

MAY Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday

- May 2 ~ Elaine Amos
- May 2 ~ Susan Russell
- May 2 ~ Bryce Hays
- May 4 ~ Renee Allen
- May 10 ~ Jessica Allen
- May 10 ~ Jenn Trew
- May 12 ~ Jodi Kubitza
- May 14 ~ Scott Fields
- May 14 ~ Kim Neff
- May 16 ~ Daniel Kubitza
- May 20 ~ Gloria Myers
- May 21 ~ Misty Kevech
- May 22 ~ Joseph Sibert
- May 23 ~ Jordon Russell
- May 25 ~ Hayley Little
- May 28 ~ John Keenan
- May 29 ~ Samantha Douglas
- May 29 ~ Nicholas McCann
- May 29 ~ Andy Scott
- May 31 ~ Anita Campbell

Happy Anniversary

- May 18 ~ Dean and Jenn Trew
- May 19 ~ Dale and Laura Brinkley
- May 22 ~ David and Misty Kevech
- May 24 ~ Craig and Bernadette Amos

MEMORIAL DAY



PENTECOST SUNDAY

Sunday, May 28 - Communion Team

Set Up: Misty Kevech
 Bread: Linda Sprowls
 Captain: Bethany Burney
 Team: Eric Dreyer, Misty Kevech, Jim Shrader and Joyce Myers

TONGUES OF FIRE



Reminiscent of the Pentecost account in Acts 2 when “tongues of fire” rested on the disciples’ heads as the Holy Spirit birthed the church, images of flame symbolize the Spirit. Sometimes a tongue of fire is paired with a dove and set on a red background — other symbols of the Holy Spirit. Fire may also indicate spiritual fervor and zeal in a Christian’s life.

Breath of the Spirit

The breathing I did yesterday will not keep me alive today. I must continue to breathe afresh every moment, or my life will cease. In like manner, yesterday’s grace and spiritual strength must be renewed, and the Holy Spirit must continue to breathe on my soul from moment to moment in order that I may continue to enjoy him and to work the works he has assigned me. ~ Augustus Toplady

The power of (God’s) light

Do most people truly feel happier in spring? Is the light brighter, the sky bluer? Meteorologists say yes. The shorter, blue wavelengths of sunlight scatter more efficiently than long, red ones; as the sun rises higher in spring, the light passes through less atmosphere, making the sky appear bluer. Outdoor levels of light have proven as effective as Prozac to combat depression — and May is the sunniest month!

The Bible frequently uses light as a metaphor for God: “The Lord is my light and my salvation” (Psalm 27:1); “Let us walk in the light of the Lord” (Isaiah 2:5); “The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world” (John 1:9). Darkness isn’t bad; seeds sprout in dark soil, life begins in the dark womb, and darkness protected the Hebrews fleeing Pharaoh and the holy family fleeing Herod.

But light is one apt image for God because most of us know the joy, health and energy light brings. Both in spring and through faith in the God who enlightens all, may we “live as children of light” (Ephesians 5:8). ~ Heidi Hyland Mann

Life immortal

At the end of May, Americans honor those who’ve died for our country — and remember all deceased loved ones. These times of reflection, often in cemeteries, can make us ponder our own mortality. Even some Christians may fear the unknown of death.

Yet because of our faith, followers of Jesus can aim to make productive use of whatever earthly time we have left. We know the grave isn’t the end. Consider this poetic description of life everlasting from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow: “Dust thou art, to dust returnest / was not spoken of the soul.”

To our death-defying, death-defeating God we pray: Eternal God, empower us to take hold of the eternal life to which Christ calls us, and to boldly testify of it to anyone who asks the reason for our hope. To the immortal King of the ages, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, to him be honor, glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Volunteers

Date	Greeter	Scripture Reader	Children in Worship	Offering Counter
May 7	Eric Dreyer	Joyce Myers	Linda Sprowls	Eric Dreyer
May 14	Lorraine Shrader	Jim Shrader	Dan Biwer	Joyce Myers
May 21	Matt and Loni King	Michelle Douglas	Linda Sprowls	Loni King
May 28	Kim Neff	Michell Little	Elizabeth Sprowls	Curt Sprowls

Thank you for your time, you are a blessings !

Schedule

Monday, May 1	7:00PM	Women's Connection
Wednesday, May 3	7:00PM	Bible Study
Thursday, May 4		National Day of Prayer
	6:30PM	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, May 7	9:00AM	Christian Education Meeting
	10:00AM	Sunday School
	11:00AM	Worship
	12:15PM	Dinner (5th Sunday Dinner)
	7:00PM	The Chosen (shown in Fellowship Hall)
Monday, May 8	7:00PM	Evangelism and Worship Committee
Tuesday, May 9	6:00PM	Property Committee Meeting
Wednesday, May 10	7:00PM	Bible Study
Thursday, May 11	7:00PM	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, May 14		Mother's Day
	10:00AM	Sunday School
	11:00AM	Worship
	7:00PM	Youth Group
Wednesday, May 17	7:00PM	Bible Study
Thursday, May 18		Ascension Day
	6:30PM	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, May 20		Armed Forces Day
Sunday, May 21	9:30AM	Stewardship Committee Meeting
	10:00AM	Sunday School
	11:00AM	Worship
	7:00PM	Youth Group
Tuesday, May 23	7:00PM	Session Meeting
Wednesday, May 24	7:00PM	Bible Study
Thursday, May 25	6:30PM	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, May 28		Pentecost
	10:00AM	Sunday School
	11:00AM	Worship
	7:00PM	Youth Group
Tuesday, May 29		Memorial Day
Wednesday, May 31	7:00PM	Bible Study

Spirit SPINNER

For Pentecost, make a thaumatrope, a spinning toy that creates an optical illusion of motion.

What you need:

- White paper
- Cup
- Scissors
- Pencil and markers
- Plastic drinking straw
- Glue



What you do:

1. Using the cup's circular shape, trace two identical circles on the paper. Carefully cut them out.
2. In pencil, draw a person's head on one circle. Then place the blank circle on top and use the image beneath to guide you in drawing a flame above the head.
3. Color the two images with markers.
4. Apply glue to the backs of the circles and sandwich the top of the straw between them so it looks like a lollipop. Let dry.
5. Roll the straw quickly between your hands to view a mini motion picture.



2023 Newsletter

Prepare to be empowered

Contrary to common perception, Jesus' disciples weren't frightened and hiding during the 10 days between Ascension and Pentecost. Instead, they were actively preparing for the promised gift of the Holy Spirit. They "all joined together constantly in prayer" (Acts 1:14, NIV) and took steps to replace Judas. After that inward focus, the disciples were ready to boldly burst forth on Pentecost, empowered and "enabled" (Acts 2:4) by the Spirit. They proclaimed Christ's death and resurrection, leading 3,000 people to faith that day, now known as the church's birthday.

"A great wave of faith and love swept through this newborn community," writes Suzanne de Dietrich in *Free Men*. "These Christians could not keep silent. Their joyful liberty had broken down all the walls behind which people would like to keep them; no prison could silence them."

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."

