

# St. John UMC



*news*

MARCH 2019 NEWSLETTER

## Observing a Holy Lent . . .

### *a Time of Reflection*

By: Pastor Michael Q. Atkinson

**L**ent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays (Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter"), which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, which means "spring." The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent was a time

to prepare new converts for baptism. Today, many Christians focus on their relationship with God, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of themselves for others. During our worship service on Ash Wednesday you will be invited to "observe a holy Lent: by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's Holy word."

While you may be aware of this season leading up to Easter, you may wonder how you might "observe a holy Lent".

While there is no prescribed way

to "observe a holy Lent", practicing any Spiritual Discipline (prayer, study, fasting, confession, service, worship, etc.) is a means through which we confront our sinfulness, remember our mortality, and give thanks for the gift of salvation we receive through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is my hope that you will find some means during this Lenten season to renew your relationship with Jesus Christ and grow in your faith!

Peace,

*Michael*

Pastor Mike

# March Birthdays

Name	Birth Day	Name	Birth Day
Rick Henchey	03/01	Helen Sheppard	03/16
Shirley Persinger	03/02	Isabella Fuentes	03/16
Joshua Hill	03/03	Dick Goff	03/17
Katie Wagoner	03/04	Pat Ward	03/17
Kathy Carney	03/05	Lindsay Johnson	03/17
Nicholas Reib	03/05	Carol Pendleberry	03/19
Garrett DeFries	03/05	Jennifer Smith	03/19
Natalie Reib	03/05	Joshua Ford	03/20
Gloria McCane	03/06	Sarah Hunter	03/22
Jim Perry	03/06	Debbie Sheets	03/22
Kirk Boyce	03/06	Mike Johnson	03/22
Seth Skiles	03/06	Mike Spratt	03/23
Alexander Dunham	03/06	Peyton Bielinski	03/24
Fran Wilmoth	03/08	Belinda Weddington	03/28
Coni Mays	03/08	Meghan Shaffer	03/28
Lil Miller	03/09	Lauren Shaffer	03/28
Nancy Williams	03/09	Pat Murphy	03/29
Madison Black	03/09	Laura Brotherton	03/29
Leah Martin	03/09	Michael Atkinson	03/31
Belle Thomas	03/09	Gennifer Taylor	03/31
Barbara Southern	03/13	Shirley Ferguson	03/31
Josh Ilderton	03/14	Stanley Jackson	03/31
Caleb Delph	03/14	Jeffrey Dunham	03/31
Bobby Johnson	03/15	Julie Henry	03/31
Ava Edwards	03/15		

## March Anniversaries

<b>David &amp; Amy Miller</b>	<b>03/12</b>
<b>Bob &amp; Karen Clatworthy</b>	<b>03/21</b>
<b>Brian &amp; Jeanne Adkins</b>	<b>03/22</b>
<b>Justin &amp; Gennifer Taylor</b>	<b>03/23</b>



Regardless of the struggles and trials we may face, we must trust, remember and believe that **“JESUS IS STILL THE ANSWER”**. He **NEVER** changes!!

We must strive to me like Him.



## St. John United Methodist Church

**WV ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
OF THE  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**SENIOR PASTOR**

*Rev. Michael Q. Atkinson*

**WORSHIP MINISTER**

*Joe McCullough*

**MUSIC MNISTER**

*Jamie Miller*

**CHORAL ACCOMPANIST**

*Christi Miller*

**DIRECTOR of YOUTH MINISTERIES**

*Kyle Smith*

**A.C.T.S. COORDINATOR**

*Karen Wicker*

**DIRECTOR of PRESCHOOL**

*Joy Spratt*

**VISITATION/COUNSELING MINISTER**

*Rev. Robert ‘Bob’ Hill*

**OFFICE MANAGER**

*Kaye Morton*

**MISSION**

Introducing people to Jesus,  
Growing as disciples together

**OFFICE HOURS**

10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Monday thru Thursday

4536 TEAYS VALLEY ROAD  
SCOTT DEPOT, WV 25560

304-757-6343

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**

8:30 am and 11:00 am

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

9:45 am

[WWW.SJUMCWV.ORG](http://WWW.SJUMCWV.ORG)

