

DAVIDSONVILLE UMC
LAMPLIGHTER

JULY/AUGUST 2023

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

KINDNESS: Responding with mercy, giving without expectation, and walking in a way that lets others know they are loved.

And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness. Col.2:6-7

Thank God for summer, with its longer days, sunshine and warmth that encourage growth. Flowers bloom, trees hang heavy with fruit, and butterflies emerge from the dark transformative time in chrysalises, to the unfurled beauty of all God calls them to be.

Have you noticed how our houseplants, gardens, and even trees grow in the direction of the sun, reaching, bending, seeking the light? Plants convert the energy of sunlight into the nourishment for growth. While we don't receive energy from photosynthesis, this is a wonderful illustration for our spiritual lives. We thrive when we follow Jesus and orient our lives to him. When we don't spend time with God, our souls wither.

So, what can we do to follow our sun, Jesus? In our prayers, worship, study, and service we could focus on KINDNESS. In our fractured polarized world, it is helpful to remember this dog-eared sediment attributed to Rev. John Watson: "Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle." People are dealing with mounds of hurt, frustration, hardship, and fear, and I believe we can be God's gardeners, bringing relief and healing. "What if we approached every encounter with family, friends, and neighbors as if we had the power to make it better?" (Robin Dance, Encourage those we Love the Most)

"What Jesus has done for us through his life, death, and resurrection make it possible. The power of the Holy Spirit working in and through us transforms us to be like Christ. We're different as a result, and we are able to live out what is asked of us in 1 Thess. 5:11 to encourage one another and build each other up."

May you be intentionally kind this summer.



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Our Purpose:

**Knowing,
Loving, &
Serving God
and Others In
Unity**





Mission u, sponsored by United Women in Faith and the BWC's Wellness and Missions team, is a retreat designed to explore current issues that impact our culture. This year's Mission u for the Baltimore-Washington and Peninsula-Delaware Conference is July 22 at Community UMC in Crofton. Registration closes July 9.

Council Meeting Highlights

- Finance: We are in a 41K deficit for 2023. In May, we received a 52K repayment of the misappropriated funds.
- Trustees: The repairs to the Sanctuary bathrooms, roof, and elevator room are still waiting for insurance funds to be released. Several other projects are being estimated and prioritized.
- SPRC: Working on the Family and Youth Ministry Coordinator position.
- Worship & Evangelism: John Wallander will preach July 2
- Missions: Tim McArdle will organize a Builders for God mission trip June 18-23
- Social Needs & Outreach: A member of our congregation has "adopted" 2 Ukrainian families- cars are needed for them.
- UMM/UMW: sponsored a college scholarship for Noah Hall.
- There was a special meeting on June 9th - Fowler UMC was vandalized. The board voted \$1,000 donation for repairs, half of which was pledged by SNO.
- Next Council meeting is July 17.



The School Year 2022-2023 has come to an end!
We would like to take this opportunity to thank Pastor Wendy and Pastor Paul for helping us during our Pre Graduation Ceremony.

CrossRoads has opening for our 3 years old program for the school year 2023-2024. Please call the CCDC office for more details.

We hope everyone has a great summer!



We are so proud of our graduates from Crossroads!



There will be organ music in the 11 AM services on Sunday, July 16 and Sunday, August 20!

Rev. David Thayer will be here to play and help lead us in worship.

If you love the sound of organ music in worship, don't miss these services.

Rev. Thayer plays the 3rd Sunday of each month!

A Stewardship/Finance Message from your Council Chairperson

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Everything we have been given is a gift. EVERYTHING! This includes the car you drive, the house you live in, the job you have and the family you were born into. God was purposeful in placing you in this time and in these circumstances.

The dictionary tells us a steward is “a person who manages another’s property or financial affair.” In the parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30), a man asks three servants to steward his property. Each one responds to this call according to his character. The servants increase their master’s investment, bringing him greater wealth and honor, and the master rewards them for their faithfulness. But one servant acts foolishly and hides the master’s money. He is rebuked and punished. The little he was entrusted with is taken back, and he is abandoned.

Stewardship takes the idea that everything we have is a gift to its logical conclusion. If all that I am and all that I have is from God, then how should I care for and use it? Psalm 24:1 says, “the earth is the Lord’s and everything in it, the world and all who live in it.” Therefore, I ought to consider why God gave what I have and use it to those ends. We have been given body, knowledge, resources, and relationships, not to squander as we wish, but to glorify God. “For in him we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17:28)

How do I spend wealth so it honors God? How do I steward friendships? How do I take care of the body He gave me to be His temple? How do I use knowledge and education in the best way possible? We do all these things by seeking God’s will in every decision, reading His Word, and listening to the Holy Spirit. We do this by acting generously and obediently, ethically, and morally.

Davidsonville UMC continues to struggle financially with a shortfall in this year's budget. I ask each of us to seek the Lord and His guidance for what He would like us to be giving to His church. We have many wonderful ministries and outreaches with and to our community, but with your help it may be hard to keep all these wonderful things going.

Did you know that giving is the only area in the bible that God allows us to test Him? Malachi 3:8b-10 says, “You have cheated me of the tithes and offerings due to me. You are under a curse, for your whole nation has been cheating me. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do,” says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies, “I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test!”

I hope you will take on this challenge and put God to the test!

Blessings,

David Chevalier, Council Chairperson



**“Kindness is a language which the deaf
can hear and the blind can see.”**

— Mark Twain





GRIEF SHARE®

Healing through Christ happened here at DUMC in a unique way this spring. The first 13-week session of Grief Share was completed. Grief Share is a grief recovery support program that is ecumenical and biblically based with sound professional advice in its design. We sponsored 10 participants that included our own DUMC family members as well as the local community. The response was nurturing; there were tears, revealed insight, faith growth and yes even laughter. We adopted this quote, "In this mortal, frail, imperfect world, fair does not always apply".... "but hope in Christ will help the burden."

Thank you for shepherding this new DUMC ministry. Great gratitude for Rev. Wendy Van Vliet's spiritual wisdom and guidance. We continue to ask for prayers for the coming fall session that we can be a mending instrument for hurt souls and may we accomplish what God intended.

As humans, we all grieve loss in different ways and over many aspects of our lives. We encourage you this summer to hand that heaviness over to God, pray, read scripture, and hit the reset button by caring for yourself and enjoying a fulfilling activity.

HUGS, Karen Baker & Pam Durbin

"When you are kind to others, it not only changes you, it changes the world."



— Harold Kushner



Dear Ones,

Each morning when I pray I ask God to help me live up to His expectations. His expectations of us are all that really matter. We live for God, and when we are truly serving Him, we ARE meeting His expectations. God wants us to live in a way that speaks to the world of our citizenship. It is said that people often don't live up to our expectations, but usually live up to their own. Do they? Are they meeting God's expectations and who are we to judge God's expectation of others?

2 Corinthians 5:17-18 tells us that "If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation. This is the very essence of Christianity, to build relationships with our neighbors, not expectations! We are reconciled with God and with one another through Christ. Faith is the crux of the cross. The cross is not a bridge to God but a sledge hammer that tears down walls that separate us and gives us the power of reconciliation. And we have that power! Think of it as another gift of grace. Amazing!!

Peace & Love, Connie



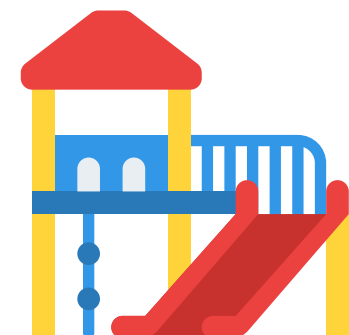
Let the kindness of the Lord
our God be over us. Make the
work of our hands last.

Psalm 90:17



Want to volunteer
to help out with
children's time on
the playground
this summer? Use
this link to sign up!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4DA4AB2DA7F94-summer>



August 26, 2 PM : Pool party at Stanek's

October 7 : Bonfire

November 11 : Bowling at Annapolis Bowl

December TBD : Christmas pageant practice

December TBD : Christmas pageant during
9 am service

January 12, 2024, 6 PM - 8 PM : Game night at DUMC

UMW News - Jean Smith

The United Methodist Women are planning the first church yard sale since COVID, and we are hoping our church members will have lots of items to donate! It will be on **Saturday, Sept. 23** in the Fellowship Hall. This is early notice so you can save up items this summer. The sale will help us meet our yearly pledge to the Weinberg Shelter for Battered Women. Our September meeting will be on **Saturday, Sept. 13** and it will be a potluck lunch. UMW will organize the yard sale. There will be more details about these events later this summer.

Sunshine News - Debby Wasson

Nancy Covington can't get out much, but loves people to visit. So those of you that know Nancy, stop in when you are nearby and surprise her.

Elaine Bassford was in the hospital earlier this month and is home now regaining her strength. A card, a call, or a short visit would be lovely.

Bunny Tucker always welcomes visitors too.

Lastly, Steve Alexander is out of the hospital and at a Rehabilitation Center. Call the office for more information about visiting him or to send him a card.

Toiletry Kits - Debby Wasson

Though we deliver toiletry kits for the homeless in December, it is actually an ongoing project! There is a container outside the Fellowship Hall, one behind the pews in the Sanctuary, and one on the porch of the office. When you go to the dentist, you can ask for an extra toothbrush, toothpaste, and floss! When you visit hotels, collect soap, shampoos and conditioners, and lotions! We also collect ChapStick, small combs, small deodorant, and hand sanitizers. Please donate what you can!



The Breakfast Club

Mt. Zion is kicking off it's *Breakfast Club* ministry, which is a summer program providing free bagged breakfast to children in areas of South County. Contact the office for more information or to get involved! Volunteers are needed!



Breakfast Club Book Fair

We are putting on book fairs for The Breakfast Club participants! We need volunteers to help out! We would meet at about 7:30 AM and be done about 10 AM.

