



MORRIS MEMORIAL UM CHURCH

APRIL 2019

CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA

Help UMCOR to be Ready

When disaster strikes around the globe, so many watching the drama unfold on our living room televisions feel helpless. How could any one person make a difference in the wake of such widespread devastation? As responders around the globe scramble to help survivors, the United Methodist Committee on Relief, UMCOR, is prepared to act.

Since 1940, when UMCOR's forerunner was established to meet the needs of those suffering overseas at the onset of World War II, we've continued to respond to those in desperate need – today throughout more than eighty countries around the world.

Your generous gifts to UMCOR Sunday **(formerly One Great Hour of Sharing)** allow UMCOR to act as the arms and legs of Christ's church, assisting the most vulnerable in their darkest days. Because you give, the United Methodist Church's compassionate response to human suffering continues:

- When tornadoes ripped through Oklahoma, we responded
- When children in Zimbabwe lost parents to AIDS, we responded
- When a massive tsunami devastated lives in Japan, we responded
- And when the next mass crisis occurs, we will be prepared to respond

Please give to the UMCOR Sunday offering on March 31. If you are not going to be in church on that day, you may give any time in March or April. Please mark your check or your envelope "UMCOR."





Please remember in prayer these members of our church family on their special day

Mary Collins	April 1	Mike Barber	April 10
Karen Dillard	April 4	Steve Jones	April 10
Mel Dillard	April 4	Brad Hall	April 11
Steve White	April 5	McKenzie Williams	April 11
Michael Sokolosky	April 6	Tony Hess	April 15
Debby Sokolosky	April 9	Dawson Haddox	April 19
Kent Williams	April 9	Robbie Skull	April 21



Jeanne & Tim Basford	April 9
Marg & Gill Heasley	April 18

First Friday Food and Fellowship Planned for April, May, and June

Some folks have asked when we are going to start our Friday night Fellowships again. The answer is that we are going to start back on April 5 at 6 p.m. We will have a First Friday Fellowship at Firehouse (Subs) on the first Friday of April, May, and June. Firehouse Subs is at 5707 MacCorkle Ave. S.E., Suite 100, near the DMV and the Beef Jerky Outlet. Firehouse has a nice variety of hot subs, cold subs, and salads. They also serve chili.

	Vital Signs				
Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Worship	<u>March 3</u> 38 43 76	<u>March 10</u> 45 43 80	<u>March 17</u> 41 60 74	<u>March 24</u> 48 52 77	

Morris Memorial and the Brothers in the Cross to Host Martin Luther King, Jr. Male Chorus

The Martin Luther King Jr. Male Chorus will celebrate their group's 23rd anniversary with a concert and reception at Morris Memorial on April 28 at 3 p.m. The group first sang in 1996 at a celebration of the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Since then, the group has performed all over the United States. The chorus performs both contemporary and traditional gospel music. In the fall of 2016 they were inducted into the West Virginia All Black Hall of Fame.

The men in the chorus come from many local churches and several denominations. They have sung for all sorts of occasions and in all sorts of churches. It will be an honor to have them sing a Morris Memorial. It will also be a joy to hear our own Brothers in the Cross at the concert. Put this event on your calendar now, and be sure that you don't miss it.

Liturgist	
Schedule	

	8:30	11:00
April 7	Lenese Hickman	Gloriann Caudill
April 14	Jeannie Morris	David Byrd
April 21	Reuben Gillispie	Steve White
April 28	Robert Stigall	Debbie Burdett

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COMMON GROUNDS NEWS AND NEEDS

In May of 2016 in the <u>Charleston Gazette</u> Joseph J. Mazzella wrote an Essay on Faith titled "Sharing is a Treasure." He talked about finding pennies on the ground as a child and eagerly collecting them and saving them until he had enough money to purchase something that he wanted (like a candy bar). Even now as a grown-up he stops and picks up stray pennies. One day he found four pennies and picked them up. Then he went into the local post office to mail a letter. Inside a lady was rummaging through her purse to find change to mail a package. She had come up four cents short. Mr. Mazzella placed his "found change" on the counter to make up the difference. What a small act of kindness this was but it certainly helped "make" the lady's day. Mr. Mazzella stated: "Every small act of kindness,



every little, loving gesture, every moment of compassion and sharing is a treasure in the eyes of God and blesses the world around us. Always pass on your pennies from Heaven."

