



WARD'S CHAPEL

United Methodist Church

The Lamplighter November 2022



When the Methodist minister falls down the stairs, he picks himself up and says, "That was an experience, how do I learn from it?"

When the Catholic priest falls down the stairs, he picks himself up and says, "I must have done something really bad to deserve that."

When the Presbyterian minister falls down the stairs, he picks himself up and says, "That was inevitable, I'm glad it's over."

When a Lutheran minister falls down the stairs, he picks himself up and says, "Who pushed me?"

Again, this is just a joke. So, read it and just laugh.

These days, I have long conversations with other colleagues. There are two common topics that I have heard. One is about how the number of Zoom and online viewers are drastically decreasing. Even though we know that online services have been greatly connecting people and their churches during the pandemic. I appreciate that we were able to develop the internet resources for live streaming worship and meeting online. However, I feel that people are less and less interested in using those resources. So, pastors are worried due to the declining number of online views, and the in-person attendance is the same.

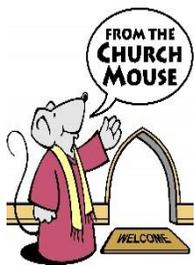
Then the second topic is about the denomination split, which is the disaffiliation process in our denomination. I heard some churches left due to the current understanding of the United Methodist Church about human sexuality. As I understand it, the United Methodist Church wants to build a big umbrella for all the people who pursue their spiritual growth through our faith tradition that reflects Methodist values, but it seems very obvious that there are groups that have become disappointed.

My reflection is the following, in two parts. First, this is often used as an excuse to justify the reason why they are not attending church today. The two groups may have opposite opinions, but many of them use their own understanding of human sexuality and how Methodists understand this as an excuse to explain why they are not coming to our church. It is frustrating. As I brought up in one service, "our churches today are losing, not winning." The battle that we face today is not simple and easy. It becomes a real challenge.

However, it does not mean that it is nothing or a useless concern. Rather it is very important and the way that we choose will become a position that can define who we are. So, I will update you with all the new information and guidelines in a timely manner. If you have any questions, you can set up a time with me and we can talk about it. We will not hide anything, due to a person or a certain group of people's preferences. I can promise that the whole process will be clear and transparent. Again, I will prayerfully work on this issue, and try to find the best decision that we can make as the ONE body of Christ.

Blessings,

Pastor Steven Cho



Church Bulletin Bloopers:

The sermon this morning: Jesus Walks on the Water. The sermon tonight: Searching for Jesus.

Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10 AM. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B. S. is done.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

The Pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday morning.

The audience is asked to remain seated until the end of the recession.

Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 to 8:30 pm. Please use the back door.

Ushers will eat latecomers.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.

The outreach committee has enlisted 25 visitors to make calls on people who are not afflicted with any church.

