



# WARD'S CHAPEL

United Methodist Church

*The Lamplighter March 2025*



An Asian philosopher once offered a simple yet profound guide for decision-making:

When you are unsure whether to go or not, **go**.

When you are unsure whether to buy or not, **don't buy**.

When you are unsure whether to speak or not, **don't speak**.

When you are unsure whether to give or not, **give**.

When you are unsure whether to eat or not, **don't eat**.

This seems like practical advice on everyday dilemmas. They teach us to take important steps when it matters, to resist unnecessary indulgence, to practice generosity, and to embrace silence when words are not needed.

To Methodists, John Wesley's **Three General Rules** provide guidance for Christian living: **Do no harm, do good, and live in the love of God**. These are not merely helpful suggestions for a better life; they are a reflection of who we are as Christians. As Methodists, we do not create cycles of destruction—we seek to **do no harm**. We actively work to bring goodness into the world—we **do good**. And most importantly, we do all things through the love of God. These rules are not just ethical guidelines; they are the proof of our identity in Christ.

As we enter the season of Lent, we are invited to reflect deeply on this identity. Beginning with Ash Wednesday, we embark on a 40-day journey of self-examination and spiritual renewal. Many choose to fast, engage in daily meditation, or participate in special rituals. However, the most important purpose of Lent is to ask ourselves: Are we truly living as Christians? Do our lives resemble the ministry of Jesus? Do we carry the aroma of Christ into the world?

This Lent, I invite you to embrace this sacred season through the meaningful opportunities Wards Chapel offers: **the Ash Wednesday service, Holy Week rituals, Palm Sunday, the sunrise service, and the Easter celebration**. May this be a precious time of discovering who we truly are in Christ and how we are called to live out our faith.

Blessings,

Pastor Steven

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## ADMINISTRATIVE MINISTRIES

### TRUSTEES

The Trustees have decided to end our contract with life-safety company we've had since the construction project. Trojan Alarm Solutions has not been performing up to our expectations in recent years. We will now be covered for our fire suppression system and alarm monitoring by Relay Fire & Safety. Relay has matched our current pricing. This will not affect you or the church in any way. It should be a smooth transition in early March.

With the approval of Church Council, we are looking at replacing the audio/visual equipment in the Adult Sunday School Room. A large, smart TV would be placed on the west wall, with a sound bar, to provide better viewing and clearer sound for the group. The TV will have access to the internet so that lessons can be played directly from YouTube. The tri-fold dry erase board will be moved to the east wall and the shelves between the windows will be taken down. Please let me know if you have any questions, concerns, comments or suggestions about this project.

We also have a few other small projects planned. The preschool shed doors will be replaced because of rot, there will be a peephole installed in the kitchen door, and some trim will be installed under the 4s classroom sink.

And, yes, I will replace the crazy blinking bulb in the chandelier!


Please let me know if there's anything else you see that needs attention in the building,

Bridget

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## PROGRAM MINISTRIES

### MISSIONS

 **Mission Auction:** Donations are being accepted for the 2025 auction starting January 26!!! Items can be placed in the designated Sunday School room downstairs by the elevator.

The Auction will be held on **Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Doors open at 4pm. Bidding begins at 5pm. Soup, sandwiches, snacks, and dessert will be available for purchase. Only \$2 or bring 2+ items for the Food Pantry to bid.

We are looking for new and gently used items as well as baked goods, handcrafted items, gift certificates from businesses, and services. Please be creative (examples: vacation rentals, fishing/hunting trips, lessons in computing or cell phone usage) and feel free to run your ideas by us.



Label all items with the donation form (found in the drop off area, newsletter, or on the church website) or with a sheet of paper containing the following information:

- Donor Name and Donor Email or Telephone #
- A list of the items you are donating and a little descriptive information that will help attract bids.

Please no electronics or clothing. Anything not used in the auction will be held for the yard sale later this year unless you want it returned to you.