We have these kinds of opportunities every day. When we volunteer at Common Grounds we certainly do. Thanks to the generosity of our Morris Memorial Family (and our other two churches) together we are able to "make the days" of many of our underprivileged neighbors.

Speaking of volunteering.....Common Grounds is <u>in need</u> <u>of more volunteers.</u> Would you consider helping us out? We are open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. You can volunteer any part of that time. You can participate as a regularly scheduled volunteer or be on the

"on call" list as needed. You can work whatever hours fit into your schedule. You may want to work one day a month, half a day every other week, half a day every week, one day a week, etc. We would welcome your help! If you are interested (or think you may be interested) please contact Susan Vieweg at either of the phone numbers below. She will be glad to give you a tour and if you decide you'd like to join us, she'll "train" you in wherever area you'd prefer to help us out. Please seriously consider joining us. It's fun and very rewarding - really!

If you would like to donate food this month, please consider CANNED SOUP, CANNED BAKED BEANS, and/or BOXED CEREAL (preferably unsweetened). You may place them in the woven trunk in the open recessed area in the Narthex. If you would like to make a donation by check, please make the check out to Morris Memorial Methodist Church and in the bottom left-hand corner write Common Grounds. Thank you so much for sharing your resources (whatever way or ways you choose) with those who are so in need right here in our area. May God bless you richly!

If you are interested in learning more about Common Grounds, have comments to share, or would like to volunteer here, please contact Susan Vieweg, our Morris' Mission Team's Common Grounds Coordinator, at (304) 344-2617 or (304) 549-6155.

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MORRIS MEMORIAL

Sermon Series "With Christ in the Garden of Prayer" Continues

Pastor Mark's sermon series "With Christ in the Garden of Prayer" will continue through the Lenten season. On March 31, our topic will be "Betrayal in the Garden of Prayer." Members of our confirmation class will be presenting St. Gilbert's Cross at both services. We will share in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. In order to prepare for this service you are invited to read Matthew 26:44-49 and Hosea 1:2-5. You are also invited to think and pray about the ways in which you have betrayed Jesus.



On April 7, the sermon title will be "A Sword in the Garden of Prayer." The confirmation class will present the Budded Cross. At the 11:00 service, we will celebrate the baptism of Vivian Ann Friend, the daughter of Alan and Stephanie Friend. To make yourself ready for worship on April 7 you are invited to read John 18 (especially verses 10 and 11), Psalm 44:6-8, and Isaiah 2:1-5.

April 14 is both Palm Sunday and Passion Sunday. We will have the Liturgy of the Palms at the 8:30 service and the Liturgy of the Passion at the 11:00 service. Pastor Mark will speak at both services. The Cross and the

Crown will be presented at the 8:30 service, and the Passion Cross will be presented at the 11:00 service. Even if you are not attending both services, please consider reading all of the following portions of the Gospel of Mark in preparation for this special day in the life of the Church: Mark 11:1-10 and 14:1-15:46.

April 21 is Easter Sunday. We will join with our Baptist and Nazarene neighbors for a sunrise service at Southeast Church of the Nazarene at 6:30 a.m. At 8:30 we will hear Pastor Mark preach a sermon titled "Surprised in the Garden," based on John 20:1-18. Then, at the 11:00 service our choir will present their Easter Cantata. Please plan to be with us for more than one of these services. Christ's glorious victory over death is worth celebrating for more than just an hour.

Help Make Palm Crosses

Bruce Reed, who blesses us regularly with his gift for music, has also brought us the gift of crosses made of palm fronds. He brought us the idea, and every year he refreshes our memory with

regard to the making of these crosses. You are invited to join us in the church gymnasium on Saturday, April 13 at 9 a.m. to make crosses. The crosses are not difficult to make, and Bruce is an excellent teacher.

The crosses will be distributed to everyone at both services on April 14, which is both Palm Sunday and Passion Sunday. In addition to the palm crosses which we will pin on, we will have palm branches to wave at the 8:30



service when we remember how Christ was welcomed to the city of Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.

