

May – June 2022



The Perry Scope

Perry Hall United Methodist Church Newsletter
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A Message from The Pastor

In the past few years the UMC has been in the midst of a time of change and upheaval as we have moved forward towards an understanding of what it means to be church and how we relate and are in ministry to and with the LGBTQIA+ community. This has led to decades of conversation, interchurch debates and General conferences that have been divided over what direction to take.

In 2019 a special General conference was held to consider same-sex marriage and gay ordination and any related topics. Out of this session came several possible proposals to divide the denomination. The following information is excerpted from an article by Heather Hahn from UM News. More information is available at church.

The most endorsed of these is the **Protocol of Reconciliation & Grace Through Separation**, negotiated by a professional mediator with a theologically diverse group of United Methodist bishops and advocacy group leaders. The proposal offers a series of steps that would enable churches and conferences that support restrictions on gay marriage and ordination to leave with church property and \$25 million in United Methodist funds to form a new traditionalist denomination.

However, the protocol has yet to receive a General Conference vote. Complications from the COVID-19 pandemic have led to three postponements of the international legislative assembly, from May 2020 to now 2024. Bottom line: The protocol is not currently part of United Methodist church law, and it is not operative.

After the third postponement, **Global Methodist Church** organizers announced they were no longer waiting for General Conference to act and instead moving up their new traditionalist denomination's launch date to May 1. However, the organizers are doing so without the formal separation plan they hoped the protocol would provide.

The **Wesleyan Covenant Association**, a theologically conservative unofficial advocacy group in The United Methodist Church, has served as the main organizing force behind the new denomination. The WCA plans to mark the new denomination's launch at a legislative assembly May 6 and a global gathering May 7 near Indianapolis. The Rev. Keith Boyette, WCA president and chairman of the new denomination's Transitional Leadership Council, has served as the designated spokesman for both groups but declined to be interviewed for this article.

On its website under launch information, the Global Methodist Church announced that it would be a church in transition as it prepares for its own convening General Conference in 12 to 18 months. With no protocol, congregations that wish to depart The United Methodist Church must do so using already existing measures in the Book of Discipline, the denomination's law book. In practice, that means annual conferences — church regional bodies — are responsible for handling church disaffiliations.

By an overwhelming majority, the United Methodist Council of Bishops has affirmed that conferences should use the
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Discipline's Paragraph 2553 as the primary paragraph for disaffiliation and separation. Passed during the special 2019 General Conference, the church law allows congregations to exit with property "for reasons of conscience" related to homosexuality.

Paragraph 2553 requires that exiting churches meet certain financial and procedural obligations to be released from the trust clause. It also states that annual conferences "may develop additional standard terms that are not inconsistent with the standard form of this paragraph."

So, what does that mean for our local church?

Currently there is no movement towards disinflation, nor has it been raised to the church leadership by anyone within the church. We are continuing to being open and affirming to anyone who wishes to be a part of Perry Hall UMC.

We are currently continuing to follow the practices surrounding marriage and ordination as they are laid out in our current discipline (the restrictions are still in place) as the denomination discerns what will come next.

If you have any questions or concern, please feel free to reach out to me and I will do my best to answer them based on the information that is at hand.

Blessing!

Pastor Vic



Adult Ministries



We are having a Meet & Greet at Silver Spring Mining Co at 8634 Belair Road on Tuesday, June 14th, from 7 pm - ? We

have a room reserved downstairs where we can order off the menu and enjoy each other's company.

You do not have to be a church member, or sign up, in order to come. Everyone will be responsible for their own food and drink.

Bring a friend! We hope to see you there. If you need a ride, or have any questions, contact Peggy Whiting @ 443-257-2874. The restaurant number is 410-256-6809.



The Thrift Shop

The thrift shop is open every Saturday from 9 am until 12 pm. We are accepting donations at this time.

Remember - Anyone can come shop.

Spread the word!!

Community Flea Market & Yard Sale

Calling All.....FLEAS???

YES! You heard that right!! Time to clean out those cupboard, basements, garages, and every other hiding space. We are looking for all the buried treasures you have. On Saturday, June 18, we will sponsor a Community Flea Market and Yard Sale from 8 am – 2 pm. In addition to our own items in the Fellowship Hall, we will be renting spaces outside for just \$10 each.

