

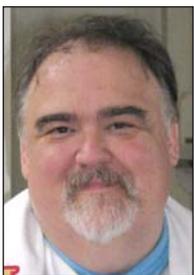


PERRY SCOPE

PERRY HALL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, NOTTINGHAM, MD. | WWW.PERRYHALLUMC.ORG | JANUARY 2017



Changes need not be big



**Pastor Vic's
Epistle**

Greetings,

The New Year is here — and with it comes resolutions, changes, and the promise of hopeful transformations. No matter how many times we have failed at our past attempts to keep our new year's resolutions, we still make new ones year after year.

We make resolutions and promises to ourselves that this year will be different. We will make that one big change that will put us on the right track for good. Our goal is that one day, we will make the right resolution and it will stick. We will better people because we have finally made the big change we have always needed to do.

But what if it's not a big change that needs to hap-

pen, but a small change? Think small changes don't matter? Consider this. If you're going somewhere and you're off course by just one degree, after one foot, you'll miss your target by 0.2 inches. Trivial, right? But what about as you get farther out?

- » After 100 yards, you'll be off by 5.2 feet.
- » After a mile, you'll be off by 92.2 feet.
- » After traveling from San Francisco to L.A., you'll be off by 6 miles.
- » If you were trying to get from San Francisco to Washington, D.C., you'd end up on the other side of Baltimore, 42.6 miles away.
- » Traveling around the globe from Washington,

» See EPISTLE, pg. 2



This Month's Sermon Topics

Jan. 1 (10a service): Denise Boyd, guest speaker

Jan. 8 (Epiphany): "Shining Light"; Isaiah 42:1-9

Jan. 15: "Come and See"; John 1:29-42

Jan. 22: "Working Together"; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Jan. 29: "Walking with God"; Micah 6:1-8

Feb. 5: Debbie Siegert, guest speaker

Feb. 12: "Making a Difference"; Matthew 5:13-20

Feb. 19: "Loving and Giving"; Matthew 5:38-48

Worship Assistants

	Service	Jan. 1*	Jan. 8	Jan. 15	Jan. 22	Jan. 29
Ushers	8:15 a.m.	TBD				
	11 a.m.	TBD				
Greeters	9:30 a.m.	Charlene, Gabbi and Emma Paulson				
	11 a.m.	Neil and Debbie Zimmerman				
Security		Travis Bond				
Acolytes	8:15 a.m.	—	Sam Dinesh Kumar	Lily Van Hook, Bella Harris	—	—
	11 a.m.	—	Gabbi Paulson	Gabe Zell	Jackson Mlynski	Alyssa Hausman
Altar Guild		Lisa Ashmore Helen Geppi	Peggy Whiting Pat Walter	Bonnie Lingelbach Kay Pokrzywa	Diane Lawrence Christy Moore	Bettye Gramlich Lois Welsh
Sunday School office		—	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Cribbery	9:30 a.m.	Willow and Ryan Schneider	Amy Harryman and Leah	Jason and Brenda Reinhardt	Kathy Loggins and Heather McLaughlin	Debbie Zimmerman, Mary Janowich
Lay Reader	8:15 a.m.	Al Simkins	Bettye Gramlich	Al Simkins	Tony Schramm	Al Simkins
	9:30 a.m.	Charlene Paulson	Kay Pokrzywa	Julie Evans	Dan Walker	Robb Paulson
	11 a.m.	Peggy Whiting	Norm Smith	Robb Paulson	Kim Harner	Penny Baker

*—One service, 10 a.m.

Our Mission Statement

"As members of Perry Hall United Methodist Church, we proclaim God's unconditional love for all, which compels us to love one another as Christ loves, and to provide opportunities to grow through nurture and service."

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EPISTLE: Change doesn't have to be big

» From Page One

- D.C., you'd miss by 435 miles and end up in Boston.
- » In a rocket going to the moon, you'd be 4,169 miles off (nearly twice the diameter of the moon).
- » Going to the sun, you'd miss by over 1.6 million miles (nearly twice the diameter of the sun).
- » Traveling to the nearest star, you'd be off course by over 441 billion miles (120 times the distance from the earth to Pluto, or 4,745 times the distance from Earth to the sun).

