



WARD'S CHAPEL

United Methodist Church

The Lamplighter June 2023



A preacher went to the grocery store owned by one of his members. He ordered a loaf of bread but he was ten cents short. The owner said, "That's all right preacher, I'll take it out in preaching."

A little annoyed, the preacher said, "But I don't have any ten-cent sermons."
"That's okay," he said, "I'll come hear you twice."

After this summer, I will begin my fifth year at Ward's Chapel. Again, if we remove three years due to the pandemic situation, I still think that as a pastor, I should have more time to learn about our congregation. And it's always been great to work with the wonderful leaders and church body, and I feel very blessed to have this opportunity.

Recently, we requested a survey, and the SPRC (Staff-Parish Relations Committee) decided to ask short, open questions to listen to the honest feedback from the congregation. We initially planned to review the survey results and discuss them right away, however, at the last committee meeting, we did not have many SPRC members. So, we will go over the comments together next month.

One thing that caught my attention was about the Bible 101 sermons. Some of our members expressed their concerns that this sermon series was too long and a bit confusing. I prepared this format for this Lenten season because it was a good time during which we could bring more attention to new ideas and concepts that we have not focused on well. Small group Bible discussions have not worked well in the past and most importantly, the timing of this Annual Conference season seems to challenge us about how to deal with tricky questions. This is the reason why I did things a little bit differently during worship services throughout Lent. After reviewing the surveys, I recognized that many members felt that this sermon style did not work and others are even upset.

Here is my promise. First, if a direction that I set does not work, I will not keep moving that way without considering your thoughts. I will ask for help and I will listen to other people's thoughts and suggestions. Second, I will always work with the SPRC to review your opinions and every word that you share will be taken seriously during our committee meetings. We, as a group, will diligently review all the comments and explore the best directions to meet the needs of the congregation. We humbly ask for your patience. So, feel free to contact our SPRC team any time (Mike Blank, Judi Snyder, Brandon Feezer, Ben Palmer, Shirley Tucker, Gerard Oakley, Hannah Rushing.)

Thank you for your support and love,

Pastor Steven

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:**

- cereal (popular ones are Raisin Bran, Honey Nut Cheerios and "kids" flavors)
- chicken
- tuna

Keep in mind, we will take donations of 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 at wrmille@gmail.com or texting/calling our Food Pantry number 410-756-0665. Thanks so much!

Wendy Miller, Missions Chair

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
- 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Graduate Recognition If you or a family member has graduated in the last year (since last June) or will be graduating this year, please contact the church office at wardschapel@verizon.net or call 410-922-6556.

Please include the name of the graduate, the institution from which they are graduating, their honors/awards and future plans as well as highlights your graduate wishes to share. Please submit this info by May 30. We will be sharing this information with the congregation on Sunday, June 4 and in the July/August Lamplighter.

Please also let the office know if your graduate will be attending worship on June 4 to be recognized.

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**Thank you:** Thank you to my Ward's Chapel family for your prayers and cards during my time of loss. I could/can feel the prayers carrying me through this sad event. ~Cindy Chambers  
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Alzheimer's Walk-Saturday, Oct. 28 at 9 am at Hunt Valley Towne Center

Dear Friends, I have worked on the Alzheimer's Walk Committee for over seven years and this is going to be my last year on the committee. I would like to jump start my fundraising and my Walk Team building. If you can join Team Pop at the Walk or donate toward Team Pop that would be super! Let me know.

Some of the committee members use Facebook to contact people. Since my tech skills don't include Facebook, if you have that ability please share my request about Team Pop (Baltimore Walk) with your friends.

I realize that October seems far away but months fly by quickly, so that is why I wanted to start now.

Thanks for all your love and support over the years. ~Carol Parker

Directions: To sign up to walk or to donate:
Using your computer-
Type in Alz Baltimore Walk/Team Pop
Scroll down to 2023 Walk to end
AlzheimerBaltimore MD

At the top where it says Team, type in
Team Pop and hit the search button
Click on my name
Scroll down and click on Team Pop
Click on Join My Team
Yay, now you are a member on my team!

This page also gives you the opportunity to donate to help find a cure for Alzheimer's. (For a \$100 donation you will receive a purple t-shirt that you can proudly wear on walk day.)

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## The June issue of The Bulletin,

a monthly reproducible message from the  
Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference  
on vitality for local churches:

### Advocates of Outreaching Love

One of the defining traits of United Methodists is "the ministry of all believers." Every lay person is a minister, called to use their gifts in ministry. In the workplace, the home, classroom, marketplace, and everywhere one goes, there are opportunities to witness to the wonder and love of God.

Conference leaders look back to the beginning of church in the United States, when Methodism was like was "like a burning fire shut up in people's bones." It ignited a new world.

In 1776, 2.5 percent of the population in this new nation was Methodist. By 1850, that number grew to 34.2 percent of Americans were Methodist. That's one in every three people!

And that growth has been attributed to the laity. In colonial times, all of the denomination's pastors could fit into a small meeting house. It's 10,000 members, in class meetings and in profound faith, built and led a church.

Today, the church is at a new crossroads, and its laity are called to thrive in ministry -- expressing God's love to all they encounter.

### Bishop's message

Beloved: In this transitional season within The United Methodist Church, I join the Council of Bishops in proclaiming it is time to "Reclaim, Revive and Renew."

Let us **Reclaim** our calling and identity as Wesleyans. We are a people called to deep study of the holy Scriptures and fervent prayer. Through that living word we open our hearts to joyfully worship God, serve all of creation and love without condition. (John 13:35)

Let us **Revive** our belief in the love of God, the grace of Jesus Christ, and the wonder-working power of the Holy Spirit. (2 Corinthians 13:13) Let's revive our belief in one another and the power of God to use us to transform a broken world.

Let us **Renew** our commitment to reach out with joy and enthusiasm to all who need the saving grace and love of Jesus Christ, our commitment to meet the needs of a hungry and hurting world. (Matthew 28:19-20)

This is the time for The United Methodist Church to leave behind old behaviors that are the very antithesis of the new creation and embody God's new life of light and love. As we look toward Pentecost, we embrace a radical hope that begins with letting go and then grasping our new life together through the power of The Holy Spirit. Together, we will transform the world! It is time.

### Join us at the Table

In June, Bishop LaTrelle Easterling winds up the first season of her podcast, Thursdays at the Table, with a conversation with the Rev. Willie Jennings, author of The Christian Imagination.

You can listen to the podcast at  
[www.pdcbbc.org/thursdays-at-the-table](http://www.pdcbbc.org/thursdays-at-the-table).

Thursdays at the Table features lively and intriguing conversations with a variety of thought-leaders in the church. Here's just a taste of some of the conversation:

"Politics and religion are two sides of the same coin. ... To read the biblical text in the Gospels is to read a political story."  
– Dr. Shively Smith

"My calling is to thrive in the awareness that I am called by God to express God's love."

– Rev. Tod Bolsinger

“What we are witnessing now [about racism] is not a system that doesn’t work, but a system that is doing exactly the work that it was designed to do.”

– Rev. Joel Goza

“All of us are gifted by God. ... Please bring your gifts to the table.”

– Rev. Stephanie Moore Hand

“We’re being called as a church, as a denomination, to be stepping out of fear and stepping into faith.”

– Rev. Dorlimar Lebrón

“The challenge we are in the midst of entering into is, ‘what is God calling us, not only to do, but to be?’”

– Rev. Willie Jennings

## Happy 320th Birthday, John Wesley!

This month, we remember the birthday of John Wesley, Methodism’s founder, who was born June 28, 1703, in England.

### Five facts about Wesley:

1. The term “methodist” was originally used to mock Wesley and his friends in the Holiness Club because of their dedication to following a method for growing closer to God. But he adopted it for good.
2. In his ministry, Wesley rode far enough on horseback to circle the earth 10 times. He rode 250,000 miles to personally spread the Gospel through relationships.
3. John Wesley coined the term “agree to disagree.” Wesley had serious theological differences with another popular pastor named George Whitefield. He reflected on these differences in a memorial sermon for Whitefield by saying: “There are many doctrines of a less essential nature. ... In these, we may think and let think; we may ‘agree to disagree.’ But, meantime, let us hold fast the essentials. ...”
4. Methodism grew from four to 132,000 members in Wesley’s lifetime. Methodism

began with a group of four friends at Oxford. When Wesley died in 1791, he left behind a movement with 72,000 members in the British Isles and 60,000 in America.  
5. Wesley’s last words were, “Best of all, God is with us.”

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# Vacation Bible School



**June 26-30, 2023**

**3 years - 5th grade**

**VBS is provided for free but to offset costs,  
\$30 per student is a suggested donation.**

**Registration is due by: June 12.**

Link to Google form: <https://forms.gle/owLZLiBQb1nUc4M4A>

**Join our Facebook page:**

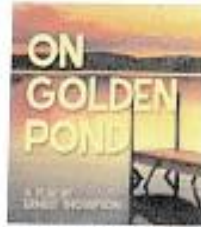
**[Wards Chapel Church VBS](#)**

Questions?

