

The May ECHO

Newsletter from St. John's & Nursery School

Sunday Services
10:00 a.m.
Nursery Care

Sunday School
9:00 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship
11:00 a.m.

A MOTHER'S LOVE

A mother's love is something
that no one can explain,
It is made of deep devotion
and of sacrifice and pain,
It is endless and unselfish
and enduring come what may
For nothing can destroy it
or take that love away...
It is patient and forgiving
when all others are forsaking,
And it never fails or falters
even though the heart is break-
ing...
It believes beyond believing
when the world around condemns,
And it grows with all the beauty
of the rarest, brightest gems...
It is far beyond defining,
it defies all explanation,
And it still remains a secret
like the mysteries of creation...
A many splendored miracle
man cannot understand
And another wondrous evidence
of God's tender guiding hand
Helen Steiner Rice

As Mother's Day turns 101 this year, it's known mostly as a time for brunches, gifts, cards, and general outpourings of love and appreciation, but the holiday has more somber roots. The American holiday of Mother's Day was first celebrated in 1908, when Anna Jarvis held a memorial for her mother in Grafton, West Virginia. Her campaign to make "Mother's Day" a recognized holiday in the United States began in 1905, the year her beloved mother, Ann Reeves

Jarvis, died. Anna's mission was to honor her own mother by continuing work she started and to set aside a day to honor mothers, "the person who has done more for you than anyone in the world". Anna's mother, Ann Jarvis, was a peace activist who cared for wounded soldiers on both sides of the Civil War and created Mother's Day Work Clubs to address public health issues.

Due to the campaign efforts of Anna Jarvis, several states officially recognized Mother's Day, the first in 1910 being West Virginia, Jarvis' home state. In 1914 Woodrow Wilson signed the proclamation creating Mother's Day, the second Sunday in May, as a national holiday to honor mothers.

Although Jarvis was successful in founding Mother's Day she soon became resentful of the commercialization and was angry that companies would profit from the holiday. By the early 1920s, Hallmark and other companies started selling Mother's Day cards. Jarvis became so embittered by what she saw as misinterpretation and exploitation that she protested and even tried to rescind Mother's Day. The holiday that she worked so hard for was supposed to be about sentiment, not about profit. Jarvis's intention for the holiday had been for people to appreciate and honor mothers by writing a personal letter, by hand, expressing love and gratitude, rather than buying gifts and pre-made cards. Jarvis organized boycotts and threatened lawsuits to try to stop the commercialization. She crashed a candy makers' convention in Philadelphia in 1923. Two years later she protested at a conference of the American War Mothers, which raised money by selling carnations, the flower associated with Mother's Day, and was arrested for disturbing the peace. Miss Jarvis spent her later years caring for her invalid sister, Lillie, and attending flowers on her mother's grave. After her sister's death in 1944, Miss Jarvis

All Are Welcome

Regardless of denomination or affiliation, all are welcome to St. John's United Methodist Church. Feel free to attend services, bible study classes, and participate in many of its activities and ministries. For more information on these programs please contact our Church Office at 732-264-1236.

Adult Christian Education

Disciple Bible Study IV

Sundays at 11:30 a.m.

Short Bible Study- 10 weeks

Tuesdays 7:30 p.m.

Alpha

Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Dinner

Children's Ministry

B.L.A.S.T. -Program for 4th-6th

Graders Wednesdays 4:30 p.m.

Dates to Remember!

May 11, Church Council, 7 pm
May 15, FISH BAKE, 6 pm
May 16, Men's Breakfast, 7:30 am
May 18, Jersey Shore
Workcamp Meeting, 7 pm
May 22, Coffee House, 7 pm
May 24, Veteran's Meeting, 11 am
Family Promise Arrives
May 25, Memorial Day
May 26, Blue Claw's Game, 7 pm
May 28- 30 Annual Conference
May 30 - Strawberry Festival &
Flea Market, 9 am - 3 pm

GIFT CARD UPDATE!

