

November 2023



The Perry Scope

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



A Message from The Pastor

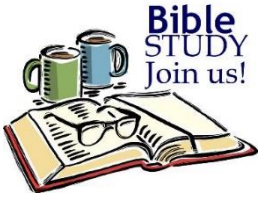
As many of you know, I have a small elderly dog. Our morning walks are often a source of peace for me as we wander in the neighborhood, greeting his canine pals and their humans, startling deer or a fox and greeting the day. Our walks have been a source of gratitude and wonder for me lately. It is mid-October as I am writing this, and we have had a damp Fall. The yards in the neighborhood

have become meadows of fungi, as mushrooms (toadstools?) spring up seemingly overnight. One group of fungi is particularly close to the road and a curiosity for Max. I have watched the progression of these mushrooms from closed bulb shapes to open umbrella shapes to broken bits in the grass. I have been so grateful for the glimpse into this unique life form. Each day, I thank God for the diversity of life we experience. Just in this one space next to our street, there are myriad forms of life, some of which I can see and most of which I cannot. How wondrous is our God to provide us with amazing differences to learn about and admire! This month is a time to focus on thankfulness. I would like to challenge us all to notice reasons to give God thanks every day this month and maybe we can share those gathered reasons with our family and friends on Thanksgiving Day. We could take pictures or write lists or make a note in our calendar so that we have a treasure of gratitude to add to all the reasons we give thanks on this special holiday. I love Thanksgiving because it is a time, not for gift giving, but a time to share food and fellowship. May God bless you during November with abundant reasons for thanksgiving!

Blessings,

Pastor Margery





ADVENT STUDY BEGINS

Our Advent Bible study begins the end of this month! The 4 week study begins on Monday, Nov. 27th, at 7:00pm and on Tuesday, Nov. 28th, at Noon, and

ends on Dec. 18th and Dec. 19th. We will read the book, The Heart that Grew Three Sizes by Matt Rawle. The cost for the book is \$15. You may use the sign up sheet in the narthex or email Pastor Margery.



by
Laura Hanna

Each month we try to let you know what is

going on at the pantry. If you were not able to come to the open house that was held on October 1st (and enjoy Dave’s cookies!), the following will give you an idea of what we were sharing with those that came for the visit!

PHUMC FOOD PANTRY FACTS, TIDBITS, INFO!

*The pantry has been helping the community since long before the year 2000.

*The pantry is open every Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday with hours from 9-12

*There are 31 volunteers that keep the pantry running smoothly – some volunteer every week while some once a month – but all are truly amazing people.



* We are partnered with the Maryland Food Bank – we receive their donation (about 3000 pounds of frozen and non-perishable items) once a month.

*All pantry families come by appointments (so we are prepared for them)

*Since January, the pantry has served over 1270 families.

*We are growing each week: in January, the pantry served about 124 families – while in September the pantry served about 160! The phone keeps ringing - October has over 170 scheduled appointments!

*The pantry gives help once a month to a family in need – some families come for only a few months while other families come for a much longer period time.

*The pantry generally receives 4- 6 calls a week from someone new looking for help. In the first 12 days of October, we have added 14 new families!

*Each family generally receives about 9-10 different bags of groceries – which include: frozen meat; bread products; non-perishables and perishables; and personal products.

*Since January, the pantry has given out over 12,000 bags of groceries.

*The pantry is supplied strictly by donations: Maryland Food Bank donates about 30-35% (around 3000 pounds of non-perishables/perishables including meat/poultry/fish once a month) of the pantry’s food while the community donates 65-70% of non-perishable food items that stock the shelves. We also receive from Weis Bakery/Market on Joppa Rd donated bread products and desserts/sweets twice a week, as well!

*ALL monetary donations that we receive go strictly to purchasing needed items – we shop at Aldis, Dollar Tree, and Wegmans - generally every 2 weeks. We literally shop for cases and cases of items to keep the shelves and bags filled.



*We try to be consistent on the donations given or purchases - so we have specific items that we keep in stock:

FOOD ITEMS:

Tuna fish - Cereal - Boxed /bagged rice (2# size) 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

*The pantry also tries to keep available: diapers; incontinent products; feminine hygiene products; baby food/formula; and dried milk

*We depend heavily on food drives by outside organizations (from the Ravens Roost to school food drives to Scouts to other churches to) WE LOVE FOOD DRIVES!!!!



*The pantry has 2 collections sites: the Giant on Belair Rd near Outback and the Weis on Joppa Rd near Belair Rd. Both sites have collection bins where donations can be left. Our volunteers collect from the bins twice a week!!

*All donations are checked to make sure the items are ‘in date’ and ‘not damaged nor open’ before they go on the shelves to be given out.

