

October 2023



The Perry Scope

Perry Hall United Methodist Church Newsletter
9515 Belair Road, Nottingham, MD 21236



A Message from The Pastor

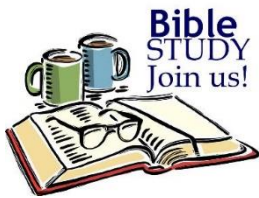
Have you ever lost something and found it after long and frantic searching? We have all lost things, some trivial and others important. We can feel annoyed if it is something small, the pen we were just using, for example. We can get a terrible sick feeling if it is something important, like an important document or our wallet. If we do find the important something we were looking for, then we can be hugely relieved and rejoice. It reminds me of the stories of the woman who swept her house looking for a lost coin and the shepherd looking for a lost sheep. When they found what they were looking for, they rejoiced and asked their friends to rejoice with them. Jesus follows those parables with the story of the prodigal son, the son who was lost and was found, the son whose father rejoiced and hosted a party to welcome him. Have you ever felt like a lost coin or a lost sheep or a lost child? We may not have felt as lost and alone as the prodigal son, but we probably have all felt lost at times. We may have felt as though we weren't sure what direction to take. We may have felt alone and without the support we needed. Do you remember the meaning of those stories of lost things being found? God is the woman and the shepherd and the father. God never stops seeking us out to gather us into a loving embrace. Whether we are a "coin" who was lost perhaps through no fault of our own, or whether we are a "sheep" who wandered away in search of something we thought was better, or whether we are a child who made bad choices, we are never, ever out of God's reach. God will always find us and gather us home; we have only to be open to being found. God's love is generous, abundant, limitless. God will gather us up like a lost coin. God will lift us up and carry us like a lost sheep. God will run to us and embrace us like a lost child. We only have to ask.

Blessings,

Pastor Margery



You are invited to come and bring your pets to our annual Blessing of the Pets service. We will meet in the parking lot for a brief service on Sunday, October 8th, at 11:30 AM. All pets are welcome; we ask that your pets are restrained on leashes or in carriers. In case of inclement weather, we will hold an abbreviated service and bless the pets in your vehicles, as necessary.



STILL TIME TO JOIN US!!!

Pastor Margery will lead a Fall Bible study for 6 weeks which is based on the book, Questions Jesus Asked by Rev. Magrey R. deVega. Rev. deVega offers six

questions which Jesus asked of others, and which invite us to a thoughtful exploration of Jesus' presence in our lives.

The study will be held:

- Mondays, Sept. 25th – Oct. 30th, at 7 pm.
- Tuesdays, Sept. 26th – Oct. 31st at 12 noon.

The cost is \$15 for the book. You may use the sign-up sheet in the narthex or email Pastor Margery by September 10th at mlwschammel61@gmail.com.



Looking forward to our Advent Study, which will be held November 27/28 – December 18/19. We will use the study, "The Heart that Grew Three Sizes" by Matt Rawle.

Remember whose heart grew three sizes at Christmas?



by
Laura Hanna

Fall has officially arrived – but summer



weather is still in our forecast!

Hopefully, you are enjoying the changing of the seasons! The pantry is in full busy mode – and September/October is

showing to be very busy. In fact, busier than when Covid was at its peak! September will most likely see over 160 families and we have over 160 families already scheduled for October! If the past is any indication of how our fall will go, we expect the numbers to increase.

To get an idea of how much the pantry has been growing this year, check out the progression from January to August!

- January – 127 families served
- January - 365 individuals served



- August - 158 families served
- August – 450 individuals served

The pantry continues to meet the needs of the families and the mission – to help those that need help! This is only possible with the wonderful support that you all have provided – with donations, with the volunteers, with the loving support from the Church families. With the fall now upon us and the holidays coming, we expect the pantry to continue to be very busy. With your help – we will continue to meet the needs of those who need extra help to fill their cupboards with food.

HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS



It is hard to believe, but the holidays are just right around the corner! If you have been to Walmart, Target or even BJ's – the Christmas and Thanksgiving decorations are out and right beside the Halloween decorations! Which is crazy but just showing us that it is time to prepare for the holidays! Every year for at least the last 20 years, PHUMC has held a holiday food basket distribution for the community. This tradition will continue and hopefully be as successful as the years past.

