



Grace Notes for May 2017

From the desk of Pastor Scott Wilks

It's a cool and rainy morning as I write to you today. For some of you it means your morning walk is postponed. Others have had to put off yet another day of planting until things dry up. Some of you may be relaxing and enjoying the calm peacefulness of the morning showers.

The weather is a subject we often use to start conversations or great one another when other topics are elusive. Regardless of what the weather brings, one thing is certain. Someone will be disappointed.

At the same time we are blessed with such a gentle start to the day, it is important to know that other alternatives include drought, exceedingly hot temperatures, or worse. But the Lord who created the sun and moon; who separated the waters below from the waters above; and made the seasons of this world is still managing things quite well.

Some of you have expressed your concern about my wife's work situation and how she is so far from home. I appreciate your concern and prayers. At the same time, when we prayed for her next assignment, I at least did not put any restrictions on my desires. Her work is God's provision and like the rain and the sun, God knows how to provide just what we need and in what amount.

So it is with the church, God provides the gifts and graces we need to serve Him and our neighbor. We can either do so with gladness of hearts or we can mumble and complain. But make no mistake, God has provided and it is up to us to use and appreciate that provision.



What will you do today that will serve God? One of my favorite authors, Jan Karon in her Midford series of books centers around Father Tim, a small town minister. Over his door is a sign that says, "Lord let me be a blessing to someone today." May that be your prayer today, that God will use you to bless someone as you have been blessed.

Opportunities and Blessings:

Wednesday Night Fellowship and Choir (Trade) Warm up those vocal chords and get ready for some good food! We meet for choir around 6:30 and eat afterward. Come and be blessed!

Giving Opportunities Please remember our monthly mission offering on First Sunday which benefits the needs of our community. This time of year the needs often outweigh the resources.

Likewise, *Volunteers* are always needed at the Saint Anthony's Bread and Medical Mission at the Roman Catholic Church.

The Unique Boutique is open Wednesdays from 10am until 2pm and the first Saturday of each month. Monies made benefit our congregation and its mission in our community!

Mark your Calendar

May 13th - Men's Breakfast at Sharpie's in Trade 8 am

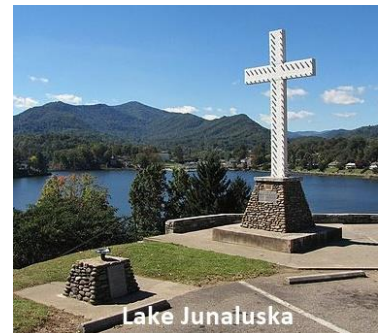
May 11th - UMW at noon

May 11th - Administrative Council Meeting FUMC

May 21st - FUMC Growth Team 12:30 pm

May 21st - Pre-Conference Briefing at Pleasant View UMC 3 pm

June 11-14th Holston Annual Conference at Lake Junaluska



Serving Our Military

Trade UMC

Jonathan Adams

Caleb Courtner

Matthew Danner

A.J. Dollar

Amanda Dougherty

Austin Pardue

Zane Penley

Colton Phillips

Ian Prudhomme

Scott Wallace

First UMC

Daniel Herman

Angel Sluder

Alan Morgan

Joshua Pace

Timothy West Bellamy

Stewardship for March

Trade UMC

Date	Attendance	Offering
April 2	22	\$1022
April 9	35	\$940
April 16	41	\$496
April 23	25	\$552
April 30	28	\$445

FUMC

Date	Attendance	Offering
April 2	84	\$3816
April 9	78	\$2337
April 16	143	\$2610
April 23	65	\$1845
April 30	79	\$2810