Over time, a mere 1 degree error in course makes a huge difference!

What if, instead of looking for the big change, we focus on the small change? Small changes are doable, practical and possible. Small changes we practice over time have the potential to transform us.

What if in the coming year, we made the decision to take 10 minutes a day and do something for God? What if we took that time to say a prayer, read a bible verse or reach out someone else who is in need? Ten minutes a day is 0.1% of our day and not a "big" change. Over time, this small adjustment practiced consistently can change us from the inside out.

May this be the year of little changes that make a big difference in our lives.

Blessings and Peace, Pastor Vic

Inclement weather policy

A reminder about our **inclement weather policy**: If the weather is bad and you wonder about the status of church, please **call the church office for a message left on the phone**. Sunday mornings, a message will be posted one hour before a service.

During the week, **we follow Baltimore County schools**. If they cancel evening activities, then all any church evening meeting or activities are also canceled. You can also call the church office and listen to the message.

In addition to the church voice mail message, alerts also will be **sent out on the church email chain and posted to our Facebook page**.



Overlea UMC celebrates final service before merger with Perry Hall

The **final service for Overlea UMC** was held on Sunday, Dec. 18. It was day of mixed feelings. There was the joy of gathering for worship and celebrating the 107-year history of the church. There was also sadness over this being the final service that a United Methodist congregation would hold in the building.

As of Jan. 1, 2017, the merger between Perry Hall UMC and Overlea UMC will be official. But that does not mean that Overlea's history and ministry has come to an end. A number of their members will be joining us to worship and serve at Perry Hall. Some of the historical items that were a part of Overlea will now become a part of Perry Hall. Once the building has been sold, a significant portion of the proceeds will be given to Perry Hall to further our combined efforts to share the Good news of Christ in the community.

Please continue to pray during this time of transition as we welcome Overlea UMC members into the Perry Hall family.

— *Pastor Vic*



Upcoming events

Jan. 8 — Ronald McDonald House. More information is coming!

Jan. 22 — T-shirts and clothespins for ROCK will be made during the Youth Group meeting.

Feb. 3-5 — ROCK Youth Retreat in Ocean City.

ROCK Parent Meeting

An important parent meeting for ROCK will be held on Jan. 22 at 5:15 p.m. before Youth Group.

Survey seeks input for new United Methodist Hymnal

United Methodists are being asked to name their favorite and least favorite hymns as part of the initial research conducted by Discipleship Ministries and a diverse committee to revise The United Methodist Hymnal after almost three decades.

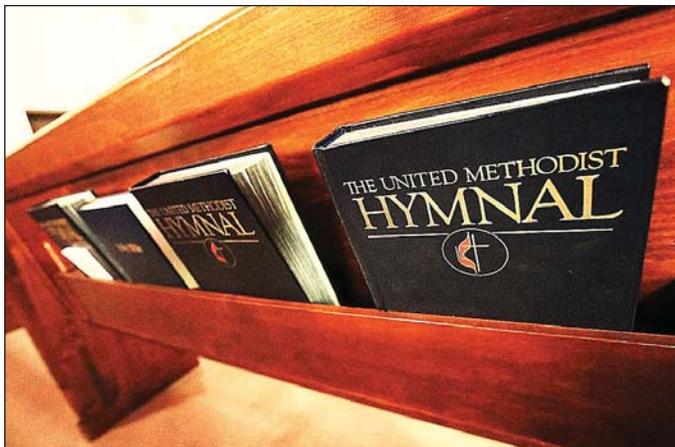
The first of several online surveys is under way to support the development of the new hymnal, which will be a hybrid print/electronic resource for use in multiple contexts.

The survey, "Favorite and Least Favorite Hymns," is available online through Jan. 9 at <http://sgiz.mobils3/Favorite-Hymns-2016> and seeks responses for all United Methodists.