The **GOAL:** to distribute 50 holiday baskets for Thanksgiving and hopefully the same amount for Christmas. It will all depend on the donations received as to the number of baskets that can actually be distributed.

The **PLAN:**

- **Thanksgiving Holiday Basket Distribution** will be held on **Saturday, November 18th from 1-3 pm**
- **Christmas Holiday Basket Distribution** (if donations meet the goal) will be held on **Saturday, December 16th from 1-3 pm.**

What is in a **Holiday basket**???

A **\$15 gift card from Walmart** for a 'turkey or main entrée' - The gift card from Walmart allows the family to go and purchase their main entrée. Walmart is most affordable and has locations easily accessible for the families.

The **food items** in the "holiday basket" include:

Boxed stuffing mix, boxed mashed potatoes, canned sweet potatoes/yams, canned gravy, canned jellied cranberry sauce, boxed cake mix with icing or boxed brownie mix, boxed muffin mix, and four different canned vegetables: corn, green beans, mixed vegetables carrots or peas.

These holiday baskets come from the kindness of you – the church families! To help these donations to meet the goal, we are starting NOW to collect: You will see in the Fellowship Hall a table set up to receive the donated canned and boxed items. You may just drop

off your donated food items on the table as you pass the table. But if shopping isn't your thing, you may also donate monetarily and we will do the shopping for you! Your monetary donations and Walmart gift cards can be given on Sunday, at church, or literally drop it off at the church office or pantry. Please just identify the donation is for the holiday basket so we can budget accordingly.

In the past, we have made each week focusing on a special item – but we recognize that the sales at the stores don't necessarily match. So, you may donate any of the items each week and this allows you to take advantage of the store sales. The display in the Fellowship Hall will let you know how the donations are growing and what items are needed.

PANTRY GROCERY LIST – going shopping?

If you wonder what we continuously restock the pantry shelves with – you would be amazed! Your monetary donations and your physical donations – help keep the shelves stocked and the bags filled! We literally go through hundreds and hundreds of these items every month! God bless you for your help!

FOOD ITEMS:

Tuna fish - Cereal - Boxed /bagged rice or boxed mashed potatoes - Pasta, pasta sauce - Diced tomatoes - Canned pasta – Soup - Peanut butter – Jelly - Side dishes (like flavored rice or noodles) - Macaroni and cheese - Canned beans: pork/beans, black beans, kidney beans - Canned vegetables: peas, potatoes, corn carrots, mixed vegetables, green beans - Canned fruit: peaches, pears, mixed fruit, applesauce - Ramen noodles - Boxed crackers or cookies - Canned chili - Canned meat like spam or canned chicken.

NON-FOOD ITEMS:

Shampoo - Soap – Toothpaste – Detergent -Toilet paper

MONETARY DONATIONS

Just a reminder – if you wish to make a monetary donation to the pantry, your gift will be spent on buying items from the list above. We constantly are 'restocking' the shelves with purchases from Aldi's; Dollar Tree; and even Wegmans! All monetary donations go literally to food items and personal hygiene items that we buy in quantities of 60 – 100! (we do get funny looks from people when we have 100 bottles of shampoo going out the door 😊) So if you wish to donate in a monetary form and have us do the shopping – that will be perfectly ok!

In either case, your physical or monetary donations are literally what keep the shelves filled and the success of the Church's mission going all these years. **Thanks!**



Month of OCTOBER

Acolyte

10/1 Lily VanHook
10/8 Sophia VanHook
10/15 Trystan Boyd
10/22 Sydney Lee
10/29 Catherine Reinhart

Children's Story

Heather Mager
Sherri Wilmer
Pastor Margery
Debbie Siegert
Denise Boyd

Altar Guild

9/30 Lois Welsh – Bettye Gramlich
10/7 Kay Pokrzywa – Gloria Barlow
10/14 Peggy Whiting – Judy Mayes
10/21 Kim Cole – Heather Zell
& Peggy Winchester
10/28 Christy Moore – Pat Walter



The trustees, with the expertise of Dewayne Rye, were able to avoid a major foundation issue that was causing the flood in the meeting room. Dewayne was able to diagnose the problem and the trustees voted to move forward with the solution. In a quick 7 day turnaround Dewayne completed the project to avoid a major foundation issue.