Contact Jacob Miller at [emrillj@gmail.com](mailto:emrillj@gmail.com)

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THE LIBERTY GOOD TIMERS  
BUS TRIP TO THE HICKORY BRIDGE FARM  
AND ON GOLDEN POND AT THE TOTEM POLE PLAYHOUSE  
Tuesday, August 29, 2023



Arrive at Kohl's in Eldersburg by 9:45 am

Bus Leaves promptly at 10 am

We will travel north to family style lunch at the Hickory Bridge Farm in Orrtanna, Pennsylvania.  
Lunch is from 11:30 am to 1 pm

Menu includes: house salad, bread, oven fried chicken, baked ham with pineapple dressing, potatoes, vegetables, corn fritters, stewed apples, beverage, and dessert

At 1 pm, we will travel to show, which lasts from 2 to 4 pm.



Return to Eldersburg about 5:45 pm

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Contact Shirley Tucker @ 443-980-0447 for your reservation.  
Cost is \$100. A Deposit of \$10 paid now will hold your seat.  
Your balance is due July 1, 2023.  
Make checks payable to Shirley Tucker.  
Sponsored by the Liberty Good Timers thru Rill's Bus Service.

BUS TRIP to the AMERICAN MUSIC THEATRE



"THE FIRST NOEL" Production

Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Tuesday, November 21, 2023

Itinerary:



Arrive at Kohl's in Eldersburg by 8:30 am

Bus departs promptly at 8:45 am

- o Christmas Tree Hill Mansion in York, Pennsylvania
- o Edwards Nut and Candy Company
- o Buffet Lunch at Bird-in-Hand Restaurant
- o American Music Theatre Show
- o Fast Food Stop enroute for ½ hour on trip home

Return to Eldersburg Kohl's about 8 pm



Contact Shirley Tucker @ 443-980-0447 for your reservation.

Cost is \$105. A Deposit of \$10 is due by September 1, 2023.



Your balance is due October 1, 2023.

Make checks payable to *Shirley Tucker*.



Sponsored by the Liberty Good Timers thru Rill's Bus Service.

# June 2023

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                             | Monday                                               | Tuesday                                                                                                     | Wednesday                                                                           | Thursday                                                                                                                    | Friday                                               | Saturday                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                  |                                                      |                                                                                                             |                                                                                     | <b>1</b><br>Alcoholics Anonymous<br>6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)                                                                     | <b>2</b>                                             | <b>3</b>                                                                              |
| <b>4 Summer Worship</b><br>One service<br>at 10:00 am.<br><i>Confirmation</i><br><i>Graduate Recognition</i><br><i>Scholarship Recipient</i><br><i>Recognition</i> | <b>5</b>                                             | <b>6</b>                                                                                                    | <b>7</b>                                                                            | <b>8</b><br>Alcoholics Anonymous<br>6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)                                                                     | <b>9</b><br>4-H 7:00 PM                              | <b>10</b><br><i>Retirement Open House</i><br>for Terry Brown<br>1-3 pm (FH)           |
| <b>11</b><br><i>Private Event</i><br>11-2<br>(FH)                                                                                                                  | <b>12</b>                                            | <b>13</b><br>Church Council<br>7:00 PM                                                                      | <b>14</b><br>Liberty Goodtimers<br>11:30 am<br><b>Lampighter</b><br><b>Deadline</b> | <b>15</b><br>Alcoholics Anonymous<br>6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)                                                                    | <b>16</b>                                            | <b>17</b><br>Food Pantry<br>9am-11am                                                  |
| <b>18 Heifer Sunday</b>                                                                                                                                            | <b>19</b>                                            | <b>20</b><br>SPRC 7:00 PM                                                                                   | <b>21</b>                                                                           | <b>22</b><br>Alcoholics Anonymous<br>6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)                                                                    | <b>23</b>                                            | <b>24</b>                                                                             |
| <b>25</b>                                                                                                                                                          | <b>26</b><br>Vacation<br>Bible School<br>9am - 12 pm | <b>27</b><br>Vacation<br>Bible School<br>9am - 12 pm<br>Star Fellowship<br>12:00 pm<br><i>Office closed</i> | <b>28</b><br>Vacation<br>Bible School<br>9am - 12 pm<br><i>Office closed</i>        | <b>29</b><br>Vacation<br>Bible School<br>9am - 12 pm<br>Alcoholics Anonymous<br>6:30 pm - 9 pm (FH)<br><i>Office closed</i> | <b>30</b><br>Vacation<br>Bible School<br>9am - 12 pm |  |

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



## Summer Schedule

June 4 - Sept 10

10:00 am Worship

Refreshments & fellowship  
following worship

July 2 - Sept 3  
in the Narthex