



# The Ivy Vine

**Ivy Creek United Methodist Church**

684 Woodlands Road, Charlottesville 22901

(434) 973-4793 ivycreekumc@gmail.com

May 2021 www.ivycreekumc.org

***Our vision is to make God's presence known through faith, love, peace and service.***

## Out-Door Worship Begins

Praise the Lord! In May we will begin holding in-person worship at 10:00 a.m outdoors, weather permitting in the parking lot by the cemetery, just as we did for our Easter Sunrise Service. Everyone is invited and asked to bring their own lawn or camping chairs. A limited number of chairs will be available at the church. Because of Covid restrictions, we will still need to distance and wear masks, and no handshakes or hugging.

We will have bulletins, sing two hymns wearing our masks, and receive an offering. Until restrictions are eased, on communion Sundays we will continue to use the prepackaged cups and bread.

For those who prefer to worship at home, our regular Sunday worship video will still be available on YouTube. The worship pages will also be emailed out.

We hope you will join us as we gather to worship our Risen Lord, whether in-person, or virtually, beginning Sunday, May 2, 2021. We will continue our out-door worship until restrictions ease and we can safely move indoors; hopefully by July.



## Mother's Day, Sunday, May 9th

Please come and join us in honoring our mothers on this special day. We will take time during the service to recognize some of our mothers.

## Sunday Prayer Meeting on Zoom

You are invited to join us each Sunday at 8:30 a.m. for our virtual prayer meeting on Zoom. We each take a few minutes to share the blessings God has shown is in the past week, and share any prayer concerns. Please join us. The link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87185821542?pwd=aWp2bXI4ckpHM21zYkNtTU9kNzNkdz09>

Or join by telephone:

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 871 8582 1542 Passcode: 196110



## Memorial Sunday

In observance of Memorial Day, our Sunday, May 30th, worship service will be a special Service of Remembrance. There will be special readings and music. We invite everyone to join in remembering all those who have served our country in uniform and now rest from their labors



## Children & Youth Sunday School

We are resuming children and youth Sunday School classes! Weather permitting, these classes will meet outside after our outdoor worship service on Sunday mornings. Covid restrictions will be in place such as masks and distancing. All youth are encouraged to attend. Contact Sue Smith for more details.

## Adult Sunday School

Now that they have all been vaccinated, the Seekers class is meeting each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. Pastor Ed is looking at also starting a new adult Bible Study Sunday School class in June. You are invited to join Dick Faris and others for the Seekers class. If you are interested in joining a new class with Pastor Ed, please contact him or the church office so we can get an idea of how many to prepare for.



## Finance Meeting

The finance committee will meet on Thursday, May 6th in the West Wing. We are still in need of a treasurer for our committee. If you would be willing to serve in this position or you know of someone that would be able to do it, please contact the church office or Anda Webb.

## Newsletter Articles

Every month we are getting the newsletter out at the last minute due to articles being turned in late or needing to be edited. If you are submitting an article for the newsletter, please have it in by the due date. We send out the newsletter on the last day of every month, or earlier and the articles need to be in the week before. A notice will be sent out with the due date each month.

When submitting articles, please send in an email attachment if possible. The articles need to be in a reader friendly form and not too lengthy. If you have an idea for an article, please write the article and send it in. It gets very time consuming on this end to write and edit the articles. Thank you to everyone for your help in getting the newsletter out!



## Sarah's Circle Bake Sale

The Sarah's Circle women's group would like to thank everyone for their support through baked goods and donations during our on-line bake sale. With your help, our first on-line bake sale was a huge success! We would like to thank Laurie and Leigh Anne for all of their help with our event. Our bake sale netted a whopping \$904.25! This money will go to help Sarah's Circle support the churches ministry.

Thanks to everyone for your support of our women's ministry!



## Trustee Meeting

The Board of Trustees will have a meeting on Tuesday, May 18th at 7:00 in the West Wing. If you know of a repair or need for them to consider, please contact Tim Martin or Pat Toms.

