



WARD'S CHAPEL

United Methodist Church

The Lamplighter February 2022



“Jesus loves me this I know
For the Bible tells me so
Little ones to him belong
They are weak but he is strong.”

It was the first preschool chapel in September 2021 after a long break since COVID hit us so bad. As I was preparing the chapel message for our new preschool kids, I was excited. But to be honest, I was very curious. How would they begin their first in-person relationship, and what would their first reaction to the chapel look like? I had no clue. . .

As soon as I sang this song, “Jesus Loves Me,” I realized that something was different. Most of kids did not seem to understand what was going on in the church sanctuary. They seemed a bit nervous and at the same time, very curious to look at the pulpit, and symbols, such as the cross, the candle stands, and the red carpets on the floor. Then the kids looked at me full of curiosity. What would this man do here? I felt like I was hearing their inward voices. After the short, fifteen-minute chapel, when the kids passed the main door of the sanctuary, I found out that I was sweating a lot due to no response from the innocent kids. I did not know how to begin my message with these kids. I am sure that they did not know what to say to this strange person before them, either.

Now, I just finished the first pre-school chapel in 2022. Anxious feelings and unknown stress are gone. Due to the constant effort of the preschool teachers and staff for about five months, I see the kids are learning about social skills, basic knowledge, and essential technique. Moreover, they learn about God and Jesus. They learned how to pray and how to treat other people in faith. This morning, our chapel was awesome. The kids were singing songs, listening to the Bible message and praying together.

I am pretty sure that we are moving on. Even if the level of restriction in Baltimore County was lifted, I see that our children are growing, and our faith community has grown a lot during this pandemic. We have moved on, and we take one step forward, one day at a time.

So, be faithful, spread the love of God, and teach your kids that God is love and His love never ends. Their singing sound still remains in my ears,

“Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so!”

Pastor Steven Cho

ADMINISTRATIVE MINISTRIES

FINANCE

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

Bill Showman, Chair

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### TRUSTEES

The Trustees had our first meeting of the year in January where we discussed what projects we would like to tackle this year.

In the spring, we will be having the building exterior painted as well as the roof of the sanctuary. The west-side handicapped ramp/stairs will be fixed as well as other concrete projects around the building. These both are projects for which we have begun the process.

New projects we discussed are having the Narthex and sanctuary carpets cleaned, finding a solution for the damp Fellowship Hall hallway bathrooms (for which we had many ideas), and the west wall of the preschool level being insulated.

Need dirt?? There is fill dirt in the cemetery if you need it and are willing to haul it yourself.

Please let me know if you see anything that needs attention in the building!

Bridget

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## PROGRAM MINISTRIES

### MISSIONS

We are so excited to be able to plan for our Annual Missions Auction! Mark your calendar with this new date: Saturday, May 8th, 2022, time TBD, but will be earlier in the day than usual. You may begin bringing items to church in March.

Anyone who would like to help gather donations from the community may contact Laura Bateman or Wendy Miller.

Remember this fundraiser supports our youth

ministry to Camp Hope and our Missions Committee.

If you are in the Ward's Chapel Facebook group, remember to share any auction information or event invites on your own Facebook page! We can all help to spread the word!

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### *Food Pantry*

This year, some church members will be helping the Annapolis UM Men's group with distribution of potatoes to local food pantries and will be able to bring some home for our families. 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 list below for our regular needs list plus the special needs for this month:

- Grocery Bags---especially handled brown bags and Aldi reusable plastic bags
- personal hygiene items (male and female)
  - shampoo, body wash, lotion, deodorant, shaving cream
- feminine products
- antibacterial wipes
- trash bags
- tissues
- baked beans
- green beans
- pasta
- spaghetti sauce
- canned potatoes
- rice
- macaroni and cheese
- canned fruit or applesauce
- toilet paper
- cereal (popular ones are Raisin Bran, Honey Nut Cheerios and "kids" brands)
- canned chicken or tuna
- pancake mix & syrup
- peanut butter
- jelly



We have some people that come to us with diabetes and we can always use no sugar/substitute sugar variety of items.

Remember that you can send me a copy of your receipts if you make purchases and that amount can go towards your yearly giving.

