

Ash Avenue Baptist Dispatch

ISSUE # 155

MAY 2011

From Eure Pastor's Desk

by John D. Eure

Mother's Day and Memorial Day. These days of commemoration in May are reminders of two special groups of people... and occasionally some within each group sadly merge.

The first record of an organized Memorial Day came through *General Order 11* given by General John A. Logan, commander of the National Grand Army of the Republic. On May 30, 1868, flowers were to be placed on the graves of both Union and Confederate soldiers. Though many in the South were denied permission to decorate their relatives' graves, it played a part in the nation's healing.

In 1908, Anna M. Jarvis campaigned for an *official* Mother's Day after her mother's death. After much labor and promotion, she saw it come to reality when President Woodrow Wilson signed the first national observance on the second Sunday of May.

In 1870, Julia Ward Howe, author of *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*, made an attempt for a national Mother's Day observance by calling on mothers to come together to protest *their sons killing the sons of other mothers*. Though she was a Union supporter during the Civil War, she became horrified at the terrible loss of life.

Both observances in May can be observed on each one's own merit. But Howe's attempt shows how often the two are merged throughout our country. How many grieving mothers have buried sons and daughters who have served their country? Too numerous to count. Yet, we honor their children's sacrifice for defense of our nation. And though we can grieve with these mothers, we'll never truly understand their anguish.

This past month we have observed *Good Friday*, the crucifixion of Jesus. And we have certainly celebrated *Easter*, Jesus' resurrection! As I read the scripture, my mind often goes back to Jesus' mother, Mary. Her Son fought and won the most incredible battle of all... a battle to reconcile God, His Father, and all of humankind. God's plan required Him to sacrifice Himself. John's Gospel records Mary witnessing His horrific death along with a mocking, cheering crowd (**John 19**).

She saw His outward agony and humiliation. Even as a mother, I don't believe she fully understood

God's plan. What she saw was her oldest child brutally put to death.

As you know, this story has a happy ending... and beginning. Jesus was raised on the third day. Mary would experience it and learn this Child that was given by God and delivered through her would deliver her from her sin. She would have life everlasting, as well as others who believe.

As we celebrate mothers and military members who've given their lives for us, it may be easy to think that they've earned a place in Heaven with the Lord. The reality is without Jesus, no one can enter into His kingdom (**John 14:6**). The soldier willing to sacrifice his life to protect his unit is noble, but he is spiritually unprotected without Jesus. The mom who instinctively sacrifices her life to protect her child is loving, but is unprotected if she has refused the sacrifice of God's Child, Jesus.

As followers of Jesus, let us join in His campaign to share His eternal, life-changing Good News to all people- including Moms and Soldiers. It's Good News that truly leads one Home!



Vacation Bible School, 2011:

**Pre-registration deadline in order to get t-shirt is May 22nd!
(Can still register after that date but no t-shirt)**

Sunday, June 12th-VBS Kickoff Party-Time to be announced

VBS Monday, June 13th through Friday, June 17th

Times to be announced

Sunday, June 19th-10\$5am- VBS ceremony before Worship.

One of the exciting new minis-



May

- 5/1 Jimmy Allen
Gene Comer
Jerry Crenshaw
Daniel Wilborn
- 5/8 Dennis Stewart
Wes Bosiger
Tom Hahn
Mike Sizemore
- 5/15 Don Williams
Victor Crump
Dickie Fallen
Don Gainey
- 5/22 Ricky Brogden
Jim Chandler
Fred Flinn
Mike Harris
- 5/29 Randy Guill
Jeff Cox
Randy Hupp
Jason Snead



**AABC Offering
Report as of 4/26/11**

**Budget offering
received...
\$ 66,495.25**
**Budget offering
needed...
\$ 66,856.75**
**Offering deficit:
(361.50)**



- During SUNDAY SCHOOL
The May Nursery Coordinators:
Sheila & Roger Henderson.
 - During WORSHIP
The May Nursery Coordinator
is Linda Satterfield. If you are unable
to assist on your assigned date, please contact
her one week prior to that date.
Volunteer Assistants:
May 1st- Matt & Nicole Wilson
May 8th- *Mother's Day* -Janice Martin
May 15th- Joe & Donna Boutwell
May 22nd- Gene & Kathy Comer
May 29th- Mikaela Cook
 - May Children's Church Leaders:
Paul & Cricket Kipp
- ** Please note:** Beginning in May
Children's Church will be held
on just the 2nd & 4th Sunday
of each month.

Our May Wednesday Night Suppers
will be on May 4th & May 18th.
Call church office (572-2006)
for menu, cost, & reservation.



WMU NEWS

**2:00pm Monday
May 2nd
Nonie Gravitt**
**10:00am Tuesday
May 3rd
Eva Saunders**
**7:00pm Thursday
May 12th
Sisters Serving
Christ**



**Monday, May 25th
OFFICE CLOSED**



**Fred Arrington
1600 Kentuck Church Rd.
Lot 40
Ringgold, VA 24586-5129**



- To our Ash Avenue Baptist Church Family
The family of Elna Martin would like to thank you for the cards, visits, food, and especially prayers during our time of sorrow.
Thank you also to the Hospitality Committee for preparing the delicious meal for our family. May God Bless each of you.
- **James, Jimmy, Johnny and families**

- I would like to thank all of you for all your acts of kindness shown to the family of Elna Martin during their time of sorrow.
The nice lunch you provided was greatly appreciated and enjoyed.
Thank you!
- **Frances Lloyd**
(Johnny Martin's Mother-in-Law)

- I want to thank all of you so much for the calls, cards, flowers, food, and other acts of kindness during my recovery from surgery.
Most of all, thank you for your prayers and the love shown to us.
May God Bless you and keep you in His care!
Love to all of you, in Christ.
..**Ronnia Furches**

Saturday, May 21st
9am to 2pm
at Advance Auto.

Youth Fundraiser
for Impact VA
& other youth activities.



Sunday, May 8th

This Mother's Day our Youth will conduct "**Youth Sunday**" during Morning Worship



May 1, 2011 5:30pm
Covered Dish Supper
followed by
Quarterly Business Meeting
at 6:30pm

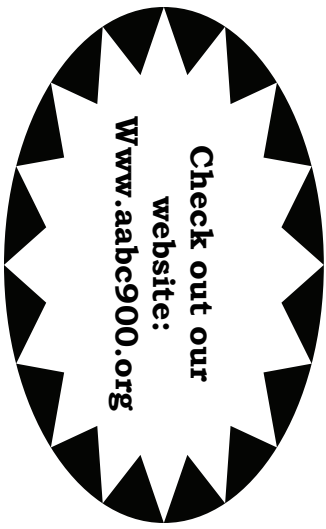


**Properties Contacts for May
are**

Gilmer Meeler & Wes Bosiger

**Deacons of the Month for May
are David Baird & Jerry Crockett**

**Need to use the church van this month?
If so, contact Don Gainey for availability.**



**Ash Avenue Baptist Church
900 Ash Avenue
South Boston, VA 24592
(434) 572-2006**

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