

September 2025



The Perry Scope

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



A Message from The Pastor

Many years ago, I learned that change is hard, whether the change is positive and welcome or negative and definitely unwelcome. Change is hard because we need to become someone different. We will not be who we are now. The difference may be small or huge. We may kind of know what to expect, or it may be a total surprise. That can be scary. Sometimes, we are ready to be made different, like when we are trying to lose weight. Sometimes, we absolutely don't want to change, like when we are injured.

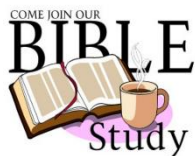
All change involves loss. We lose the way things were; we lose the way we were before. Loss will cause grief. Even the smallest of changes will cause a little grief. We need to let go of what we lose and be open to accepting the new that is coming. Following Jesus is a life of constant change. God asks us to change every day, to examine ourselves and repent, to seek for and to grant forgiveness, to grow in our understanding and our actions as we strive to become more Christ-like. Does that mean we live in constant grief? No, of course not! The change of becoming the person God created us to be is a source of joy and peace and fulfillment. There may be times when we do feel some anxiety or grief, but the joy of growing as disciples and growing closer to God is worth the difficulty of change.

I offer this prayer:

Loving and almighty God, thank you for being with us in all of life's changes. Please grant us the strength, patience, peace and joy that we need as we grow more and more into the person you have created us to be. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Blessings,
Pastor Margery





Pastor Margery will lead a 5 week study based on Adam Hamilton's book, Half Truths; God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other

Things the Bible Doesn't Say. The study will be Monday evenings, Oct. 13th – Nov. 10th and Tuesdays at 11:00am, Oct. 14th – Nov. 11th. Books cost \$15.00.

What does the Bible really say? Join the study to examine common Christian sayings in light of the actual words of scripture.

Please let Pastor Margery know by Sept. 22nd if you will join the study, so we can be sure to have enough books. You may pick up your book in the church office starting on September 21st; please indicate your name, how many books you took, and whether you paid.

Save the Dates! The Advent study, based on the book An Unlikely Advent, by Rachel Billups will be Mon. Nov. 24- Dec. 15 and Tues. Nov. 25- Dec 16.



Our annual Church Conference will be held on Saturday, October 18th, 9:00AM, at Towson United Methodist Church. Everyone is invited to attend this annual meeting during which the church leadership and pastor's compensation is set for the following

year. Other reports are also given to the Annual conference at this time. Although everyone is free to attend, only full members of the church may vote. All Church Conferences will be held in person, with no online options available. We will be meeting with other churches in our Hub, the Baltimore Beltway North Hub. Towson UMC is located at 501 Hampton Lane, Towson. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Margery.



By Laura Hanna

Can you believe it - summer is quickly coming to a 'close' - at least for

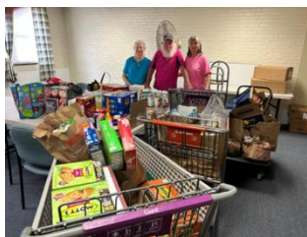
the children! We hope you had a wonderful summer and got to enjoy the sunny days (when the temperature wasn't above 90 and the monsoon rain wasn't falling!)



While the summer vacations were occurring for you and your families, the pantry has been very busy (as usual). During June, July, and August the pantry served (or will serve) approximately 450+ families (this works

out to over 1000 individuals and about 4000+ bags of food given).

UPDATE: On July 26th we held our summer 'Drive - thru, drop-off Food drive) from 1-3 pm. The Food drive was a great success in donations and Mother Nature



even cooperated (no rain and the temperature was reasonable!). Big THANK YOU to Pastor Margery, Peggy Winchester, Mary Sebald, and Harold Loggins, These heroes collected, processed,

and put away the hundreds of donated canned goods and non-perishables that were received! By 4 pm everything was all completed and on the shelves! Thank you to all who stopped by with their donations - you truly helped make the shelves get full again.

SAVE THE DATE on your calendar: As Labor Day is almost here and the Halloween (and even Christmas) decorations are out on the store shelves - it is time to start thinking about fall and yes, the holidays! Every



year for the past 20+ years, the families of PHUMC have been enormously generous and provide full holiday meals to those who

asked for help. As the tradition continues, the menu option will remain the same - from the cranberry sauce to the turkey! What we know is that costs have increased in food and we recognize the budgets of everyone. Our goal is still 50 families for Thanksgiving and possibly 50 families for Christmas.

With that said, the annual Holiday Basket distributions will occur on:

*****Saturday, November 22nd from 1-3 pm**

*****Saturday, December 13th from 1-3 pm (if donations are goal met)**

More information/reminders will be coming along, but here are the items that will be collected/provided for the holiday meal distribution:

- *Canned green beans, corn, mixed vegetables, carrots
- *Canned jellied cranberry sauce
- *Canned turkey or brown gravy
- *Canned sweet potatoes (medium size)
- *Boxed Mashed potatoes
- *Boxed corn muffin mix
- *Boxed stuffing mix
- *Boxed brownie mix or Boxed cake mix with icing
- *Gift card from Walmart for \$15 (to provide Turkey, ham, etc and possibly fresh produce)

Collections for holiday baskets will start the first week of October and run throughout the holiday season!