## MAKR YOUR CALENDAR

- 03-01 - CONFIRMATION RETREAT
- 03-02 - UMW NEW OFFICERS MTG
- 03-03 - GIRL SCOUT COOKIES AVAILABLE ON LOWER LEVEL
- 03-05 - SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER, 6-7:30 PM
- TRUSTEE MTG, 6 PM
- 03-06 - ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
- 03-08 - KINDERMUSIK FOOD ART
- 03-09 - ANNUAL BASKETBALL SHOOTOUT, 12:00 NOON, GYM
- 03-10 - LENTEN STUDY, 7-8:15 AM EACH SUNDAY THRU 04-14
- 03-10 - BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS AVAILABLE, END OF 8:30 SERVICE TO START OF 11:00 SERVICE
- 03-12 - OUTREACH MTG, 5:00 PM, LIBRARY
- 03-13 - CONFIRMATION CLASS, 7PM EACH WED THRU 04-10
- 03-14 - ALZHEIMER'S WORKSHOP, 1-2:00 PM, ROOM 250
- 03-17 - POTLUCK DINNER, 5-7 PM
- 03-19 - BOOK CLUB, 1:00 PM, ROOM 210
- 03-19 - UMM MEETING, 7:00 PM, ROOM 200
- 03-19 - BITES 4 BITTY PACKING, 7:00 PM, KITCHEN
- 03-24 - BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS AVAILABLE, END OF 8:30 SERVICE TO START OF 11:00 SERVICE.
- 03-25 - SCOUTS COURT OF HONOR

## WEEKLY STANDING EVENTS



### SUNDAYS

- WORSHIP - 8:30 & 11:00 AM
- SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:45 AM
- DISCIPLE I - 9:45 AM
- MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH - 5:30 - 7:00 PM
- HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH - 7:15 - 9:00 PM

### MONDAYS

- PRESCHOOL - 4 YR OLD, 9:00 AM
- PRESCHOOL - 3 YR OLD, 9:30 AM
- ACTIVE for LIFE - 10:00 AM, ROOM 110
- KINDERMUSIK - 10:00 AM, ROOM
- BASKETBALL RESERVED - 5-6:15 PM
- BOY/CUB SCOUTS - 6:30 PM
- DISCIPLE III - 7:00 PM, ROOM 250-A

### TUESDAYS

- PRESCHOOL - 4 YR OLD, 9:00 AM
- PRESCHOOL - 3 YR OLD, 9:30 AM
- WALKING - 3:30 - GYM
- BASKETBALL - 5-9 PM RESERVED

### WEDNESDAYS

- PRESCHOOL - 4 YR OLD, 9:00 AM
- PRESCHOOL - 3 YR OLD, 9:30 AM
- ACTIVE for LIFE - 9:30 AM, ROOM 110
- WALKING - 3:30 - GYM
- BASKETBALL - 5:00 PM RESERVED
- GIRL SCOUTS - 6:00 PM
- BAND REHEARAL - 6:15 PM
- BIBLE STUDY - 7:00 PM, LIBRARY
- CHOIR REHEARSAL - 7:00 PM
- YOUTH HANGOUT - 7:00 PM

### THURSDAYS

- PRESCHOOL - 4 YR OLD, 9:00 AM
- PRESCHOOL - 3 YR OLD, 9:30 AM
- ACTIVE for LIFE - 10:00 AM, ROOM 110
- KINDERMUSIK - 10:00 AM & 6:30, ROOM 100
- WALKING - 3:30 - GYM
- BASKETBALL RESERVED - 5-7:00 PM

### FRIDAYS

- KINDERMUSIK - 11:00 AM, ROOM 100
- BASKETBALL RESERVED, 5-7:00 PM
- NA MEETING - 7:00 PM, LIBRARY
- AA MEETING - 8:00 PM, ROOM 250-A
- AL ANON MEETING - 8:00 PM, ROOM 200

### SATURDAYS

- BASKETBALL RESERVED, 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM





## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> through Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 pm  
(Snacks/Dinner served at 5:30 pm)

It's not too early to begin thinking about this summer's Vacation Bible School! This year, Kathy Rittenhouse and Karen Wicker are teaming together as organizers/directors. Once again, we will offer this in the evenings, with dinner included.

This curriculum includes great stories and good lessons for our children- and all of us! The decorations are "out of this world" (Karen's joke) and exciting, too. Please save the dates and plan to join us this summer! Will you let Kathy or Karen know if you'd like to help?

- Daniel Trusts God in the Lions' Den: Go Beyond with Faith!
- Queen Esther Takes a Stand: Go Beyond with Boldness!
- The Good Samaritan Helps a Fellow Traveler: Go Beyond with Kindness!
- Jesus Heals 10 Lepers: Go Beyond with Thankfulness!
- Jesus Comforts Friends on the Way to Emmaus: Go Beyond with Hope!



