



The Perry Scope

Perry Hall United Methodist Church Newsletter
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November 2020

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A Message from The Pastor

Colossians 3:12-14 from: The Message

12-14 So, chosen by God for this new life of love, dress in the wardrobe God picked out for you: compassion, kindness, humility, quiet strength, discipline. Be even-tempered, content with second place, quick to forgive an offense. Forgive as quickly and completely as the Master forgave you. And regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it.

Greetings!

2020 has been a year of great challenges. Our church, our country, and the world around us has struggled with many difficult experiences.

The pandemic has not only led to a loss of life but to changes and how we go about our daily lives. Some of those changes most likely will be here for months and perhaps years to come.

We've seen our nation struggle with the issue of racism and the need to reconsider what it means to live as a just people.

Our political system has seen some of the most trying moments it has ever experienced.

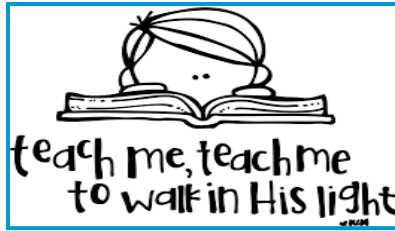
Family and friends disagree with one another over a whole host of issues and that disagreement has led to further division within our nation.

At the community of Faith, we are called to be different. Colossians 3:13 challenges us to live a new life of love. The central tenet of that new life of love is forgiveness. Just as we have been forgiven by God, we are called to forgive one another.

Sometimes forgiveness seems impossible or at least incredibly difficult to do. Yet as people of faith it is exactly what we need to do especially in this difficult time .


If we are able to forgive one another as God has already forgiven us then perhaps we may just find a way through these difficult times.

Peace, Pastor Vic



Sunday School News

PHUMC Sunday School has gone VIRTUAL! While we would much rather be in class with all of our great PHUMC children, we are so happy to still stay connected and continue on our faith journey with them via ZOOM! We are using a curriculum geared to both in-person and on-line learning, and after a few start-up bumps, things are going well.

Our class meeting day and times are  listed below:

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Meeting Day/Time</u>
Pre-K / K	Noel Knepper	Every other Sunday 3:00-3:20 p.m.
1-3	Allison Hecht	Sundays 3:30-4:00 <i>or</i> 4:15 p.m.
4-7	Joyce Ziegler	Sundays 11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
8-12	Rachael McCracken	TBD

If interested in joining a class, please contact our teachers to receive a Zoom invite.



It's **OCC Shoebox Packing time again** – and Samaritan's Purse/Operation Christmas Child REALLY needs our help this year, in the face of this worldwide pandemic – probably more than ever before. **PLEASE HELP US** by packing a shoebox for a little boy or girl to let them know that we (and God) love them.

Here is the latest link to the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child website (or just Google 'Operation Christmas Child'): <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

Here you can:

- Learn how to Pack a Shoebox (see the attachment of 101 Ideas for your shoebox)
- Learn how to Follow Your Shoebox
- Learn about Important OCC COVID-19 Updates/Info
- Watch awesome, short videos of the OCC travels to deliver the shoeboxes
- And see SO MUCH MORE (definitely worth a little time with your families to see God's work being done - in so many ways, for so many people, in so many places around the world by Samaritan's Purse!)

PHUMC Options for building an OCC Shoebox this year are:

- Build your shoebox **at home** and bring it to church by Nov. 22, when Pastor Vic will bless the shoeboxes and we'll send them on their way.
- Build an OCC shoebox **on-line** via the following link: <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/buildonline/> (this is a great option if you aren't venturing out to shop much but still want to bless a child with a shoebox this year)

National Collection Week is November 16-23, 2020! Since our 2nd floor, where we normally drop off the boxes, is **OFF LIMITS** this year, please take your shoeboxes to the PHUMC OCC Drop Off location in the Narthex (see the OCC DROP OFF sign to the left when heading out the front door).

On the narthex table you will find pamphlets for your \$9.00 shipping donation (very much appreciated, if you can) and rubber bands to hold the lids on the boxes.



“For it is in giving that we receive”.

-St Francis of Assisi



Food Pantry News

Basket Giveaway

On Saturday, November 21st, PHUMC will be giving 50 families of need a chance to enjoy their Thanksgiving with less stress and more joy! With your help, we will meet this goal! You may help in a variety of ways: donate items from the basket list; donate \$15 gift cards from Walmart for the turkeys; or give monetary donations to defray the cost of items we purchase for the baskets. Each basket is valued at about \$25 (this includes the Walmart gift card), but we will be able to purchase case quantities of the items, making overall shopping easier and safer for you. So, we hope you can help us reach our goal.

Please identify any monetary donations with “Holiday Food Basket” on your envelope/check. Thank you for your assistance and stay safe, stay well.

Other Pantry News

The food pantry continues to get several new families each week (without dropping any of our old families! Because of the corona, loss or decrease of income, and the inability of stretching dollars – our pantry has

become a beacon ever so needed. With that bad news, the good news – we are meeting the needs of approximately 140-150 families each month with a full basket of food: frozen meat, baked goods, dry goods, canned goods, personal hygiene items, and even produce! The food flies out the door, but with your help, the help of our community, Weis donations, Baltimore County and Maryland Food Bank, and CCBC – we continue to be successful. No one of need has been turned away. We have increased how many people we help in the 3 hours the pantry is open on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. We have remained corona free by keeping social distancing a must and all clients are

LESS THAN 2 WEEKS UNTIL THE HOLIDAY

GIFT BASKET GIVE AWAY!!



able to be served in less than 5 minutes after their arrival. Thank you for your food donations, for your monetary donations, for those that volunteer at the pantry or distribution days – you make PHUMC Food Pantry the beacon it is for Baltimore County! Please know, that your continued help will get us through the upcoming most difficult times – winter and corona!



