



# WARD'S CHAPEL

United Methodist Church

*The Lamplighter December 2021*



Now we see the last month of the year has just begun. Can you believe it? For almost two years, we could not enjoy our normal lives, and finally we've come to 2022. I pray that this new year, and the future will not have any unexpected impacts or thrills anymore.

However, the good thing is that the Advent season has also begun. For four weeks starting on November 28, we have a season of meditating on the life of Jesus and his ministry. Most of all, we commemorate this joyful fact that the baby Jesus came to this world to save us, and became hope for his people.

To celebrate this season, I am going to share a new sermon series, "Witness His Majesty." This is a wonderful resource that will help us meditate on the life of faithful people and how we witness the Good News to the world. But, it does not simply deliver traditional interpretations or the story that we have heard over and over again. This series focuses on other witnesses in the Bible: a wise man, a shepherd's wife, Mary's mother, and innkeeper's son. They technically explain stories from the third person's point of view.

Isn't it interesting?

I think it is worthwhile to listen to their voices because they can deliver not only the story itself and what happened, but also, we see how the people, such as the inn keeper's son, Mary's mother, and the shepherd's wife reacted to their amazing experiences. Then their stories directly teach us the meaning of witness and how to live as Christians holding the joy from God's plan.

During this difficult time of challenges, conflict, and disappointment, I hope we can find together the biblical joys and excitement from God's providence. We are the people of heavenly hope and we know where the eternal joy comes from. This series will give you a great hint how the early witnesses testified their amazing experiences, and what they did to share the Good News.

In this season of Advent, listen to the witnesses, ponder the lesson in your life, and ... be the faithful witness to share the hope with the people of this frustrating world.

Pastor Steven Cho



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## ADMINISTRATIVE MINISTRIES

### FINANCE

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

Bill Showman, Chair

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## PROGRAM MINISTRIES

### MISSIONS

#### ***Food Pantry***

A huge thank you for all of the donations to the Food Pantry!

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
- holiday items

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.

### PRESCHOOL



What a wonderful time of year to be a preschooler! Surrounded by the sparkling lights and festive decorations, the children are eagerly preparing for their Christmas programs, making gifts for their

families, and baking cookies. In the midst of the excitement, it is easy for children to lose sight of what is the true meaning of Christmas. At preschool, we stress the importance of the gift of God's son, Jesus, and the grace of the Nativity Story.

In addition to preparing for Jesus' birthday, December brings the construction of gingerbread houses and gumdrop trees. The 2s will hear about the nativity story, the Wiseman will drop in on his way to find the newborn King for the 3s, and a wayward shepherd will find his way to the 4s chapel time. This month, the four-year-olds will watch a Winter Wonderland streaming from the BSO. Finally, as part of our Kids to Kids program, the students will be collecting Golden books to be donated to the children's ward and emergency department of Carroll Hospital Center.

On another note, we did have our first cases of COVID-19 within the preschool. As cautious as we've been, it was bound to happen. We had a few children and one staff member from the same 2-year-old class test positive for coronavirus. Fortunately, all were mild enough to be treated at home. Upon the recommendation of the communicable disease specialist and the Maryland Department of Health, the 2s classes had to temporarily close and will reopen (hopefully) the week of November 30.

Have a blessed holiday!

Fondly,

Ms. Bridget

## **STAR FELLOWSHIP**



Start your holiday shopping early... RADA knives make great gifts. They are 100% American made and carry a lifetime warranty. Look for the display case and latest catalog in the Narthex, or online at <https://www.radacutlery.com/best/>.

I'd be glad to special order Gift Sets or knives not in stock. RADA also sells unique kitchen tools, small cutting boards, gadgets, dip mixes, and cookbooks.

Contact me if you are interested.

Cindy Reisberg

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## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**Mitten Tree for Board of Child Care** starts Sunday, November 21 through Sunday, December 12th. We will collect mittens/gloves, hats, scarves, socks and underwear for kids aged 5 through 21. A majority of the children are teenagers, so larger sizes are appreciated.

