



WARD'S CHAPEL

United Methodist Church

The Lamplighter October 2024



This October, we will joyfully come together to celebrate 230 years of our church's rich history and unwavering commitment to faith. As we've previously announced, our celebration will begin on **Saturday, October 26th, at 2 pm**. We are planning an informal gathering that will be reminiscent of our Community Outreach Events, allowing us to reflect on and rejoice in our past. During this time, we will have a historical display showcasing the journey of our church through the years, accompanied by music and a shared meal that will bring us together in fellowship. Additionally, the afternoon will include an Open Mic session, where everyone is encouraged to share their cherished memories and stories that highlight the wonderful and unique history of Ward's Chapel.

On **Sunday morning**, we will unite for a single service at 10 am. This special service will feature a letter from Bishop LaTrelle Easterling, and we are honored that our District Superintendent, Rev. Ann Laprade, will join us. We will also take time to honor the enduring legacy of Mr. Robert Strawbridge, whose pioneering laity ministry in the 1760s laid the very groundwork for our vibrant community. To help us commemorate this significant milestone, a team from the Strawbridge Shrine Association will be present, adding a meaningful historical connection to our celebration.

As we prepare for this momentous occasion, I want to share two personal reflections. **First**, I am deeply grateful for the incredible leaders within our church. Your tireless efforts to support Ward's Chapel, especially those of the Vitality Team, have been a true source of inspiration for me. Meeting every other Wednesday to plan our future initiatives has not only been productive but has also filled me with hope and excitement for what lies ahead. The collaborative spirit and dedication I witness in these gatherings affirm the strength and unity of our congregation.

Second, I am overwhelmed by the many blessings we've experienced over the years. We are inviting all those who have connections with Ward's Chapel—former preschool families, Camp Hope participants, and many others—to join us in this celebration. I also feel particularly blessed by the relationships I've formed with some of Ward's Chapel's former pastors. In the Methodist tradition, we are always mindful of ministerial boundaries, yet I have been fortunate to develop deep friendships with Pastor Don Burgard and Pastor John Nupp, as well as a strong collegial bond with Pastor Lisa Bandel. It has been a unique and unexpected joy to maintain these connections. Recently, I had the pleasure of speaking with Rev. Bill Thomas, who served Ward's Chapel about thirty years ago. Though we hadn't met before, our conversation was filled with his powerful stories and pastoral passion, leaving me with a profound sense of gratitude for the legacy he and others have left behind.

As we approach our 230th celebration, I encourage all of you to embrace and fully enjoy the gracious love and blessings that God has poured out upon us. Let's spread the word, invite others to join us, and together, celebrate the amazing influence that Ward's Chapel has had on our community over these many years.

Blessings,
Pastor Steven

ADMINISTRATIVE MINISTRIES

FINANCE

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

Bill Showman, Chair

TRUSTEES

Every day in this antique building brings its challenges. I often have vendors ask me who our maintenance person is and they laugh when I say 'It's me!' Holes in the walls, peeling paint, running toilets, lamps to be replaced, leaky pipes... the fun never ends!

Thanks to Eric Remmers and Brandon Feezer for pulling the plants from the gutters. We had some lovely little saplings growing!

Did you know that the building doesn't magically open itself on Sunday mornings? We have a small group of volunteers that open the building prior to any church members arriving. Unfortunately, we've lost a couple of openers. Would you like to volunteer? There isn't too much involved, other than turning on the lights and unlocking the door. Let me know if you're available one Sunday a month!

Thanks,

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.



October SPECIAL REQUESTS:

- onions
- ground beef

- diced tomatoes
- canned corn
- canned green beans

For the holidays:

- \$20 gift cards to Aldi, Weis, Wal-Mart
- Canned sweet potatoes
- Stuffing cranberry sauce
- Sauerkraut
- Pie crusts
- Pie filling

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

Wendy Miller

PRESCHOOL

It's hard to believe that we're already one month into our new preschool year. The children are settling in, getting used to coming to school and are making new friends. The staff is learning about the children as individuals and how we can help them to be successful this year.

Last month, the children learned how God made us all special and all about apples. This month, we'll take about fall, real and pretend, and pumpkins. The 2s will take a hayride with Larry Klingelhofer, the 3s will go out with Larry and pick pumpkins, and the 4s will go to Buppert's farm in Sykesville to pick their own pumpkins from the field, see the fall vegetables and go through the corn maze.

We had our annual Office of Child Care inspection in mid-September and passed with a perfect score!

