the password: **(spatula449)** and click 'Submit.'

- Enter your name and click 'Continue.'
- Click 'Add Recipes' to begin adding your recipes.

Recipe Writing Tips:

- When adding recipes, review the "Tips" and use standard abbreviations.
- Only enter 1 ingredient per ingredient line.
- List ingredients in order of use in the ingredients list and directions.
- Include container sizes, e.g., (16-oz.) pkg., (24-oz.) can.
- Write directions in paragraph form, not in steps.
- Use names of ingredients in the directions, e.g., "Combine flour and sugar." DO NOT use statements like, "Combine first three ingredients."
- Include temperatures and cooking, chilling, baking, and/or freezing times.
- Additional comments about the recipe (history, nutritional data, suggested uses, etc.) are not allowed unless a "Recipe Note" field is visible. Enter extra recipe content in that field.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

There will be a training event in Rural Retreat, VA, November 14-15, 2026. The title of the event is, "This Works," and it is being promoted as an opportunity to gather with others to share ministry, evangelism, and mission ideas that have proven effective in Appalachia.

You can find more information and register at www.newriver.start.page or by calling 276-228-4922. Please let Pastor Steve know if you plan to go and we may be able to arrange carpooling.

*My command is this: Love each other as I
have loved you.
John 15:12*

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

The WV United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (WV UMVIM), is planning two different trips for 2026, and both are in Alaska.

There will be a one-week trip from Friday, May 29th through Friday, June 5th in Nome. They have requested a team to come and finish their garage, and it will primarily be adding a roof (maybe everything from setting trusses to sheathing to shingles). I plan to go on this trip.

The second trip is a two-week trip (but you can go for just one week, if you prefer) from July 24th through August 7th. That departure date is the Friday of the Junior County Fair but if I go, I will not leave here until Sunday, July 26th after the completion of the fair. This trip is to Anchorage, and the team will stay and work at Anchor Park UMC. At least some of the work will be using equipment to dig around the building to work on a water drainage issue. But there will be plenty of other projects to complete. I hope to go on this trip as well, but I am undecided.

As with almost every mission trip there will be work for everyone who goes – at every level of skill, ability, or giftedness. You do not have to know how to put on shingles. You do not even have to get on the roof! You don't need to know anything about "French drains" to contribute to the team effort. It does take a willingness to learn and to pitch in and help with any and everything the team is tackling.

There will be more information available soon, but I wanted to get the dates to you so you can be praying about going and getting it on your calendar.

Also, I am confident that there will be additional short-term (no more than three days at a time) disaster response teams deployed throughout the year. I will try to keep those opportunities before you for your consideration. AND...our mission team

intends to take teams to some of the WV Conference mission sites to learn about their ministry and volunteer for a day. Be praying about how you can contribute to this vital work of Christ in the world.

CHURCH CONFERENCE

Our 2025 Church Conference was held on Sunday, October 26th, at 2:00pm with the Rev. Amy Shanholtzer presiding. We successfully completed all the business before us regarding the receiving of reports from the various ministries and programs in the church, recognized the lay servants and CLM in the congregation, set the salary for the pastor, and elected the officers who will serve the church in many different capacities beginning January 1, 2026.

All who were at the conference received a copy of a bound booklet with this information. The intention is for every household in the congregation to have a copy of the booklet to which they can refer throughout the year. We also plan to give a copy of the booklet to any guest/visitor who wants to know more about our congregation. This is a great resource! If you have a question about the building and want to know who is on the board of trustees, you can find that info with their contact information quickly. If you are curious about something financially, the members of the finance committee are provided. How much money does your ministry have allocated in the church budget for ministry in 2026? The budget is included. Do you want to know more about the ministry of Junior Church? They have a report. How much food and how many people did the pantry serve in 2025? It is in there! There are copies of the booklet at the entrances to the sanctuary and in the church office. We will print more copies as needed.

