

The Little Church in the Valley

There's a little, white church in the valley, nearby where the water runs still. Where the wildflowers grow all around in a field there.

The little, old church has a steeple you'll see from the top of a hill, in which their large bell hangs. When it rings and chimes, you can hear it to let people know it's time for church to gather for Sunday services. It chimes throughout the country side. I love that sound, it's music for the soul.

The little, white plank boards have weathered a lot of storms down through the years; seen a lot of loved ones that were members of that little church die, gone on to be with God.

The little, white church is hid away back in the woods where red buds and dogwoods bloom; the smell of sweet perfume where the red fern grows.

It's a piece of Heaven here on earth. If you listen closely, you'll hear the Rock of Ages sung there.

It's Sunday-go-to-meeting time,

clothes laid out. The old straw hats, bonnets with flowers, lace and bows. Beautiful white gloves, homemade dresses, pretty print materials with floral designs.

Going to Easter morning services to hear the Passion Story of Christ and his death, and most of all, his resurrection. The cross he bore for our sins, God be glory. Give mercy and thanks for all our blessings on this great Easter morning.

Mothers and grandmothers would say Easter Lily Crimson, a bright symbol of one, the holy one.

We give thanks that comes with spring time, green hills and valleys, song birds making their nests, birds singing; flowers waltzing in the breeze, sun light dancing on newly leafed trees, the jonquils in their bonnets, trimmed in beaded dew, tulips unfolding shades of brilliant blue, pink and white blossoms against the soft, blue sky, fluffy clouds and sunshine, rainbows after spring showers.

A prayer in spring orchard white,

an Easter prayer for all beauty that fills the air. Easter bonnets in waiting, soft tissue paper in boxes, ready to be unfolded; boxes of posies, beautiful ribbons, pink and blue, lace tied with big bows, waiting for the little girl, I'm told.

So, when I think of spring, it brings back memories of a little, white church and Easter services of long ago past, lillie of the valley, the bright and morning star.

But, the Easter story is still the same today. It's all about God, love, mercy and grace, he had for us all, his plan of salvation for us.

The Passion Story is about Christ's life and his death and his resurrection. It's still a story we share today on Easter. Go to Easter services with family and friends. Give God praise, glory to God in the highest, and get true meaning of this Easter story. It's all about a message of love, peace, mercy, kindness, and grace, God had for us all.

I remember Easter, a church in the valley, little, white church back in the

hills. And its message years ago still holds true today, teaching God's word, love, kindness, being humble. The Easter spirit comes from our hearts as we love another as we'd love ourself.

Hope everyone knows we are so blessed. Spring is a time of rebirth. What was dead after long winter naps, comes alive, a new beginning all around in the air. Birds singing, bees buzzing, flower trees blooming, grass so green. God's work is everywhere to be found, so enjoy spring and all it has to offer and Easter coming.

Happy blessed Easter, know how much God loves you. Gives thanks for all our blessings. Let it show we are God's children by reaching out to help one and another. Let's be humble, show love, kindness, mercy and be grateful. This to me is what Easter is all about. That Easter spirit.

Happy Easter, sending love and blessing in an Easter message of the little white church.

Frieda Holliman, author

**2019 Mountain Mushroom Festival Schedule
Weekend of April 27-28 (29th annual) Irvine, KY**

Pre-festival Activities

Thurs, April 25
Hillbilly Flywheelers Antique Gas Engine & Tractor Show..... County Fairgrounds, 38 South Irvine Road

Fri, April 26
Hillbilly Flywheelers Antique Gas Engine & Tractor Show County Fairgrounds, 38 South Irvine Road
Agate, Rock, Gem & Mineral Show, 9 am - 5 pm Central Office Gym, 253 Main Street
Booth Check-in and Set-up, 5 - 8 pm
Broadway and Court Street

Saturday, April 27: Festival Hours of Operation (9 am - 7 pm booths, 9:30 pm grandstand)
Pancake Breakfast, 7 - 11 am Masonic Lodge, 221 Broadway
Fungus 5K/2K Run/Walk registration: 7:30-8:45 am, 2K: 8:30 am, 5K: 9 am, awards: 10 am
Broadway and Estill Avenue
Twin City Kruzers Car Show, 9 am - 1 pm registration; awards 3 pm Main Street and Mack Street
American Legion Riders Bike Show, 8 am - 2 pm registration; awards 3 pm Courthouse lot
Agate, Gem, & Mineral Show, 9 am - 6 pm Central Office Gym, 253 Main Street