Our enrollment continues to hold steady at 51 children. This is half of what it was pre-pandemic, and it seems to be industry-wide, at least locally. We're not sure of the cause, but continue to pray that we will increase again in the next few years.

Ms. Bridget

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Operation Christmas Child- It's that time of year again! Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes and materials are available in the Narthex from now until November 17th. Collection week begins November 18. If your family would like to fill a box for a child, please return to the Fellowship Hall or Narthex by November 17.

If you would like to donate postage for the 60 boxes that the Sunday School children will pack, please make the check out to Wards Chapel and in the memo area write "shoeboxes". If you are giving a cash donation, please mark it "shoeboxes" if you are putting it in the collection plate. We will then consolidate the donations and write one check. Postage again this year is \$10.00 per box.

Thank you for helping to spread the Good News of Jesus for children around the world. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Julie Weller

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
- Mary Libby Green – at home (at Jay's)
- Ralph Fletcher – at home

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ward's Chapel QR code: Please use the QR code below to easily access our new church website! (If you don't know how to scan a QR code with your phone, ask a tech-y friend or your favorite teenager, they'll know!)



~~~~~

**Link for recorded Sunday Service:** Please let Pastor Steven or the church office know if you'd like the link to the recorded Sunday Service emailed to you (usually on Tuesdays.)

~~~~~

Cookie Bake:

We've gotten some interest in the Cookie Bake solely as a fellowship event.

Please note: if you are here for our redesigned Fellowship Cookie Bake, cookies will be available to you for \$10/lb, with a a5 lb. limit. Any extras will be available on Sunday, December 1 after the worship services. Any profit will be given to the church operating fund.

If you are able to attend and would like to purchase cookies, please let Donna or the church office know by filling out the form below. (We need to start ordering supplies.)

We could also use volunteers to set up ahead of time (Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday evening before Thanksgiving. If you'd like to help, please let Donna know.)

Our re-designed event will start with Cookie Dough making on November 23 and the **Cookie Bake will be November 29 & 30**, if we get enough interest for both days. Details may change as we gather info.

Please return the form or call by November 9. Thank you!



Ward's Chapel Fellowship Cookie Bake



Sugar Cookies - \$10 per pound
Order deadline November 9 - NO EXCEPTIONS

Quantities are limited to those participating in the Fellowship Cookie Bake. Limit 5 lb.

Cookies will be baked Nov. 29th & possibly 30th.
Pick-up for those participating will be either of those days.

Any profit will be given to the church Operating Fund.

See Donna Gill or detach the slip and place it in the collection plate along with your payment.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Sugar Cookies _____ Pounds at \$10 per pound (5 lb limit)

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Office Use Only: Check #: _____

Date: _____



FREE KEEPSAKES: Please take a set of these wooden keepsakes from days gone by. They are on the table near the restrooms in the narthex.



CHAIRS FOR SALE!

Star Fellowship and the Roast Beef Supper Committee would like to purchase new chairs for the Fellowship Hall. Our acquisition can your gain too!

Would you like to purchase any of the current chairs? If so, please make a donation to the church and help yourself. Just let Karen, Bridget or Donna know.

Thank you!



How to Avoid a Scam



Four Signs That It's a Scam

1 Scammers PRETEND to be from an organization you know.



Scammers often pretend to be contacting you on behalf of the government. They might use a real name, like the FTC, Social Security Administration, IRS, or Medicare, or make up a name that sounds official. Some pretend to be from a business you know, like a utility company, a tech company, or even a charity asking for donations.

They use technology to change the phone number that appears on your caller ID. So the name and number you see might not be real.

2 Scammers say there's a PROBLEM or a PRIZE.



They might say you're in trouble with the government. Or you owe money. Or someone in your family had an emergency. Or that there's a virus on your computer. Some scammers say there's a problem with one of your accounts and that you need to verify some information.

Others will lie and say you won money in a lottery or sweepstakes but have to pay a fee to get it.

3 Scammers PRESSURE you to act immediately.



Scammers want you to act before you have time to think. If you're on the phone, they might tell you not to hang up so you can't check out their story.

They might threaten to arrest you, sue you, take away your driver's or business license, or deport you. They might say your computer is about to be corrupted.

4 Scammers tell you to PAY in a specific way.



They often insist that you can only pay by using cryptocurrency, wiring money through a company like MoneyGram or Western Union, using a payment app, or putting money on a gift card and then giving them the numbers on the back of the card.

Some will send you a check (that will later turn out to be fake), then tell you to deposit it and send them money.

How to Avoid a Scam

▶ Block unwanted calls and text messages.