ONLINE LEARNING

The WV Conference of the UM Church hosts an online learning platform called Portico. Once you set up an account and log in, you have access to dozens and dozens of short, targeted, informational videos and interactive programs designed to equip you to become a better disciple of Jesus and be more effective in ministry. Most courses are roughly 20 minutes long. Course topics include:

Communications

Discipleship

Prayer Walking

Safe Sanctuaries

Lay Servant Ministry

They can be completed at your own pace, and thanks to a partnership with the United Methodist Foundation, there is no charge to you for this service. Simply go to www.wvumc.org/portico and follow the instructions. If you have any questions, they can answer them at the conference center, or you can contact Pastor Steve.

Lunch Bunch

Do you normally eat alone? Do you find it difficult (not to mention lonely) to cook for one? Do you eat out more than you should or settle for cereal or a PB&J sandwich? Would you rather have some company about once a week?

Pastor Steve has a group affectionately known as the Lunch Bunch that is comprised of people in the community who share a lunchtime meal once a week - normally on Thursday at 12:30pm. We rotate to different restaurants and even have birthday cake once a month to celebrate everyone in the group who has a B-day

that month. We have almost 25 people in the group, and we average around 16 each week. There are people from Calvary, but there are also folks from other churches and those with no church affiliation. Men and women. Some are widowed, some never married, and others who have been divorced or separated. A diverse group except in one way - we normally eat alone, and we find this time of food and fellowship life-giving. It is often the highlight of the week for many. There are a lot of smiles and conversations!

Everyone is welcome to join us. If you are fortunate enough not to have to eat alone, perhaps you know someone who would benefit from this group. Just let Pastor Steve know that you would like to participate, and he will make sure you get the invitation and information about the next gathering.

Attendance for Oct 2025

			9:00	11:00	Sunday School
Oct	5	Worship	128	13	88
Oct	12	Worship	155	combined	74
Oct	19	Worship	156	15	108
Oct	26	Worship	171	combined	81

Tithes and Offerings

2025 Budget	\$314,721.00
Needed Each Week	\$6,147.17
Rec. Year-to-Date	\$267,056.40



RENEW YOUR KROGER CARD

Time to renew Calvary UMC Food Pantry as your selection for Kroger Community Rewards Program

If you are supporting the Calvary UMC Food Pantry by connecting your Kroger Rewards Card to the Food Pantry on Kroger Community Rewards Program, then it is time for you to renew that connection for the coming year. To renew, please do the following:

1. Go online at KrogercommunityRewards.com and click on Sign-In/Register.
2. Use your email address and password to sign in.
3. Once you are signed in, click on View Your Rewards Details.
4. Scroll to the bottom of your Account Summary to view your Community Rewards selection.
5. Select Calvary UMC Food Pantry by either typing it in or using our NPO Number which is 83824.
6. Make sure you get the Calvary UMC in Ripley (83824) because there are three Calvary UMC's listed.

If you have been participating in the Kroger Community Rewards Program but do not have access to a computer or do not have an email account, please contact Melanie Purkey at 304-372-6910 (H) or 304-377-6339 (C). If you have not participated in the program but would like to, follow the enrollment directions in each week's church bulletin.

From Dec 1, 2024 to Feb 28, 2025 84 Households Participated bringing \$301.03 to CUMC

ONLINE GIVING

The QR code has changed for online giving. Please use this barcode for your online giving through your credit or debit card or your bank account number. This can be a one time or regular transaction. You can also choose to pay the fee or have the church pay the fee.



November 2025 Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 Sophia Alizabeth Wolford
- 2
- 3 Ethan James Weekley
- 4 Cheryl Hull
- 5
- 6 Alaina Lynn Hicks, Elizabeth Bailes
- 7
- 8 Henley Patterson
- 9 Todd McCoy, Larry Sturm
- 10 Autumn Hopkins
- 11 Ashley Wolfe
- 12 Brooklyn Groves
- 13 Ruth Thompson
- 14 Lily Starkey, Ryan Neil
- 15
- 16
- 17 Rachel Shockey
- 18 Jared Landis
- 19 Tyler Haskins
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23 Ellie Hosaflook
- 24 Larry Thompson
- 25
- 26 Molly Brown
- 27 Tim Showen
- 28
- 29 Vaughn Anderson, Ellie Bolyard
- 30 Jocelyn Murray