Hillbilly Flywheelers Antique Gas Engine & Tractor Show County Fairgrounds, 38 South Irvine Road
Mushroom Tent/Market Court Street and Broadway
9:00 am Mushroom Market opens
10 am - Noon Cake Decorating Contest Entry
10:00 am Morel Cooking Demonstration
11:30 am Morel Cooking Demonstration
12 Noon Cake Decorating Judging
12:30 Cake Decorating Winners Announced
12:30 - 1 pm Mushroom Cook-Off Entry Time
1:00 pm Mushroom Cook-Off Judging
1:30 pm Mushroom Cook-Off Winners Announced
1:30 pm Morel Cooking Demonstration
3:00 pm Mushroom Hunter Interviews - Stacy Family
4:00 pm Mushroom Hunting Contest Winners Announcement/Interviews
4:30 pm Morel Cooking Demonstration
7:00 pm Mushroom Market closes

Grand Ole' Parade, 1 pm Court Street and Broadway
Grandstand Stage Main Street/Broadway
10:30 - 11:00 am Estill Elite Cloggers Cloggers
11:00 - 11:45 am Gods Family Connection Bluegrass Gospel
12:00 - 1:00 pm Ed Hughes - Jennifer Sons Country
1:00 - 2:00 pm Parade
2:00 - 3:45 pm Songwriters' Showcase Chelsea Nolan, Aaron Boyd, Trevor Jenkins, Trenton Jenkins, Mike Stallings, Brett Noland, Geno Seale, Chris/Jen Shouse, Senora May, Jack Smith
4:00 - 4:45 pm Senora May Original
5:00 - 6:00 pm Sunshine Cloggers Cloggers
6:00 - 7:00 pm Hammertown Bluegrass
7:30 - 9:30 pm SOL Band Country Rock/Street Dance
Arts & Crafts, Community, and Educational Booths, 9 am - 7 pm Broadway and Court Street
Food Court, 9 am - 7 pm Broadway
Kids' Zone and Diaper Changing Station/Nursing Tent, 9 am - 7 pm 177 Broadway
Festival Information/t-shirts/souvenirs, 9 am - 7 pm Gazebo, 142 Broadway
Amusement Rides, 9 am - 7 pm parking lot behind BB&T, Broadway and Court Street
Oleika Shriners Engineer Train, 10 am - 7 pm 108 S Court Street
Estill County Historical Society Museum, displays/memorabilia, 9 am - 7 pm 133/135 Broadway
Irvine-Ravenna Woman's Club Student Art Show, 10 am - 5 pm Horizon Adult Daycare, 178 Broadway
Photography Contest display, 10 am - 5 pm Horizon Adult Daycare, 178 Broadway
Marcum & Wallace Hospital health screenings, 10 am - 4 pm Horizon Adult Daycare, 178 Broadway
Estill County Lions Club vision screenings, 10 am - 4 pm Horizon Adult Daycare, 178 Broadway

Sunday, April 28: Festival Hours of Operation (10 am - 5 pm)
Agate, Rock, Gem, & Mineral Show 10 am - 5 pm Central Office Gym, 253 Main Street
Kids' Zone and Diaper Changing Station/Nursing Tent, 10 am - 5 pm 177 Broadway
Mushroom Tent: Market/Foodway Stage 10:00 am Market opens
Noon Shiitake Cooking Demonstration
1:00 pm Mushroom Log Inoculation Demonstration
2:30 pm Morel Cooking Demonstration
5 pm Market closes
Grandstand Stage Main Street/Broadway
Noon - 1:00 pm The Lear Family Southern Gospel
1:00 - 2:00 pm Watson Family Bluegrass Gospel
2:00 - 4:00 pm Appalachian Troubadours Young Country Vocalists
4:00 - 5:00 pm Richard McHargue Cloggers Cloggers
Arts & Crafts, Community, and Educational Booths, 10 am - 5 pm Broadway and Court Street
Food Court, 10 am - 5 pm Broadway
Festival Information/t-shirts/souvenirs Gazebo, 142 Broadway
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Irvine-Ravenna Woman's Club Student Art Show, noon - 5 pm ... Horizon Adult Daycare, 178 Broadway
Photography Contest display, noon - 5 pm Horizon Adult Daycare, 178 Broadway
Festival Closes: 5 pm Have a safe trip home!!

Admission to the festival is free and all events are open to the public

**2019 Mountain Mushroom Festival Grandstand
(Intersection of Main Street & Broadway, Irvine, KY)**

Come out and enjoy the free live performances at the Grandstand during the festival. The festival is proud to present some great local talent of which we are so proud. Many of the groups/individuals are on Facebook and YouTube. Check them out and you will see what a treat it will be to have them perform at the festival.

Besides great talent the festival provides a professional stage and a professional sound system by Darrell Horn Sound. Bring your own lawn chair or for your convenience the festival will have seating available, bleachers and a tent with folding chairs.

Saturday, April 27
10:30 - 11:00 a.m. Footloose Cloggers
11:00 - 11:45 a.m. Gods Family Connection Bluegrass Gospel
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Ed Hughes - Jennifer Richardson Country Parade
1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Songwriters' Showcase - Chelsea Nolan, Aaron Boyd, Trevor Jenkins, Trenton Jenkins, Mike Stallings, Brett Noland, Geno Seale, Chris and Jen Shouse, Senora May, Jack Smith
2:00 - 3:45 p.m. Senora May Original
4:00 - 4:45 p.m. Sunshine Cloggers Cloggers
5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Hammertown Bluegrass
6:00 - 7:00 p.m. SOL Band Country Rock/Street Dance
7:30 - 9:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 28
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. The Lear Family Southern Gospel
1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Matthew Watson Family Bluegrass Gospel
2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Appalachian Troubadours Young Country Vocalists
4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Richard McHargue Cloggers Cloggers

**2019 Window Decorating Contest
MOUNTAIN MUSHROOM FESTIVAL**

The Mountain Mushroom Festival committee would like to invite businesses to enter the Window Decorating Contest for the 29th festival the weekend of April 27-28. This is a way to make our community more attractive and show pride to all our visitors!!

Theme: Rather Be Shroomin'

Judging: Criteria used for the judging will include:

- appearance/overall impression
- creativity/originality, composition/spatial arrangement
- use of mushrooms and theme Rather Be Shroomin'

Judging will be done on Monday, April 22 and Tuesday, April 23.

Eligible for Entry: The window decorations may include painting and/or an inside window display and must stay up through the festival weekend. Outside decorations will not be judged.

How to Enter: To enter the contest or offer the use of your window, even if you don't want to decorate it yourself, call Irvine City Hall or Myra Finney, Window Decorating Chairman, at 606 723-4238. Businesses may decorate their own window or ask an individual or organization, such as a church, school youth group or civic organization, to decorate a window. If an organization decorates a window they are responsible for clean-up.

Deadline to Enter: Enter by Friday, April 19 at 4 p.m.

Prizes: Prize money from the Festival Committee and rosettes will be awarded to the top three winners.

- The first place winner will receive \$100 and a blue rosette.
- The second place will receive \$75 and a red rosette.
- The third place winner will receive \$50 and a white rosette.

Prize winners will be photographed for promotion purposes in the local newspapers and on the festival website.

CAKE DECORATING CONTEST

Do you have a great idea for a decorated cake? Here's an opportunity for amateur* cake decorators to put their creative talents to the test!!

Entry/Judging: Friday, April 26. 8" baked or dummy cakes on 10" boards will be accepted from 9 a.m. until 12 noon. Judging will begin at 12 noon.

Location: Mushroom Market Tent on the corner of Broadway and Court Street, Irvine. Display: Saturday, April 27, 9 a.m. until 7 p.m. at the Mushroom Market (large tent) at the corner of Broadway and Court Street. Cakes may be picked up between 5 and 7 p.m. on Saturday. Cakes will be disposed of if not picked up by 5 p.m. on Sunday, April 28.

Announcement of Winners: Sat., April 27 at 12:30 p.m. at Mushroom Market

- Categories: Amateur (*One who pursues an activity for pleasure instead of money)
- Child (6 years to 12 years)
 - Youth (13 to 17 years)
 - Adult (18 years and over)

Theme: Cakes can be decorated in any theme.

Judging: Entries will be judged on a point system. Criteria are design/creativity, presentation/overall

Impact, and use of mushrooms in the design. Judging will be conducted by a panel of judges selected by the Mountain Mushroom Festival committee. Judges' decisions are final.

Rules:

- The cake must be made and decorated by the person entering the contest. Children (ages 6 - 12) may receive adult assistance with baking the cake, but cake MUST be decorated solely by the child entrant.

b. All 8" cake entries must be on a disposable 10" board or platter.

c. Cake can be baked or a dummy cake, non-edible props may be used for decoration and structure.

d. An index card must be submitted along with the entry providing the entrant's name,

address, phone number(s), and age category (child/youth or adult).

e. There is no entry fee.

Prizes for all age divisions:

All winners in each category will receive a festival rosette, local artisan handcrafted item, and bragging rights.