

In essentials, unity. In non-essentials, diversity. In all things, charity.

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The Echo

First Christian Church of Morehead

Volume 21 Issue 5

May 2021

Reverend Vasbinder

will be visiting Preacher on May 2

Pastor Nancy will be taking a well deserved week off with visiting relatives April 28—May 4. Reverend Dalene Vasbinder will be in the pulpit for her this coming Sunday, May 2. Dalene grew up in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Indiana. *Visiting p4*



Reverend
Dalene Vasbinder

Notes From Pastor Nancy

Justice is what love looks like in public, just as tenderness is what love feels like in private.

—Cornel West

There is so much more to do. The jury in the Derek Chauvin murder trial returned a verdict last week, guilty on three charges. While in some ways it is a relief, the verdict is not an ending. Nor is it a beginning. Rather it is one more story which reveals the lingering legacy of our nation's original sin of racism. It confronts us in an eight minute and 46 second video recorded by a 17 year old bystander, as a black man lays on the ground, struggling to breathe, calling out for his mother, all the while a white police officer presses his knee into his neck. But it is just one tragic story, in a long history of horrific stories.

We wonder what we can do? We don't live in Minneapolis, or Boston, or Chicago, or Elizabeth City, NC, or Louisville—the list of cities grows longer. Yes, we must educate ourselves, on the full history of our nation and its complicated history of race. And yes, we as a denomination have committed ourselves to being an anti-racist/pro-reconciling church. In March I participated in the new anti-racism training required for Kentucky Disciples clergy. The Northern Lights region of which I was a part for 20 years has long required regular anti-racism training for clergy and expanded resources for congregations, too. Even so, book studies and training will not suffice. We know that.

In small groups recently several people have expressed their desire to become better listeners.

Notes p2



Reverend Nancy Gowler

Message from the President

Dear Friends,

As vaccinations become more widely available and the guidance for gatherings continues to evolve, the board of the church has voted to begin the process to re-open the church for in-person worship. Please read the following carefully and let the church office know if you have any questions or concerns.



President Genny
Jenkins

We will plan to re-open to in-person Sunday worship on May 23, 2021 and the church will remain open (with the limitations listed below) as long as Rowan County is in the Yellow or Orange zone and to return to virtual if RC goes into the Red Zone.

1. Due to the fact that some may not or cannot be vaccinated, all protocols of masks and social distancing will be followed - pews will be blocked off to assist with distancing the seating. Congregants are encouraged to sit in the same spot each week and will be asked to participate in a seating chart for contact tracing purposes.

Message p2

Message From The President p1

2. Contact tracing/outbreak plan: when the health department or the individual involved let us know, we would alert attendees to the service(s) the person attended through email.

3. Congregation is encouraged to consider the personal space of other members and to remain in their selected seats when in the sanctuary.

Fellowship and visiting are encouraged after the service outside on the patio.

4. No nursery for the time being (but we are child friendly.)

5. Limited music for the summer/no congregational singing - worship committee will meet to amend the order of worship.

6. Posted at both doors:

- a. Hand sanitizer and disposable masks
- b. Prepackaged communion or bring your own
- c. Bins to collect the Offering

7. Full broadcast of the service will still be weekly on FB and YouTube.

8. The building will be open to small groups related to the function of the church (i.e. bell choir, committees, etc) following all the same guidelines.

The ad hoc committee will remain active through the summer with an additional meeting scheduled for mid-July to bring recommendations for the fall at that time, which will include a phase-in plan for additional details such as: when to permit musicians to sing inside, congregational singing, passing of communion trays, opening the nursery, and starting up in-person children's programming.

We will be carefully watching the numbers and statistics and guidance over the next few weeks and encourage all of you to get your vaccinations and follow protocols so we can gather safely.

Sincerely,
Genny Jenkins

**“The purpose of life is to discover your gift;
the work of life is to develop it;
and the meaning of life is to give your
gift away.”**

— David Viscott

Notes From Pastor Nancy p1

It's as if we know there are stories out there we haven't heard, perspectives we don't understand. The ability to listen openly, deeply to another is not easy for many of us. I confess in important conversations my mind often rushes forward to what I might say in response, rather than slowing down to receive what another person is saying. The practice of listening takes time and requires intention. As individuals and as a congregation there is work for us to do here.