- 23 Terry & Chris Landis
25 Alan & Janet Hall
Larry & Lora Sturm



Schedules For Our Church Volunteers November 2025

**Worship Leader – Haskins Family
Natalie Holcomb**

**9:00 am
11:00 am**

	<u>Nursery</u>	<u>Acolytes</u>	<u>Children's Church</u>	<u>Prayers of the People</u>	<u>Sound & Streaming</u>	<u>Scripture Reader</u>
Nov 2	Ashley Wolfe & Scarlett Greathouse	Cole Wolfe & Ashlyn Wolford	Scott Greathouse	9:00 am Haskins Family 11:00 am Pastor Steve	Sound – Trevor Cummings Live Streaming– Stephanie Dewees	9:00 am Haskins Family 11:00 a.m. Emily Wilmoth
Nov 9	Cinda Francis & Lilah Hosaflook	Ty Cummings & Harper Patterson	Carlene Anderson	9:00 am Haskins Family 11:00 am Pastor Steve	Sound – Steve Sisson Live Streaming– Stephanie Dewees	9:00 am Haskins Family 11:00 am Emily Wilmoth
Nov 16	Hilary Groves & Alexi Fish	Harper Patterson & Henley Patterson	Danielle Fish	9:00 am Haskins Family 11:00 am Pastor Steve	Sound – Jeremy Rhodes Live Streaming– Russ Hunter	9:00 am Haskins Family 11:00 am Emily Wilmoth
Nov 23	Alyssia Ruben & Lindsay Toler		Staci Cummings	9:00 am Haskins Family 11:00 am Pastor Steve	Sound – Nancy Smith Live Streaming– Russ Hunter	9:00 am Haskins Family 11:00 am Emily Wilmoth
Nov 30	Staci Cummings & Bella Lee		Gloria Burdette	9:00 am Haskins Family 11:00 am Pastor Steve	Sound – Trevor Cummings Live Streaming– Jeremy Rhodes	9:00 am Haskins Family 11:00 am Emily Wilmoth
	 Nursery Ministry	 Acolytes				

Reminder: The nursery is for ages 5 years and under. -
If you are unable to tend the Nursery as scheduled,
please switch with someone or call Cinda Francis (273-5264)

Pre-worship
Prayer Leaders:
Children's Time:

9:00 am Haskins Family
11:00 am Judy Lieving
9:00 am Keri Starcher
11:00 am Heather Starkey



2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 7:00 a Mens Devo
2 All Saints Sunday 9:00&11:00 a Morning Worship 9:00 a Live Streaming Service 10:00 a Sunday School All Ages 2:00p Evans Eagles 4:00p PJH 5:30p UMY choir practice 6:00p UMYF	3 UMM 6:30 p	4 Tai Chi 9:30a GriefShare 6:30p	5 Prayers/Squares1-3p Bible Study 11a&6p 7:00p Choir	6 Food Pantry9-11a	7 11a Tai Chi Youth	8 Mens Devo 7a
9 9:00&11:00 a Morning Worship 9:00 a Live Streaming Service 10:00 a Sunday School All Ages 2:00 p Mary Martha – Wallen Res 4:00p PJH 5:30p UMY choir practice 6:00p UMYF	10 -----	11 VETERANS DAY Tai Chi 9:30a GriefShare 6:30p ----- Pastor	12 Deborah/Miriam 10a Bible Study 11a&6p 7:00p Choir ----- Gone Training -----	13 -----	14 11a Tai Chi Youth -----	15 Mens Devo 7a
16 9:00&11:00 a Morning Worship 9:00 a Live Streaming Service 10:00 a Sunday School All Ages 4:00p PJH 5:30p UMY choir practice 6:00p UMYF 7:00p Finance Mtg	17 UWF General Mtg 7p	18 Tai Chi 9:30a John 3:16 – 3:16p GriefShare 6:30p Scouts 6-8p	19 Bible Study 11a&6p Prayers/Squares1-3p 7:00p Choir	20 Food Pantry9-11a 12-6p Blood Drive 6:30p SPRC	21 11a Tai Chi Youth	22 Mens Devo 7a
23 9:00&11:00 a Morning Worship 9:00 a Live Streaming Service 10:00 a Sunday School All Ages 4:00p PJH 5:30p UMY choir practice 6:00p UMYF	24 UWF Decorate Church	25 Tai Chi 9:30a GriefShare 6:30p	26 Bible Study 11a&6p 7:00p NO Choir	27 Thanksgiving Office Closed Hicks Hall Booked	28 Office Closed 11a Tai Chi Yth Hicks Hall Booked	29 Mens Devo 7a
30 9:00&11:00 a Morning Worship 9:00 a Live Streaming Service 10:00 a Sunday School All Ages 4:00p PJH 5:30p UMY choir practice 6:00p UMYF 7:00p Song & Praise-Keith Burdette						
Younger Youth and M&M's Youth Groups Sunday Evening at 5:30 PM choir 6:00 PM <u>Your Youth Group Leaders</u> Younger – Taran Wolford 532-2317 M&M's - Ashley Hosaflook 373-7580 High School – Jimmy Groves 372-6910		Church Office Open- Monday thru Friday-8:00 - Noon Sunday Services Traditional/Live Streaming Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Contemporary Service 11:00 a.m.				Worship Leaders: 9:00 am Haskins Family 11:00 am Natalie Holcomb