Sign Up for Church

Be sure to take the time Sunday. With the social attendance.

For those who have internet access, we ask you to please go to the following web address:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0c4da4ae29a57-1000>. Just be sure to let us know how many people are coming from your family (or group).

For those who do NOT have internet access, please call the church office at 410-256-6479 and leave a message on the answering machine. Again, remember to let us know how many are attending.



each week and register to attend church service the next distancing regulations, we are limited to 60 people in

internet access, we ask you to please go to the following

**Cut-off for reservations is
12:00 noon on Thursday.**

Once the maximum attendees are reached, the page will be shut down. If you miss the cut-off and want to see if there is availability, or if the page is shut down and you want to be added to a waiting list, please call Denise Boyd directly at 443-787-8687 or leave a message on the church line.



Grab 'n Go Chili Meals!

How about some delicious comfort food for a cold December day? Here's is your chance to have the perfect lunch.....with NO work for YOU!

Visit the following page to order today!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0c4da4ae29a57-grab>

Meals are just **\$7.00** each and include:

- One pint of homemade chili
- Two slices of cornbread
- One pint of tossed salad

We also provide utensils, salad dressing, and a bottled water. You have your complete meal!

If you do NOT have access to the internet, please contact Denise Boyd at 443-787-8687 to make other arrangements to order.



COVID-19 Guidelines

If you do not feel safe returning to in-person, indoor worship at this time, please do not feel any pressure to do so. Our worship services will be live streamed through Facebook Live on Sunday mornings and posted for viewing later.

If you are feeling unwell—or if you know that you have been exposed to anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19—we urge you to err on the side of caution and stay home.

If you do attend worship and later test positive for the virus, we ask that you let us know. While we will not divulge your name without your permission, we feel an obligation to let others know they may have been exposed.

Please remember, Little Jewels Children's Center operates under strict parameters from the state, as well as an obligation as the people of God to care for one another. Because of that we are closing the bathrooms on the first floor for public use. When entering the building, please do not congregate in the areas on the first floor.

We will continue to **worship at 10:00 a.m.** Sunday School will continue to meet virtually.

In order to attend, **we are asking that you “make a reservation”**. Each week there will be a **Sign-Up Genius** on the Internet for you to use by **Thursday 12 noon**. Link can be found at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0c4da4ae29a57-1000> You may also call the church and leave your name and phone number in **church voicemail. by Thursday 12 noon**

Masks will be required without exception. If you do not have a mask (or forget to bring one), masks will be available. Those who feel they cannot mask because of health reasons are asked to worship remotely from their homes. If (in addition to a mask) you feel safer wearing a face shield, gloves, or mittens, by all means do so.

We are limiting access to the building to the front door and the back door. You will be greeted, asked to sign in and have your temperature taken. At that time, you will be allowed to enter the sanctuary and find a seat in the marked off areas. Family groups may sit together.

Hand sanitizer will be available at every door and its use is strongly advised.

In order to observe safe distancing, our sanctuary can accommodate **60 people seated** (plus the worship leaders). **Please be flexible.** We are all creatures of habit and prefer to sit in our regular seats, but these extraordinary circumstances will require patience and cooperation. Insisting on a particular seat might prevent someone else from being able to be seated in the sanctuary.

After the service, please stay in your seat **until you are dismissed**. We will be dismissing by rows beginning in the back. You are asked to **leave the building immediately**. We urge you to greet and converse with other members of the congregation outside the building at a safe distance. We have all missed each other and crave a chance to catch up, but close contact, shaking hands, or embracing could put us all at risk.

There will be **no coffee hour or fellowship meals** for the foreseeable future.

There will be no congregational singing. We will be using soloists and instrumentalists to add to our worship experience. We will also explore alternatives such as humming, “spoken word,” or reading lyrics in unison. Soloists, liturgists, and preachers will be 12 – 20 feet away from the congregation.

Communion will be celebrated the first Sunday of each month. **Pre-packaged juice cups with wafers** will be placed on the pews. One person from each family is encouraged to pick up enough for each person in your group without touching the others

Hymnals and other materials will be removed from the pews. No bulletins will be distributed but you may print and bring your own. Please **take everything with you** when you leave: papers, empty Communion cups, tissues, etc.

The **second-floor restrooms** will be open. Each restroom will be stocked with non-latex gloves, disinfectant spray and wipes. Each person using the restroom is urged to sanitize the restroom before and after use:

Spraying or wiping surfaces you will touch/have touched: doorknobs (outside and inside the restroom), faucet, soap dispenser, flush handle, light switch, and/or grab bars. To kill viruses and other bacteria, surfaces should remain wet for at least 60 seconds.

Please remember to wash your hands with soap long enough to sing Amazing Grace. Avoid touching your face.

While we cannot require or even suggest that you get a Flu shot, we encourage you to discuss the efficacy of taking this preventative measure with your healthcare provider.

share prayer friends life food ultimate people thanks good host
faith bountiful laughter planet given **grace**
world possibilities relationships humility hospitality dinner
values family greater **gifts** meaningful beauty harvest
harmony gathering **thanksgiving** fun goodness Franciscan
time turkey peace nature vibrant thankful full
believe truth together provided cherish

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

"Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the Lord is good, and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations:
Psalm 100