In 2020 Disciples at the national level provided a series of conversations online called, “Love Is an Action Word.” The videos are available on the Disciples [YouTube channel](#). The town halls featured voices from around our denomination focusing on anti-racism/pro-reconciliation issues and the church. The series begins with a conversation among white Disciples clergy on avoiding complicity in racism, and follows up with seven sessions with indigenous, North American Pacific Islander/Asian Disciples, Hispanic, African-American, and LGBTQ+ Disciples. If you missed the series, I invite you to watch them. The conversations are a good place for us to begin to listen to voices outside of our usual circles.

It is easy to despair, to think things will never change, but we are Easter people. In this Easter season we Christians are given another story, not of death and violence, but a story of resurrecting life. Easter gifts us with the ability to imagine another way of living together, of liberating ourselves from the systems of oppression which trap us all in cycles of violence and injustice. May we learn to listen with compassion, and may God open our hearts and minds to imagine a world shaped by God's holy shalom.

Pastor Nancy

Bible Quiz

We know the name of only one of the two disciples to whom the risen Jesus appeared on the road to Emmaus.

Who was he?

- A. John
- B. Paul of Tarsus
- C. Joseph of Arimathea
- D. Cleopas

Answer:
See Luke 24:18



Outreach Update

Gateway Housewarming Baskets. FCC continues to provide home essentials each month to the Gateway Homeless Shelter. Assistant Director Paul Semisch reports these baskets mean so much to their residents when they are moving into a home of their own. Each month's basket is valued at approximately \$588. In addition, MSU student group Eta Sigma Gamma donates a basket of food and hygiene items to go to each family. The FCC members and friends provide baskets February through November. Items are brought in to the church by the 10th of each month and picked up by Gateway staff.



People's Clinic Lunches. Four times a year, in November and May, members of FCC provide a lunch to the volunteers of the People's Clinic, a free clinic for those in our area who need medical attention, but may have limited financial resources. The lunches feed 10 - 12 volunteers, and are delivered to the Clinic by 11:30 am. Thank you to Yvonne Baldwin who will be providing the lunches during May. Many thanks to Fran Helphinstine and Rob Sloss who have provided these lunches during the pandemic. Jim Brandenburg, director, wants FCC to know that these lunches are greatly appreciated by the Clinic volunteers.

Homeless Veterans' Essentials. Early in the month of April, FCC members and friends brought in supplies that are much needed by homeless veterans. MSU student group Eta Sigma Gamma also chipped in to help provide items. These supplies were delivered by Dr. Alana Scott to the Morehead State University Military Initiatives Department. Thanks to everyone who participated in this drive!

Eagles' Essentials. Thanks to Makayla Reynolds for delivering the supplies from our MSU student quarantine drive to the University Eagles' Essentials Store, which provides free hygiene items to students in need.

Rowan County Schools Snack Backpack Program. FCC continues to provide weekly snacks for over 70 Rowan County students. These snacks are critical to so many children who suffer from food insecurity. The snacks are funded by outreach gifts, as well as the donations from Kroger when members use their Kroger card. Thanks to Marge Thomas and Susan Thomas for their important partnership with Rowan County Schools Family Resource Centers, which assures this project continues to run smoothly and helps children who need it most. Ronetta & Jeff Brown, 606)776-0576 or ronettabrown67@gmail.com

Asking the Big Questions

BOOK DISCUSSION ON THE FUTURE OF THE CHURCH

In our second discussion of the book *Everywhere You Look: Discovering the Church Right Where You Are*, we spent time thinking about how we listen and the challenges to listening. The author Tim Soerens suggests as people of faith we learn how to listen well when we are listening to three strands of stories: God's story, the story of the place in which we live, and our own personal stories. Each strand is vital to a holistic understanding of what the church is.

Our book discussion continues on chapters 5 and 6 at 7 PM May 17th. We're meeting on Zoom and even if you haven't picked up the book yet, there's still time. It's an easy read, and the discussions help place the ideas in our context. Message us for an invitation.