## Volunteers Needed

As our church ages, and we have many single members, some of our church family needs help with rides to the doctor, church services or just to run errands. We are compiling a list of people that would be willing to help with rides. This wouldn't be an every week or every month occurrence. We just want a list of people that we can call on if a member has a need. If you are able to offer this service and want to be on the call list, please contact the church office.



## Ministries Team

The Ministries Team will meet on Monday, May 10th at 7:00 in the West Wing and via ZOOM. Contact the church office or Leigh Anne Schiebel for more information.

## Church Facilities

Our church is here for use of all of our church family and we need to be good stewards of our building and grounds. If you are using the facilities, please clean up after use. If you move things around or take things out, please put everything back as it was when you got here. If you use the kitchen, make sure all dishes are clean and the stove and counters are wiped down.

If you find something in need of repair, please let the church office know so we can get it taken care of. We appreciate everyone's help with keeping our facility in good shape for all of us to enjoy.





## **Missions News**

The ICUMC Missions & Outreach Committee is busy as ever, looking for ways to be the hands and feet of our Lord Jesus, as he has commanded us to love and serve. Some committee members were able to Zoom meet on Sunday, April 18, and we wanted to share with the congregation what has been done and plans for the future.

### **Food & Diaper Drive**

We delivered 776 lbs of food to Loaves & Fishes, the total proceeds from the successful drive during Lent. We collected 5035 diapers and 77 packages of baby wipes for the Olivet Diaper Ministry which they reported to Emily is a 2 MONTH SUPPLY, and they are very grateful. Well done all good and faithful servants who helped in any way to make this such a wonderful experience and turnout!

### **Next Food Drive**

We are looking at the possible timeframe of June. We are thinking about pairing up with the Enrichment Alliance to offer 'brain food' materials for kids along with the food drive. We would ask for people to bring craft and coloring books, art supplies, board games, even adult coloring books for older children, and other food for the brains of children. Potential dates are Sunday, June 20 through Sunday June 27th.



### **Ivy Creek School**

Teacher Appreciation Week starts May 3 so Karen is gathering small goodies for 35 bags for teachers and other appropriate staff members. So far there's a gift card for Starbucks, cookies that Leigh Anne will provide, chocolate, and a thank you note from ICUMC. The School is an ongoing project so next would be backpacks for students returning (finally!) to school in Aug/Sept. More on that later.

### **Christian Arts Academy**

Stephanie and her group have been very busy bringing the love of our Triune God to those who access the CAA web site and beyond. They are currently working on this summer's theme of "Esther."

### **PACEM**

PACEM is in a true state of flux, with the opening up of the Premier Circle complex at the old Red Carpet Inn, set to begin May 1. Too much to give details here, but the homeless who have been housed at La Quinta through the pandemic will be moved over to Premier Circle as part of the facility is just being renovated. More will be added - renovation and new construction - but PACEM has been feverishly hiring new, permanent staff to take care of the new location. Executive Director Jayson W has stated that congregations will be receiving updates as they figure them out, and partner churches will still be needed but no one knows just how yet, or when. Leigh Anne is our key volunteer so she will be receiving info via email and share it as it is appropriate in the future. Stay tuned.

### **Our next meeting will be on May 16th after the outdoor worship service.**

Anyone and everyone is welcome to send comments or suggestions to the Committee! Please call or text Susan Keeney 434-882-0378 or email to [ctsusank@gmail.com](mailto:ctsusank@gmail.com) and they will get to the Committee.

Blessings to you and yours, stay safe. Susan Keeney, Missions & Outreach Chairperson

## Hope House Update

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of the Hope House program.

Family homelessness is less visible than other situations as parents desperately try to hide it for fear of losing their children to social services. The onset of the COVID pandemic created an even more dire situation with children doing virtual schooling and many social workers who may have normally detected a problem working from home.

