



WARD'S CHAPEL

United Methodist Church

The Lamplighter February 2023



I am so excited to share this information with you. As I mentioned before during Sunday services in January, we will have an early beginning to the Lenten season this year. February 22nd is the first day of Lent, and we call it Ash Wednesday.

The Church's calendar includes a three-year plan for church worship and ministry, a lectionary. Interestingly, this calendar was created based on the stories of the Bible and it begins with the life of Jesus. So, we just celebrated the birthday of Jesus, the Epiphany story, and Jesus's baptism which all remind us of the early life of the historical figure we know as Jesus. Then, as Lent begins, we move into the ministries of Jesus through the stories of the Gospel. Jesus healed the people, drove out demons and unclean spirits, and delivered the message of heaven. Then after entering Jerusalem, he died on the cross and rose again. This is the entire journey that we remember as the life of Jesus during the Lenten season.

This year, our worship committee and other members volunteered for Lenten plans, such as celebrations, meditations, activities, and events as well. First of all, we will have worship celebrations and services. We are planning services for Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, and an Easter celebration. Second, we will have special Lenten Bible study opportunities (online and offline) and personal devotional time. We will print out our devotional, (just like we did last year), and another set of Bible 101 plans concerning early churches in Acts will be provided. Third, we will have a New Membership Class including an actual field trip to Strawbridge Shrine in New Windsor. Last but not least, we will have a very special time during the Holy Week called, Meals and Meditation. It's not a Passover dinner, but we will have a moment to remember the last days of Jesus, and what he shared with his disciples. We will share a full dinner in our social hall and a special meditation theme will be the focus. You can share your testimonies and deep insight with other participants, and you will deeply meditate on Jesus, who he was, and what he is teaching us even today.

I know this year, we experienced stressful incidents. We had a long conversation and meeting for our church's future and also, we lost many of our beloved people. But, we know that a New Year began and every day we have a new rise of the bright and shiny sun. God's love and mercy keep going on every day. So, I hope every one of our congregation can begin a wonderful year and set a plan to experience true blessings from God, and make a new day by serving God's people.

Blessings,

Pastor Steven

ADMINISTRATIVE MINISTRIES

FINANCE

Please find the latest update near the end of the newsletter.

Bill Showman, Chair

PROGRAM MINISTRIES

MISSIONS

Food Pantry

We are so grateful for the MANY donations of food items, money, and gift cards to our Food Pantry. Please continue to check the website for our needs.

Please see the full list on the church website for our regular needs. **Please see below for what items we need to re-stock our shelves, plus, the special requests for this month:**

- breakfast bars
- canned veggies
- tuna
- chicken
- peanut butter
- jelly



Are you cleaning out closets/pantries for the new year? Keep the food pantry in mind, and donate any nearly new items such as clothes, towels, sheets, blankets, etc.! Any food items should be checked for expiration dates before donating! Remember students can receive volunteer hours for helping at the food pantry so if you are interested please contact Wendy by texting/calling our Food Pantry number 410-756-0665. Thanks so much!

Wendy Miller, Missions Chair

PRESCHOOL



Thank you again to all the church members who supported the Super Bowl Sub Sale fundraiser for the Preschool! We sold 270 subs! Thank you to Rental Solutions (Eldersburg) for loaning us the deli slicer.

The Preschool will be having our second Preschool Prize Palooza next month – a month-long opportunity to win some wonderful prizes! Parents, family and friends will purchase tickets this month and one lucky winner will be drawn daily during April. The prize baskets we had last year were just incredible! These were some of the themed prize categories: Orioles/Ravens Basket, multiple Gift Card Baskets, Pets, Camping, Family Fun Night, Reading, Cooking & Baking, and Crafts. Every basket was valued at no less than \$150. Tickets may be purchased in the Preschool office for \$20.

Enrollment for the 2023-24 school year began in January. We currently have only 42 children enrolled for the new year. This is 10 fewer students from this time last year and 23 down from this year's enrolled group.