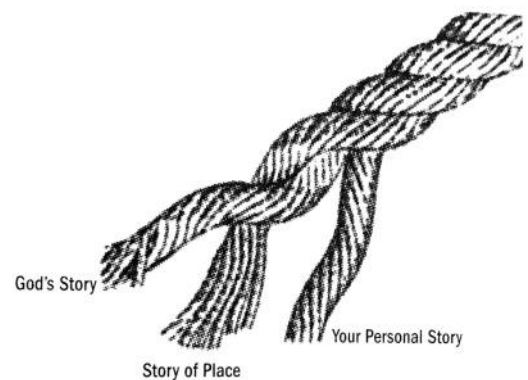


Figure 6.2. The narrative braid

From *The New Parish: How Neighborhood Churches are Transforming Mission, Discipleship and Community*, by Sparks, Soerens, and Friesen

Annual Congregational Meeting—May 16, 2021—Via Email



President Genny Jenkins appointed Elizabeth Ash as Chairman of the Nominating Committee which has been gathering names for vice president and new deacons. The committee consists of Elizabeth Ash, Fran Helphinstine, Alana Scott, Connie Kibbey, Joyce Hart, and Emma Lou Gross. At the April 26, 2021 Board Meeting, the Board of Directors voted to recommend a slate of officers for approval in the Congregational Meeting.

Due to the COVID19 Pandemic, the Annual Congregational Meeting this year will be by email. You will be asked to vote for officers and new deacons for the fiscal year July 1, 2021—June 30, 2022. Installation will follow in June.

Nominated Officers for 2021-2022

President Anne Buckner Vice President Mary Claire Williams
Secretary Fran Helphinstine Treasurer Joe Barrett

Diaconate Class of 2021-2020

Connie Kibbey, Susan Whidden, Loretta Fannin, and Stacy Baker

FCC New Street Sign

Marge Thomas reports that our new sign is all one piece with metal posts and will be slightly larger than our current concrete base. The brick will match our church as nearly as possible and the sign will be landscaped with shredded black rubber to protect from weed eater damage. Committee members are Jack Whidden, Brent Rogers, Leon Smothers, Genny Jenkins, Pastor Nancy and Marge Thomas.

Disciples of Christ

Camp Schedules 2021

Camp Kum-Ba-Ya and Camp Wakon'Da-Ho will welcome children and youth from across the Commonwealth to develop faith and friendship this summer! The links for registration forms for each campground are shown below. It will be a different kind of camp experience, but we look forward to being back at camp this summer.

[Camp Wakon'Da-Ho](#)
[Camp Kum-Ba-Ya](#)

Disciples Websites

[Cane Ridge Meeting](#)

[Christian Church
\(Disciples of Christ\)](#)

[Disciples Home Missions](#)

[Disciples News Service](#)

[Lexington Theological Seminary](#)

[Mission Behind Bars and Beyond](#)

Visiting p1 After receiving her B.A. from Hanover College, Dalene felt called to ministry. She completed her MDiv at Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, CA and was ordained in 1991. From 1991 until 2018, Dalene served as a pastor to local Disciples congregations in the Seattle, WA area. She then accepted a call from Woodland Christian Church (DOC) in Lexington where she served as senior pastor until December of 2018. In 2019 she completed a Chaplain Residency at University Hospital in Louisville. In March, 2020, Dalene joined the chaplaincy team at Baptist Health, Lexington where she serves as Staff Chaplain today. Dalene loves to garden, go on long walks in the neighborhood or short hikes in the KY forests.



- 3- Sarah Chaney
- 4- Keyairah Bailey
- 7- Jiyeon McGillicuddy
- 8- Deb Eastwood
- 11- Dianna Pettit
- 12- Kathy N. Frazier
- 16- Di Walke
- 26- Ned Breschel
- 29- Dennis McKay

Public Parking at FCC

Please contact the office to reserve a space.

Jan-July \$125
Aug-Dec \$125



For more information, please contact the office (606) 784-4836 or fccmky@gmail.com.

Note this will not affect anyone who holds a parking permit.

Office (606) 784-4836

Opportunities for Connection\Contact the office for Zoom Invitations

Women of the Bible Study
via Zoom

Tuesdays 7:00—7:30pm Contact Sarah Chaney by email sarah.chaney78@yahoo.com or call (606) 207-2421.

VESPERS via Zoom

A time of song & prayer
Thursdays 7:00pm

Message the office for a Zoom invitation. Vespers includes music, prayer, and meditation on artwork revealing God's word. Communion is a part of the service, so have some bread or cookie, water or liquid, if you would like to partake.