The initial survey will be followed by other general surveys about hymn and worship resource preferences and use and about worship styles and perspectives on congregational music, said Naomi Hope Annandale, director of research and strategic evaluation at Discipleship Ministries, who is directing the hymnal research.

A 15-member Hymnal Revision Committee is being organized to prepare songs and ritual resources for the new hymnal, which will be for primary use in the United States.

— *UMC Discipleship Ministries*



For all those (age 12 and older) who are interested in this year's Confirmation Class, a Parent and Youth meeting is **scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 18, at 7 p.m.**

If you are unable to attend, please contact Pastor Vic directly. The schedule and requirements will be discussed at this meeting.



CHURCH 101

Three Chests

Sometimes called "three arks," this image represents the gifts the Magi brought to the child Jesus: gold, frankincense and myrrh (Matthew 2:11). Because Scripture lists three gifts, the legend arose that there were three wise men. But the biblical account doesn't say how many travelers visited the Holy Family.



MASON JAR nightLIGHT

Because Jesus is the light of the world, his followers don't need to fear darkness or life's dark times. Make this nightlight to remind you of Jesus' light and presence.



What you need:

- Work area with good ventilation
- Mason jar
- Clear glue that works on glass
- Paintbrush
- Glass stones
- Tealight candle
- Lighter
- Adult supervision

What you do:

1. Starting at the top of the jar, brush glue on a small section.
2. Press glass stones onto the glue in rows. Let dry.
3. Continue gluing stones, in small sections, until the entire jar is covered.
4. When dry, place a candle inside. Light with adult help.



Light OF THE World

In a world full of sin and darkness, how can we find our way?
Discover Jesus' answer in John 8:12, NIV.

*Directions: Use the key to fill in the missing vowels.
Then read the completed Bible verse.*

KEY: A E I O

" _ _ M T H _ _ L _ _ G H T _ _ F

T H _ _ W _ _ R L D . W H _ _ _ V _ _ R

F _ _ L L _ _ W S M _ _ W _ _ L L N _ _ V _ _ R

W _ _ L K _ _ N D _ _ R K N _ _ S S . "

J _ _ H N 8:12, NIV

Answer: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness." John 8:12, NIV

Capital Campaign

By the time you read this, we should be up and running with a new heating system in the Education wing of the church and a new projection system for the sanctuary.

Our classrooms have had little to no heat in cold weather the past few years, so you can imagine how much the Sunday School, Little Jewels, Thrift Shop, Food Pantry, offering counters, Pastor Vic and Mary are looking forward to having warm tootsies!

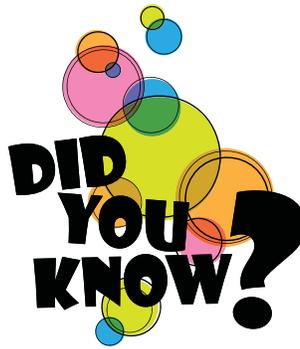
The baseboards and elements will all be replaced and thermostats will be installed in every room. This should result in a cost savings since units will only be turned on in the rooms as needed, thus avoiding the heating of empty spaces. The cost is expected to run around \$29K, which will include a 5 year warranty on the equipment. A county inspection will be required to sign off on the installation. Meanwhile, Travis Bond is spending his days' off monitoring the project.

The new projection system is coming in below estimate since Troy Lingelbach and Ron Ziegler are doing all the installation. In addition, Ron has provided much of the cabling and wood. Troy connected us to Cindy Davis, an AV Technical Manager at Towson University, who designed a system to fit our needs at no cost. Thanks Troy, Ron, and Cindy!

This new unit will not only be used at the 9:30 service, but will assist VBS with drama, content material, and music, and will display our digital Christmas cards in beautiful full color. We will be able to view videos and printed material, thus enhancing special productions and congregational meetings and worship.

The search for new window coverings for the sanctuary has been more problematic. We have been unable to find someone who can make new curtains. Because of health issues, our team of Betty Shock, Diane Gaither and Gloria Barlow have been unable to research all the various options and arrive at a solution for replacing our tattered draperies. They are planning to get back on track with this project early in the new year so we can have a lovely sanctuary again. By that time, we hope to have raised the \$40K needed to cover the expenses of our triple-pronged improvement project.