**St. John Preschool** Now Enrolling  
For 2019-2020 school year for our  
3 and 4/5 year old class.

To obtain an Application or more  
information call the Church office  
304-757-6343 or  
Ms. Joy 304-757-7872.  
Limited class size.

### BITES for BITTY ONES

**Our next Packing will be on Tuesday,  
March 19th at 7 pm in the Kitchen.**

**We are in need of Puddings, Juices and  
Crackers in order to serve 45 children at  
Lakeside Elementary.**

**Thank you for your continued support!  
God Bless!!**



**GIRL SCOUT COOKIES  
ARE AVAILABLE IN THE  
LOWER LEVEL  
WELCOME AREA!!  
MARCH 3rd, 8:30 & 11:00**

# Faithful Citizenship Lenten Study

**R**e-connect this Lenten season with the Family Connections class. Our Lenten Study will be Faithful Citizenship. This Lent take time to better understand your civic responsibilities as a disciple of Jesus.

Inside this six-week study, Christian adults will explore the concepts of covenant, community and the common good. Together and independently, we will reflect on how to further grow as faithful citizens.

Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:45. Or if you would like to have the lessons to read on your own and ponder send us your email to [spratt6@suddenlink.net](mailto:spratt6@suddenlink.net) This is a downloadable lesson. We would love to put you on our email list and have you join us.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**9:45 AM SUNDAYS**

**There is a class for ALL ages!!**

## Upcoming Outreach Opportunities!

- **Palm Sunday Hymn Sing** - Sunday April 14 after worship. All are invited to join us at a local Nursing Home to deliver cookies and sing hymns to the residents. We'd really love to have some of our littlest members participate! The residents get such joy from visiting with children. Watch your up coming bulletin for all the details!
- **Putnam County Schools Portfolio Exposition**  
Career portfolios are more in depth than a resume. Students use career portfolios to apply for jobs and apply to college or training programs.  
Putnam County Schools need local professionals to help interview our high school students so they get interview experience. Help them to Dress for Success Professional clothing for Portfolio Fair's are needed for some of the high school students.

Dates:

Winfield High School	April 17
Poca High School	April 25
Hurricane High School	May 3
Buffalo High School	May 16

Please email Mary Humphrey, Second Education Secretary @ [mehumphrey@k12.wv.us](mailto:mehumphrey@k12.wv.us) by MARCH 15 if you plan to attend any of the above fairs. Please include your name, address, phone number and school location you plan to attend.  
Thank you!

## Outreach Ministry Need You!

**T**he Outreach Ministry at St. John's mission is to restore hope and provide opportunities for people to become all that God intends them to be. To put our Christian Faith into action through service to the community and to love our neighbor. Our mission focus is serving the most vulnerable children, teens, and families in Putnam County. In an effort to do just this, one of our ministries is mentoring children voluntarily in the Juvenile Drug Court Program in Putnam County. We also have a church member that counsels and mentors the parents and or guardians.

There are more male children in the program than male mentors. The program is in need of more mentors. It's a weekly commitment and sometimes it's not easy. You have to be willing to go with the flow. There may be some disappointments. But, we have seen that the program does work.

So, what do you have to do?

We need mentors who can be a friend, not a parent or authority figure. Help them realize their potential. Be positive and give encouragement. Be a good listener. Don't pass judgment. Respect the process. Be that person who takes the initiative to keep in contact with your mentee. Have patience. Most of these children have trust issues. Be willing to take the time, as long as that is to gain their trust. Be confidential. Have fun! One on one or fun group activities help build relationships. But, most of all let them see the light of Christ through your kindness and presence. Place this on your heart and pray. Maybe, God is calling you to be a part of this ministry.

If you'd like to find out more about this program and become a mentor please contact Jennifer Beam or Cindy Wandling so we can tell you more and even set up a time for you to see the weekly process and speak to the Judge and probation officers.

If you'd like to get in involved in Outreach we'd like to invite you to please come to our next Outreach meeting on March 5th at 6pm.

## The Book Club

March 19, 1 pm, Room 110

The book for discussion is "Broken Road",  
By Richard Paul Evans.

Charles James wonders why he is so unhappy, when he has everything he ever wanted. But, has he wanted the wrong things?