Would you like to be more involved in church activities? We welcome those who want to join committees. Contact the chairpersons below.

The Evangelism Committee Chairperson is Mary Claire Williams @ (606) 776-8430 or mc.williams@moreheadstate.edu.

Creation Care Committee Chairperson is Mark Etherton at 606-776-1745 or ginn1@windstream.net.

The Education Committee Chairperson is Sarah Chaney at 606-207-2421 or sarah.chaney78@yahoo.com.

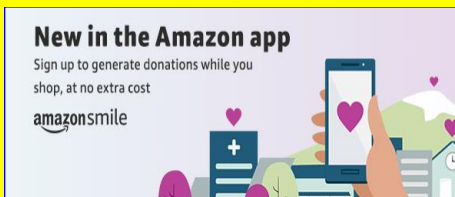
~Correspondence~

Hello FCC Church Family, Hope all is well. So good to see you all at the Maundy Thursday Service. I appreciate you all keeping me up to date with church activities. Please know you are in my prayers as I am in yours. Be Blessed, Ritta Abell

Endowments Committee Approves Disbursements

In 1979, First Christian Church (DOC) established a fund to raise capital, through memorial gifts and donation, which would generate interest to be used for outreach and service. The committee, comprised of Genny Jenkins, Joe Barrett, Fran Helphinstine, Jeff Brown, David Perkins, Ronetta Brown, and Rev. Nancy Gowler met on March 1, 2021 and approved the following disbursements from the Living Memorial Fund.

Christian Social Services \$2,000
Gateway Homeless Shelter \$3,000
DOVES of Gateway \$2,000
People's Free Clinic \$2,000
FCC Human Concerns \$3,000



Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you? Simply follow the instructions below to select "First Christian Church" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. They'll donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us. How it works:

1. Open the Amazon app on your phone
2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features
3. Select "First Christian Church" as your charity
4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app

Mack Fund

In memory of

Robert L. Brown Jr.
(Marge Thomas' brother)

by

Fran Helphinstine & Rob Sloss

Anne Buckner

~

General Fund Donation

by

Ritta Abell

~

Easter Donation

by

Fran Helphinstine & Rob Sloss

David Perkins

Brent Rogers

April Treasurer's Report

Income is \$7,875.90.
Expenses are \$6,654.66.

Kroger Community Rewards

FCC received \$164.80 from Kroger as part of the Community Rewards program. If you would like information about making FCC your designated partner, please contact the office.

Gateway Basket Items Due May 10

Items may be placed in the Adult Sunday School room downstairs by the elevator.

First Christian Church Honors Graduates



Ethan Jenkins

Name: Ethan Michael Jenkins
 School: Rowan County High School
 Degree: High School Diploma
 Plans: Attend Morehead State University with a double major in Art and Business Administration
 Interests: Music, Art, computers, acting, tennis
 Parents: Genny and Greg Jenkins



Meghan Hammond

Name: Meghan Ashleigh Hammond
 School: Morehead State University
 Degree: Bachelor of Science
 Plans: UK College of Pharmacy
 Parents: Cathy and Curt Hammond
 Comments: I would like to take this time to thank everyone for their love, support, and prayers through my college career, but especially during this past year. I am so thankful and blessed to have the best church family.



Bailey Hobbs

Name: Bailey Marie Hobbs
 School: Morehead State University
 Degree: Bachelor of Arts in Music with Theatre Minor, Spring 2021
 Plans: Pursue musical theater
 Interests: Acting, singing, reading, being with people
 Parents: Vera & Ernie Hobbs
 Grandparent: Gerry McCrocklin



Luke Hart

Name: Lucas R. Hart
 School: Rowan County High School
 Degree: High School Diploma
 Future Plans: Play soccer in college/university.
 Interests: Running, soccer, and playing basketball with friends
 Parents: Rebecca and Brad Hart
 Grandparents: Joyce and Rondal Hart; Nona and Bob Camuel



Andrés Salinas-Hernández

Name: Andrés Salinas-Hernández
 School: Morehead State University
 Degree: Master of Science in Engr& Tech Management (Spring 2021)
 Plans: To earn his Ph.D. with a specialization in Virtual Reality
 Interests: Creating virtual reality scenarios for educational purposes, playing with dog Randy and piano
 Relationship: Jaz Johnson's partner
 He is 29 yrs old, from Veracruz, MX
 This is his 2nd MS with a 4.0 GPA.



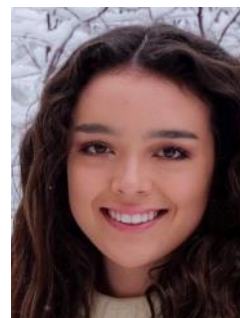
Anna Cecile Pepper

Name: Anna Cecile Pepper
 School: Un of Virginia Law School
 Degree: Juris Doctor (JD)
 Plans: Ms. Pepper will clerk for the Honorable John Nalbandian on the Sixth Circuit for one year. After that, she will move to Washington, D.C. where she will be employed by the law firm of Sullivan and Cromwell.
 Interests: Avid runner and reader.
 Parents: Lee Ann & Daryl Pepper
 Grandparents: Dianna and Ron Walker



Audrey Evans

Name: Audrey Elise Evans
 School: Rowan County High School
 Degree: High School Diploma
 Plans: Pursue Morehead State University Physician Assistant or Nurse Practitioner degree.
 Other: Captain of Rowan County Girls Varsity Soccer & Club Soccer Teams, National Honor Society.
 Parents: Stephanie and Alan Evans
 Grandparents: Kay and Al Evans Jr.



Brooklyn Enderle

Name: Brooklyn Taylor Enderle
 School: Rowan County High School
 Degree: High School Diploma
 Plans: University of Kentucky with Business Major. Other: National Honor Society. Interests: Soccer, spending time with friends.
 Parents: Carol and Dale Botts and Shawn Enderle. Grandparents: Julia Villatora; Bill & Shirley Counts; Wayne & Evangeline Enderle

Rowan Historical Tour. Marge Roberts reports that First Christian Church is to be part of the Rowan Historical Tour. There are currently nine locations. The script for FCC has been written and is in the approval process. A QR code will be located outside the building which may be scanned to hear the church history. Created by Morehead KY Tourism.

[Tour - Historical Rowan Tour - PocketSights](#)

First Christian May 2021

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45am Worship Service Newsletter Articles due. Pray for Anne Buckner.	26 Exec/Full Board Mtgs via Zoom 6:30/7pm. Pray for Alana Sholar.	27 Women of the Bible via Zoom 7pm Pray for Wayne Caldwell.	28 Bell Choir 7pm Pastor Nancy on break-May 4. Pray for Hedy Caldwell.	29 Vespers Service via Zoom 7pm Pray for Alicia Carter.	30 Office closed. Pray for Dwayne Carter.	May 1 Pray for Brian Carter.
2	Rev. Dalene Vashbinder 10:45 Worship Service Pray for Eric Carter.	3 Pray for Jim Fred Cassidy.	4 Women of the Bible via Zoom 7pm. Pray for Rex Chaney.	5 Bell Choir 7pm Pray for Sarah Chaney.	6 Vespers Service via Zoom 7pm Pray for Lee Chaney.	7 Office closed. Pray for Brenda Combs.	8 Pray for Becky Davison.
9 Mother's Day	Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45am Worship Service Pray for our mothers.	10 Pray for Mike Dobranski.	11 Women of the Bible via Zoom 7pm. Pray for Ginny Etherton.	12 Bell Choir 7pm Pray for Mark Etherton.	13 Vespers Service via Zoom 7pm Pray for Raven Lynn Evans.	14 Office closed. Pray for Larry Fannin.	15 Pray for Loretta Fannin.
16	Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45am Worship Service - Annual Congre- gational Mtg via email Pray for Kathy Frazier.	17 Book Discus- sion 7pm via Zoom Pray for Carrie Frazier	18 Women of the Bible via Zoom 7pm Pray for Riley Pack.	19 Bell Choir 7pm Pray for Josh Pack.	20 Vespers Service via Zoom 7pm Pray for Alex New.	21 Office closed. Pray for Roger Fischer.	22 Pray for Reverend Nancy Gowler.
23	Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45am Worship Service Newsletter articles due. Pray for Ben Gowler Johnson.	24 Exec/Full Bd Mtgs via Zoom6:30/7pm Pray for Tom- my Griffith..	25 Women of the Bible via Zoom 7pm Pray for Neva Griffith.	26 Bell Choir 7pm Pray for Emma Lou Gross.	27 Vespers Service via Zoom 7pm Pray for Jim Gross.	28 Office closed. Pray for John Gullett.	29 Pray for Sandy Gullett.
30	Rev. Nancy Gowler 10:45am Worship Service Pray for Betty Hall.	31 Memorial Day Pray for all those who died in the service of our country.	June 1 Women of the Bible via Zoom 7pm Pray for Cathy Hammond.	2 Bell Choir 7pm Pray for Abby Hammond.	3 Vespers Service via Zoom 7pm Pray for Meghan Hammond.	4 Office closed. Pray for Joyce Hart.	5 Pray for Fran Helphinstine.