CALVARY UMC – STUDENT LIST**2025-2026***** *Student is new to mailing list*

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
Adkins, Cayden	601A McLane Ave, Morgantown WV. 26505	
Brown, Chloe	36 N. McKinley Ave. Apt. 803 Athens, OH 45701	
Cox, Lindsay***	P.O. Box 232 Kenna, WV 25248	
Francis, Jacob	Room 1061 Ohio State ATI 1775 Universal Drive Wooster, OH 44691	
Harris, Avery	River Gate Apt 105-B 10 Rufus Street Athens, OH 45701	
Harris, Jaxon	1075 Granada Street Grundy, VA 24614	
Harvey, Camryn***	28 Real Quiet Dr. Evans, WV 25241	
Harvey, Jake	704 Cherry St. Ravenswood, WV 26164	jakeharvey597@gmail.com
Haskins, Aubrey	20 Squibb Wilson Boulevard Apt 204-E Fairmont, West Virginia 26554-6343	
Haskins, Brett	Waiting for P.O. Box	
Hosaflook, Ellie	1402 3rd Ave. Apt. 16 Huntington, WV 25703-9605	
Howery, Bailey	1014 Rawley Lane Lincoln Hall room 452 Morgantown, WV 26505	
Keller, Brody***	332 East Oakland Hall 438 Oakland St. Morgantown, WV 26505	
Lee, Sophia	6313 Diana 3009 Broadway New York, NY 10027-6909	

Matheny, Vivian (Grace)	80 Newton Dr. Apt. 205 Morgantown, WV 26505	
McCutcheon, Kallie***	Cub 1805 208 University Dr. West Liberty, WV 26074	
McCutcheon, Katie***	1718 6th Avenue Willis Hall Room WS-0308a2 Box 78 Huntington, WV 25703-14130	
Neil, Christopher	971 Valley View Ave. Apt. 806 Morgantown, WV 26505	
Neil, Ryan	971 Valley View Ave. Apt. 806 Morgantown, WV 26505	
Phillips, Anderson	346 Crown Drive Ripley, WV 25271	
Phillips, Garrison L.	1211 MacTavish Avenue 907T Richmond, VA 23230	GarrisonPhillips17@gmail.com
Purkey, Jacquelyn (Shae)	4312 University Commons Drive Morgantown, WV 26505	
Shockey, Emma	1032 Franklin Ct. Wooster, OH 44691	
Shockey, Regan***	20 Squibb Wilson Blvd. Room 1-205 Fairmont, WV 26554	
Shockey, Riley	1870 Quaker Way Pyle Center Box 934 Wilmington, OH 45177	
Shockey, Wren	1120 Pine St. Apt. 204 Klamath Falls, OR 97601	ers.wren@gmail.com
Simons, Kaci***	455 Charleston Dr. Apt A-8 Ripley, WV. 25271	
Starcher. Joe "Trey" (Please use Joe)	601A McLain Avenue Morgantown, WV 26505- 4755	Treystarcher3@gmail.com
Swisher, Kaitlyn	c/o Dave Clatworthy 3927 Mt. Union Rd. Huntington, WV 25701	