

From the Church Office It is important to communicate member care information with the staff. Please contact anyone who serves as a Deacon or email Rev. Osborn at revosborn@scpcusa.org, or email Beverly and Kenda at beverly@scpcusa.org, or call the church office. In the event of an emergency, please call Rev. Osborn's cell phone. Let's continue with the exceptional level of caring that means so much to those who are ill or have a crisis.



MOTHER'S DAY-CELEBRATING ALL WOMEN

Some might argue that Mothers' Day stems from ancient religions with female deities. Each spring the ancient Greeks devoted a day to honor their maternal goddesses. The ancient Romans had a several-day festival that celebrated Cybele, the Great Mother, beginning on the Ides of March and extending through the vernal equinox. The early

church may have baptized these festivals by honoring the Mother Mary during the fourth Sunday of Lent, Laetare Sunday.

In England, this may have been a way for the Mother Church to incorporate the feminine power of the indigenous religion that flourished on the British Isles. By the sixteenth century, Mothering Sunday, celebrated on Laetare Sunday, was the day devoted to the Virgin Mother in church, with children taking flowers to their own earthly mothers afterwards as an extension of their devotion in church. Servants, who often worked away from their own homes in someone else's, were given the day off to return to their mother church for worship. While all these ancient roots became entangled with the idea of Mothers' Day in the United States, it was the social reform movements of the last half of the nineteenth century gave rise to our current celebration of Mothers' Day. Ann Jarvis, the daughter of a Methodist minister, moved to western Virginia and in the 1850s organized women in the churches around what is now Grafton, West Virginia, to help with the sick and indigent, calling these Mothers Day Work Clubs. These clubs nursed sick soldiers of both the Union and Confederacy during the Civil War. After the war, they called for a Mothers Friendship Day and were instrumental in reconciling families torn apart by loyalties to both the north and the south, having shown how they could work together for healing despite their different loyalties in the midst of the war. Julia Ward Howe, a social reformer and suffragette, called for an international mothers day devoted to peace in Boston in 1872 with her Mothers' Day Proclamation. This was held in various places for ten years in June. Local reports of Sundays devoted to honoring mothers subsequently appeared throughout the country in various churches.

After the death of her mother, Ann, on the second Sunday in May 1905, her daughter, Anna Jarvis, devoted her life to making Mothers' Day a national holiday. She was not alone in this. A popular Notre Dame coach, Frank Hering, had been giving speeches that promoted the idea as early as 1904, and a local action of temperance mothers in Albion, Michigan, also stirred their sons to enlist community leaders in advocating that a day be set aside to honor mothers. Anna Jarvis launched a letter-writing campaign and speaking tour, and Mothers' Day became officially recognized as a national holiday in 1914 with the help of John Wanamaker who saw its commercial possibilities. Anna Jarvis was so outraged at the commercialization of the holiday that she was arrested for disturbing the peace while protesting against it in 1948. She died impoverished, having spent her inheritance on advocating for Mothers' Day.

The 1960s and 70s saw the recovery of the birth of Mothers' Day in compassion, peace, and justice movements. Coretta Scott King organized a march in 1968 to draw attention to the needs of marginalized women and children. Women's groups in the 1970s used it to highlight the need for equal rights and affordable child care that at the same time granted those in child care a living wage.

By working to honor and help women of all kinds on this day, we honor the day's original intent—to draw attention to those women who serve as disciples of God's compassion, peace, and justice for all.



Like a mother hen brooding over her young, like a mama bear protecting her cubs, or an eagle stirring up the nest to teach the young to fly, God is mother of us all and gives us earthly mothers to bear, nurture, teach, and protect.

So to all who are mothers in flesh and spirit, we honor you.

With those who are pregnant, however anticipated, expected, or surprising, we support the flourishing of new life.

With those who gave birth this year, we celebrate with you.

With those who are in the trenches with little ones every day and wear the badge of food stains and spit up, we appreciate you.

With those who lost a child this year, we mourn with you.

With those who experienced loss this year through miscarriage, failed adoptions, or children leaving home, we ache with you.

With those who walk the hard path of infertility, fraught with pokes, prods, disappointment and tears, we walk with you.

With those who are foster moms, mentor moms, and spiritual moms, we thank you.

With those who have warm and close relationships with your children, we rejoice with you.

With those who have disappointment, heart ache, and distance with your children, we sit with you.

With those who lost their mothers this year, we grieve with you.

With those who experienced abuse at the hands of your own mother, we minister to your pain.

With those who miss your mothers, we sympathize with you.

To those who lived through driving tests, medical tests, and the overall testing of motherhood, we are better for having you in our midst.

This Mother's Day, we salute you.

Forgive us when we fail to support you or say foolish things. We don't mean to make your job harder than it is. Mothering is not for the faint of heart, and your love has revealed God's love for us in the Spirit of Jesus Christ. For this we are grateful. Thanks be to God!