"Did You Know?" highlights little-known activities, services, opportunities, and unsung heroes at Perry Hall UMC. For more information or suggestions, please contact Peggy Whiting at (410) 529-8640 or peggywhiting04@yahoo.com.



Food Pantry Leadership

Starting in January, **Skylar Moore** will be stepping into the position of **Food Pantry Coordinator**. Skylar and the church would like to thank Margaret Hubbard for her five years of dedicated service to the pantry. She has helped countless families and touched so many lives!

If you would like to volunteer in the pantry or with pantry events, feel free to contact Skylar. Her phone number is (410) 456-0163 and email is skylar361@gmail.com.

Help Wanted

Starting Jan. 17, the **Food Pantry will be open 5:30-8:30 p.m. every Tuesday**.

We are looking for volunteers to work this shift every few weeks.

If interested, please contact Skylar Moore.

Celebrated singer-songwriter headlines January Folk Music Night



An award-winning songwriter and instrumentalist, **David Glaser** has been recording and playing live music for more than four decades, either as a solo artist, band member or a side man. This month, the longtime Marylander and his "one-man, one-voice" set will be showcased as the featured act for Folk Music Night.

Check him out at www.davidglaser.com/.

The **January Folk Music Night** is **Saturday, Jan. 14, 7-10 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. The stage (and microphone) is open before and after the main act and light refreshments will be served. Admission is free, but donations are welcome. If you wish, you may bring a dessert or snack to share.

Questions? Contact Neil Zimmerman at (410) 529-7176. Check out the Folk Music Night Web page at www.perryhallumc.org/music/folk-music/.

Washed clean

Your morning shower can do more than cleanse your body. Retired pastor Norman Neaves takes time to remember his baptism daily.

"As the water is pouring down on me, I reach up and get water all over my hand. Then I close my eyes and make the sign of the cross on my forehead.

"I have been baptized in Christ,' I say to myself quietly. 'This day belongs to him. I am called to be Jesus' representative whatever I am doing and wherever I might go. Give me the grace, Lord, to represent you well and with integrity.' "

Bible Quiz

In Matthew 13, to what does Jesus compare the kingdom of heaven?

- A. A farmer sowing seed
- B. A mustard seed
- C. Yeast
- D. Hidden treasure
- E. A merchant who finds a pearl
- F. A fishing net
- G. All of the above



Answer: G (see Matthew 13:24-51)

Quoting

“Resolution One: I will live for God. Resolution Two: If no one else does, I still will.” — *Jonathan Edwards*

“Never trust anyone completely but God. Love people, but put your full trust only in God.” — *Lawrence Welk*

“Laughter is the sun that drives winter from the human face.” — *Victor Hugo*

“I know nothing except what everyone knows — if there when Grace dances, I should dance.” — *W.H. Auden*

Another Thought

Ignite!

It is with Christians as with burning coals. If these are scattered apart, one after the other, they are easily extinguished. But, when collected together, the fire of one preserves that of the other, and the glowing coals often ignite others that lie near.

—*August Francke*



A new view

The new year is an opportunity to sort out the useless tasks and plan for the important; to review the failures and resolve to be successful; to take an inventory of causes and pledge life to purpose and service. These being done, the new will truly be new, different and better.

—*C. Neil Strait*

Undaunted

The year just past was wracked with violence, racism and political rancor. We long to fix these problems, but how? We may feel as frustrated as the church board member who spouted, “We’ve already tried prayer. It didn’t work!”

Those words might resonate today, yet things aren’t always what they seem. We can’t see God behind the scenes crafting a new reality, but Scripture promises it. And though our prayers won’t undo earthly death, they surround the grieving with strength and love. We can’t “solve” sin, but our prayers can bring communities together and spur us to look out for one another.

The Jewish Talmud states, “Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world’s grief. Do justly now. Love mercy now. Walk humbly now. You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it.” In this new year, may we be undaunted in doing what we can. It might not seem like much, but things aren’t always what they seem.