**Family Advent Project:** Our annual Family Advent celebration will be 12/5 during the Sunday School hour in the Fellowship Hall. Please plan to join us to do a group activity and then split into family groups to work on your crafts. The craft activities will be prepared in advance, so each child will receive a bagged craft to assemble together with their family.

**Operation Christmas Child collection:**

Thank you so much for your generosity to our Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection. We received over \$800 in donations. The donation goes toward our 60 youth group shoeboxes and the additional money goes directly to Samaritan's Purse.

**Girls' T-shirt Collection** - A box will be in the Narthex year-round for gently used or new girls' short and long-sleeved t-shirts, size 4 through 10/12. Our local contact for Operation Christmas Child makes dresses from the t-shirts and donates them to the Westminster mission and women's shelter.

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
- Clarabelle Gries – Futurecare Cherrywood
- Dorothy Miller – Transitions Oakland Manor
- Janet Feezer – at home
- Lulu Karagjozi – Encore Ellicott City

- Margaret Hare – at home
- Marguerite Knauff – Lighthouse Senior Living
- Mary Libby Green – at home

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***LOSSES IN THE WARD'S CHAPEL FAMILY***

***Doris Gamber***

***May 1, 1930 – October 19, 2021***

***Beverly Farver***

***February 19, 1938 – November 4, 2021***

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***Angel Wings***



~ to Julie & Ron Weller, Gerard Oakley, Laura Bateman, Pauline & Wayne Reisberg, the Wednesday Bible Study group, and the UMYF for all of their hard work for the Operation Christmas Child boxes.

~ to Melinda & Chris Perkins for placing the flags in the cemetery for Veterans Day.

~ to Karen Jaeger for setting up the Mitten Tree.

~ to those who decorated the church for Christmas.

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# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**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. Thank you!

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## **COVID Task Force info:**

The COVID task force met on Tuesday, 11/9. It was decided unanimously that anyone involved in food preparation or food service at Ward's Chapel be required to wear a mask and gloves.

The Cookie Bake/Social was also discussed. After discussion it was decided this activity would be cancelled for this year.

The next COVID Task Force meeting will be on January 11 at 6:30 pm. All are welcome.

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

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**Celebration of Life:** There will be a Celebration of Life for Beverly Farver on December 20 at 11:00 am. More info to follow.

Wards Chapel UMC Operating Fund  
Year to Year Comparison as of Oct 2021

**YTD Financial Summary:**

During 2021 we plan to compare Offering and Expense to 2019 levels (pre-pandemic) to assess our financial position as we attempt to return to normal. 2020 had reduced expenses due to total shut down for several months and Offering gift receipts also did not follow normal giving patterns.

Offering has increased 4% (\$7,245) from 2019 and continues exceed 2019 offering.

Expense continues to trend as expected and is forecast to be \$5,000 to \$7,000 lower then 2019 by year-end.

See note 2 below for explanation of large variances in Other Donations.

|                                        | <u>Oct 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> |      |
|                                        |                        |                    |                    |                     |      |                     |      |
| <b>Total Gifts (sources):</b>          |                        |                    |                    |                     |      |                     |      |
| Offering                               | \$ 172,617             | \$ 170,515         | \$ 179,862         | \$ 7,245            | 4%   | \$ 9,347            | 5%   |
| Other Donations (note 1 & 2)           | \$ 39,243              | \$ 45,336          | \$ 13,250          | (25,993)            | -66% | (32,086)            | -71% |
| <b>Total Support to Operating Fund</b> | <u>\$ 211,861</u>      | <u>\$ 215,850</u>  | <u>\$ 193,112</u>  | <u>\$ (18,749)</u>  | -9%  | <u>\$ (22,738)</u>  | -11% |
| <b>Expense:</b>                        |                        |                    |                    |                     |      |                     |      |
| Blding/Grounds                         | \$ 55,074              | \$ 56,000          | \$ 48,017          | \$ (7,057)          | -13% | \$ (7,983)          | -14% |
| Ed./Ministry                           | \$ 3,767               | \$ 3,501           | \$ 3,733           | (34)                | -1%  | \$ 232              | 7%   |
| Apportionments                         | \$ 27,948              | \$ 29,981          | \$ 31,013          | 3,064               | 11%  | \$ 1,032            | 3%   |
| Pastoral/Staff/Office                  | \$ 146,519             | \$ 139,417         | \$ 141,594         | (4,924)             | -3%  | \$ 2,177            | 2%   |
| <b>Total Expense</b>                   | <u>\$ 233,308</u>      | <u>\$ 228,898</u>  | <u>\$ 224,357</u>  | <u>\$ (8,951)</u>   | -4%  | <u>\$ (4,542)</u>   | -2%  |
| <b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>               | <u>\$ (21,447)</u>     | <u>\$ (13,048)</u> | <u>\$ (31,245)</u> |                     |      |                     |      |
| Deficit Without Estate Gifts & PPP     | \$ (41,447)            | \$ (42,421)        |                    |                     |      |                     |      |
| <b>Available Cash on Hand</b>          |                        |                    | \$ 25,178          |                     |      |                     |      |