A WORD FROM PASTOR STEVE

"Giants In The Land"

"If you haven't recently read the Old Testament story about Jacob wrestling with God (Gen. 32:22-30), let me encourage you to take a fresh look at it. There in verse 24 it says, "So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak." Apparently, this mysterious "man" was actually an angel who was representing God, because in verse 26 Jacob said, "I will not let you go



unless you bless me". In addition, in verse 28 the "man" said, "you have struggled with God and with men and have overcome", and in verse 30 Jacob said, "I saw God face to face." So it seems to me that this physical wrestling match between Jacob and God is symbolic of our need to wrestle with God spiritually in prayer, in order that He may do for us what He did for Jacob, namely, to transform us from small, weak, sinful creatures into spiritual Giants who powerfully work and cooperate with God to accomplish His plan and purposes. And did you notice the key part in this transformation process for Jacob? Look again at verse 24 and underline these four words: "Jacob was left alone."

Left alone! What different responses those words conjure up in each of us! To some they bring a sense of loneliness and panic, while to others they bring a sense of serenity and rest. To be left alone without God would be too awful to even ponder, but to be left alone with God is a foretaste of Heaven! The truth is, if more of His followers spent more time alone with Him, we would have more spiritual Giants among us.

Jesus set us an example here. As you read the gospels please take note of just how often Jesus left the disciples and the crowds to be alone with God. It happened quite often. And notice also the commandment Jesus gave us in Mat. 6:6, "When you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father." These are the Power Rooms and Power Moments when Great things happen between you and God, and where Great movements are set in motion. Here is where spiritual Giants are made!

Consider even a few of the Great leaders in the Bible and you will see just how true this principle is. The greatest miracles of Elijah the prophet took place when he was alone with God (1 Kings 17:17-24). It was while alone with God that Jacob, the "deceiver", became Israel, the "overcomer" (Gen. 32:28). Moses was by himself at the burning bush when God called him to become the Giant leader of his people (Ex. 3:1-10). After his dramatic encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus, the Apostle Paul went away into Arabia alone in order to get to know God intimately and to get prepared for whatever God had planned for him (Gal. 1:15-17).

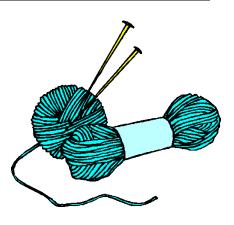
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So, my dear friends, let's make it a priority to regularly get alone with God. If we neglect it, we not only rob ourselves, but others too, because when we are blessed, we are able to pass the blessing on to others. And you need to understand this too! Such quality time spent in prayer may result in less things getting marked off of your To Do list, but it will be worth it, because what you do get done will be done better, and, there will be much more depth and power in your life overall, which Jesus actually prefers, as emphasized in His counsel to Martha and Mary in Luke 10:38-42. You and I, too, can get ever more near to God and more empowered by Him to do mighty things, <u>if</u> we choose to get alone with Him and surrender to His will for us....

I have observed that on a number of occasions in the Old Testament, "giant" persons are mentioned who usually struck fear in the hearts of God's people. Often they were huge, nine foot tall warriors like Og of Bashan (Deut. 3:11) and Goliath the Philistine (1 Sam. 17:4-7). These caused quite a negative stir in the land. Don't you think it's time that some spiritual Giants should rise up to strike joy and hope in the hearts of the people of this land?.... Are you willing to be one of them?.... In your community?.... In your church?....

Knit-Wits Etc. Knit and Crochet for Fellowship and Mission

If you enjoy knitting or crocheting, or if you would like to learn to knit or crochet, you are invited to be part of Knit-Wits Etc. These folks get together on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 2:00 to knit or crochet and fellowship. You are welcome to work on any project of your choosing, but you are also invited to work on dishcloths for mission. For more information, speak with Ruth Stigall, Marie Cole, or Judy Flynn.



Morris Memorial to Host Celebration of Mission Event

Morris Memorial will host the Midland South District Celebration of Mission Event, in conjunction with District Conference, on May 5 at 3 p.m. There will be speakers from the Heart and Hand House of Barbour County and from the Hope in the Mountains Ministry of Beckley.