Unfortunately, the preschool is operating in its second year of a deficit. We will be unable to sustain the continued loss of approximately \$1200 each month. The Preschool will likely have to change our class options so that we do not have a shortage for a third year.

The Preschool children will be collecting coins during Lent for Heifer International. This year, the Preschool has chosen to purchase pigs. At \$120 each, we hope to buy at least 2 piggies!

Watch for details about the Preschool Prize Palooza! Tickets will go on sale in March!

Ms. Bridget

SUNDAY SCHOOL

This month as we celebrate love, Sunday School continues the tradition of decorating valentines for the residents at Arden Courts. We want to bring a smile to their faces, as we know

our valentines did for Butch Parker when he resided there.

Julie Weller

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congregational Meeting Update:

Thank you to everyone that came last Sunday to participate in the meeting. It was well attended. The poll taken to stay or leave the United Methodist Church was overwhelmingly in favor of staying. There were no poll slips marked to leave. We will not be pursuing the disaffiliation process. Other discussion and suggestions made will certainly be considered by the church leadership as we move forward into the future.

Pastor Cho, Charlie Dell, Barbara Charnock, Mike Blank

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**R. Wayne Feezer Scholarship:** The R. Wayne Feezer Memorial Scholarship offered by Ward's Chapel United Methodist Church honors the memory of Wayne, an active lifetime member of the Church, and is awarded annually to **Church Members** pursuing post-secondary education. Applicants are not limited to first-year students, yet when funds are limited, first-year applicants will be given priority. Scholarships of up to \$5,000 per academic year will be awarded based on the following: **Church Membership, Church Involvement**, community service, academic record, letters of recommendation, and financial need.

Applications will be available at the church office and on the website at: <http://www.wardschapel.org/R--W--Feezer-Scholarship.html> by February 15. Applications and all supporting documentation must be submitted to the church office no later than May 1. The number of scholarships and the amount will be announced on the first Sunday in June.

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BWC College Scholarship Process now

open: The Baltimore-Washington Conference awards scholarships for qualified students currently attending college, and high school seniors who plan to attend college in the fall of 2023. To be considered for a scholarship, students must complete an online application, which includes uploading their current transcripts. In addition, the student must provide contact information for their pastor and one additional church reference. The entire process, which closes March 30, will be conducted online. Learn more at:

<https://www.bwcumc.org/administration/local-church-resources/scholarships/>

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**Thank you:** Many thanks to everyone who put the Christmas gift bags together. It was nice to be remembered and I appreciate all the items that were in the Christmas decorated bag. I would also like to thank Pauline Reisberg for taking the time to deliver the goodies during a busy time of the year." ~ Diana Balick

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Christmas Decorations in Cemetery: The Christmas decorations in the cemetery will be removed February 1st.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Please pray for those who are not able to join us for worship due to health issues.

- Barbara & Carl Hartman – at home
- Bert Rushing – Golden Crest Assisted Living
- Bev Carter – at home (*at Diane's*)
- Dorothy Miller – Transitions Oakland Manor, Rm.D-1
- Janet Feezer – at home
- Janis Miller – at home
- Lulu Karagjozi – Lorien Encore
- Margaret Hare – at home
- Mary Libby Green – at home (*at Jay's*)
- Ralph Fletcher – at home

WCUMC Leadership

2023

Church Council

Chair: Charles Dell
Church Admin: Clarice Thresher (staff)
Communications: Clarice Thresher (staff)
Education: Julie Weller
Evangelism & Outreach: Myron Horn
Finance: Bill Showman
History: Wayne Reisberg
Missions: Wendy Miller
Nominations: Pastor
Nurture: Melinda Dettmer
SPRC: Michael Blank
Stewardship: Charles Dell
Trustees: Bridget Wetzel
Worship: Cindy Chambers
Youth Ministry: Gerard Oakley
Laura Bateman

Lay Rep. to Ann. Conf: Bill Ellis

Church School/Small Group:

Shirley Tucker

Clergy/Pastors:

Steven (Sunghwan) Cho

Communications Ministry:

Communications Representative: Clarice Thresher (staff)
Melinda Dettmer
Cindy Reisberg
Bridget Wetzel
Sue Swensen
Wendy Miller

Education

Christian Education Coordinator: Julie Weller
Sunday School Treasurer: Shirley Tucker
VBS Coordinator: Jacob Miller
Youth Ministry: Gerard Oakley
Laura Bateman

Evangelism Ministry

Evangelism & Outreach
Coordinator: Myron Horn
UMM, Camping Coordinator: Myron Horn
4-H: Carolyn Sellman
Star Fellowship: Cindy Reisberg
Liberty Goodtimers: Shirley Tucker

Finance

Chair: Bill Showman
Treasurer: Lisa Barry
Counters/Audit: Shirley Tucker
Heritage Trust: Nancy Parker
Heritage Trust: Mike Snyder
Heritage Trust: Katie Smith
Preschool Treasurer: Donna Gill
R Wayne Feezer Scholarship Rep.: Rich Englar
SPRC Chair: Mike Blank
Trustee Treasurer: Shirley Tucker
Ex-officio: all committee chairs

History

Chair: Wayne Reisberg
Clarabelle Gries
Carolyn Sellman
Kirk Bateman
Eric Weller

Lay Leaders

Barb Charnock

Lay Leadership Development (Nominations)

2023 Charlie Dell
Barbara Charnock

2024 Cindy Reisberg
Gabriella Palmer

2025 Kathy Blank
John Veise

Lay Members to AC

Bill Ellis

Lay Servant Ministries

Certified Lay Servant: Cindy Chambers
Certified Lay Servant: Bill Ellis
Certified Lay Minister: Kathy Ryan

Lay Staff

Church Administrator: Clarice Thresher

Membership Ministry

Chair: Clarice Thresher (staff)

Missions Ministry

Chair: Wendy Miller
Laura Bateman
Florence Miller
Galen Miller
Wayne Reisberg
Pauline Reisberg
David Ensor
Bill Ellis
Sue Swensen
Gerard Oakley
Nancy Kaylor

Music Ministry

Rachel Miller (staff)

Nurture

Chair: Melinda Dettmer
Barbara Charnock
Carol Parker
Joy Dryer
Farai Mangwende
Sarah Perkins
Lisa Ruff
funeral luncheon coordinator: Judi Snyder
Stephen Ministry coordinator: Pauline Reisberg

Preschool

Director: Bridget Wetzel
Office Manager: Donna Gill
Preschool Board: Barbara Charnock
Preschool Board: Pat Ellis

Preschool Board: Shirley Tucker
Preschool Board: Bill Showman
Preschool Board: Mary Meadows
SPRC representative: Karen Jaeger

SPRC

Chair Michael Blank
2023 Judi Snyder
Brandon Feezer
2024 Ben Palmer
Shirley Tucker
2025 Gerard Oakley
Hannah Rushing

Stewardship

Church Council chair: Charlie Dell
Lay Leader: Barbara Charnock
Pastor: Pastor Steven Cho
Shirley Tucker
Bridget Wetzel

Trustees

Chair: Bridget Wetzel
2023 Keiler Brian
John Feezer
Glenn Berry
2024 Shirley Tucker
Brian Jaeger
2025 Lynn Maclary
Eric Remmers
Gordon Ruff

UMW

Cindy Reisberg

Worship Ministry

Chair: Cindy Chambers
Choir Representative: Wendy Miller
Choir Representative:
Communion Steward: Lisa Ruff
Betty Roach
Kathy Ryan
Kathy Blank
Lynn Maclary

Director of Music Ministry: Rachel Miller (staff)
Heifer Project & Children's
Ministry:
Lay Readers & Liturgists Clarice Thresher (staff)
Organist: (staff)
Special Music Planning:
Ushers: Clarice Thresher (staff)