Gift cards are available to purchase on Sunday in Wesley Hall during our four. You can also purchase them by calling the Church Office 732-264-1236. We will have them ready for you to pick up the next day. Thank you for your support.



was very much alone, penniless and because of her declining health and dementia, her many friends placed her in the Marshall Square Sanitarium in West Chester, Pennsylvania. It was here that Anna Jarvis died on November 24, 1948 at the age of 84. Mother's Day continues to be a very celebrated and profitable holiday in the United States. Flowers, candy and cards are typical gifts, and phone traffic is especially high on the second Sunday in May.

Strawberry Festival & Flea Market

Saturday, May 30TH 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Breakfast & Lunch served.

Outdoor Location: Front parking lot St. John's UMC
For information contact Lisa 732.264.5984



St. John's Nursery School Celebrates Teacher Appreciation Week May 4-8

140 preschool children are blessed to be taught by the best staff around! Our teachers provide a nurturing, safe, and loving environment where students explore, learn, and have fun! We would like to thank each one of our staff for their dedication and hard work.

WE APPRECIATE YOU!

Karen Breen	Roxanne Cardile	Dorene DiNardo
Regina Dulin	Leslie Eberhart	Marcia Finn
Ginny Jerome	Lori Kane	Kim Kutschman
Dina Miceli	Donna Mlot	Maria Monzo
Nancy Mushinskie	Jan Rubino	Gladys Sandman
Arlene Shelley	Kathie Sullivan	Andrea Tsap

God Bless, Liz Valentin & Melanie Pflieger

Confirmation Sunday May 17, 2015 Journeying with God

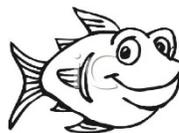
Confirmation is one of the key moments in the life of faith. It is a time when a young person affirms what was done in their baptism, takes responsibility for their own journey of faith, declares their commitment to Christ and becomes a formal member of the church. Confirmation is thus not an ending but a beginning – the start of a new stage in the life of faith.

We have five confirmands who have journeyed together this spring and are ready to speak for themselves and affirm their faith as disciples of Jesus Christ. We have studied together and discussed topics concerning: why confirmation, the unique qualities of Jesus' faith, staying connected to God with prayer, why the church and its ministries are important, offering our gifts and talents for service, and life beyond confirmation. Join in the Confirmation Celebration during worship as we reaffirm our faith and our newest members of the faith express their desire to follow Jesus. Please

FISH BAKE

Friday, May 15th

\$8.00 Per Person 6:00-7:30 p.m.



Includes: Fruit cup, Choice of Baked fish, homemade cole slaw, baked roll, dessert and beverage

*Take Out Service & Free Delivery available to
Bethany Towers & Bethany Manor*



From the Outreach Committee ...

Please remember to check the new boards located in the Narthex and Wesley Hall for the Weekly Specials to help the Food Pantry. If you cannot shop, Charlie Kurica (Shop-rite's Can Can Man) will do it for you. Outreach would like to thank everyone that supports the Food Bank. We could not do what is done without your support.



Friday, May 22nd - 7:00 p.m.

All are welcome to attend

Sponsored by St. John's Evangelism Committee

Wesleyan

Sunday, May 24th 11:00 a.m.

The cost for the meal is \$5. The proceeds go to updating the kitchen. We look forward to serving you and sharing in fellowship. 

The menu will be: *Assorted Sliders, Potato & Macaroni Salad, Chips, Ice Cream & Beverage.*

Mark Your Calendar!

Tea By The Sea

*Afternoon Tea Party,
Fashion Show & Gift Baskets*

June 20th 12:00-3:00 p.m.

\$20 Adult \$10 Children



available in the Church Office!

welcome Jillian Adams, Nicolas James Benoit, Olivia Jade DeVirgilio, Sean Declan Mahoney and Sidney Titus-Glover.

"Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it."

I Corinthians 12:27

Praise be to God!

Suzanne Johnson and Gail Bechtoldt

Confirmation mentors,