PENTECOST

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Rev. Nancy Gowler, Minister
Genny Jenkins, Choir
Jiyeon McGillicuddy,
Keyboardist
Sarah Chaney, Bells
Makayla Reynolds, Nursery
Open, Youth
Barbara Marsh, Secretary
227 East Main Street
Morehead, KY 40351
606-784-4836

Monday-Thursday 8:30-1pm

Email: fccmky@gmail.com

Due to COVID19—our office is closed until further notice.

Website: www.fccmorehead.org

www.facebook.com/fccmorehead



Join us for livestream
Sunday Worship
Service @ 10:45am

www.flickr.com/photos/139711677@N02/



www.instagram.com/fccmorehead/



www.youtube.com/user/TheInterper

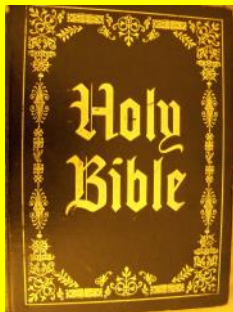


www.twitter.com/fccmorehead



Bible Lectionary Readings

Disciples of Christ



May 2—John 15:1-8
May 9—John 15:9-15
May 16—Luke 24:44-53
May 23—John 15:26-27
May 30—John 3:1-17

Congregation Prayer Practice

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE SPIRIT OF LOVE



As part of its mission to "to maintain the closest possible contact with the entire church membership to the end that each church member may function effectively in the work of the church and in a spirit of love and comradeship," the Evangelism Committee would like to encourage the church to intentionally think of each other in prayer. To this end, continuing in May, there will be an individual or intention on each day of *The Echo* calendar to include in your personal prayers.

APRIL 25 Pray for Anne Buckner	26 Pray for Alana Sholar	27 Pray for Wayne Caldwell	28 Pray for Hedy Caldwell	29 Pray for Alicia Carter	30 Pray for Dwayne Carter	MAY 1 Pray for Brian Carter
2 Pray for Eric Carter	3 Pray for Jim Fred Cassity	4 Pray for Rex Chaney	5 Pray for Sarah Chaney	6 Pray for Lee Chaney	7 Pray for Brenda Combs	8 Pray for Becky Davison
9 Mothers' Day Pray for our mothers.	10 Pray for Mike Dobranski	11 Pray for Ginny Etherton	12 Pray for Mark Etherton	13 Pray for Raven Lynn Evans	14 Pray for Larry Fannin	15 Pray for Loretta Fannin
16 Pray for Kathy Frazier	17 Pray for Carrie Frazier	18 Pray for Riley Pack	19 Pray for Josh Pack	20 Pray for Alex New	21 Pray for Roger Fischer	22 Pray for Reverend Nancy Gowler
23 Pray for Ben Gowler Johnson	24 Pray for Tommy Griffith	25 Pray for Neva Griffith	26 Pray for Emma Lou Gross	27 Pray for Jim Gross	28 Pray for John Gullett	29 Pray for Sandy Gullett
30 Pray for Betty Hall	31 Memorial Day. Pray for all those who died in the service of our country	JUNE 1 Pray for Cathy Hammond	2 Pray for Abby Hammond	3 Pray for Meghan Hammond	4 Pray for Joyce Hart	5 Pray for Fran Hephinstine



Please stop by to visit the garden and labyrinth area during the beautiful spring days. At left: red encore azaleas and a pink dogwood in the street garden.

Photo: Jackie Bailey