Take steps to block unwanted calls and to filter unwanted text messages.

▶ Don't give your personal or financial information in response to a request that you didn't expect.

Honest organizations won't call, email, or text to ask for your personal information, like your Social Security, bank account, or credit card numbers.

If you get an email or text message from a company you do business with and you think it's real, it's still best not to click on any links. Instead, contact them using a website you know is trustworthy. Or look up their phone number. Don't call a number they gave you or the number from your caller ID.

▶ Resist the pressure to act immediately.

Honest businesses will give you time to make a decision. Anyone who pressures you to pay or give them your personal information is a scammer.

▶ Know how scammers tell you to pay.

Never pay someone who insists that you can only pay with cryptocurrency, a wire transfer service like Western Union or MoneyGram, a payment app, or a gift card. And never deposit a check and send money back to someone.

▶ Stop and talk to someone you trust.

Before you do anything else, tell someone — a friend, a family member, a neighbor — what happened. Talking about it could help you realize it's a scam.



**FEDERAL TRADE
COMMISSION**

July 2023

Report Scams to the FTC

If you were scammed or think you saw a scam, tell the FTC at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/report-fraud)



Sykesville
Rotary



South Carroll

Flags for Heroes Display

Remembering those who served. Honoring those who serve.

November 11, 2024

Sponsor or Donate @ sykesvillerotary.org by 10/19/24

Sponsor a Flag to Honor Your Hero — \$50 each

Flags Displayed from November 10th to 16th

Memorial Service at Haight Funeral Home—November 11th—10 am

Register Your Hero by October 19th, 2024

Email us at SykesvilleRotary@gmail.com

Hero Registration Form

Name of Hero—(please check spelling)	Title
You Name	Your Phone
Your Email Address	Number of Flags (circle selection): 1 2 3 4

Mail your check to: PO Box 188, Sykesville MD 21784

Checks must be received by 10/19/2024

Sykesville
Rotary
South Carroll



Wards Chapel UMC Operating Fund
Year to Year Comparison as of Aug 2024

YTD Financial Summary:




Offering for Aug YTD is \$11,373 less than for the same period last year. We have been averaging a 6% to 8% reduction in total offerings consistently in 2024.

Expenses are running at projected levels.

	<u>Aug YTD Amounts</u>		<u>Incr/(Decr)</u>	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023 to 2024</u>	
<u>Total Gifts (sources):</u>				
Offering	\$ 142,454	\$ 131,081	\$ (11,373)	-8.0%
Other Donations (note 1)	\$ 11,250	\$ 11,750	500	4.4%
Total Support to Operating Fund	\$ 153,704	\$ 142,831	\$ (10,873)	-7.1%
<u>Expense:</u>				
Blding/Grounds	\$ 47,039	\$ 43,842	\$ (3,197)	-6.8%
Ed./Ministry	\$ 3,527	\$ 3,876	349	9.9%
Apportionments	\$ 22,429	\$ 24,620	2,191	9.8%
Pastoral/Staff/Office	\$ 126,963	\$ 129,724	2,762	2.2%
Total Expense	\$ 199,957	\$ 202,063	\$ 2,105	1.1%
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (46,254)	\$ (59,232)		
 Available Cash on Hand		 (34,081)		

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 (this gift has increased to \$4,000 per quarter effective Dec 2023), R W Feezer Foundation annual gift and other one time gifts.

October 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Bible Study 10:00 am 6:30 p Missions mtg 7:30 p Vitality Pathways	3 IN-Person Prayer Mtg. 7:00 PM	4	5
6 Communion	7	8 Finance 6:30 pm Church Council 7:00 pm	9 Bible Study 10:00 am Liberty Goodtimers 11:30 am Lampighter Deadline	10 Men's Dinner at Oscar's 7:00 pm	11 4-H 7:00 PM	12 Church Conference on Zoom at 3:30 p
13 Praise & Worship	14	15 SPRC 7:00 pm	16 Bible Study 10:00 am Vitality Pathways 7:00 pm	17	18	19 Food Pantry 9am-11am
20 Heifer Sunday	21	22	23 Bible Study 10:00 am	24 Star Fellowship 12:00 PM	25	26 230th Anniversary Celebration 2 pm
27 One Service at 10:00 am 230th Anniversary Celebration	28	29	30 Bible Study 10:00 am	31 	 <p>Ward's Chapel UMC <i>Celebrating 230 Years</i></p>	

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



Ward's Chapel UMC
Celebrating 230 Years

Saturday, October 26, 2:00 pm
Sunday, October 27, 10:00 am