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED
SUPPORT TO THE PANTRY!! YOUR
DONATIONS TRULY MAKES A POSITIVE
DIFFERENCE!**



by Denise Boyd

Our Trustees, along with many other helpers, have been busy over the summer carrying out our plan to clean up, organize, and beautify our church.

So far we have accomplished the sorting and purging of boxes and boxes of files, pictures, paperwork, etc. They are just waiting to be moved into their new home in Don's old office (next to the library). This will be our Archive Room.

But where did Don go? Look across the hall in the old parlor. We have removed unwanted furniture, taken out the old rug, cleaned the floors, put in new molding around the baseboard, and we are now in the midst of moving Don into his new, more spacious office!

Next on the list will be cleaning out the library which will become our new Meeting Room. And what happened to our OLD meeting room? It is now much needed additional storage space for both the Food Pantry and the Thrift Shop!

The Girl Scouts have done a fabulous job painting our Fellowship Hall. Now, complete with new curtains and mini blinds, we have a gorgeous, fresh look!

We need to do a bit more painting in certain areas yet, as well as cleaning and minor repairs. But things are coming along nicely.

It looks like the third or fourth week of September will be our "Dumpster Filling" event. Look for an email later with a firm date. We will need all the help we can muster up to carry out all the unwanted items we have collected. We hope we can count on you to help us!



*Carole Webner, for
the Sunday School Team*

I would like to start out with a note of thanks to all of our summer

Sunday school teachers. We wouldn't be able to have Sunday school without their willingness to serve and share their faith with our children. Thank you all!

We need your helping hands. There is still a great need for Sunday school teachers. We would love to have at least 2 adults for every class. If we could have a team of at least 2 teachers, then they could take turns

teaching and attending worship. If you do not feel called to teach, but would love to help in the classroom, you may be the second adult presence which fulfills our Safe Gatherings policy. You would help with passing out supplies, stand in the hallway if a child needs to use the restroom, and generally be a big help to the teacher.

We are willing to work with you to come up with a schedule that fits the Sunday school program and your time. We have the curriculum for fall. All of our teachers and helpers need to complete the "Safe Gatherings" application online. It's a simple process that is required by all persons in the United Methodist Church that work with our children. Please contact me at carolewebner@hotmail.com as soon as possible if you are willing to share your gift of teaching.

We celebrated going back to school for all our students with the blessing of the backpacks on August 24th. We wish all our students a happy and successful year of learning.

Sunday School for all ages will begin on September 7th. There will be a blessing of all those who teach and lead our education ministry during our worship service at 9:30. Please join us and celebrate this ministry. Following worship and Sunday school there will be a church picnic. Fun, Food and Fellowship for everyone! If you have not done so yet please fill out the signup sheet in the Narthex to let us know you are attending.

Thank you for your continued support of our Sunday school program.



Gloria Barlow hosted a pool party for the Sunday School children in July. It was a raving success.

We will be having a Sunday school picnic in September and are planning to have a Family Fun Fall event in October. Keep posted for more details. *— Brenda Reinhart*



by Kathy Loggins

The thrift store will be having our bag sale beginning Saturday, August 23th,

Saturday August 30th, and Saturday September 6th. Come and stuff a brown paper grocery bag for \$5.00 or a white plastic bag for \$10.00.

The thrift store will be closed September 13th and September 20th for changing over to fall/ winter merchandise.

We appreciate all the donations we are receiving to support our customers and community.

A big thank you to the church for providing us the much needed extra space.

Thank you to all our great volunteers without you we could not do God's work.



Folk Music Night: September 13th, 7-10 p.m., featuring Zeb Gould.

(<https://www.zebgould.com/>).

Zeb Gould is a fingerstyle guitarist and singer-songwriter based out of Upstate New York. His playing reflects the work of artists such as Leo Kottke and John Fahey, whose music he studied extensively. He has an insight and appreciation for composition that many of his fingerpicking peers lack. His set starts around 8:15. The evening begins with an "open mic" at 7:00. The open mic resumes after Zeb'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.



Drive-thru Dinners

After a summer break, our Drive-thru Dinners are ready to go again! Come by on the 1st

Saturday of every month from 4-6 pm and pick up a delicious Spaghetti Dinner, packed with everything you need for a complete dinner. *A big serving of spaghetti, two GIANT meatballs (that are to DIE for!), a salad – including croutons and dressing, dessert, and a drink.* At just \$15, and NO TAX OR TIP, you can take the night off from the kitchen and relax with a yummy meal.

We are also going to try something new in September. On Saturday, the 20th, drive by for a complete chicken dinner! *Baked chicken breast, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, corn, roll, dessert, and a drink.* And again, just \$15 with NO TAX OR TIP!

But you say you miss eating with your friends from church?? Well, just make plans to come at the same time, pick up your to-go meals, meet in the Fellowship Hall and sit down and enjoy your meals together! **THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS!!**

We look forward to seeing you at the Drive-thru!