Please turn in all items and forms prior to March 9. The exception is baked goods, which should be turned in the day of the auction, but the forms or notification are still needed by March 9.

Contact Laurie Bateman, if you have any questions or would like to help with the auction in any way.

 We are also having the Duck Draw again. Buy a duck (or 2 or 3) at the auction to see if you will win one of our fabulous prizes. 

### 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 check expiration dates** before you donate!

#### Extras:

- \$20 gift cards to Walmart, Aldi, Weis
- Laundry detergent

Keep in mind, we will take donations of any nearly new items such as clothes, towels, sheets, blankets, etc.!

Remember students can receive volunteer hours for helping at the food pantry so if you are interested please contact Wendy at [wrmille@gmail.com](mailto:wrmille@gmail.com) or texting/calling our Food Pantry number 410-756-0665. Thanks so much!

Wendy Miller

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**PRESCHOOL**

Punxsutawney Phil's prediction has only two more weeks left to get winter out of the way and move onto spring. Regardless of what the rodent has forecasted, at preschool we're moving onto spring this month.



March 2 is Dr. Seuss's birthday and that week and the next, the 4s will talk about all kinds of books. I recently read yet another article that reinforces the theory that children who are read to every day ultimately do better academically than those that are not. The experts all agree—reading is vital to a well-rounded childhood, and leads to better academic outcomes down the road in nearly every measurable category. Even something as simple as having a book-filled home is a statistically significant factor in predicting how well a child will perform later in school.

The 3s will explore Dr. Seuss and we'll all talk about life cycles for chicks, frogs and butterflies. Look for our incubators to be filled mid-month. The 2s and 3s will cover the color brown, diamonds, and the extremely popular topic of dinosaurs.

We will have two field trips in March. The 3-year-olds will go to the theatre to see *The Cat in the Hat* by Arts on Stage and the 4s will visit the Eldersburg branch of the CCPL to explore what the library offers. We will also have hearing/speech/language assessments by Towson University's audiology students and parent-teacher conferences mid-month.

Bridget

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**MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

Please pray for those who are not able to join us for worship due to health issues.

- Barbara Hartman – at home
- Bert Rushing – Golden Crest Assisted Living
- Diana Balick – at home
- Janet Feezer – at home
- Janis Miller – at Future Care Old Court
- Jean Haines – at Homewood at Plum Creek
- Lulu Karagjozi – Lorien Encore
- Margaret Hare – at home
- Ralph Fletcher – at home

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The R. Wayne Feezer Memorial Scholarship: The R. Wayne Feezer Memorial Scholarship offered by Ward's Chapel United Methodist Church honors the memory of Wayne, an active lifetime member of the church, and is awarded annually to church members pursuing post-secondary education. Applicants are not limited to first-year students, yet when funds are limited, first-year applicants will be given priority. Scholarships of up to \$5,000 per academic year will be awarded based on the following: church membership\*, church involvement, community service, academic record, letters of recommendation, and financial need.

\*Please note, that to qualify for the scholarship, the applicant must be a member of Ward's Chapel United Methodist Church. Recipients of the scholarship in the past, whose parents were members, but were not members themselves, will only be considered for future scholarships while pursuing the same degree program as when initially awarded the scholarship.

For any questions about membership or to join WCUMC, contact Pastor Steven Cho.

Applications will be available at the church office and on the website at: <https://www.wardschapel.org/scholarship.html> by February 15. Applications and all supporting documentation must be submitted to the church office no later than May 1. The number of scholarships and the amount will be announced on the first Sunday in June.

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**Preschool Prize Palooza**

Tickets are now on sale for the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Preschool Prize Palooza! Ticket donations are still just \$20 for an opportunity to win on of over 30 amazing prize baskets. This year, we have baskets ranging from \$50-\$600! Please let Donna or Bridget know if you'd like tickets. You can email or call the preschool.

Thank you in advance for your support!

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**Yoga Class:** There's been such a great response and interest in our No Hibernating yoga classes on Monday nights that we're going to continue! If you are interested in being on the yoga class info list, please email the church office at [wardschapel@verizon.net](mailto:wardschapel@verizon.net). If you need any more info, please contact the church office. Our next class is March 10 at 6:30 pm. The instructor, Danielle, is great at helping all ages and abilities, so let us know if you can make it!

**Thank you** to my Ward's Chapel Family for your thoughts, prayers, and cards during my husband Jim Pusey's recent illness, which began mid- September and ended the 5th of November with his passing. It meant so much that so many were praying for him and us. My sisters (Lynn and Susan) and I still get notifications about Wards Chapel's *Joys and Concerns*. I am glad that we can stay connected in prayer even though we live hours apart. I hope 2025 is a good year for all! Happy New Year! ~ Diane Carter and Danny Pusey

## Wards Chapel Preschool

# Prize Palooza



**TICKETS \$20**

### PRIZES INCLUDE:

- Harper's Ferry Basket
- Downtown Sykesville Baskets
- Scratch-off Tree
- Kid's Summer Fun Basket
- Pizza & Pasta Basket
- Gift Card Baskets
- Children's Reading Baskets
- Craft Basket
- Maryland Themed Basket
- Family Game Night Basket
- Home Safety Basket
- and MANY MORE



**ONE PRIZE ISSUED  
EACH DAY,  
INCLUDING WEEKENDS!**

**Prizes  
valued from  
\$50 to \$400!**



*Ward's Chapel  
United Methodist  
Church*

**ANNUAL  
AUCTION**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 22  
DOORS OPEN - 4:00 PM  
BIDDING BEGINS - 5:00 PM**

Come on out, join the fun, and get some great deals!

**Soup,  
sandwiches,  
snacks, and  
dessert available  
for purchase**



*All proceeds benefit our mission work with our food pantry, Camp Hope, Baltimore County Christian Workcamp, Volunteers in Mission, and other local and global ministries.*

**Only \$2 to bid or bring  
2 or more items for our Food Pantry.**

**WARD'S CHAPEL UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
11023 LIBERTY RD RANDALLSTOWN, MD  
[www.wardschapel.org](http://www.wardschapel.org)**



*BUS TRIP to the AMERICAN MUSIC THEATRE*

*"DECK THE HALLS" Production*

*Lancaster, Pennsylvania*

*Tuesday, November 25, 2025*

*Itinerary:*

Arrive at Kohl's in Eldersburg by 9 am

Bus departs promptly at 9:15 am

- Buffet Lunch at Shady Maple Smorgasbord
- Show at the American Music Theatre

Return to Eldersburg Kohl's about 7:15 pm



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

Cost is \$125. A Deposit of \$10 is due by September 1

Your balance is due October 1

Make checks payable to *Shirley Tucker*.

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



# March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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2	3 Trustees 7:00 pm	4	5 Bible Study 10:00 am  7 pm - Ash Wednesday Service	6 Prayer Mtg. 7:00 PM	7 4-H 7:00 PM	8
9	10	11 Church Council 7:00 pm	12 Bible Study 10:00 am Liberty Goodtimers 11:30 am 7 pm - Vitality mtg.	13 Men's Dinner at Oscar's 7:00 pm	14 4-H 7:00 PM	15 Food Pantry 9am-11am
16 Heifer Sunday	17	18 SPRC 7:00 PM	19 Bible Study 10:00 am	20	21	22 <b>Missions Auction</b> Doors Open at 4p Bidding starts at 5p
23	24	25	26 Bible Study 10:00 am  7 pm - Vitality mtg.	27 Star Fellowship 12:00 pm	28	29
29	30					

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

# Annual Missions Auction

Saturday, March 22

Doors open at 4 pm

Bidding starting at 5 pm

Soup, sandwiches, snacks and dessert  
for sale throughout the evening

