

LOWER LIGHT

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May 2025



God Loves Us Like a Mother

by Rev. Yosub Namgung



Isaiah 49:15, "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne?..."

When we think of the month of May, perhaps the first day that comes to mind is Mother's Day. We all have a mother — without her, none of us would be here. Even Jesus came into this

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Virginia Conference Updates



The Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church has begun a new communication, "The Q Source," to give conference members an easy digest of the work that is happening across the conference and districts on a regular basis.

To view the first Quarter report, click [HERE](#).

01/07

(Continued)

world through His mother, Mary. Aside from doctors or nurses, a mother is often the very first person we meet in this world.

From our mothers, we learn and feel many things, but what remains most powerfully in our hearts is love. Few people in our lives will ever love us as deeply and unconditionally as our mothers do. Through her protection, care, concern, nurturing, and sacrifice, our mother gives us not only life, but the strength, wisdom, and love to live it well.

Yet through the love of a mother, God is speaking something even deeper to us. God loves us like a mother — and even more. No matter where we are or what we've done, God stays with us, forgives us, protects us, provides for us, and leads us. Even if a mother were to forget her child — something almost unthinkable — God promises He never will. God's love is not only parental, but eternal, unconditional, and unending.

This Mother's Day, as we honor the love of our earthly mothers, let us also give thanks to God, who gave us mothers — and who Himself is the source of the greatest love we'll ever know.

Cross Garden Donations & Dedications



In Memory of Our Parents, Tom and Jean Bartron:

Anne Bartron, Marynell Willets, Jeanne Bartron

In Honor of My Family:

Sally Gayle Revere

In Honor of Lower Church Staff and Members:

Revere Family

In Memory of Loved Ones:

The Reveres

In Loving Memory of Family No Longer with Us:

Peggy and Michael Doss

In Memory of James Wood:

Billie J. Wood

In Memory of Our Parents:

Bill and Donna Will

In Memory of Thomas Shipley

In Honor of Norma Smith:

Paulette Shipley

In Remembrance of Jesus's Sacrifice:

Cynthia Lewis

In Memory of Our Parents Rich & Judy

Brindle and Jim & Earlene Russell:

Rick and Dee Brindle

In Memory of Our Parents:

Steve and Margaret Montgomery

In Memory of Melvin and Helen Nelson and
Hugh and Penka Coloff

Stan and Chyrel Coloff

April Council Meeting Notes

Treasurers Report – Kristie: The finances and operating fund are in good shape with surpluses. The \$20K line of credit was paid off from the Operations Investment Account. The line of credit remains open for future use.

Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee – Stan: Pastor evaluation is due by June 1. Worship Committee requested SPPRC consider their proposal to amend the previous “policy” that paid positions may not be held by church members. The proposal was discussed by the Committee and unanimously agreed a revised proposed policy be recommended to the Council. The revised proposed policy reads: “The church secretary/administrative assistant may not be a member of LUMC. Other paid church staff, full time, part time or temporary are exempt from this policy.” A discussion was had about a distinction being made for preschool employees from church staff. A discussion was had regarding an appropriate rate to pay the churches pianist. Stan is researching.

Nominations Committee – Donna Will: The nomination committee is still in need of a Finance Chair and a Treasurer. Please let Yosub know if you are interested.

Trustees Report – Johnny Fleet: The drainage problems have had significant movement forward with the discovery of a drainage pipe split. New pipes are being laid and brick repair is being assessed with the help of contractors and the guidance of a retired brick expert from the Fairfield Foundation. Gutters are being evaluated, and an old window well may be filled in to help with water entering the building. Insurance adjusters have been out to see if some of the costs can be reimbursed as water damage.

Grounds – Helen Ward: The income from the spaghetti supper was about \$3700. So far \$1k has been used to purchase mulch and hire workers to gather and dispose of garden brush.

Worship Committee – Donna Will: The committee mentioned that some people have expressed interest in donating perennials or plants for the church grounds or prayer garden in lieu of or in addition to purchasing Easter lilies for Easter

History – Cynthia Lewis: The final throws of organizing the garden tour are being coordinated and nicely wrapped up with help from Chyrel Coloff.

Happy
Birthday

May Birthdays

- 7 Michael Carey
- 7 Susan Thomas
- 15 Joyce Fetterolf
- 15 Peyton Lambert
- 21 JoAnn Agard
- 24 Amber Holland
- 25 Dutch Beukenkamp
- 27 Jon Sears
- 30 Chyrel Coloff

May Preschool Chapel Time Volunteers

7th Dee Brindle

13th Chyrel Coloff



May Anniversaries



- 1 Joe and Christy Hogge
- 8 Terry and Madonna Frisch
- 12 Bob Walker and Debbie Holloman

Lower's Extension Ministry to the Army Reserve

by Rev. Yosub Namgung

Last April, we held a Change of Command Ceremony at the 359th Transportation Battalion, where I currently serve as the Unit Ministry Team (UMT) chaplain. In the Army, it is common for commanders to rotate every two years. During these ceremonies, the chaplain typically offers both the invocation and the benediction, blessing the outgoing and incoming commanders.



WANTED: One Brave Soul to Be Our Finance Chairperson!

Do you love numbers, spreadsheets, or at least pretend you do? Do you find joy in helping the church be good stewards of God's blessings? Then we want YOU to consider stepping up as our new Finance Committee Chair at Lower United Methodist Church!

We're looking for someone who:

- Has a heart for God and a head for budgets
- Thinks "balanced budget" sounds more exciting than "balanced breakfast"
- Can attend a few meetings without falling asleep (we'll provide coffee!)

Still reading? Then you might be the one!

Check out the official job description [HERE](#) (it's not as scary as it sounds).

Interested? Have questions? Feel a strange calling in your heart (or calculator)?

Talk to Pastor Yosub. We'd love to chat.

Together, let's steward well what God has entrusted to us!

05/07

Maundy Thursday Service

Our Maundy Thursday Service was a meaningful time of hand-washing and communion. - *Photos courtesy of Dee Brindle*



Breakfast with Friends

Sunday, May 11th

Bring a dish! Bring a friend!



Communion



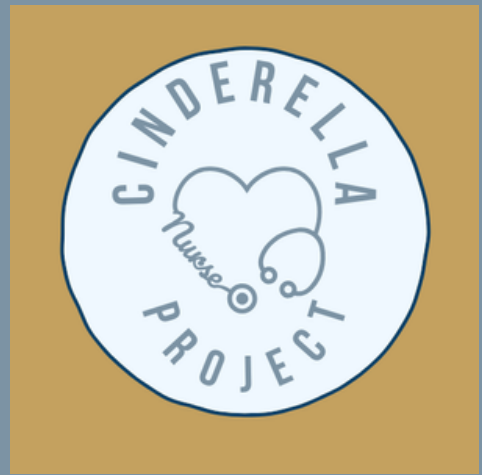
Sunday,
May 25th

Cinderella Project

by Margaret Montgomery

Second Semester Report:

It is with gratitude that we report the Cinderella Project Donations from January through April to our 3 school clinics. Each month donations are sorted and delivered to the schools by the Cinderella team: Mary Francisco, Dianne Lindsey, Rob Hardman and Margaret Montgomery. Monetary donations are used to cover items requested, but not donated. The smiles and sincere appreciation are heart warming from each of the nurses. The needs of their students were met with the following generous donations:



- Tissues-68 boxes
- Hand sanitizer-2 dispenser bottles
- Chapstick-13
- Nutritious bars-250
- Individual snacks-339
- Juice boxes-154
- Refillable water bottles-29
- Filled water bottles-104
- Bottoms: shorts, leggings, pants-38
- T-shirts-14
- Underwear girls and boys-113
- Socks-3
- Saltines-2 boxes
- Feminine Pads-136
- Wipes-18 cans
- Fabreeze-3 for clothing and backpacks
- Plastic bags: sandwich, quart and gallon-
12 boxes-to make ice packs and other uses
- Lysol spray-7 cans
- Batteries for thermometers, flashlights,
monitors-96
- Laundry pods for student laundry-51
- Lotion-1 unscented
- Aquaphor-1 tube
- Bandages-60
- Salt for sterilization-1 box
- Mints for coughs-100



April Donations

The Cinderella Team:
Margaret Montgomery
Mary Francisco
Dianne Lindsey
Rob Hardman

2025

May

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Scholarship Applications Due	2 Garden Club Tour	3
4 8:30 Choir Practice 9:15 Coffee Fellowship 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Worship	5	6 6:00 Council Meeting	7 7:30 - 9:00 God's Aroma Coffee Ministry 4:00 Prayer Meeting 5:30 Worship Committee	8	9	10
11 9:45 Gather 10:00 Breakfast 10:30 Worship with Wiggle Worship	12	13 10:00 United Women in Faith	14 7:30 - 9:00 God's Aroma Coffee Ministry 4:00 Prayer Meeting	15	16	17
18 8:30 Choir Practice 9:15 Coffee Fellowship 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Worship	19	20	21 7:30 - 9:00 God's Aroma Coffee Ministry 4:00 Prayer Meeting	22	23	24
25 8:30 Choir Practice 9:15 Coffee Fellowship 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Worship with Communion	26	27 Newsletter Entry Deadline	28 7:30 - 9:00 God's Aroma Coffee Ministry 4:00 Prayer Meeting	29	30	31

Lower United Methodist Church
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The Lower Light

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Email Us:
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Check Us Out on the Web:
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And on Social Media:



Sundays:
Choir Practice 8:30
Coffee Fellowship 9:15
Adult Sunday School 9:30
Worship 10:30

2nd Sundays:
Gather 9:45
Breakfast with Friends 10:00
Worship 10:30
with Wiggle Worship

Office Hours
Tuesday - Thursday
9:00 - 12:00