Please remember to check expiration dates if you are donating from your pantry.

Any questions about our pantry, donations or volunteering can be made to Wendy Miller or texting/calling our Food Pantry number 410-756-0665 Thanks so much!

**NURTURE**



During the holiday season the Nurture committee was busy delivering Christmas gift bags to our shut-ins. We also mailed out Christmas cards and ornaments to our sick, shut-ins, and members on our prayer list.

We will be meeting soon to discuss ideas for Lenten gift bags for our shut-ins.

We are always looking for ideas of how to keep our shut-ins connected with the church and welcome any suggestions from the congregation.

Melinda Dettmer

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**Stephen Ministry**

The purpose of Stephen Ministry is to show the love of Christ to those who are hurting. An important part of the ministry is listening to and praying with our care receivers. As Stephen Ministers, we also share scripture with them.

There are many people in our congregation who pray for one another every day. I am reminded of James 5:16 that says "Therefore confess your sins to one another, pray for one another so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective."

There are many in our church family who are in need of prayer every day. I encourage everyone "to pray without ceasing" as Paul said to the Thessalonians in chapter 5, verse 17.

The Lord, the Great Healer, hears our prayers and our people are blessed over and over by our prayers.

Pauline Reisberg  
Stephen Leader

**PRESCHOOL**



Thank you to all the church members who supported the Preschool's Super Bowl Sunday this year! We were so pleased to be able to bring it back.

The preschool has not been immune to the COVID bug, but families were kind enough to get ill over Christmas break and not bring it back with them. Aside from the outbreak in the 2s classes in November, we have only had to cancel one day of the PM 4s because of exposure and that was the last day the children were here before the holiday break. As of mid-January, we had nine children and one staff member out because of COVID protocols.

The preschool held registration for the 2022-23 school year last month. We had 12 of 18 2-year-olds and 24 of 30 3-year-olds re-enroll and we feel that we're very fortunate. Registration for new families was held a few days later and numbers for those children are ongoing. We're looking forward to a better year!

Fondly,  
Ms. Bridget

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**



Sunday School will be decorating hearts to send to Arden Courts where Butch Parker resided. We want to carry on the tradition for the residents to enjoy the homemade decorations during their Valentine celebrations.

As a reminder, children's Sunday School is open to preschool through 12th graders. We meet between services September through May from 9:45 to 10:45 am. Adult Sunday School classes also meet at the same time in different areas. We welcome everyone! If you have any questions, please let me know.

Julie Weller

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## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Please pray for those who are not able to join us for worship, due to health issues. You are encouraged to send them a note of encouragement or call to let them know you are thinking of them and keeping them in prayer, along with those caring for them.

Barbara & Carl Hartman – at home  
Dorothy Miller – Transitions Oakland Manor  
Janet Feezer – at home  
Lulu Karagozi – Encore Ellicott City  
Margaret Hare – at home  
Marguerite Knauff – Lighthouse Senior Living  
Mary Libby Green – at home

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Congratulations:** Congratulations to Rev. Steven Cho and his wife, Rev. Dong Eun Lee, on recently attaining U.S. citizenship. We're so happy for them!

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Altar Care: Volunteers are needed to provide the Communion Elements, bread and grape juice, for the 8:30 am and 11 am services.

We are starting an Altar Care group. If you are interested in learning about and helping to care for our altar cloths and Communion elements, please contact Lisa Ruff or the church office.
Thank you!

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**COVID Task Force Update:**

The task force met on January 11, 2022. It was noted that the state of Maryland is under a thirty-day State of emergency and that Baltimore County has an indoor mask mandate in effect until 1/31/22. We will continue to follow these regulations and update our decisions as necessary.

It was suggested that we post test kit and test site availability for our congregation. The below information is what has been gathered.

**Carroll County** (For additional information [cchd.maryland.gov](http://cchd.maryland.gov))

There is drive-through testing at the AG Center by appointment only 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. In addition, check with your local pharmacies. CVS Eldersburg says by appointment only.

Carroll County Public Library is distributing free home-test kits at all branches. Online registration ([library.carr.org](http://library.carr.org)) opens on Tuesdays

with pickup on Wednesdays. Go to their test kit page.