We are accepting donations now. Bring all items into the Fellowship Hall and put them UNDER the tables against the wall by the kitchen. We will price them, then pack them away until needed. If you have any furniture you want to donate, please let Denise know, but you will need to hold the furniture until the day before, or day of, the sale. **NO ELECTRONICS PLEASE!**

That'sa Some Spicy Meata Balla!

How does a hot, delicious Italian Meatball sub, covered in melted cheese, sound? It sounds awesome to me! Subs will be for sale hot, or cold (to take home and heat later). Coney Island hot dogs, too! Be sure to stop by and get your lunch, or dinner, before you leave!

Help! Help! Help!!!

OH YES! And did I mention we need help? So many jobs....so little time....so few volunteers. That is usually the case, but I am confident that we can pull together as a church to make this day a huge success!!

- People to price items throughout the weeks
- People to help set up the hall the night before
- People to be at various spots throughout the room watching the shoppers
- Cashiers to take money
- People to set up and pre-prep in the kitchen
- People to set up food service area
- People to fill orders
- People for traffic control
- People to set up & mark parking lot night before

Finally, although I will be coordinating the entire event, I will need 5 strong leaders to oversee the outside food area (Cindy is handling the inside food prep), the parking lot, the outside tables, and two for the Fellowship Hall.

Come out and enjoy the festivities. We always have such fun when we do events!

Any questions, contact Denise Boyd @ 443-787-8687.



Family & Children's Ministries

Who doesn't like ice cream? NOBODY! So the two ministries are joining forces and bringing us an old fashioned **Ice Cream Social!**

Join us in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, June 5th, at 10:45 am, following the 9:30 service and Sunday School. There you will find ice cream and all the fixings to make your own special "Sunday Sundae"!

In addition, there will be a Father's Day edition of the Escape Room for everyone to enjoy. See if you can find the answers and be the winner this time!

Flyers and sign-up sheets are in the narthex. If you want to attend, but didn't get the sign-up sheet, just call the church office and leave a message. As always, everyone is invited. It isn't necessary to sign up, but it always helps in the planning process. We want to be sure to have plenty of ice cream for EVERYONE!



Food Pantry News

While the winter seemed forever and spring is finally here, the pantry has been busy, busy, busy!

Some interesting facts:

So far this year (2022) the pantry has served 442 families or another way to look at it, the pantry has served 1311 individuals. While the pandemic has slowed up and things are returning to normal, the pantry continues to add new families each week. In fact, since the beginning of the year (January 1, 2022) we have add 76 new families - that works out to about 4 or 5 new families each week!

Based off of the deliveries from Maryland Food Bank alone, we have given out over 12,000 pounds of food! If you add in the grocery items that are donated by our community food boxes, PHUMC, CCUMC, Weis bakery, Boy Scouts food Drives, Salem UMC food drive, Fallston UMC food drives and donors who stop by - we also gave out an additional 20,000 pounds of food. This food has been given out in approximately 3,600 bags of groceries. Now that is impressive!

Our pantry may be 'small' in square footage but it is HUGE in love and support! We have 20 volunteers that donate their time to make sure that the pantry is organized, stocked, bagged and that the clients receive not just their food straight to their car but the love and compassion that all humans deserve. If they gave out Nobel Prizes for Volunteers - they all would be definite recipients!

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Looking for a few extra new volunteers – SPREAD THE WORD!

While we have 20 awesome volunteers, I am looking to add 3 or 4 new volunteers to our list so that we can continue the mission without wearing out the kindness of the volunteers! So can you spread the word? I will gladly talk to anyone who is interested. I am primarily looking for Saturday volunteers BUT I am also looking for another strong individual that can assist on the 2nd Thursday of the month Maryland Food Bank delivery. I have asked our sister churches Camp Chapel UMC, Salem UMC, and Fallston UMC to spread the word as well. So - be like covid - spread the word - the pantry is a great place to show the love and compassion that does exist in this world!

How does the pantry stay stocked?