*The pantry may be small in size but big in heart! The love of the community in donations keeps the love and hope giving towards the families it serves!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT TO THE PHUMC FOOD PANTRY! You truly make a difference in so many lives!

HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS

For at least the last 20 years, PHUMC has sponsored a holiday basket distribution to the community. If you think about this wonderful giving – that is at least 2000 thousand turkeys and all the fixings that goes with the holiday dinner, that have been given to families within the community. The smiles, the laughter, the joy that you have brought to so many are memories of love. It is that time of year where the holiday basket food drive is in full swing! In fact, the **Thanksgiving Basket Distribution is November 18th from 1-3 pm** and that is literally less than a month away!

Our goal is “50 baskets” for Thanksgiving and possibly 50 more baskets for Christmas. This cherished event is very much dependent on all of us to be able to reach the goals. How can you help?? We are in need of the 13 items that fills the baskets:

- \$15 Walmart Gift Card
- 1 Box of Mashed Potatoes
- 1 Med. Size can of Yams
- 1 can of Jellied Cranberry Sauce
- 1 can of gravy
- 1 box of stuffing mix
- 1 can of green beans
- 1 can of corn
- 1 can of mixed vegetables
- 1 can of peas or carrots
- 1 box of muffin mix
- 1 box of cake mix with icing or 1 box of brownie mix

If you wonder what these 13 items would cost at Walmart, it is about \$30! Yes – inflation has made the basket go from about \$25 last year to about \$30 this year. While inflation at the grocery store has hurt everyone, it also makes your gift worth so much more to the community that you are giving holiday blessings.

You can help us reach our goal by **November 11th** in 2 ways:

- a) As you shop for yourself and your family, enjoy shopping for the holiday basket as well! There is a table set up in the Fellowship Hall showing a basket and the items needed and is waiting for your blessings! You can help make the ‘graph’ on the table grow and grow!
- b) If shopping is not your ‘fun thing to do’ – that is ok, for we can shop for you! Your monetary donations will go to buy cases of the listed items and fill in any gaps! You can just drop your donation off while you are at Sunday service or directly at the office or even in the mailbox outside the office door. Just identify your donation to be used for the Holiday basket and we will take care of the shopping for you!

This tradition has made hundreds of families enjoy their holiday with family and friends – your kindness and generosity is the reason! Thank you and keep an eye on the ‘graph’ showing our drive’s success located in the Fellowship Hall. If you are doing the shopping, feel free to add your donations to the table -and you will help the graph grow!



Family
12012 Belair Road
Kingsville, MD 21087

ye on the ‘graph’ showing our drive’s success located in the Fellowship Hall. If you are doing the shopping, feel free to add your donations to the table -and you will help the graph grow!



Month of NOVEMBER

	<u>Acolyte</u>	<u>Children’s Story</u>
11/5	Leona Mager	Carole Webner
11/12	Sophia VanHook	Debbie Siegert
11/19	Lily VanHook	Sherri Wilmer
11/26	Trystan Boyd	Pastor Margery

Altar Guild

11/4	Lois Welsh – Bettye Gramlich
11/11	Kay Pokrzywa – Gloria Barlow
11/18	Peggy Whiting – Judy Mayes
11/25	Everyone Available



Due to schedule conflicts, our hope to have a communal Thanksgiving meal could not happen, but we hope to follow up with a similar event after the first of the year. Also, we are always open to suggestions from the congregation.

- 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



★ On Sunday, **November 19th**, at **2:00 pm** in the Sanctuary, Mark Kraus will present a lecture on the assassination of President John F., Kennedy. Sixty years after one of the darkest moments in our nation's history, questions still persist. Mr. Kraus will provide a comprehensive overview of the basic elements surrounding the assassination. **After 50 years of research**, he will offer an educated opinion of what happened on November 22, 1963 and why it still matters today. His presentation will run for just over an hour.

★ On Sunday, November 26th, at 2:00 pm, Don Appel will present an Organ Recital in the Sanctuary. The recital is free to all. A love offering will be taken.

We certainly wish everyone a restful and peaceful month of November. Although we have just a few events happening this month, December is totally FULL!! Check out the "Looking Ahead" article for more information!



Folk Music Night:
November 18, 7-10 p.m.,
featuring **Clymer & Kurtz**

(<https://www.clymerkurtz.com/>). Folk-rock singer-songwriter duo Clymer & Kurtz seamlessly blends intense and gentle melodies textured with harmonies, agile and inventive guitar playing, piano, and sometimes percussion. Based in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, Maria Clymer and Christopher Kurtz have collaborated for decades. Their set starts around 8:15. The evening begins with an "open mic" at 7:00. The open mic resumes after Clymer & Kurtz'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



All Saints Sunday – November 5th

Send in the names of friends and loved ones who have passed in the last year so we can honor them on All Saints Sunday. Call the church office at 410-256-6479, or email to perryhallumc@verizon.net.