Teresa Lockhart Stricklen, based on a blog post, "An Open Letter to Pastors: A Non-Mom Speaks Out about Mothers Day," by Amy Young, on her blog The Messy Middle Where Grace and Truth Reside, May 5, 2012, accessed at http://messymiddle.com/2012/05/10/an-open-letter-to-pastors-a-non-mom-speaks-about-mothers-day/



DEACONS SERVING SCPC AND BEYOND

The Deacons in our church community have always served SCPC and beyond and in 2023 they have done it again . They have completed these service projects and/or mission offerings so far this year:

- Winter Coat Drive for FISH
- Advent Bags for our Homebound members
- Thanks=Giving
- Angel Tree for Ft. Zumwalt East families
- On-going collections for the food pantry at FISH
- Easter Baskets for FISH (with the help of Youth Group members).

For the remainder of 2023, they will complete these projects:

- Serve lunch at our local Salvation Army on May 31st
- In June they will partner with VBS by collecting for **Heifer International**, and help the **St. Louis Area Food Bank** by re-stocking and sorting food. (Look for details in upcoming weeks as anyone can help with this service project.)
- In July, they will have a special collection for the Missouri USO

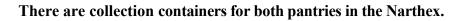
That brings us to the fall where their annual school supply drive for FISH will happen and the round of other fall collections and offerings will occur once again. Deacons are in the business of providing compassion and service to our church community and beyond and their work is important. If you know someone who is a deacon, thank them for their service, and consider being one yourself. It is rewarding to serve the Lord in this way and your very specific gifts might be exactly what they need. Our Deacon Board is needed and very much appreciated for their work!

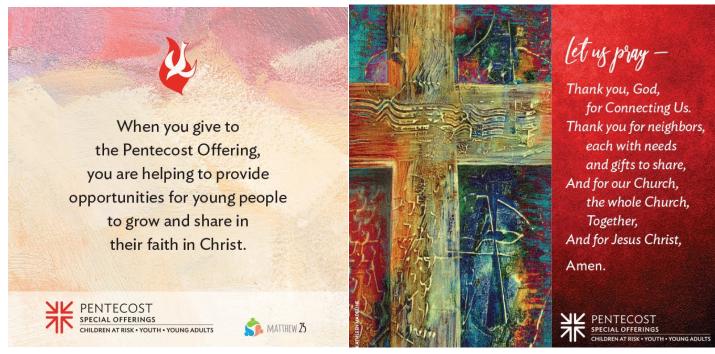
Items urgently needed by **FISH** for May:

Ketchup Canned Pears Apple Sauce Pasta Sauce Oatmeal

MAY Items for FZE Food Pantry and Snack Shack

Popcorn Capri Sun Kool-Aid Jammers Peanut Butter crackers Cheese crackers Mac 'n' cheese microwavable bowls Pop Tarts Breakfast bars Individual chip bags





40% of the Pentecost Offering will go directly to SCPC's Youth Group to use at their discretion for future events and/or Mission Trips.

THE PENTECOST OFFERING FOR CHILDREN AT RISK, YOUTH, AND YOUNG ADULTS

...to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ. Ephesians 4:12

How many times have we seen a modern building, an historic landmark, a great cathedral or a monument and thought, "How did they do that?" Regardless of when it was built, the skill and craftsmanship needed to not only imagine it, but to make it sturdy enough to safely and securely withstand the test of time, boggles the mind.

But what of people? We watch, listen and read as sports legends, great orators, talented musicians of every style of performance and brilliant writers astound us with their skills. And even though we know that the raw talent that leads to great skill is honed through years of practice, patience and persistence, we still look with awe at these accomplishments and say, "How did/do they do that?"

They did it because someone saw a spark. A spark that with the right teaching, coaching, leadership and practice could lead to great things.

Someone working with Good Success Academies in New Jersey recognized Tariq's academic potential and helped him pursue his dream of studying computer science. A Young Adult Volunteer named Yuriko, which means "lily girl" in Japanese, blossomed in Peru, while a shy teenager named Grace boldly connected with her peers at a statewide youth conference.

How did they do that? They were lifted up, they were mentored and they were encouraged to grow into the person God was calling them to be. Fanning that spark, the raw talents and abilities within young people throughout the church and beyond builds strong and gifted leaders that God can use.

Your gifts to the Pentecost Offering assure that these young people of God have opportunities to participate in programs as varied as the Young Adult Volunteer Program, Presbyterian Youth Triennium and other ministries with youth, and the Educate a Child, Transform the World national initiative. Each leads to interacting with educators, mentors and leaders committed to building these youngest members of the body of Christ into the people God would have them become. Thank you for your generosity. Thank you for participating in building up the body of Christ.