Vaccination clinics are offered at Carroll Community College. Register at <https://cchd.maryland.gov/registration-links/> Clinics are Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:30a.m. to 2:30p.m.

**Baltimore County** (Go to website)

[baltimorecountymd.gov](http://baltimorecountymd.gov)

Click on COVID-19 Testing and Vaccines.

Closest test site is below. You must schedule an appointment:

Liberty Family Resource Center  
3525 Resource Drive  
Randallstown, MD 21133

This site also lists at-home test distribution sites, days, and times, such as Randallstown, Owings Mills, Pikesville, Woodlawn, etc. Some are walk-up, some are drive-through. A lot of these are at the libraries.

Also check your local pharmacy for testing. There is also a State of Maryland site to search for testing. [Coronavirus.maryland.gov](http://Coronavirus.maryland.gov) On this site you plug in you zip code to find a location.

We thank everyone for their patience and understanding. We will get through this. Thanks.

Charlie Dell

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Heifer Collection: We have resumed collecting change for Heifer on the 3rd Sunday of the month. At this time, we will provide the fishbowl for people to drop in their change. Collection by the children will be determined at a later date.

Since 1987 Ward's Chapel has been a steward for underprivileged families around the world. We have contributed over 39,000 dollars to Heifer Project. An Ark is credited as 5,000 dollars which means we have earned seven plus Arks.

In 1946 Heifer project started with a boat load of young pregnant cows sent to rebuild the economy of war-ravaged Europe. Today Heifer Project is active in six continents providing farm animals to communities that covenant with each other to share the offspring of the original animal with other families. This economic sharing leads to more food for the families, and raises standards of living, housing and health. Some recipients use the new income to pay for the education of their children, especially for girls.

2022 will be the year Wards will complete its 8th Ark.

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### **Help Needed with Virtual Service broadcasting:**

As COVID continues to impact service attendance, the need for broadcasting Sunday services over Zoom continues. Over the last two years, we have relied on the same 2-3 people to make virtual services available to our congregation that cannot attend in person. We would like to relieve Pastor Steven from some of his responsibilities in the process as well as deepen our bench of people that can help so that if someone is out sick or on vacation, virtual services can still be provided. There are two main components to the process: running the sanctuary equipment and running the Zoom. While these processes may seem complicated they can be pared down and simplified to allow for basic Zoom capability (with fewer bells and whistles). So please don't let what you see during current services intimidate you.

The sanctuary equipment role involves turning on the projector, turning on the video camera, turning the computer that will already be set up and connected to everything, turning on the sound system (maybe), logging into the computer, and joining the Zoom meeting. Written instructions for these steps can be provided. The sanctuary equipment person also makes sure the camera is pointed to the lectern and reminds people to use a microphone.

The person running Zoom will need to log into Zoom under the church Zoom account, admit people to the meeting, monitor chat for questions and prayer requests, and mute people that are being disruptive. This person could be in the sanctuary or remote (e.g. at home). If skilled with Zoom, presenting slides and live-streaming to YouTube would be a bonus but not required. An instruction package for how to do this already exists and can be shared upon request.

If the Zoom person is in the sanctuary, then that person could take on the sanctuary equipment role if they are comfortable with doing so. If remote, it is recommended that the two people have the ability to communicate via phone texting in case of network or Zoom outages.

For all of these roles, training will be provided. Virtual service has been a huge benefit to our congregation during this trying time. Please help us keep this option available by volunteering to be trained in one of these roles. How often your services will be needed can be negotiated. At this point what is most important is just getting more people with the training to step in as needed.

Please contact Laura Bateman if you are willing to help.

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Friendship Beyond Borders: Friendship Beyond Borders (a non-profit organization founded by Won Cho) just began an iPad Drive for Syrian refugee children. FBB is an international organization to support Syrian refugee children in a UN camp in Jordan. FBB has provided educational facilities, such as internet connection, classrooms, and TV to provide basic education resources. Now, the Syrian Refugee camp has three sites to educate children and FBB has provided marvelous efforts to fill their needs. In the second phase, FBB realizes that they need more electric devices, basically iPads, tablets or used computers. So, if you have any electronic devices that you are not using anymore, (should be working), please donate them to FBB. Friendship Beyond Borders will also receive your generous donation for this project. For more information, you can visit, www.friendshipbeyondborders.org, or contact Won Cho (woncho.friendshipbeyondborders@gmail.com).

