



# Hebron Community Church

## May 2024 Newsletter



### May 2024—A Mother's Love

As I begin writing this, I can hear the beautiful sounds of the birds singing behind the house, and it's wonderful music to hear first thing in the morning, and throughout the day. It's a song that touches the soul and reminds me of the glorious nature of creation, and reminds me of God's great love for us and all His creatures. I'm always in awe of God's great love for us, especially at this time of year, being just a couple weeks out from Holy Week and Easter Sunday. Given the date, I've also been thinking about the greatest human example of love most of us have ever experienced—the love of our mothers, and mother-figures in our lives. This month we get the chance to celebrate our mothers and those who have been like mothers to us, and I hope we appreciate that wonderful gift, especially as often a mother's love is such a great example of the love that God offers us.

God is the ultimate parent and loves us more than anybody, and a mother's love can truly help us appreciate the love God has for us. Scripture says in Isaiah 66:13, "As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you..." As I think on how much a mother's love is shown through action and not just words, much like the love of God, I'm reminded of the recitation/song by Jimmie Dean called "I.O.U." It has always had a lot of meaning for me, and wanted to share the words with you.

"Many people look through their wallet or their pocket books and, way down at the bottom, past the credit cards and baby pictures and so on, you usually find a little 'ol piece of dog-eared poetry.

I was cleaning out my wallet the other day and ran across a whole bunch of I.O.U.'s, some of 'em

thirty-five years overdue. And you know the funny thing, all these I.O.U.'s are owed to one person and I kinda felt like that maybe now would be a pretty good time for an accountin'.

"Mom, Are you listenin'?"

"Sweet lady, I.O.U. for so many things.....A lot of services, like nightwatchman for instance.....Lyin' awake nights, listenin' for coughs and cries and creakin' floorboards.....hah-

and me comin' in too late. Boy, you had the eye of an eagle and the roar of a lion, but you always had a heart as big as a house. I.O.U. for services like, uh, short order cook, chef, baker.....For makin' sirloin out o' hamburger an' turkey out o' tuna fish, And big ol' strappin' boys out of leftovers.

"I.O.U. for cleanin' services, The daily scrubbing of face and ears....all work done by hand. And for the frequent dustin' of a small boy's pants To try to make sure that you led a spotless life. And for washin' and ironin' that no laundry could ever do. Foy dryin' the tears of childhood And ironin' out the problems of growin' up. I.O.U. for services such as a bodyguard, For protectin' me from the terrors of thunderstorms and nightmares Hah, And too many green apples.

"And Lord knows, I.O.U. for medical attention, For nursing me through measles, mumps, bruises, Bumps, splinters and spring fever. Oh-oh, let's not forget medical advice....important things like, "If you keep on scratching that, it'll never get well" or "If you cross your eyes, they're gonna stick like that". And probably the most important advice of all, "Boy, you be sure you got on clean underwear, in case you're in an accident". And I.O.U. for veterinarian services, For feeding every lost dog that I dragged home at the end of the rope, And for healing the pains of puppy love. And I.O.U. for entertainment.....Entertainment that kept the household goin' through some pretty rough times.....And for wonderful productions at Christmas, the Fourth of July, Birthdays.....And for making make-believe come true.....And you did it all on such a limited budget.

"I.O.U. for construction work, for building kites and confidence, hopes and dreams an'.....Somehow you made them all touch the sky.....And for cementin' together a family So it would stand the worst kind of shocks and blows.....And for layin' down a good strong foundation to build a life on. I.O.U. for carrier charges.....For carryin' me on your books for the necessities of life That a growin' boy somehow, well, they just gotta have. Things like, hah-hah, a pair of high top boots, With a little pocket on the side for a jack-knife. And one thing, Mom, I'll never forget....When there were two pieces of pie and three hungry people.....You were always the one who decided, well, I'm not really that hungry anyhow.

"These are just a few of the things for which payment is long overdue..The person that I owe 'em to worked very, very cheap....She managed by simply doin' without a whole lot o' things that she needed herself....

My I.O.U's add up to more than I could ever hope to repay, But you know the nicest thing about it all is that I know, that she'll mark the entire bill 'Paid In Full' For just one kiss and four little words....Mom, I Love You!"

As I reflect on these words, I know the final line is true. That's the beauty of a mother's love, but it's also the beauty of God's love. For all that God has given us, including Jesus laying down His life for us—things that we could never hope to be worthy of or repay, all God asks for is our love and it's marked 'Paid in Full'. All God wants is our heart. I'm so grateful for God's unconditional love, and the gift of our mothers and the way their love reflects God's love in such a powerful way.

**Happy Mother's Day to all those who are mothers physically and by heart! God bless you!**

Your servant brother in Christ Jesus,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Dustin D. James".