Peace & Blessings,
The Churchmouse

ADMINISTRATIVE MINISTRIES

FINANCE

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

Bill Showman, Chair

~~~~~

### TRUSTEES

We've finally had the roof of the sanctuary painted! Mike Rafferty, a metal roofing specialist, completed the work the week of October 17. It may look shiny now, and in some places uneven, but as it cures it will become darker and solid. This can take several weeks. In six months, it will look as it did before.

Bridget

---



## 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
- oatmeal (boxes and cylinders)
- tuna
- ravioli, chili
- canned potatoes
- soup
- dry soup
- canned potatoes
- jelly

#### November SPECIAL REQUESTS:

- turkeys
- gravy
- mashed potatoes
- cranberry sauce
- pie crusts
- sauerkraut
- canned yams
- evaporated milk

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 by texting/calling our Food Pantry number 410-756-0665 Thanks so much!

Wendy Miller, Missions Chair

### PRESCHOOL

The children are settling into their routines and getting used to being back at school. Our attendance holds fast at 64 children – about 40% lower than ‘normal’ years, though we still cannot determine the cause. It seems to be widespread.

In November, the children will talk all about families and sharing to prepare for Thanksgiving. Each class will make something special to eat for our Thanksgiving feasts. The 3s and 4s will put on special programs for their families, and the 3s will also have Grandparent’s Days.



When we return from our Thanksgiving break, it will be a quick three weeks preparing for Christmas and then we’ll be off until after the New Year!

Fondly,  
Ms. Bridget

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection continues through Sunday, November 13. Shoeboxes and forms are available in the Narthex. A \$10.00 donation is requested for each shoebox you pack. You may donate online or put a check in an envelope with your shoebox. Please no toothpaste or liquid items. You may return your completed boxes to the Narthex by Sunday, November 13.

If you would rather give a postage donation, the youth will be preparing 60 shoeboxes this year. Last year you generously gave to our donation fund, so this year we are attempting to cover \$600 in postage. If you would like to give again this year, please put a check/money in the offering plate and on the memo line or envelope write Operation Christmas Child. You can also give your donation to Julie or Ron Weller. Thank you!

-----

The Mitten Tree for Board of Child Care starts Sunday, November 20 through Sunday, December 11th. We will collect new mittens/gloves, hats, scarves, socks and underwear for kids though age 21. A majority of the children are teenagers, so larger sizes are appreciated. Thank you for your generosity.

-----

Our younger Sunday School classes packed bags in October for the Food Pantry clients. They were very eager to serve and look forward to helping out the pantry more this year.

Julie Weller

-----

## **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 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
- Bert Rushing – Golden Crest Assisted Living
- Dorothy Miller – Transitions Oakland Manor, **Rm.D**
- Janet Feezer – at home
- Janis Miller – at home
- Lulu Karagjozi – Lorien Encore
- Margaret Hare – at home
- Marguerite Knauff – Lighthouse Senior Living
- Mary Libby Green – at home

-----

\*\*\*\*\*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Roast Beef Supper**

A HUGE thank you to everyone who participated in some way to help make the Roast Beef Supper this year a success! I just can't thank you enough.

We sold 99 dinners this year – 53 in person and 46 take-outs. After the expenses, we profited approximately \$1,500.

---

### **Operation Christmas Child Shoebox**

Collection starts Sunday, October 16 through Sunday, November 13. Shoeboxes and forms will be available in the Narthex. A \$10.00 donation is requested for each shoebox you pack. You may donate online or put a check in an envelope with your shoebox. Please no toothpaste or liquid items. You may return your completed boxes to the Narthex by Sunday, November 13.

If you would rather give a postage donation, the youth group will be preparing 60 shoeboxes this year. Last year you generously gave to our donation fund, so that we were able to cover the whole \$540 amount. If you would like to give again this year, please put a check/money in the offering plate and on the memo line or envelope write Operation Christmas Child. You can also give your donation to Julie or Ron Weller. Thank you in advance for your generosity in giving children the gift of love and hope as they learn about God's Greatest Gift, Jesus Christ.

---

The **Ward's Chapel Cookie Bake** is returning this year!

After a couple of years off, we will be trying a different process since we are unsure of how many cookie-making volunteers we will

have. This year, we will not be taking orders. There will be a limited number of cookies for sale. We will attempt to make a sufficient supply to accommodate as many people as possible. The price remains \$16/lb with a 5 lb limit per person. There will be a sign-up sheet if we do have extra to sell.

The Cookie Bake dates are November 25 and 26 from 8am until ? Cookies will be available to pick up on Sunday, November 27th until the supply runs out. For church attendees that day, pick-up will be after the 8:30 and 11:00 am services in the narthex. All other pick-ups will be from 1-3 pm in the fellowship hall. Checks or cash will be accepted!

We are thrilled to be bringing this event back to Ward's Chapel and we hope many of you can come help even for an hour or two. Please note: food will not be provided for lunch or supper, so please consider bringing your own. We also need volunteers for cookie dough making on November 19 at 1:00 pm in the fellowship hall.

Contact Donna to volunteer or with questions.

Hope to see you there!

**What: Cookie Bake**

**When: Nov 19 for dough making**

**Nov 25 & 26 for cookie baking**

**Nov 27 for pick-up**

**Where: Ward's Chapel fellowship hall**

**Who: YOU!**

---

**Reminder:**

Tuesday, November 8 is an election day. The building will be closed for normal activities.

---

