



# VINE & BRANCHES

Newsletter of Front Royal  
Presbyterian Church

## DEVOTIONAL BY HEATHER

What comes to mind when you think of Pentecost? We know it's the "birthday of the Church;" we know it's fifty days after Easter; we know it occurred on the Jewish festival of Shavuot; we know people spoke in tongues at the first Pentecost. Much of the music for Pentecost is some type of prayer for the Holy Spirit to come, but do we really want a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit? What would that entail? Would it be comforting and comfortable or challenging and require courage? Sometimes I think we offer these prayers simply seeking the experience and emotions, relishing the drama of an historical event without really pondering what an affirmative answer would look like. The first Pentecost, recorded in Acts 2, was experienced by Jesus' followers in a dramatic and corporate way, but also in tongues of flame that rested on each believer. The most immediate effect of Pentecost on the disciples was speaking in tongues, but as we read the rest of Acts, we see other lasting effects on character and lifestyles.

The anthem that the choir will sing on May 19 when we observe Pentecost gives an idea of the effects of the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives and why we ought to pray for Him to come: so that He will work through us as we yield to His purposes for our lives. I invite you to read the text of this anthem by Mary Martin (set to music by Joseph Martin) and see how many ways we invite the Spirit to work through us...and what those things might look like in your life.

Spirit, sing through us, Spirit, move in us, Holy Spirit, come! Spirit, breathe in us, Spirit, live in us, Spirit, make us one. Holy Spirit, come.	Spirit, sing through us, Spirit, move in us, Holy Spirit, come! Alleluia, come. Spirit, breathe in us, Spirit, live in us, Spirit, make us one. Alleluia.	Lord, send Your Spirit. Send down Your gentle Dove. Lord, send Your Spirit. Teach us Your way of love. Fill us with glory. Fill us with holy light. You are the Way, the Truth, the Life. Spirit, come!
Spirit, sing through us, Spirit, live in us, Holy Spirit, come! Holy Spirit, come! Spirit, breathe in us, Spirit, live in us, Spirit, make us one.	Spirit, waken us, Spirit, reign in us, Holy Spirit, come! Spirit, rise in us, Spirit, shine in us, Spirit, make us one. Alleluia, alleluia, come.	Spirit, sing through us, Spirit, move in us, Holy Spirit, come! Spirit, breathe in us, Spirit, live in us, Spirit, make us one.

Spirit, sing through us,  
Spirit, move in us,  
Holy Spirit, come!  
Spirit, breathe in us,  
Spirit, live in us,  
Spirit, make us one.

Holy Spirit, come!  
Holy Spirit, come!

*Heather*



*May*



*Fellowship Luncheon  
in Honor of  
Rev Dr. Mark Jordan*

**SUNDAY, MAY 19TH  
PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE.  
SIGN UP ONLINE.**



Members and friends of Front Royal Presbyterian Church can now make one-time or recurring gifts directly on our church [website](#). Stop worrying about weekly envelopes or mailing in special donations or ministry program fees. Instead, give a gift at any time (from any device that connects to the internet) using a current email and checking account/credit card. It's simple and secure. You can even turn your tithe into an automatic gift that gives when and how often you'd like with your own online donor account. Visit our [website](#) to see how easy it is!

We would ask that you take some time to consider your gift to the church to continue to do the good work we have been called to do.

Unfortunately, many of our bills continue such as internet to broadcast services online, utility bills, food for our many feeding ministries as well as paying our reliable staff and maintaining the church building.

Please consider one of the many options of continuing your pledge, and if you are able to, give generously so that we might continue to feed and care for those among us.

- You may give at our 10:30 am Sunday service.
- You may drop a check by the church office.
- You may mail a check.
- You may give online **breeze** - it is a safe and secure site and is deposited into the church account.
- You may sign up for auto pay through your bank.



If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our **church treasurer, Ruth.**



# Music News

This month we celebrate mothers and the influence they've had in our lives. Despite the fact that virtually every church celebrates Mother's Day in some way, there are very few hymns about mothers. A notable exception is a fairly recent (within the last 30 years) hymn by Mary Nelson Keithahn set to music by John Horman, a Presbyterian church musician in Maryland. Like many hymns by these frequent collaborators, "A Mother Lined a Basket" is designed to teach children important facets of the faith. Each of the first three verses describes the actions of a mother in Bible and the impact her actions had in the life of her son who would grow up to be a leader, prophet, and savior for God's people. The final verse names these women (though their sons are, interestingly, not explicitly named) and connects their dedication and sacrifices to those of mothers today. Do you recognize these women's names? Can you name their better-known sons? Even without knowing many details about these mothers' parenting styles or life stories, we can celebrate the ways God used each of them to bless God's people. And the ways God uses mothers today to bless us.

So, happy Mother's Day to the mothers of FRPC! Thank you for all that you do, seen and unseen.

1. A mother lined a basket  
to keep her baby dry,  
then rocked him on a river,  
lest he awake and cry.  
She let a princess name him  
her son that he might live.  
God's people had a leader.  
She had such hope to give.

2. A mother sewed a jacket,  
lined in the softest wool,  
then dressed her little boy-child,  
her cup of blessing full.  
She brought him to the temple  
where he would serve and live.  
God's people had a prophet.  
She had such faith to give.

3. A mother laid her baby  
in manger lined with straw;  
then, in the shepherds' story,  
his call from God foresaw.  
She nurtured him and taught him  
the way that he must live.  
God's people had a savior.  
She had such love to give.