- November**
- 2** – WISH Group 10:30 am
 - United Women in Faith 7 pm
 - 4** – Thrift Shop open 9 am-12 pm
 - 5** – All Saints Sunday
 - Coffee Hour
 - 7** – Bible Class with Sherry Wilmer 11 am
 - 9** – Finance Meeting 7 pm
 - 11** – Thrift Shop open 9 am-12 pm
 - 12** – Veteran's Sunday
 - Coffee Hour
 - 14** – Trustee's Meeting 7 pm
 - 15** – Dec./January Perry Scope articles due
 - 16** – United Methodist Men
 - 18** – Thrift Shop open 9 am-12 pm
 - Folk Music Night 7 pm
 - 19** – Coffee Hour after church
 - JFK Lecture, Mark Krause 2 pm
 - 21** – Bible Class with Sherry Wilmer 11 am
 - 25** – Thrift Shop open 9 am-12 pm
 - PH Chorale, Dress Rehearsal, Sanc. 1:30-3:30 pm
 - 26** – Coffee Hour after church
 - Organ Recital, Don Appel 2 pm
 - 27** – Bible Study 7 pm
 - 28** – Perry Scope Mailing 11 am
 - Bible Study 12 noon
 - Ad Council Meeting 7 pm



👁️ Looking Ahead!

-  Saturday, December 9 – Breakfast with Santa, From 9:30 – 11:30 am
-  Sunday, December 10 – Christmas Tea and Gingerbread House Decorating after church
-  Sunday, December 10 – Perry Hall Choral Concert in Sanctuary, 3 pm
-  Sunday, December 17 - Birthday Party for Jesus, in the Fellowship Hall after church
-  Sunday, December 24 – Morning worship 9:30 am
Christmas Eve Candlelight Services, 7 and 11 pm
Christmas Concert 10:30 pm
-  Sunday, December 31 – Service of Lessons and Carols



Opportunities to serve God and your church!

The Nominations/Lay Leadership Committee has been meeting and would like to invite you to seize the opportunity to consider serving God through serving Perry Hall UMC. Please review the brief descriptions of committees and pray about how God might be nudging you to serve. Committees typically meet once every 2 months throughout the year. You may contact any member of the Nominations Committee: Peggy Whiting, Shannon VanHook, Peggy Winchester, Sharon Hall, Gloria Barlow, Pastor Margery.

Staff Parish Relations Committee functions as the HR committee of the church. They are responsible for the paid staff, hiring, evaluating, and setting salaries. They also serve as liaison between the pastor and the congregation. They serve in a highly confidential context.

Education functions in several areas, including Sunday school, Vacation Bible School, confirmation classes, and other learning opportunities that may arise. Responsibilities may include organizing VBS or other events, teaching a class, serving in a support role like preparing supplies or snacks, and praying for our children on a regular basis.

Age/Family Ministries are actually several committees which serve to provide fellowship and fun for our children, youth, and adults. These events may be intergenerational or age specific.

The Worship Committee is responsible for all the visible and behind-the-scenes tasks which make our worship services possible, including those special services which happen throughout the church year. Members of this

committee work closely with the pastor and the music staff.

The Special Events Committee is responsible for all those wonderful fun times we enjoy throughout the year, such as the spaghetti dinners, the church picnic, and the delicious sub sales. This committee typically plans events around food and fun.

The Trustees Committee is responsible for the maintenance and care of the church property, sometimes with hands on work on the property and sometimes overseeing the work of others on the property. This is a committee which cares for the legal side of the church, such as our insurance policies, leases, and contracts for repair, maintenance, or updates of the property and major equipment.

We are blessed to have two major mission opportunities right in our own church; the Food Pantry and the Thrift Shop! We also support other missions, such as the Operation Christmas Child mission. If you have "Holy Spirit nudges" for other mission ideas, please contact Pastor Margery.

The Finance Committee is responsible for overseeing the finances of the church, including setting careful policies for the handling of funds and stewardship of those funds. Members of this committee serve best when they understand money management and budgeting. All church committee members are expected to be persons of integrity, but members of the Finance committee have particular responsibility to be persons of honor.

The Coffee Hour Committee is a group of persons who love to provide a regular chance for those who attend church to chat and enjoy a goodie or two with a cup of coffee or tea. This is a ministry of hospitality for both our regular worship attendees and those who may be guests.

Communications is vital for the function of all our committees. The Communications experts support our church's online presence, our email, and our information flow to the greater community.

There are more opportunities than those listed! Every follower of Christ is also called by Christ to work in his kingdom, as our gifts and experience, skills and interests allow. Please prayerfully consider if God is calling you to serve here at Perry Hall UMC.

Now Thank We All Our God

Now thank we all our God,
with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
in Whom this world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.



by Martin Rinkart