Beginning on Easter Sunday (April 21), we will be collecting items for use by the Heart and Hand House of Barbour County in their ministry with needy persons in their area. Specifically, we are asking for the following items for families who are expecting babies: diapers, crib linens, receiving blankets, clothing, towels, washcloths, baby powder, lotion, shampoo, bibs, and bottles. We are also asking for the following hygiene items for needy adults: shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shaving cream, razors, brushes, combs, Band-Aids, and toilet paper. Monetary donations will also be accepted.

Begin now to look for bargains on some of these needed items, and plan to start bringing them in on Easter. Put the Celebration of Mission Event on your calendar, and be with us on May 5 as we welcome old and new friends from around the Midland South District.

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What the Methodists Really Said

Posted on March 11, 2019 by Chappell Temple

It's now been two weeks since the General Conference and the twitterverse is still atwitter. Moving beyond some of the hype and hyperbole, however, here's what the Methodists actually did and did not say:

Methodists did *not* say that LGBTQI persons and their allies are not welcome in our churches, for they always have been and will continue to be. Across our global church, we count as treasured sisters and brothers those who are both gay and straight, as well as those from diverse cultures, backgrounds, and ethnicities, proclaiming that we are all equals at the foot of the Cross, in need of God's redeeming love.

Methodists likewise did *not* say that LGBTQI persons are not dearly cherished children of God, for we wholeheartedly believe that all persons are made in the image of God and of sacred worth, deserving of respect and the protection of their civil rights.

Methodists did *not* try to tell anyone who they can love, or suggest that somehow their love may be less than that of others. For the truth is, there is a shortage of love in this world and folks should be happy whenever and wherever it is found.

And Methodists did *not* suggest that LGBTQI members and their allies should simply leave the church if they can't agree with the doctrines and policies of it. The "gracious exit" provisions were intended not to throw anyone out, but to throw a lifeline to those from either side of the question whose conscience may not allow them to stay within the denomination.

They did not even proclaim that having a same-sex attraction is a barrier to ordination, for there have long been celibate gay pastors who chose to value ordination over self-expression.

What Methodists *did* say, however, was that after careful consideration of the biblical witness that they cannot affirm that the practice of homosexuality represents God's ultimate will for His children, all the celebrations of it notwithstanding.

They *did* say that they will remain in continuity with the teachings of both the church through the ages and the vast majority of the church world-wide today, rejecting the accommodation to culture that has been made in many quarters of the American church over the past few decades.

They *did* proclaim that Methodism, once the most American of all churches, is now a truly global movement and that the voices from Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and other places are equally valid to those of Americans. They accordingly rejected the colonialist attitudes of some progressives that we in the West know best and that those elsewhere need to simply "grow up," as one prominent liberal leader has said.

They *did* affirm that marriage is an institution designed by God and that despite instances to the contrary in parts of the Bible, that the overall tenor of the whole scriptural witness is that it was intended to be a sacred covenant between one man and one woman. Again, that is not to say that civil unions and domestic partnerships should not be allowed; it is simply to say that in the Methodist understanding, the word marriage itself has a particular meaning that cannot be changed. So Methodist clergy are not allowed by church law to conduct same-sex marriage ceremonies even in nations such as our own where they may be otherwise legal.

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Likewise, they suggested that sexuality is a gift of God that is to be exercised only in such a heterosexual marriage. For long ago the Ten Commandments reminded us that adultery–no matter what expression it may take, straight or gay– is not what God has intended for his children to practice.

And the General Conference agreed that ordination is not a civil right, but a holy rite, a bestowal of the church granted to those who are willing to meet all of the educational, personal, and social requirements that the church believes should be found in any woman or man before they stand before others to proclaim God's Word.

In short, what the Methodists said in St. Louis was that they will continue to try to be the positive force for God in this world that for three centuries they have been, feeding the hungry, caring for the poor, digging water wells in some places, building Habitat homes in others, visiting those in prison, working for social justice, teaching both young and old, and offering God's grace and redeeming love to all. They said that they will continue to struggle with how to be both faithful to God's Witness and open to God's Spirit. No matter how difficult that task may be.

Just in case you've heard someone say that we said something else instead.

