



Mother's Day Traditions Around the World

While specific traditions vary, nearly every country observes a day to honor mothers.

Millions of American families honor their mothers every year with cards, flowers, special meals and other gifts on the second Sunday in May thanks to the work of Anna Jarvis, the founder of this country's Mother's Day. A single woman without children, Jarvis relentlessly lobbied for the holiday in honor of her own mother's death, which took place on the second Sunday of May 1905. By 1914, the celebration had become so popular that it was declared a national holiday (Jarvis later regretted lobbying for the official holiday after it became commercialized.)

Today almost every country in the world observes a version of Mother's Day to thank mothers for the critical roll they play in the family. "Despite the many cultural differences that exist and differing expectations of motherhood throughout history and the world, one thing remains constant: a recognition that mothers have a uniquely important, valuable role in helping children to thrive," says Christine Gross-Loh, author of *Parenting Without Borders: Surprising Lessons Parents Around the World Can Teach Us*.

While many countries celebrate on the same day as the United States and with similar traditions, others observe different dates and follow their own unique customs. Here's a look at how a few other countries celebrate Mother's Day around the world.

United Kingdom

Mother's Day in the United Kingdom takes place on the fourth Sunday of Lent, a date that varies each year. The celebration originated in the Middle Ages as a religious holiday known as Mothering Sunday, when people in domestic service were allowed to return to their home, or mother, church and often visited family. Influenced by the modern American celebration, Mothering Sunday became largely secular by the 1950s, though it retained the traditional date in Lent. Today the holiday is known in the United Kingdom both as Mother's Day and Mothering Sunday and is celebrated much as it is in the United States. One traditional Mothering Sunday food is the Simnel cake, a light fruit-cake made with marzipan, which is also popular at Easter.

Mexico

Mexico has celebrated Mother's Day since 1922, when it was established as part of an effort to promote motherhood as the roles of women expanded outside the home. Rafael Alducin, founder of the Mexico City newspaper *El Excelsior*, organized the first celebration on May 10, 1922.

Today, in addition to giving mothers flowers, cards, and other gifts, families enjoy traditional Mexican foods and music. The celebration also frequently includes serenading mothers in the morning, some families even hire mariachis to accompany them, and continues with special masses and school performances.

Ethiopia

Mother's Day in Ethiopia takes place during Antrosht, a three-day celebration held whenever the rainy season ends, sometime between October and November. Families come together with traditional singing, dancing, and a feast that includes a hash made by the mother. The ingredients for the hash are brought by the children with boys bringing lamb or bull meat and the girls bringing vegetables, spices, and dairy.

Thailand

When Thailand first celebrated Mother's Day in 1950, it took place on April 15, close to *Songkran*, the Thai new year, but it was moved to August 12 in 1976 to honor the birthday of Queen Sirikit, who is considered the mother of the nation. Children give their mothers garlands of jasmine, which symbolizes purity and love, while families often give alms to Buddhist monks and make charitable donations. Schools host performances for mothers, while candle-lighting ceremonies, parades, and fireworks honor the Queen.



“Peace be with you.” John 20:19b (NASB)

The risen Jesus Christ greets the disciples with this common phrase three times in this section of the Gospel of John. It is more of a blessing than a greeting.

Our world is filled with violence. Yet, people long for peace. Some seek peace in the desire for more wealth, always working to have more but never satisfied. Some seek peace in the misuse of power, waging war, and only increasing the presence of violence. Some seek to dull their pain or solve their problems through alcohol or drug abuse, but these only destroy the body. Some believe that peace can be found through compromise with other religious movements or with a sinful society. This only distorts the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ. True peace is found only in a relationship with God, which is achieved solely through the work of His Son, Jesus Christ.



In verses 19 and 20, Jesus speaks these words as He shows the disciples His nail-scarred hands and pierced side. Proving that He is a body of flesh and truly has been raised from the death of the cross. This shows us the sacrifice that He made for our peace and our salvation.

In verse 21, Jesus again repeats the phrase with the commissioning of the work of the disciples. Jesus sends them and us to continue His ministry. The gift of life and peace that Jesus offers includes us in the work of the Kingdom of God, providing each of us with a sense of purpose.

The third time Jesus gives the greeting, He offers further proof of His resurrection, telling Thomas to believe. His message to each of us is “do not be unbelieving but believing.”

The gospel message is clear: Embrace our Savior Jesus and obey His teachings. We need His peace, and so does the hurting world we live in. When Jesus greets you with the phrase “Peace be with you,” know that true peace and contentment are only found in Him.