As Hope House families graduated from the program, it became difficult to identify and communicate with families who needed our services. However, we did not give up! Our residences are full again and we are excited to see families receive the opportunity to move from situations of homelessness to the hope of future self-sustainability.

We are presently working with four single mothers and a combination of nine children. We have used time over the past year to strengthen our two-generation approach to more efficiently serve adults and children in the program. We have developed a new sixteen-week course,

Navigating Thriving Futures, that addresses challenges faced by many families and equips them with skills and resources needed to make positive choices going forward.

We look forward to your partnership as we walk the path of change and opportunity with these families.

Below is a profile of each family we are serving.

**Family A** consists of a single mother with three children, ages 13, 10 and 3. She is a victim of domestic violence. Faced with serious health challenges and living in an area that felt unsafe for her family, she and her children moved in with her sister while Mom A underwent a major surgery in August, 2020. This arrangement ended when her sister moved outside Charlottesville. The health challenges of the past few years left her unable to afford market rate rent and she and her children were facing homelessness.

Mom A worked as a Teacher Assistant in local schools from August of 2016 until June of 2020. She also worked as a Patient Attendant for agencies and private patients.

Mom A is presently reapplying for positions both within the school system and in the patient care field. Her goal is to continue her education in order find sustainable employment that is properly suited for her physical abilities and to enhance her earning potential in the future.

**Family B** consists of a divorced mother of three children, ages 5, 3, and 1 year of age. The two oldest children are presently in the custody of their father.

Mom B grew up with a mother who was addicted to drugs and a father in prison. She and her siblings were removed from their home due to severe neglect and placed in foster care. Two of her sisters were sexually abused there and Mom B ran away just before graduating. She soon met and married a man who showed little responsibility for providing for his wife and two young children and the family was evicted. The couple divorced. Mom was able to earn a Patient Care Attendant certificate and began working.

She then met and moved in with a boyfriend she thought was a perfect fit, appearing to really love her and her children. Sadly, this was not the case. The boyfriend abused her 2 children while she was at work and the children were placed with their father. The boyfriend went to jail and Mom B was cleared of all charges. Pregnant and homeless, she moved in with her grandmother. The grandmother was terminally ill and again Mom B and her one year old son facing homelessness.

Many have worked closely with Mom B to help her move through steps to gain visitation and eventual custody of the older children. She is working towards her GED and moving forward wants to become a CNA.



**Family C** consists of a single mother of two sons, ten and two years of age.

She launched out on her own shortly after graduation from high school, leasing an apartment with a friend who bailed out leaving her unable to afford the rent and utilities on her own. Lacking maturity, Mom C did not communicate with the landlord or ask to downsize to a smaller, more affordable unit. She simply left not realizing that a lease is a legal, binding document, and that she would face repercussions for many years because of this decision. Mom C was moving from pillar to post, living with boyfriends or others who would offer her a place. These arrangements always proved unstable until she came to a turning point and moved in with her mother. This was meant to be a temporary arrangement and after one year clearly had to come to an end. Mom C and her children did not have another place to go.

The realization that she and her children were facing homelessness caused Mom C to begin to seriously think about her families future. She decided to change her life and began working at a daycare center while exploring educational opportunities. The daycare center closed due to COVID-19 leaving her without enough income to qualify for independent housing. She sought counseling through Piedmont Housing Alliance, but they were unable to help due to lack of sufficient income. There she learned about the Hope House program.



Mom C began her first semester at PVCC this fall, the first steps to fulfilling her goal of becoming an ultrasound technician. She began a new job at UVA Medical center as an evening Patient Care Attendant on December 1, 2020. Evening care for her children is still an ongoing struggle.

Mom C has demonstrated a desire and readiness to make major, positive life changes that would build stability and greatly benefit her family. She remains eager to access the many resources and life coaching opportunities provided by the Hope House program. If successful, she could graduate from Hope House with the desired degree and a new career that would provide the income to become independently housed.

**Family D** consists of a separated mother of three children, ages 7, 5 and 3. She is a victim of domestic violence, finally gaining enough strength to permanently leave the situation in 2019. At that time, she and her children exhausted their stay in the Shelter for Help in Emergency (SHE), where she received guidance and support in how best to move forward as a single mother.

Mom D has an incredible work ethic, having maintained the same employment with for the past sixteen years. Through the challenges, Mom D has held the welfare of her children as a top priority and sacrificed to serve their best interests as best she could.

Upon exiting SHE, Mom D was able to secure an apartment and her family was thriving until the onset of COVID-19. She had reliable childcare that allowed her work an overnight position, picking her children up at 9:00 am. There was a change in this arrangement and the children would need to be picked up by 6:00 am. As a valued employee, the employer worked to accommodate her until that was no longer feasible in 2021.

As an only child with her mother being deceased and having no help from her father, Mom D lacked a support system to help with childcare and enable her to keep her employment intact. Coupled with difficulty obtaining childcare and with children doing virtual schooling as a result of COVID-19, she was informed that her position would no longer be available.

In early February 2021, Mom D left her overnight position but has accepted an on- call position that kept her employment but allowed her to work when she was able to secure childcare. This decrease in hours resulted in her inability to pay rent and she imminently faced homelessness.

Mom D has worked hard to leave a situation of domestic violence and maintain a safe and peaceful environment for herself and her children. She believes Hope House can help her sustain the progress she has made, use opportunities for further growth and avoid the continual heartbreak of family homelessness.

We want each of you to know our appreciation for all of the calls, cards, offerings of food, flowers, plants, etc. as we mourn the loss of our son and brother, Hersh. Blessings to each of you as we move forward in the New Year.

Hershall, Sue and Greg



Dear Ivy Creek family,

I would like to thank the whole congregation for all your prayers, well wishes and beautiful gifts over the last month and a half, as I prepared for surgery and began the long road to recovery. Although this journey has not yet come to its end I have found so much strength through everyone around me.

I am so grateful for all the continued prayers and to be surrounded by so many amazing and caring people.

With much love and gratitude,

Marta

Pat and Dick have moved!  
Contact the church office for their  
new address and phone number!



### Kindness Café

Are you looking for a fun family outing? Why not take a trip to McIntire Park and let the kids play on the playground or go to the skate park and then take everyone for a treat at the Kindness Café?

Kindness is a mission-driven coffee shop employing adults with cognitive disabilities, creating an inclusive environment in which people with and without disabilities interact as peers. They are open Monday-Saturday from

8am-12noon. Stop in and support this wonderful Café!

### Christian Arts Academy

We will have a Christian Arts Academy meeting on Thursday, May 13th at 7:00 pm via ZOOM. If you would like to get involved with the CAA let Stephanie Leech know so she can add you to the ZOOM invite.

**CAA**

# May 2021 ZOOM/In Person Meetings

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
<b>2</b> 8:30 - ZOOM, Prayer Meeting 10:00 - Worship 11:00 - Sunday School	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 7:00 - Finance Meeting	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 8:30 - ZOOM, Prayer Meeting 10:00 - Worship 11:00 - Sunday School	<b>10</b> 7:00 - Ministries Meeting	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7:00 -CAA Meeting, ZOOM	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 8:30 - ZOOM, Prayer Meeting 10:00 - Worship 11:00 - Sunday School Missions Meeting	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7:00 - Trustee Meeting	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  Deadline for June Newsletter	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 8:30 - ZOOM, Prayer Meeting 10:00 - Worship 11:00 - Sunday School	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 8:30 - ZOOM, Prayer Meeting 10:00 - Worship 11:00 - Sunday School	<b>31</b>					



## *Ivy Creek United Methodist Church*



**674 Woodlands Road  
Charlottesville, VA 22901**

**Address Service Required**

**Pastor Ed Rigg  
Minister of Music Emily Rosson  
Administrative Assistant Laurie Martin**