# November 2022

| Sunday                                                     | Monday                             | Tuesday                                                                                              | Wednesday                                                                                        | Thursday                                                                                                                                                | Friday                          | Saturday                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                            |                                    | 1                                                                                                    | 2<br>Bible Study<br>10:00 am                                                                     | 3<br>Alcoholics Anonymous<br>6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)<br><br>Online Prayer Mtg.<br>7:00 PM                                                                   | 4                               | 5                                                                                     |
| 6 All Saints Sunday<br>Daylight Savings ends               | 7<br><br>Church Council<br>7:00 PM | 8 Office Closed<br> | 9<br>Bible Study<br>10:00 am<br>Liberty Goodtimers<br>11:30 am<br><b>Lampighter<br/>Deadline</b> | 10<br><br>Alcoholics Anonymous<br>6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)                                                                                                   | 11<br><br>4-H 7:00 PM           | 12                                                                                    |
| 13<br><br>Bible 101<br>Coffee & Talk<br>9:45 am choir room | 14                                 | 15<br><br>SPRC 7:00 pm                                                                               | 16<br><br>Bible Study<br>10:00 am                                                                | 17<br><br>Alcoholics Anonymous<br>6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)                                                                                                   | 18                              | 19<br><br>Food Pantry<br>9am-11am<br>~~~~~<br>Cookie Dough making<br>1 pm -           |
| 20 Heifer Sunday                                           | 21                                 | 22<br><br>Star Fellowship<br>12:00 PM                                                                | 23<br><br>Bible Study<br>10:00 am                                                                | 24 Thanksgiving<br><br>Alcoholics Anonymous<br>6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH) | 25<br><br>Cookie Bake<br>8 am - | 26<br><br>Coffee & Cars<br>7am - 10 am<br><br>Cookie Bake<br>8 am -                   |
| 27<br><br>Cookie pick-up<br>1-3 pm                         | 28                                 | 29                                                                                                   | 30<br><br>Bible Study<br>10:00 am                                                                | Alcoholics Anonymous<br>6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)                                                                                                             |                                 |  |

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

**YTD Financial Summary:**

The overall financial position of the church Operating Fund is sufficient to remain current on all obligations through year-end.

Offering has started to show slippage from 2021 over the past three months with the bulk of shortage in September. This could just be a timing issue but we will continue to monitor.

The increase in Blding/Grounds is completely related to increased utilities. We are currently seeing a 44% (\$5,000) increase in our BGE bills.

Apportionments are current. The 5% reduction from the prior year is based on a reduction of the Conference charge.

|                                        | <b>Sept YTD Amounts</b> |                    | <b>Incr/(Decr)<br/>2021 to 2022</b> |            |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|
|                                        | <u>2021</u>             | <u>2022</u>        |                                     |            |
| <b><u>Total Gifts (sources):</u></b>   |                         |                    |                                     |            |
| Offering                               | \$ 162,983              | \$ 154,408         | \$ (8,575)                          | -6%        |
| Other Donations (note 1 )              | \$ 11,750               | \$ 15,000          | 3,250                               | 22%        |
| <b>Total Support to Operating Fund</b> | <b>\$ 174,733</b>       | <b>\$ 169,408</b>  | <b>\$ (5,325)</b>                   | <b>-3%</b> |
| <b><u>Expense:</u></b>                 |                         |                    |                                     |            |
| Blding/Grounds                         | \$ 43,430               | \$ 47,736          | \$ 4,306                            | 9%         |
| Ed./Ministry                           | \$ 3,386                | \$ 4,076           | \$ 690                              | 17%        |
| Apportionments                         | \$ 27,911               | \$ 26,620          | \$ (1,291)                          | -5%        |
| Pastoral/Staff/Office                  | \$ 127,580              | \$ 126,696         | \$ (884)                            | -1%        |
| <b>Total Expense</b>                   | <b>\$ 202,307</b>       | <b>\$ 205,128</b>  | <b>\$ 2,821</b>                     | <b>1%</b>  |
| <b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>               | <b>\$ (27,574)</b>      | <b>\$ (35,720)</b> |                                     |            |
| <b>Available Cash on Hand</b>          |                         | <b>17,199</b>      |                                     |            |

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.

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

*Daylight Saving Time Ends*  
*November 6*



*Don't forget to set your  
clocks back!*