Contact Peggy Kuhl for more details.  
304-638-3659.

## POTLUCK DINNER

SUNDAY, MARCH  
17, 5:00 PM

Please bring:

a Main Dish, and  
a Salad OR  
a Dessert!

Good Food and  
good fellowship!!

Contact Sharon Adkison  
for more details at  
304-757-6337.

UNITED METHODIST



Join the United Methodist Men's group on Tuesday,  
March 19, 7pm, in Room 200 for a time of Bible  
study and fellowship.

Contact Rick Pendleberry for more details.



### A Place for You to Serve

Are you a singer, or an instrumentalist?

Are you interested in enJOYing music through the Lenten season,  
Palm Sunday and Easter?

WE HAVE A PLACE for YOU to SERVE!

New songs have been chosen for the choir through  
the coming weeks. Easter is just around the corner.

COME and JOIN the choir in singing during Lent.

We practice on Wednesdays in the choir room at 7:00 p.m.

JOIN US!!!

EASTER  
FLOWER  
ORDER  
FORMS  
ARE



AVAILABLE AT THE  
WELCOME DESK!!

PLEASE CONSIDER ORDERING  
A BEAUTIFUL FLOWER IN  
HONOR OF/OR IN MEMORY OF A  
FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND.

ORDERS MUST BE IN BY  
MARCH 31.

### FLOWER DEDICATION BINDER

PLEASE don't forget to include  
your 'Flower Donation'  
information in the 2019 Binder  
at the Welcome Desk!

Thank you for donating flowers  
each Sunday in honor of, or in  
memory of your family  
and loved ones.

# Youth Activities

It's crazy to think that we're a third of the way through the spring semester. I am excited that it's starting to feel like spring outside. Much like the weather, the activity of the Youth is heating up! We have been to Tennessee for a youth conference, had a party for the Super Bowl, and have been meeting every week with the goal of growing in our faith. We will be going to Skyzone trampoline park this Sunday (March 3<sup>rd</sup>) and will keep meeting together each week. We have a service Sunday planned for March 31<sup>st</sup>. The St. John Youth are always up to something.

You're invited to kickoff Lent with us at our annual **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner on Tuesday March 5<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30 in the gym.** There is no charge but donations will be accepted and greatly appreciated. All the money raised will go to support the many mission projects we do throughout the year.



# CHILDREN'S EASTER EVENT AND EGG HUNT



Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 9:00- 11:00

**Come join the fun!** All children in preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to discover all the joys of Jesus' resurrection through crafts, stories, activities and an egg hunt- here at St. John! Karen Wicker is organizing this event but welcomes and appreciates helpers!

Please sign up at the Welcome Center if your child plans to attend (and bring a friend, too). We will also gratefully receive donations of plastic eggs and wrapped candies. Call or text Karen at 419-410-7679 if you would enjoy helping!

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## “AN ALTAR IN THE WORLD”

Sundays, 7:00- 8:15 a.m.  
Beginning March 10<sup>th</sup>

If you would still like to join our Early Bird Lenten Study, please call or text Karen Wicker soon (419-410-7679), so she can order a book for you. How will you deepen in your faith and strengthen your relationship with Christ during this Lenten season? Please join us in our morning study, as we learn, share, and pray. Coffee will be served!

## MINISTRY TEAM MEETING

Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 12:15-2:30

**T**hanks to everyone who attended our first Ministry Team Meeting in February! We discovered how each of our ministry teams contribute to our whole mission as a church. We shared some of our visions and hopes for ministry. We began setting dates for programs and events in order to create a ministry booklet for the year.

Our next meeting will be after the 11:00 worship service on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> (12:15-2:30). We plan to finish creating our calendar for the year, envision new possibilities, share our needs, and collaborate to make those ministries happen. Don't forget to consider Pr. Michael's question, "How do we best connect/bridge our guests from building use (gym, classrooms, etc.) to church life?" and Karen's request to envision how St. John might be living out our mission, *Introducing People to Jesus, and Growing as Disciples, Together* through the rest of 2019.

If you have an interest in any of our ministries- Nurture (caring and community), Hospitality, Witness, Health and Wellness, Education and Small Group (discipleship), Outreach, Children, Youth, Scouts, United Methodist Men or United Methodist Women- we hope you will join us at our next meeting! Come and see what exciting ministries we can do *together* as St. John UMC.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center. A light lunch will be served. Call or text Karen Wicker, 419-410-7679 if you have any questions.