



WARD'S CHAPEL

United Methodist Church

The Lamplighter July/August 2020



These days, I feel like I've lost my sense of time. My new routine at home confuses me, so from time to time, I ask myself, if I have missed our 'Re-entry Task Force' meeting on Wednesday, 7 PM. Fortunately, I have never missed that meeting so far, but now I have a new habit, checking my planner every day, to see whether I have forgotten anything.

On every Wednesday, our leadership group gathers online and discusses re-entry plan. But it does not limit only 're-entry plan', but we deal with other topics, pastoral and congregational care, joys and concern, member update, also we share committee reports.

As you expect, there have been on-going conversation about in-person gathering. 'When can we come back to worship?' 'What is our priority?'

Honestly, we do not know when the best timing is. Baltimore County released announcements to adopt 'stage-two' steps. It says:

Beginning Friday, June 12, at 5 p.m., Baltimore County will adopt the following:

- Indoor dining at 50 percent capacity, with social distancing and following strict public health requirements
- Outdoor amusements and attractions, miniature golf and go-karts
- Outdoor pools capacity increasing to 50 percent

Then after June 19th, gyms, indoor fitness centers, martial arts and even casinos can open too. (of course, it stresses the importance of social distancing and fifty percent capacity) It sounds like things will settle down a bit. Every one of us hopes the same thing, back to our normal routine.

However, as you all know, churches should be more careful planning re-entry. We have elderly members and some of us have serious medical concerns. And also, during our church worship, we want singing, talking to each other, and Communion of saints with shaking hands, and a loving hug.

I believe it is not about the timing and the decision of the leadership group, but the way that we handle it. I believe every opinion matters and as the body of Christ, the church should pay attention to everyone and their feelings, too. That's why we sent you survey, and invited you all in our Wednesday meeting.

We all dream of the day that we praise together and believe it will come. But until the time comes, we need a bit more patience and a communal wisdom to take care of one another in the given limited environment.

Be safe and do not hesitate to contact me if you have anything.

In Christ, Steven Cho

PLEASE NOTE:

**ALL PLANNED ACTIVITIES LISTED HEREIN
ARE DEPENDENT UPON the RECOMMENDATIONS
of the FEDERAL and STATE GOVERNMENTS, the
CDC, and the BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON
CONFERENCE of the UMC.**

ADMINISTRATIVE MINISTRIES

TRUSTEES

One question on everyone’s mind right now is ‘If we go back to church, how will I know it’s clean and safe for me and my family?’ Since the start of the pandemic, I have taken FIVE courses on sanitation from various sources (the CDC, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and others). I have already spoken with our cleaning supplier to make sure they will have what we need to clean, sanitize, and disinfect where necessary. Plans are being made.

I want to assure you that when the building opens for worship, it will be as safe as we can possibly make it and we will adhere to all suggested guidelines. Once we have a date for that opening, we will share with you the measures that we will be putting in place to assure your health and safety.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me over the summer.

Bridget Wetzel

PROGRAM MINISTRIES

MISSIONS

Food Pantry

Thank you so much for your support. We appreciate all of your donations, prayers, and time.

There will be a collection date for food sometime the 1st week of July. Please watch the Facebook page and website for a donation drop-off date. Please refer to the online list or buy from our current needs list:

- Baked beans**
- Canned mixed vegetables
or other vegetables
(besides corn and green beans)**
- Spaghetti sauce**
- Soup**
- Canned potatoes**
- Canned fruit**
- Pancake mix**
- Peanut butter**
- Jelly**
- Toilet paper**

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

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



We have very generous congregation members who have donated money for us to purchase supplies as well as access to the Missions budget. I am able to take special requests from our patrons and get them things we wouldn’t normally have (coffee, tea bags, dog food) and place an Aldi order for delivery. I also realize, that especially during this troubled time, many of you want to

do your part by contributing items from the list as you do your own shopping.

We are very thankful that we have such an amazing community of support! Thanks for any and all of the ways you help with this project.