ROVER

VBS is looking for lots of working flashlights to use during their Bible Station lesson. If you are willing, and can let the kids borrow one or more of yours, it would be much appreciated. Please label your flashlights and leave them in the bin marked "VBS Lights " behind the curtain on the stage in Fellowship Hall. Thank you! Any questions, call Jess McMaken at 636 328-8916 or email at

reminding us that VBS is coming and what an exciting weekend it will be! There is detailed information below about when VBS will take place and how you can register. You can also visit the church's website to register. Let's help Rover by spreading the word about this exciting weekend and inviting friends to join us. Everyone is welcome!



For Children entering K-6th grade

Family Fun Festival following Saturday VBS!

Click here for more info: https://vbspro.events/p/da605d

VBS 2023 St. Charles **Presbyterian Church** 131 Gamble St., St. Charles

"Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares

1 Peter 5:7

about you."

Fri., June 9th 6pm-8:30pm Sat., June 10th 9am-11:30am



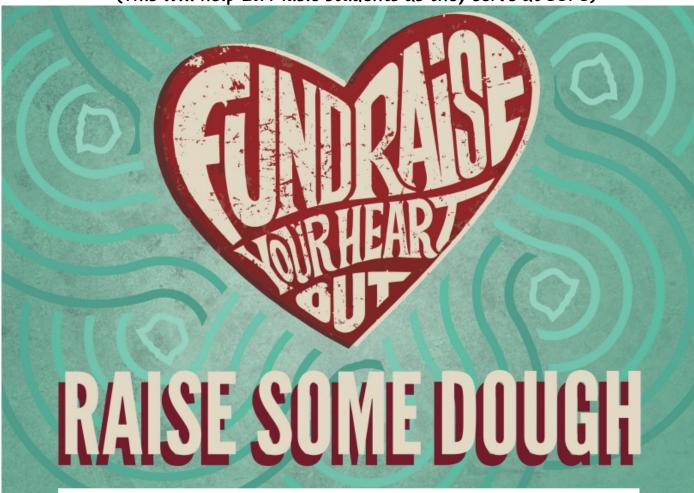
jessmcmaken@gmail.com.



Attention Women of our churches: We hope you will join the women of the Presbytery at the Presbytery Women Giddings Lovejoy 2023 Spring Gathering to be held on Saturday, May 6, 2023. The cost of registration and lunch is \$15. The above flier has all the details you will need. Don't miss this opportunity for spiritual renewal and fellowship!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR TO SUPPORT THE CHARLOTTE O'BRIEN MEMORIAL FOR MUSIC AT LINDENWOOD (This will help LU Music students as they serve at SCPC)



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FUNDRAISER DATE: May 21, 2023

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Memorial Day Word Search Puzzle

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www.MyPartyGames.com

"May we think of freedom not as the right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to do what is right."

~PETER MARSHALL~





Mary Ellen Colaw: November 6, 1928-April 17, 2023

Mary was born in Emporia, Kansas and lived in St. Charles for many years. She was a long-time member of SCPC. She taught at Parkway Central and retired from Parkway North high schools. She is survived by two sons, Frank and John Colaw, daughter-in-law Sue (Johnson) Colaw, two grandchildren, and three great grandchildren. She loved to garden, play golf, play bridge, travel, and root for the Cardinals and Kansas Jayhawks. A memorial service will be held in June. Her full obituary can be viewed at missouricremate.com.

Wendall Patterson Blanton, Jr. : June 22, 1933-March 19, 2023

Wendall was married to Betty for 69 years and worked for Adcraft for 69 years, serving as President and CEO for 49 years. He was a long-time member of SCPC. He is survived by his wife, Betty; his son, Dan; and, his daughter, Susan. He has 12 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren. He loved dogs, golfing, boating, relaxing at Table Rock Lake, and being outdoors. Memorials can be made in his name to Lives Under Construction Boys Ranch, 296 Boys Ranch Road, Lampe, MO 65681



Robert (Bob) Lee Elmore

September 17, 1937-April 17, 2023



Bob grew up in St. Charles and was married to the love of his life, Carlene, for 65 years. He has 4 children: Lisa Brown (Dennis), Rob Elmore, Todd Elmore (Lisa), and Carla Elmore. His grandchildren include Ben Brown (Nikki), Luke Brown (Katie), Alex Elmore (Jess), Noah Elmore, and Victor Scarpone; and his great-grandchildren Jax Brown, Charlotte Brown, Leah Brown, Levi Brown, and Dean Elmore were all so precious to him. Other surviving relatives include Carlene's brother-in-law Gale Fridley and many nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother Jack; parents-in-law Carl and Charlotte Newell; sisters-in-law Bonnie Mades and Peggy Fridley; daughter-in-law Kelly Elmore; and, grandchildren Zachary Lee Elmore and Jessyca Leigh Scarpone.