We also had 3 new sump pumps installed in the kitchen, storeroom, and the stairwell. These will help to stop flooding, as well.

The trustees are in the process of getting several quotes on a new roof for the education wing. This needs to be done to stop the leaks we have in some classrooms that are causing structural damage.

- Melanie Nolet



Children & Family Ministry

PICNIC TIME!

A huge thank-you to my Sunday School class and Ms. Joyce Ziegler for hosting our third annual picnic. It was well attended, and everyone seemed to have fun and enjoy the delicious food. There were lots of games, croquet, ring toss, bean bag toss, bowling etc. If you came and supported our children, thank you.

The children have finished our rock garden with the help of the United Women in Faith group. If you have

not seen it, please stop by and have a peek. It is a quiet place to stop and commune with God for a few minutes.

- Debbie Siegert



Adult Ministries held another Meet & Greet night on September 19 from 7-9 pm at Silver Spring Mining Co. In

addition, we also played a lively game of Trivia.

We had nine people in attendance. It was a fun evening spent relaxing and enjoying each other's company. Everyone seemed to enjoy playing Trivia.

All in all, it was an enjoyable evening. Looking forward to next year and maybe we will see you there!

We have been mulling over a possible event for Thanksgiving week. If we provided the turkey, and everyone attending brought their favorite side dish, it might resemble the early Christian Church where everyone celebrated together as the family of God.

We will provide more details in the November Perry Scope. Until then, feel free to offer suggestions!

- Peggy Whiting and Margaret Hubbard

Special note from Peggy Whiting....

I'm guessing that a lot of you receive calendars from non-profit organizations like I do. Most of them are quite nice and many are beautiful!

Please do not throw them away! I collect them and we give them out to our families who come to the Food Pantry. Most of them are delighted to receive them and it's such an easy thing for us to do.

You can give them to me or you can turn them in to the church office or leave them at the Pantry door.

Thank you!! Peggy, 443-257-2874



by
Joyce
Ziegler

Just a heads up that it's almost time for SHOEBOXES! On October 8th, we will be kicking off our annual Operation Christmas Child Shoebox ministry project and look forward to watching those shoeboxes filled with love, toiletries, school supplies and awesome goodies come in to PHUMC.



National Collection Week this year is November 13-20.

I am so excited to share that last year, Samaritan's Purse packed its 200 millionth shoebox, which was sent

to a very thankful child in Ukraine. More to follow on that!

Thanks to your faithful support for this wonderful outreach, we were able to send 126 shoeboxes off to 126 excited children somewhere in the world last November. And they were then able to learn about God's love for them, the very BEST part of this unbelievable ministry.

Watch for more information coming soon. Thank you again!



- Debbie Siegert

Calling all women in our church. If you have not attended a meeting, you are missing out. This month we

Painted rocks and had a good time getting to know one another. We look forward to our Birthday Party for Jesus in December and a paint night in January. Please come out and join us and bring a friend.



- Dan Walker

The UMM is starting a plan to read the Bible in a year, as well as trying to keep a personal journal and taking part in a Bible study. We plan to be taking part in the upcoming activities going on (coffee hour, picnic, flea market, etc).



★ On October 21st, we will be having a **Flea Market from 8 am – 2 pm**. We will need lots of people to help in so many ways. First we need your items to SELL! Start cleaning out those closets, basements, and garages NOW and bring us all the great items you have for us. When you bring items in, please put them in the Fellowship Hall on the table by the piano. We will need people to help mark prices on all the items that come in. We will need people to help the day of the Flea Market to cashier as well as help facilitate the flow of customers. We also need people to help in the food area. We will be selling coffee and snacks in the morning, then we hope to have our Pit Beef Stand starting at 10:30 am.

★ October 29th is a 5th Sunday, so we will be having a Pot Luck Luncheon. The theme will be Halloween!! Look for more information on that later!

★ On November 11th, we will be bringing back our **Turkey and Ham Dinner!** It has been quite a few years, but people are STILL asking for it! Keep the date in mind. You know how much help we need for this venture!



Folk Music Night: October 28,
7-10 p.m., featuring
Steven Gellman,
(<https://www.hiddenpoet.com/>),

with Margaret Wolfe. Steven Gellman is a quintessential folk singer-songwriter with insightful original songs and homespun stories that provide a soul-warming folk rock respite in a busy, chilly world. His songs tell stories of everyday life wrapped in notes that will have you humming along in a style that Billboard Magazine has described as "intensely sensitive and impressively intelligent at the same time." Their set starts around 8:15. The evening begins with an "open mic" at 7:00. The open mic resumes after Steven's set. **Admission is free**, but donations are welcome. The Folk Music Night schedule, along with additional information, may be found at <http://www.folkmusicnight.com/>. Questions may be directed to Neil Zimmerman: 410-529-7176 or ndzimmer@comcast.net.

- Neil Zimmerman



**Perry Hall Community
Chorale**

Perry Hall Chorale Concert Program

Sunday, October 1, 2023 at 3:00 P.M.

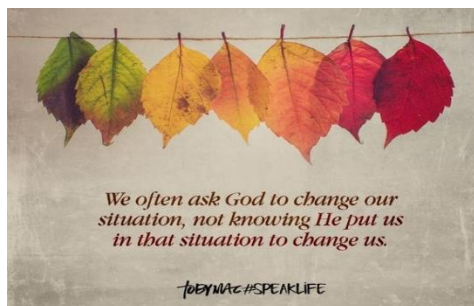
Perry Hall UMC

"Jazz, Pop and a Side of Rock"

---- Don't miss this!! ----

This concert will feature works of Cole Porter, George Gershwin, and the Beatles along with traditional and popular Christian composers. The concert includes choral and solo singing, instruments, narration and dance. It is suitable for the entire family.

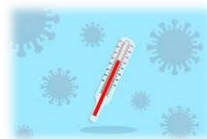
There is no admission charge; a free will offering will be taken and donated to the church.



- October**
- 1** – Coffee Hour
 - "Jazz, Pop and a Side of Rock" 3 pm
 - 2** – Bible Study 7 pm
 - 3** – Bible Study 12 noon
 - 5** – WISH Group 10 am
 - United Women in Faith 7 pm
 - 8** – Coffee Hour
 - Blessing of the Animals 11:30 am
 - 9** – Bible Study 7 pm
 - 10** – Bible Study 12 noon
 - 12** – Price Flea Market Items --4 pm & 6-9 pm
 - 15** – Coffee Hour
 - Private Party in FH 2:30-7 pm
 - November Perry Scope articles due
 - 16** – Bible Study 7 pm
 - 17** – Bible Study 12 noon
 - Charge Conference 6:30 pm
 - 19** – Set up Fellowship Hall 1-4 pm & 6-9 pm
 - United Methodist Men 7 pm
 - 20** – Set up Fellowship Hall 9 am-3 pm
 - 21** – Flea Market 8 am-2 pm
 - Pit Beef, Ham & Turkey 10 am-2 pm
 - 22** – Coffee Hour
 - 23** – Bible Study 7 pm
 - 24** – Perry Scope Mailing 11 am
 - Bible Study 12 noon
 - 26** – Metal Detector Group
 - 28** – Folk Music Night 7 pm
 - 29** – "Halloween" Luncheon 10:45
 - 30** – Bible Study 7 pm
 - 31** – Bible Study 12 noon



Important News



As you may have heard, Covid and flu cases are on the rise again. In order to keep us all as safe as possible, please be sure to contact

your personal care provider with any questions or concerns and follow his/her instructions.

Please know that we care about your well-being and stand behind your choice as to whether or not to wear a mask. Masks *will* be available in the Narthex for those who choose to use one. Let's all use good judgement and have a safe and healthy fall and winter season!