We will be helping the children find something they want to read! Contact the office for more information or to volunteer!

- Lyon's Creek - 7/11 & 8/15
- Patuxent - 7/12 & 8/16
- Wayson's Woods - 7/13 & 8/17
- Rio Vista - 7/14 & 8/18

"Be the change you wish to see in
the world."

— Mahatma Gandhi



Social Needs & Outreach



- Pictured: Photos from our senior luncheon!
- We have helped approximately 14 families since the beginning of the year! We are seeing more people asking for help as the year progresses.
- We have agreed to provide 20 students with backpacks this coming school year.
- We donated \$1500 to Mt. Zion for the breakfast club. We have volunteers from our group that are helping pack and deliver these meals.
- At our June 9 blood drive, 29 units of blood were collected. Records show that over the years, we have hosted 36 drives and collected 1013 units with an average of 28 units per drive. The Social Needs Committee is proud of this very important outreach to our community and local hospitals.
- Our next meeting is **July 20 at 4 PM!** If interested, we would love you to join this worthwhile fun group.

Welcome New Member



Gaylen was born in Texas and lived in Virginia before moving to Maryland. While her young years provided a variety of houses, she was always at home in the Methodist church, from baptism to living the faith as an adult. Gaylen married and had two children; a daughter Kelly and a son Ron.

She had a fascinating career in the federal; government. She worked in the General Services Administration, the Department of Commerce and the Peace Corps. During her time with the Peace Corps she visited Africa. Later when her boss was selected to be the Ambassador to Norway and Gaylen accompanied her as her Executive Assistant. She enjoyed those 4 years, getting to know the people Norway, traveling the beautiful countryside and even visiting Russia several times.

When she returned to the US she work first at the White House and then as the Executive Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of the Treasury Department, a position she eventually retired from.

Gaylen now lives in Londontown with her 2 yr old puppy Maggie May. She enjoys travel, crafting , cooking, gardening and fun times with family and friends. She credits Shirley McCarthy for introducing her to our Methodist Church. Gaylen is appreciative of everyone she has met and worked with here and hopes to be a positive member of DUMC.



In Memoriam

Jennifer Kent, 1982 -2023



On Saturday, May 6, heaven gained an Angel. Anyone that knew Jen, knew she was a free-spirit with a warm heart. She loved nature and beading necklaces. She loved walking barefoot with the earth or sand under her feet. She loved all animals and always had one of her animals with her for comfort. It could be a cat, a ferret baby or a snake in her hair. She touched the lives of many and leaves behind a host of grieving family and friends, more specifically, a truly heartbroken mom, dad, brothers and sisters.

Baptism of Maggie Fitzsimmons



3 WAYS TO GIVE



Giving Envelopes
Give by cash or check with in worships Sunday mornings



Online Giving
Give a one time gift or set recurring donations on our website: DUMC.net



Text Giving
Text \$(desired amount) to 410-324-6399 to give via text message

Submit a joy or concern online:
www.dumc.net/prayer

Temporary Office Hours for September- December



Monday: 11:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Tuesday: 9 AM - 2 PM
Wednesday: 11:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Thursday: 9 AM - 2 PM
Friday: 9 AM - 2 PM



July

- 2 - Donnie Monaghan
- 5 - Angel Joya
- 5 - John Price
- 6 - Christy Potts
- 9 - Larry Smouse
- 10 - Marie-Ange Pierru
- 10 - Chip Robertson
- 12 - Nancy Barham
- 12 - John Cohen
- 12 - Timothy Purcell
- 13 - Chuck Moeslein
- 16 - Will Stanek
- 17 - Brianne Potts
- 21 - Barbara Colacicco
- 22 - Rebecca Iannicelli
- 25 - Anders Pierru
- 25 - Ray Simpson
- 26 - Ben Hopkins
- 27 - Elaine Bassford
- 27 - Sam Clurman
- 28 - Lori Heider



August

- 1- Patricia Cain
- 11 - Ryan Hardesty
- 11 - Rachel Tartaglia
- 16 - Mei Cobb
- 19 - Foster Baur
- 19 - Benjamin Egbert
- 20 - Tara Taylor
- 22 - David Chevalier
- 23 - Kim Morrissey
- 23 - Arielle Hall
- 27 - Kelly Arslanian
- 31 - Maynard Wratchford

*~HAPPY~
Anniversary*

- 8/8 - Joseph & Barbara Emert
- 8/10 - Chuck & Tricia Moeslein
- 8/19 - Tim & Susan Hopkins
- 8/26 - Maynard & Cindy Wratchford
- 8/27 - Bill & Delma Miller



Kindness (by Cleere Cherry Reaves)

- K** - Keep your eyes on Jesus
- I** - Immerse yourself in the word
- N** - Navigate life from a heavenly perspective
- D** - Desire God's best for all people
- N** - Nudge your spirit to act
- E** - Encourage those around you
- S** - Serve others above yourself
- S** - Share the love of Jesus

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**Submission of material for the Lamplighter does not guarantee publication and is subject to editing.*

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