Youth Ministries

Laura Bateman
Gerard Oakley

Staff

Administrative Assistant: Clarice Thresher
Custodian: Greg & Tammi Stacho
Music Ministry: Rachel Miller

Organist:
Treasurer: Lisa Barry

Sunday School teachers

Young Adults: Barbara Charnock
Younger Adults: Ron Weller
High/Middle: Mike Blank
Elementary: Julie Weller
Preschool: Gabriella Palmer
substitute: Cindy Reisberg

**Wards Chapel UMC Operating Fund
Year to Year Comparison as of Dec 2022**

YTD Financial Summary:

The overall financial position of the church Operating Fund is sufficient to remain current on all obligations as we begin 2023.

Offering decreased by 6% (\$13,538) from 2021. A detailed review was completed to understand this decrease and the results of the review will be shared with the Church Council.





We had two issues that has caused the significant increase in Blding and Grounds. Our BGE bill has increased \$6,100 from 2021. The second issue is related to the outside lift. We had significant testing and maintenance charges (\$5,000) in October. This will not be a recurring issue.

The large increase in Other Donations is related to an increase in the annual gift received from the R. Wayne Freezer Foundation.

	<u>Dec YTD Amounts</u>		<u>Incr/(Decr) 2021 to 2022</u>	
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>		
<u>Total Gifts (sources):</u>				
Offering	\$ 226,225	\$ 212,646	\$ (13,578)	-6%
Other Donations (note 1)	\$ 53,500	\$ 71,750	18,250	34%
Total Support to Operating Fund	<u>\$ 279,725</u>	<u>\$ 284,396</u>	<u>\$ 4,672</u>	<u>2%</u>
<u>Expense:</u>				
Blding/Grounds	\$ 70,672	\$ 81,486	\$ 10,814	15%
Ed./Ministry	\$ 4,613	\$ 4,771	\$ 158	3%
Apportionments	\$ 37,215	\$ 35,494	\$ (1,721)	-5%
Pastoral/Staff/Office	\$ 170,728	\$ 173,280	\$ 2,552	1%
Total Expense	<u>\$ 283,227</u>	<u>\$ 295,030</u>	<u>\$ 11,803</u>	<u>4%</u>
Surplus (Deficit)	<u>\$ (3,503)</u>	<u>\$ (10,634)</u>		
Available Cash on Hand		42,284		

note 1 - other donations consist of Preschool funding of \$750 per month while school is in session, Parsonage Endowment of \$3,750 at the end of each quarter, R W Feezer Foundation annual gift and other one time gifts.

February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Bible Study 10 am	2  Alcoholics Anonymous 6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH) Online Prayer Mtg. 7:00 PM	3	4
5	6 Trustees 7:00 PM	7 Church Council 7:00 pm (FH)	8 Bible Study 10 am Liberty Goodtimers 11:30 am <i>Lamplighter Deadline</i>	9 Alcoholics Anonymous 6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)	10 4-H 7pm	11
12	13	14 	15 Bible Study 10 am <i>Lamplighter Deadline</i>	16 Alcoholics Anonymous 6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)	17	18 Food Pantry 9am-11am
19 Heifer Sunday	20 	21 SPRC 7:00 PM	22 Bible Study 10 am Ash Wednesday service - 7:00 pm	23 Alcoholics Anonymous 6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)	24	25
26 Worship plan: Bible 101:Acts (1 of 5)	27	28 Star Fellowship 12:00 PM at Oscar's	29 Bible Study 10 am	30 Alcoholics Anonymous 6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)	31	

Ward's Chapel United Methodist Church
11023 Liberty Road
Randallstown, MD 21133



IN THE EVENT OF WINTRY WEATHER...

you may contact the church office
where the message will be updated.

Notification of closings and
cancellations also will be emailed,
posted on the church website,
and posted on Facebook.

Office: 410-922-6556

Email: wardschapel@verizon.net

Website: www.wardschapel.org

Facebook: Ward's Chapel United Methodist Church