*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.*

*note 2 - special one time donations. 2019 \$20,000 in estate gifts and \$2,743 roast beef dinner proceeds. For 2020 PPP loans of \$26,873 and Deer Park gift of \$2,500. 2021 Insurance proceeds for fence of \$2,650 and \$1,800 for Food Pantry Cabinets.*

# December 2021

| Sunday                                                                           | Monday                                                                          | Tuesday                                                    | Wednesday                                                                                 | Thursday                                                                                                                                 | Friday                                                                    | Saturday                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  |                                                                                 |                                                            | <b>1</b><br>Bible Study 10 am<br>10:00 am (FH)                                            | <b>2</b><br>Alcoholics Anonymous<br>6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)<br>Constitution 101<br>6:30 pm - 7:45 pm                                         | <b>3</b><br>Online Prayer Mtg.<br>7:00 PM                                 | <b>4</b>                                                                                                     |
| <b>5</b><br><i>Sunday School<br/>Family Advent Project<br/>9:45am (FH)</i>       | <b>6</b>                                                                        | <b>7</b>                                                   | <b>8</b><br>Bible Study<br>10:00 am ( <i>upstairs</i> )<br>Liberty Goodtimers<br>11:30 am | <b>9</b><br>Feed My Sheep @<br>10am-1pm at WFUMC<br>Alcoholics Anonymous<br>6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)<br>Constitution 101<br>6:30 pm - 7:45 pm | <b>10</b>                                                                 | <b>11</b>                                                                                                    |
| <b>12</b>                                                                        | <b>13</b>                                                                       | <b>14</b>                                                  | <b>15</b><br>Bible Study 10 am<br>10:00 am (FH)<br><br><b>Lamplighter<br/>Deadline</b>    | <b>16</b><br>Alcoholics Anonymous<br>6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)<br>Constitution 101<br>6:30 pm - 7:45 pm                                        | <b>17</b>                                                                 | <b>18</b><br>Food Pantry<br>9am-11am                                                                         |
| <b>19 Heifer Sunday</b>                                                          | <b>20</b><br><br><i>11:00 am<br/>Celebration of Life<br/>for Beverly Farver</i> | <b>21</b><br><br>Star Fellowship<br>12:00 PM<br>at Oscar's | <b>22</b><br>Bible Study 10 am<br>10:00 am (FH)                                           | <b>23</b><br>Alcoholics Anonymous<br>6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)                                                                                 | <b>24</b><br>2 pm - Youth-led<br>Service<br>8 pm - Candlelight<br>Service | <b>25 Christmas</b><br> |
| <b>26</b>                                                                        | <b>27</b>                                                                       | <b>28</b>                                                  | <b>29</b><br>Bible Study 10 am<br>10:00 am (FH)                                           | <b>30</b><br>Alcoholics Anonymous<br>6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)                                                                                 | <b>31</b>                                                                 |                                                                                                              |

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

**Regular worship services:**  
**8:30 and 11:00 am**  
Sunday School for all ages at 9:45

**Online resources**  
**to view our worship service:**

Visit our website at [www.wardschapel.org](http://www.wardschapel.org)



Visit our Facebook page  
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**Ward's Chapel United Methodist Church**