The Maryland Food Bank continues to be our biggest donor each month. In the past, we used to get about 2000 pounds of food - but that has certainly changed since 2022 began. February and March it was 3000 pounds; April it was almost 5000 pounds, and in May it was about 4500 pounds. While we always get wonderful items from the MFB, the last couple months we even have been getting fresh fruit and vegetables, as well. Which is a true blessing for our families.

But this is not the only constant source of our donated items. We get hundreds and hundreds of pounds (literally a truckload) of grocery items every other week from Camp Chapel UMC. Their donations have been an integral part of the pantry and are provided on a 'what do you need' basis!

Lastly, we get weekly donations from several sources: the bakery department of Weis Markets, grocery and monetary donations from our own PHUMC family members, the Giant and Weis donation boxes, and the community organizations and individuals – well, the pantry is truly blessed. So as you can see - the pantry truly has become a little version of Wegmans.

Thank You To Weis

Almost every week, Weis bakery on Joppa Rd, donates hundreds of dollars worth of fresh baked items (breads and desserts/yummies. I would love if you could spread the word how wonderful and generous Weis has been and continues to be for the pantry. Our clients get a lot of bonus items because of Weis generosity - and I would love for Weis to get the positive love back!

Food Drives

We are in the process of planning a food drive that 95.1 Bright FM may assist in 'spreading the word' over their radio and actually participating. Now this is just in the planning stage, so no set date, etc. But when I know more, I will pass the word along.



2022 Graduates

PHUMC joins with family and friends in congratulating our 2022 graduates.



Rebekah Harner

Becca graduated from the University of Maryland at Baltimore with a Masters in Social Work. She carried a 3.96 GPA.

She is the daughter of Pastor Vic and Kim Harner.

Becca plans to work in the field of Social Work with children and teens.



Kayla Marie Hastings

Kayla is graduating from Loch Raven High School. She plans to attend Moore College of Art & Design, in the Interior Design Program.

She is the daughter of Troy and Dawn Hastings.

Kayla also earned her GOLD AWARD in Girl Scouts this year.



Sydney Marie Pado

Sydney graduated from the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Science in Sport Management. She also graduated *summa cum laude*.

Sydney is the granddaughter of Diane and Eddie Lawrence.



Maria Schneider

Maria is graduating from Eastern Tech High School. She plans to attend King's College where she was accepted into the 5-Year Accelerated Physician's Assistant program.

She has also committed to play lacrosse at King's College.

Maria is the daughter of Ryan and Willow Schneider, and sister of Joey and Matthew.

We at PHUMC are very proud of their accomplishments and wish them the very best in their future endeavors.



"Reaffirmation, Rebirth and Renewal" Spring Concert

The Perry Hall Community Chorale, under the direction of Don Appel, will present a concert here at PHUMC on Friday, June 10th, at 7:00 pm.

The concert is open to the public, and you are invited to come enjoy an evening of wonderful music!

There is no charge for the concert, but a goodwill offering will be taken to benefit the church.



Sunday School News

The year has flown by and it is time for our Sunday School to celebrate with their closing program. Students and teachers will join us at the beginning of the 9:30 am worship service on Sunday, June 12th. Then following a short program, they will be excused to go to their regular classes.

There will be no Sunday School for younger grades during the summer, but 4th grade and older will still be having class, as usual.



News from our Members

Happy Anniversary wishes go out to **Barry and Vivian Creasy** as they celebrated their **50th** wedding anniversary on May 20. Congratulations and best wishes for many more!

Congratulations to Layla Boyd on receiving an award from the Maryland Council on Economic Education (MCEE). Her team, consisting of herself and 3 classmates, won First Place Elementary, North Region, for their participation in "The Stock Market Game". She attended an awards ceremony at Towson State University.

In addition, Layla was also nominated by her teacher to attend the **NYLF (National Youth Leadership Forum) Pathways to STEM** in Falls Church, VA this July. In the last 8 years there have only been 2 other students nominated from her school.

This is a weeklong program through Envision that will develop lifelong success skills for those attending. It is a very exciting chance for Layla to grow those leadership, scholarship, and maturity areas that gained her the nomination.

Perry Scope Addition

Another of our Graduates:



Luke Stewart is graduating from Rosedale Christian Academy. He will be attending CCBC while he decides what comes next. Penny Baker is his grandmother.

Best wishes Luke!