Lessons from a snowman

- » It’s okay to wear white well after Labor Day.
- » Simply hanging out in your front yard can be fun.
- » Accessories don’t have to be fancy or expensive.
- » We’re all made mostly of water.
- » You know you’ve “arrived” when a song is written about you.
- » So what if you’re a little bottom-heavy?
- » Don’t get too much sun.
- » Sweating too much can be disastrous!



Free refills

God’s kingdom is like free refills at a restaurant. Wait — what?!

Jesus used common, everyday items to explain the kingdom of God; we can too! The kingdom is like free refills. Still thirsty after one soda or coffee? Get another — no charge. In fact, the kingdom of God is better than free refills because you don’t even have to pay for the first glass.

It’s like having a parent buy you a favorite meal when you’re young. You sit back and savor it without the price crossing your mind. That’s okay, because the generous giver loves you and wants to be with you.

Sure, that’s simplistic, but so are Jesus’ parables. Overanalyze them and they may fall apart. But ponder the single point each makes, maybe get a chuckle and an a-ha! out of it, and that parable has done its job. So grab another free refill — of your beverage and of God’s love!

—*Heidi Mann*



- 1 — 2017
- 1 — Catherine Deaton, Rena Mack, Ken McCracken
- 11 — Jacob Hausman
- 12 — Norm Smith
- 13 — Margo Milliken, John Burkhardt
- 15 — Louise Cole
- 17 — Kenneth Mason, Anne L. Patton, Barbara Miloro
- 18 — Brian Smith
- 26 — Charlene Paulson
- 31 — Jeannie Ross, Robb Paulson

Did we miss your birthday? If you are a new member or for some reason your name and birthday has never been included in our roster of special days, please contact Mary at the church office (410-256-6479). Just let us know your name, month and day of your birthday (no year is necessary) and we'll make sure you are included. Until then, Happy Belated Birthday!

EACH WEEK AT PERRY HALL:

- Monday**
Pastor's Bible Study — 7 p.m.
- Tuesday**
Pastor's Bible Study — Noon
- Wednesday**
Girl Scouts — 6 p.m. (1st/3rd)
Brownies — 6:15 p.m. (1st/3rd)
Daisy Troop — 6:15 p.m.
Adult Choir — 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday**
Brownies — 5:45 p.m.
Handbells — 6 p.m.
Seekers Bible Study — 7 p.m.
Praise Band — 7:15 p.m.
Community Choir — 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday**
Thrift Shop — 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- Traditional Worship — 8:15 and 11 a.m.
- Choristers — 8:30 a.m.
- Sunday School classes, all ages — 9:30 a.m.
- Contemporary Worship — 9:30 a.m.
- Library open — 8:15-11 a.m.
- Coffee Hour — Following all services
- Cherub Choir — 10 a.m.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <i>10a service</i> 	2	3	4	5 1030a: WISH Group	6	7 9a: COM meeting
8 530p: Youth Group meets	9 <i>Perry Scope articles due (February issue)</i>	10 7p: Trustees meeting	11	12	13	14 7p: Folk Music Night
15	16 	17 7p: Finance meeting	18 7p: Confirmation Class information meeting	19	20	21 9a-5p: Lay Servants class
22 515p: ROCK Parent meeting 530p: Youth Group meets	23	24 7p: AdBoard meeting	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	FEB 1	FEB 2 	FEB 3 <i>Youth @ ROCK</i>	FEB 4 <i>Youth @ ROCK</i>
FEB 5 <i>Youth @ ROCK</i>	FEB 6	FEB 7	LOOKING AHEAD: March 1: Ash Wednesday March 5: 1st Sunday in Lent March 12: Daylight Savings Time begins April 9: Palm Sunday April 16: Easter			



PERRY HALL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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*open hearts
open minds
open doors*



The people of The United Methodist Church™



DEADLINE:
Newsletter Articles

**Upcoming Perry Scope
deadlines:**

Jan. 9: Articles for February due

Jan. 22: Feb. newsletter pickup

Feb. 6: Articles for March due