**Wards Chapel UMC Operating Fund
Year to Year Comparison as of Dec 2021**

YTD Financial Summary:

Overall we ended 2021 in a very strong financial position. Our general offering was only \$1,670 less than the 2019 pre-pandemic giving rate and \$15,123 better than 2020 giving. Our annual deficit also improved significantly to only \$3,503. Our expenses decreased \$7,445 from our 2019 pre-pandemic level. We have a healthy cash surplus balance of \$52,920 at year-end.

Additional gifts were given during the year which are not reflected in the 2021 Operating Income or expenses. These gifts were designated to directly fund the Food Pantry closets (\$1,800) and the building painting project to be started in 2022 (\$25,000).

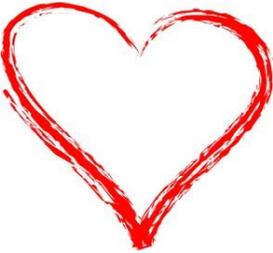
	<u>Dec YTD Amounts</u>			<u>Incr/(Decr)</u>			
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2019 to 2021</u>		<u>2020 to 2021</u>	
<u>Total Gifts (sources):</u>							
Offering	\$ 227,895	\$ 211,102	\$ 226,225	\$ (1,670)	-1%	\$ 15,123	7%
Other Donations (note 1 & 2)	\$ 74,493	\$ 84,086	\$ 53,500 *	\$ (20,993)	-28%	\$ (30,586)	-36%
Total Support to Operating Fund	\$ 302,388	\$ 295,187	\$ 279,725	\$ (22,663)	-7%	\$ (15,463)	-5%
Expense:							
Blding/Grounds	\$ 77,148	\$ 71,339	\$ 70,672 *	\$ (6,476)	-8%	\$ (667)	-1%
Ed./Ministry	\$ 4,216	\$ 3,745	\$ 4,613	397	9%	\$ 868	23%
Apportionments	\$ 33,538	\$ 35,977	\$ 37,215	3,677	11%	\$ 1,238	3%
Pastoral/Staff/Office	\$ 175,770	\$ 164,668	\$ 170,728	(5,042)	-3%	\$ 6,060	4%
Total Expense	\$ 290,672	\$ 275,728	\$ 283,227	\$ (7,445)	-3%	\$ 7,499	3%
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 11,715	\$ 19,459	\$ (3,503)				
Deficit Without Estate Gifts & PPP	\$ (8,285)	\$ (9,914)					
Available Cash on Hand			\$ 52,920				

* Both other donations and Trustee expense for 2021 excludes \$25,000 gift from R W Freezer Foundation. This gift was designated to offset the cost of the planned building painting project to be funded by Trustees.

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 Freezer Foundation annual gift and other one time gifts.

note 2 - special one time donations. 2019 \$20,000 in estate gifts and \$2,743 roast beef dinner proceeds (total \$22,743). For 2020 PPP loans of \$26,873 and Deer Park gift of \$2,500 (total \$29,373).

February 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 Alcoholics Anonymous 6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH) Online Prayer Mtg. 7:00 PM	4	5
6 12 pm Worship Committee meeting	7	8 Church Council 7:00 pm (hybrid-sanctuary & Zoom)	9 Liberty Goodtimers 11:30 am Lampighter Deadline	10 Feed My Sheep @ Wesley Freedom UMC 10-1 Alcoholics Anonymous 6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)	11	12 Preschool Sub Sale Pick-up 10am-12pm
13	14	15 SPRC 7:00 pm (hybrid-sanctuary & Zoom)	16	17 Alcoholics Anonymous 6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)	18	19 Food Pantry 9am-11am
20 Heifer Sunday	21 	22 Star Fellowship 12:00 PM at Bullock's	23	24 Alcoholics Anonymous 6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)	25	26
27	28	29	30	Alcoholics Anonymous 6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)		

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