4. Like Jochebed and Hannah,  
and Mary too, we know  
the hardest part of loving  
is learning to let go,  
so when we send our children  
out in the world to live,  
grant us such hope and faith, God,  
and love enough to give.

Heather



# Faith Builders



April has gone by in a flash! What an April it has been! The Faith Builders began the month with a new lesson series. "Follow Jesus" was the theme for Sunday School this month. Each week we listened to Jesus' command, "Follow Me! Come and See!" We learned about God's love and how to put it into action. We learned what a community is and that there are several communities all around us. We talked about some of the outreach ministries of our very own church community. We were able to plant flowers to honor God and provide some beauty for our church. And we got to dig in the dirt! We are working to follow Jesus' command and share the Good News of God's love.

Our game night was once again a big hit. It was a kids only night, and we missed our adult participants. However, we still had a great time! We are looking forward to our next one. Watch out, the floor could become Lava!

As mentioned above we were able to plant flowers. We want to thank Dee Whited for donating the beautiful plants. They are lovely and will hopefully provide beauty for years to come. We also want to thank Buck and Chelsea Hall for preparing the flowerbed for us. We plan on continuing to water, weed and nurture the plants over the summer.

We look forward to winding up our first Sunday School year since Covid. We will be celebrating on May 26 during Children's Worship.



# Volunteers Needed

**When:** *May 23*



We are looking for a few people to help with meal prep. If you are able to help, please contact Randy Wertz.

**Menu: Chili Mac, Bread and Dessert**

We will need help prepping the meal, delivering, serving, and making desserts.

**Cooks:** Please arrive at First Baptist Church by 3:00 pm

**Delivery Drivers:** Please arrive at First Baptist Church around 4:00 pm to begin deliveries.

**Servers:** Please arrive at First Baptist Church around 3:30 pm to pack and prepare the deliveries. Dinner Together ends at 6:00 pm.



## Ben Lacy Compassion Center

Sally Kilpatrick just put together another basket for a thermal shelter guest that was moving into their first home! The following items are needed to restock our supplies. Family Dollar, Dollar Tree or Big Lots, all have fantastic prices.

- toilet bowl cleaner
- comet or ajax
- toilet scrubbers
- laundry detergent
- window cleaner

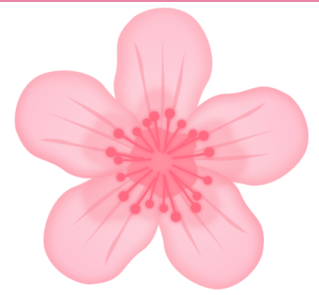


**BEN LACY**  
COMPASSION CENTER

Each month, we call the Phoenix Project and House of Hope to help with people getting their first place. The Phoenix Project is looking for \$10-\$15 gift cards to the following: Martin's, Dollar General, and Family Dollar.



# Volunteers Needed



## REACH Bag Delivery: May 26th

Our next REACH food distribution will be Sunday, May 26th, immediately after the worship service. Grab a box or two at the REACH/Missions cart right after service and help deliver to those in need in our community! If you would like to volunteer to deliver, please meet us after worship service in the Narthex.



## Backpack Buddies

Backpack Buddies meet every Thursday to pack at 11 am. What is needed for the month of May?

*Granola Bars*

The BPB continues to pack weekend food bags for 90 elementary students experiencing food insecurity from EWM Elementary School. BPB has a wonderful group of dedicated volunteers who come pack every Thursday at 11 am. Volunteers are welcome to join Karen on large shopping trips to purchase the needed inventory that we use each week.

If you have any time on a Thursday come join us and thank you for supporting this wonderful and needed program.

If you are interested in helping with Backpack Buddies, please email Karen.



2024

# May

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 <a href="#">CLICK HERE</a>			1  Backpack Buddies 11:00 am Bell & Choir Practice 6:00/7:00 pm	2	3	4
5  <b>Judi Good's Birthday</b> Sunday School- 9:15 am Worship- 10:30 am	6	7 <b>Gloria Harris's Birthday</b> 	8  <b>Heather Ankerbrand's Birthday</b> Bell & Choir Practice 6:00/7:00 pm	9  Backpack Buddies 11:00 am	10	11
 12 <b>Debra Young's Birthday</b> Sunday School- 9:15 am Worship- 10:30 am	13	14  6:00 pm <i>Happy Anniversary</i> Tony & Janet Jewell	15 Bell & Choir Practice 6:00/7:00 pm	16  Backpack Buddies 11:00 am	17 <b>Ken Guthjahr's Birthday</b> 	18
19 <b>Cecilia Logan &amp; Elaine King's Birthday</b>  Sunday School- 9:15 am Worship- 10:30 am	20	21	22 Bell & Choir Practice 6:00/7:00 pm	23  Backpack Buddies 11:00 am	24	25
26 <b>Chelsea Hall &amp; Harriet Bowen's Birthday</b>  <i>Happy Anniversary</i> Robert & Ann Tenant Sunday School- 9:15 am Worship- 10:30 am	27	28	29 Bell & Choir Practice 6:00/7:00 pm	30  Backpack Buddies 11:00 am	31	

REACH







# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

5- Judi Good  
7- Gloria Harris  
8- Heather Ankerbrand  
17- Ken Guthjahr  
19- Cecilia Logan & Elaine King  
26- Chelsea Hall & Harriet Bowen



## HAPPY Anniversary

14th-  
Tony & Janet Jewell  
26th-  
Robert & Ann Tennett

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Easily tithe with online  
donations and no longer  
worry about envelopes.



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