Wendy Miller
Missions Chairperson

PRESCHOOL

When schools around the country closed in mid-March, we did as well, but only the building. By the second week of statewide virtual learning, the preschool had a blog and supplies ready for the children to continue their learning. Each day the children had ‘work’ to keep them busy. Depending on their age, they had 3-6 activities to complete. There was a book reading every day to go with our topic and a group activity, such as a bug hunt. The feedback was wonderful from the parents.

In late May, the preschool had virtual graduations for our 4-year-olds. By that time, the children were proficient at using Zoom with their teachers and everything went smoothly. They received their caps, tassels, and diplomas the week before, so it felt official. It was sad that we were unable to share the special day in person with the children, but they will have many more happy graduations to come undoubtedly.

As of now, MSDE hasn’t made any announcement regarding the opening of schools in the fall. Summer school has been approved, with limitations. Based on its success, we are hoping that they will make plans for the fall.

These unusual times call for flexibility so we have multiple opening plans to consider for opening once fall plans are announced from the state.

Here’s hoping you hear from the preschool again in August!

Bridget

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.

- Bea Feezer – Fairhaven
 - Barbara & Carl Hartman – at home
 - Dorothy Miller – Transitions Oakland Manor
 - Hilda Reisberg – at Homestead
 - Janet Feezer – at home
 - Lulu Karagozi – Encore Marriottsville
 - Margaret Hare – at home
 - Mary Libby Green – at home
 - Millie Reisberg – Brinton Woods
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LOSSES IN THE WARD’S CHAPEL FAMILY

Donald Woodruff

June 16, 2020

Carroll “Butch” Parker

June 18, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you: Thank you to everyone who kept us in your prayers and sent cards over the past four years. Butch loved his church family and knew he was loved by them. Saying good-bye is hard but he is now at peace in God's arms. Please continue to keep us in your prayers, Carol Parker and family

Thank you: Before my mother passed, she wanted me to put a note in the weekly announcements thanking everyone for their love and support throughout her illness. Recent events since her passing delayed me. From our whole family, thank you to everyone that sent her cards, called and prayed for her and for all of us. We are thankful that she had (and we have) such a supportive church family.

~ Sundberg & Thresher families

Thank you: Many thanks to my Ward's Chapel family for the thinking of you cards and notes sent to Jack during his illness. He enjoyed receiving mail, and we placed the cards where he could see them. And many thanks for the sympathy cards I received after his passing on May 8. I would also like to thank the Stephen Ministries members for Book One – "A Time to Grieve." I know it will be a great help to me in days to come. ~Diana Balick

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A few months ago, a member asked for the following to be included in a future newsletter:

If Tomorrow Never Comes

If I knew it would be the last time I'd see you walk out the door, I'd give you a hug and kiss and call you back for yet one more.

If I knew it would be the last time, I would take a minute or two, to stop and say "I love you" instead of assuming you knew I do.

If I knew it would be the last time, would I be there to share your day? Oh, I'm sure you'll have so many more, I can let this one slip away.

But just in case I might be wrong and today is all I get, I'd like to say how much I love you and I hope we never forget that tomorrow isn't promised to anyone, young or old alike and today may be the last chance you get to hold your loved one tight.

So, if you're waiting for tomorrow, why not do it today? For if tomorrow never comes, you'll surely regret the day that you didn't take that extra time for a smile, a hug, or a kiss and you were too busy to grant someone what turned out to be their one last wish.

So, hold your loved ones close today, whisper in their ear. Tell them how much you love them and that you'll always hold them dear.

Take time to say, "I'm sorry," "Please forgive me," "Thank you," or "It's ok."

And if tomorrow never comes, you'll have no regrets about today.

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**Visit our website for info about  
online worship services:**  
[www.wardschapel.org](http://www.wardschapel.org)



**Visit our Facebook page for  
a Daily Devotional  
& to stay connected to other members:**  
**Ward's Chapel United Methodist Church**



If you do not have email or internet access  
call the church office at 410 922 6556  
to be placed on a weekly mailing list  
for the Pastor's sermon summary.