Scott Kinnick – CBC Executive Board

Buffalo Baked Ziti

INGREDIENTS:

10 oz. ziti
2 tbsp. butter
3 cloves garlic, minced
2 tbsp. all-purpose flour
2 c. milk
(8-oz.) Block cream cheese, softened
1/4 c. hot sauce
1 tbsp. ranch seasoning
2 c. shredded chicken
1/4 c. freshly chopped chives
1 c. shredded white Cheddar

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350°. In a large pot of salted boiling water, cook ziti until al dente. Drain.
2. Make sauce: In a large skillet over medium heat, melt butter. Add garlic and cook until fragrant, 1 minute, then add flour and whisk to combine. Add milk and whisk until combined and no clumps remain. Simmer until thickened, 2 minutes. Add cream cheese and break up with a wooden spoon until melted and combined. Add hot sauce and ranch seasoning and stir until combined.
3. Add chicken, chives, and cooked ziti to skillet and stir until completely coated. Transfer to a baking dish and top with cheddar. Bake until golden and melty, 15 minutes.



Why not give mom a break this coming
Mother's Day and make her dinner
and let her relax?



The Spring
Fling is
Scheduled
for **Friday,
May 16,**

6-8 PM. Everyone is invited. There will be inflatables, carnival games, face painting, crafts, food and more. More details to come so check the church bulletin.



Greeting Cards for Sale

There's a beautiful assortment of boxed cards for every occasion for sale in the side vestibule.

They are \$8 a box and the money raised helps the children that live at the orphanage in Honduras. Please take some time to check them out. You can place your money in the envelopes provided.

NOTICE OF BOARD MEETING

Monday, May 5
Commissions meet at
6:30 PM
Board meets at 7 PM





A Purse Full of Blessings is the theme for our **Mother/Daughter Banquet** to be held on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at 6 PM at the Fellowship Hall.

The cost for the meal will be \$17 for ages 11 and up,

\$8 for 4-10 yrs. and 3 yrs. and under is free. We will be having chicken, ham, pasta, potatoes, vegetables, salad, bread & butter and dessert. If you feel there is nothing your child will eat, we will provide macaroni and cheese as an option.

There are envelopes provided with an index card inside in each of the vestibules. Please write on the index card the names of each person attending in your group and if your child will be having the macaroni & cheese as well as your payment for the meals and place in the church offering. Please be sure to include all who will be in your group so we can seat you accordingly.

Reservations are due by Sunday, May 4. Come join us for a night of good Christian fellowship, fun, food and a little entertainment bound to bring some laughter. If you have a favorite purse, please bring it along and if you have a special story to tell about it; we would welcome that too! Hope to see you there! If you are unable to be present in church you may mail your

Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes:



We are collecting items for our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. For the month of May we are collecting toys, **NO MILITARY LOOKING TOYS OR GUNS.**

If you wish to donate items, you may put them in the box in the main vestibule. Monetary donations are accepted at any time throughout the year also. Envelopes are available in the vestibules.



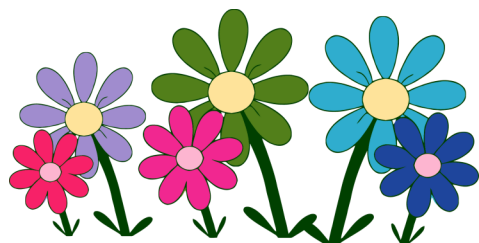
**The Nurture Commission
will be honoring all the
mothers on Sunday,
May 11, during the
morning worship service
at 11 AM.**

May 18

Our youth and youth
leaders will be leading
the morning worship



We will be honoring
our "Over 80's"
Seniors on
Saturday, May 17 at
12 Noon at the
Fellowship Hall.
Don't forget to RSVP.



Remember -
our fallen heroes.
They are the reason
that we are free.



**Men's Fellowship will
meet Tuesday,
May 27 at 7 PM.**

It's Your **Ch_rch** & **u** are needed!



**Saturday, June 7
8 AM- 1 PM**



Sunday, May 18 from 10 AM -7 PM.
Don't forget to take your flyer so
that our youth can receive 20% of
your total check.



**Vote! Tuesday,
May 20**



The Giving Cupboard sponsored by the Witness Commission is located on the porch of the Fellowship Hall. It is available for anyone in the congregation or community who may be in need. Please share this information about the cupboard with friends and family. If you would like to donate any non-perishable items such as food items, toilet paper, paper towels, cleaning supplies etc. you may do so in the vestibule.

Starting Sunday, June 6

Sunday School begins at 9 AM

Worship Service begins at 10 AM



Center Hill Church of the Brethren

2039 Freeport Road

Kittanning, PA 16201

724-548-7226

Email: centerhillchurchpa@gmail.com

Web: centerhillchurchpa.org