Pastor Dustin James

*Her children arise and  
call her blessed;  
her husband also, and  
**HE PRAISES HER:**  
"Many women do  
**noble things, but  
YOU SURPASS THEM ALL."**  
*Proverbs 31:30**

### Birthdays in May

|      |                             |
|------|-----------------------------|
| 1st  | Sharon Warren               |
| 8th  | J.P. Whited                 |
| 11th | Alan Forrest                |
| 12th | Anita Dawkins<br>Sam Chang  |
| 13th | Aaron Moss                  |
| 14th | Maddie Moss<br>Haley Allred |
| 18th | Beth Williamson             |
| 22nd | Matt Creekmuir              |
| 25th | Fay Whited                  |
| 26th | Jacob Flack                 |
| 30th | Lois Dixon                  |

### Up Coming Events in June

|  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| June 2 <sup>nd</sup>                     | 3:00 pm VBS Planning Meeting   |
|  | 4:00 pm Fall Festival Planning |
| June 9 <sup>th</sup>                     | 3:00 Church Council            |
| June 13 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> | Vacation Bible School          |
| June 16 <sup>th</sup>                    | Father's Day Candle Burning    |
| June 17 <sup>th</sup>                    | 7.00 pm Friendship Circle      |
| June 18 <sup>th</sup>                    | Newsletter Deadline for July   |
| June 27 <sup>th</sup>                    | 6:00 pm Methodist Men          |
| June 28 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup> | Crafting                       |
| Wednesdays                               | 6:00 pm Bible Study            |

### FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE NEWS

The Friendship Circle will host our annual Spring Luncheon on Saturday, May 4. All the ladies of the church are invited and if there is someone you would like to bring with you, they will be most welcome. The time is 11:30 a.m. and our guest speaker will be Emily Vermeer. She is the daughter of Joannie Wilson.

We will have a candle burning on Mother's Day and Father's Day again this year. You may have the candle burning in memory of, or to honor someone. Envelopes will be provided with a place to indicate who you are honoring. You may place your donation in the envelope. We are asking for a \$5.00 donation for each name you wish to honor. If you would like to make the donation by check, please make the check out to the Friendship Circle. A portion of the funds this year will be sent to benefit women and children in Guatemala.

Two other areas which will be receiving assistance from us are the Christian Appalachian Project which provides needed supplementary food for children and paying end-of-year school lunch debts at local schools. We donated money to three schools last year and found it so worthy.

## May 2024 Calendar

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday                                 | Wednesday                         | Thursday                               | Friday               | Saturday                               |
|---|--|---|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------|--|
| 28  | 29<br>9-4 ALM<br>6:30 Scouts                           | 30<br>9-4 ALM                           | 1<br>9-4 ALM<br>6:00 Bible Study  | 2<br>9-4 ALM                           | 3                    | 4<br>Friendship Circle Spring Luncheon |
| 5<br>9:30 Sunday School<br>10:30 Worship<br>Communion<br>Scout Sunday                 | 6<br>9-4 ALM<br>6:30 Scouts                            | 7<br>9-4 ALM                            | 8<br>9-4 ALM<br>6:00 Bible Study  | 9<br>9-4 ALM                           | 10                   | 11                                     |
| 12<br>9:30 Sunday School<br>10:30 Worship<br>Mother's Day<br>Candle Burning           | 13<br>9-4 ALM<br>6:00 Scouts                           | 14<br>9-4 ALM                           | 15<br>9-4 ALM<br>6:00 Bible Study | 16<br>9-4 ALM                          | 17                   | 18                                     |
| 19<br>9:30 Sunday School<br>10:30 Worship<br>Memorial /<br>Homecoming<br>Covered Dish | 20<br>9-4 ALM<br>6:30 Scouts<br>7:00 Friendship Circle | 21<br>9-4 ALM<br>Newsletter<br>Deadline | 22<br>9-4 ALM<br>6:00 Bible Study | 23<br>9-4 ALM<br>6 pm<br>Methodist Men | 24                   | 25                                     |
| 26<br>9:30 Sunday School<br>10:30 Worship   | 27<br>9-4 ALM<br>6:30 Scouts                           | 28<br>9-4 ALM                           | 29<br>9-4 ALM<br>6:00 Bible Study | 30<br>9-4 ALM                          | 31<br>12-10 Crafting | 1<br>9-4 Crafting                      |

### Nursery Schedule

May 5th      Robin Sykes & Jay Wilson  
 May 12th     Maddie Moss & Brenda Moss  
 May 19th     Betty Albright & Pat Snipes  
 May 26th     Betty Boney & Joannie Wilson

### Greeters

Lois Dixon  
 Debbie & Mike Blalock