C. Chappell Temple serves as the lead pastor of Christ United Methodist Church in Sugar Land, Texas. He holds degrees from SMU, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, and Rice University. He is an adjunct faculty member of Perkins School of Theology, teaching United Methodist history, doctrine, and polity.

Worship with Your Neighbors this Holy Week and Easter

We have tremendously enjoyed worshipping with our neighbors during Holy Week and

Easter the last couple of years. Again this year, we will worship with our friends from Kanawha City Baptist Church and Southeast Church of the Nazarene on Maundy Thursday evening, on Good Friday evening, and at sunrise on Easter Sunday. On Maundy Thursday (April 18), we will gather at Kanawha City Baptist Church at 6:00 p.m. to share in an observance of the Lord's Supper.

On Good Friday (April 19), our neighbors will join us at Morris Memorial at 7:30 for a Service of Darkness. The service includes a series of scripture readings, each followed by a dramatic monologue by a costumed actor and a piece of



special music. The service will end in silence and in darkness. The service will be quite similar to the others we have had in recent years, but it is never exactly the same.

Southeast Church of the Nazarene will host our Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m. on Easter. Don't miss these three opportunities to worship with neighbors who ordinarily worship in different places.

MORRIS MEMORIAL 2019 BUDGET

Acct #			Notes:
	GENERAL BUDGET INCOME		
3100	Anticipated General Budget Receipts	\$405,615	\$365,615 anticipated giving + \$20,000 from previous endowment withdrawal + \$20,000 carryover
	GENERAL BUDGET EXPENSES		
7001	Staff Compensation FICA Soc Sec	\$4.500	
7001	Workers Compensation	\$4,500	
7002	Sr Pastor Pension	\$14,746	
7003	Medicare-Church & Empl	\$1,000	
7004	Sr Pastor Health	\$18,948	
7005	Personal Investment Plan	\$2,000	
7055	Sr Pastor Salary	\$59,000	
7056	Sr Pastor Acct. Reimb	\$3,000	
7057	Sr Pastor Med Reimb	\$2,400	
7181	Assoc Pastor	\$14,000	
7182	Assoc Pastor Acct. Reimb		Assoc Pastor will decide how much of salary pkg. to set aside for acct. reimb
7401	Secretary	\$20,430	
7402	Secretary Med 125 Plan		Med 125 will be determined from salary pkg in accordance with Sec. wishes
7426	Youth Leader	\$0	We have some previously donated funds for this when the position is filled.
7427	Youth Leader Med 125 Plan		
7501	Worship and Music Director	\$14,814	
7502	Worship and Music Director Med 125 Plan		Med 125 will be determined from salary pkg in accordance with Worship Pastor's wishes
7551	Organist	\$7,186	
7552	Organist Med 125 Plan		Med 125 will be determined from salary pkg in accordance with Organist's wishes
7650	Pianist	\$200	
7701	Technical Engineer	\$6,910	
7702	Tech Engineer Med 125 Plan		
	Total Staff Compensation	\$170,634	
	Mission and Ministry		
5000	Good News Team	\$500	
5050	District Pro Fund	\$1,800	
5060	Heart and Hand	\$500	
5006	General Supplies	\$0	General paper supplies are provided for the Church by Morris Enrichment Center
5100	Mission Team	\$500	
5150	Conf Fair Share Apportionment	\$95,052	\$50,831 Ministerial Support, \$30,093 Missions, \$14,128 Administrative Funds
5160	Common Grounds Ministry	\$4,000	All gifts marked Common Grounds also go to this ministry in addition to this amount.
5200	Worship & Nurture Team	\$600	
5302	Troop 177	\$100	
5303	Pack 168	\$100	
5304	Youth Ministry	\$0	There are previously given funds to fund this category this year.
5400	Christian Ed Team	\$5,000	
5650	Music Ministry	\$3,000	
5700	Athletic Program	\$1,500	

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6200	Pastor Parish Relations Team	\$750	
5450	Spiritual Formation Team	\$350	
5255	Communication Team	\$2,000	
5800	Miscellaneous	\$0	
	Total Mission and Ministry	\$115,752	
	Finance Committee		
5990	Expenses	\$1,500	
	Trustees		
6003	Utilities/Fire Service	\$40,000	
6005	Church Maint./Improvements	\$18,600	
6007	Insurance/Deposit Box	\$7,000	MEC pays significant part of our insurance cost to minimize our expense.
6008	Pest Control	\$900	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
6011	Parsonage Utilities	\$7,200	
6019	Church Janitorial	\$23,800	
6021	Snow/Lawn	\$4,500	
6023	Audio Visual/Equipment	\$3,000	
6015	Parsonage Maintenance	\$5,000	
	Total Trustees	\$110,000	
	Ministry Team		
6300	Office Supplies	\$11,000	
6400	Annual Conf. attendance expenses	\$500	
0.00	Total Ministry Team	\$11,500	
	Gen Budget Expenses	\$409,386	
	Projected Surplus (Deficit)	(\$3,771)	

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Morris Enrichment Center Budget Updates

In March's newsletter, the Morris Enrichment Center published their 2019 budget. Several questions arose about the monies the MEC has contributed to Morris Memorial. While the budget calls for \$4500 in contributions to our church, last year the MEC was able to donate over \$27,000! Whenever there is money to spare or their fundraisers are successful – the MEC tries to put those funds back into the church. Sometimes that means a bill is paid and other times items or supplies are purchased. To better understand what the MEC contributed last year, a list has been prepared to explain what was given:

- The new phone system was paid in full
- New tile was laid in two classrooms
- Asbestos was removed from one classroom
- Repairs to AC units, sinks, toilets, and refrigerators were covered
- Food for Wednesday Bible Study, Kids Praise, shut in meals, and bereavement meals were purchased
- All paper and cleaning products were purchased
- \$4000 was paid on the church insurance policy

Should you have any questions about the MEC, please see Georgeanne Leake or any of our Board members! The MEC is so very happy to help support this church as they have generously supported them!

MORRIS MEMORIAL

We would like to take this opportunity to further say "thank you" to our brothers and sisters in Christ for all the kindness extended to us during Bill's recent emergency bypass surgery. We so appreciated the calls, texts, numerous meals and, of course, the prayers. We believe the prayers were received and answered and for all this, we feel very blessed. Bill continues to improve and will soon be "out and about." He really misses Morris Memorial and all it means to him.



Bill & Mary Collins

Easter Flower Order Form

If you would like to provide Easter flowers to adorn our altar on Easter Sunday, please complete the following form and return to the church office.

This year we are offering 6 different flowers in pots. Please note that the lilies are being sold at a higher price. Please make checks payable to Morris Memorial with
<u>"Winter Floral" on the memo line.</u> Orders should be placed no later than Monday, April 8th. Payment must accompany the order form.

would like _	Lilies at \$15.00 each.	I would likeHyacinths	at \$11.00 each.
would like _	Tulips at \$11.00 each.	I would like Begonias	at \$11.00 each.
would like _	Daffodils at \$11.00 each.	I would like Kalancho	es at \$11.00 each.
	Given by:		
	In memory of:		_
	Given by:		-
	In memory of:		_
	Given by:		-
	In honor of:		
	Given by:		-
	In honor of:		_

MORRIS MEMORIAL



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DATE	START	POSITIONS
April 7	8:30 am 11:00 am	Ushers Gael & Doris Morris Ushers Cathie Brown, Tim Basford and Ann Davis
April 14	8:30 am 11:00 am	Ushersand Ann Davis
April 21	8:30 am 11:00 am	Ushers Beth Hall and Nancy Duncan Ushers Cathie Brown, Tim Basford and Ann Davis
April 28	8:30 am 11:00 am	Ushers Susan & Bill Vieweg UshersAshley & Matt Skiles and Ann Davis

Walk and Worship on Good Friday

Those who participated in last year's Good Friday procession through Kanawha City found it to be a most meaningful experience. We will have another procession this year on April 19 beginning at noon at the courtyard of the Village Apartments, where we will be hosted by South Park Presbyterian Church.

Each participating church will provide someone to carry a cross to the next stop. At each stop we will hear a brief devotional message about one of the words of Jesus from the cross. Our itinerary will be a little bit different this year, so those who share with us their thoughts about the various sayings from the cross will not be speaking about the same sayings as they did last year or the year before.