Ah, September! You are the doorway to the season that awakens my soul. -Peggy Toney Horten



The W.I.S.H. group meets the first Thursday of each month at 10:30 am. Our next meeting is scheduled for September 4th. All are welcome to join us!



KC Dance & Fitness

**DANCE CLASSES
FOR AGES 3-12!!**

Be a part of our **10TH SEASON** at Perry Hall United Methodist Church! Our classes are held on Friday evenings in Fellowship Hall and are open to church members and the community.

- Intro to Dance - ages 3-5 (5:30-6:15pm)
- Beg and Int Ballet - ages 5-12 (6:30-7:30pm)
- Beg and Int Hip Hop - ages 5-12 (7:30-8:30pm)

For more information and to register, visit www.kcdanceandfitness.com. See you on the dance floor!

KC DANCE AND FITNESS EVENING CLASSES IN PERRY HALL



JOIN IN ON THE FUN!

FRIDAYS

Intro to Dance (ages 3-5) 5:30-6:15

Beg & Int Ballet (ages 5-12) 6:30-7:30

Beg & Int Hip Hop (ages 5-12) 7:30-8:30

Register now at <https://www.kcdanceandfitness.com/>

**At Perry Hall United
Methodist Church**





Calling All Calendars!

Many of us receive numerous calendars from non-profit organizations during the summer and fall. Most of them are lovely with scenes from different locations in our country and abroad. Pictures of wildlife, flowers, and gorgeous scenery reminding us of the treasures we are in danger of losing.

Some are full of beautiful artwork or photography. Others are full of humor and nostalgia. All are good.

Every yearend the Food Pantry collects those that many of you donate, and we include them with the bags of food our families receive. Many have expressed appreciation for this gift from you. They are useful and attractive and FREE!

Have you seen the prices charged for one's large enough to be hung on the fridge?

You can bring in all that you have and drop them off at the pantry, church office, pantry mailbox, or give them to me, Peggy Whiting, on Sundays.

Thank you! We will collect them all year.



A Special Thank You!
by Denise Boyd

On behalf of the entire congregation of PHUMC, we want to express our sincere thanks to the young ladies in **Troop 246**, and



their leaders, for the fabulous job they did painting our Fellowship Hall! The girls worked very hard to earn their Bronze Award. We are so



appreciative for the beautiful work that they did.



If you haven't had the chance to check it out, please stop in and have a look! We can't wait to see what other projects the troops will be working on this year!



Do you know that we have seven different girl scout troops that use our building for their meeting place? They range in ages from Kindergarten through 12th grade. They are Troops 1021, 4134, 4321, 801, 1112, 456, and 246.

If you have a young girl in your life who is interested in Girl Scouts, you can contact Shannon Van Hook for information.



Drive-thru Spaghetti Dinner – September 6th, 4-6 pm.



Drive-thru (or eat in!) Chicken Dinner – September 20th, 4-6 pm.



- September**
- 1 – Labor Day
 - 6 – Thrift Shop open 9 am-12 pm
– Drive-thru Spaghetti 4-6 pm
 - 7 – Church Picnic after church
 - 9 – Trustees Meeting 7 pm
 - 10 – Choir and band rehearsal 7 pm
 - 11 – United Women in Faith 7 pm
 - 13 – Thrift Shop open 9 am-12 pm
– Folk Music Night 7 pm
 - 14 – Coffee Hour after church
 - 16 – Finance Meeting 7 pm
 - 17 – Choir and band rehearsal 7 pm
 - 18 – United Methodist Men 7 pm
 - 20 – Thrift Shop open 9 am-12 pm
– Drive-thru Chicken 4-6 pm
 - 21 – Coffee Hour after church

- 23 – Ad Council Meeting 7 pm
- 24 – Choir and band Rehearsal 7 pm
- 25 – Fibers of Love Crocheting 6 pm
- 27 – Thrift Shop open 9 am-12 pm
- 28 – Coffee Hour after church



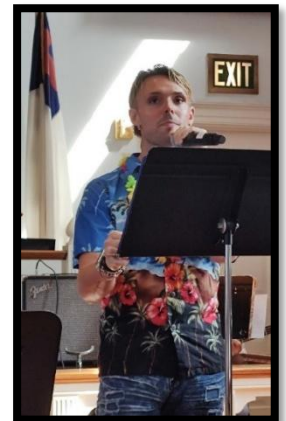
Brian Wilson Tribute Concert

Presented by Don Appel & Friends

Article and pictures submitted by Debra Gayles

This musical event was yet another excellent entertaining concert production from our musical director, Don Appel. The performances were Great and brought back memories of Brian Wilson. The show provided "Beachy" props and "Beach Boy" group slides. We also enjoyed audience fun participation!!

Thank you, Don!





Loving God, watch over our children as they begin their new school year. Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences, and a love of learning.

Guide and protect all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy. Give wisdom, patience, and joy to teachers as they serve their students.

In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.



A BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER