

November 2025



The Perry Scope

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



A Message from The Pastor



As I write this, we have just completed our Church Conference for 2025. What a joy it was to hear about the ministries of our fellow UM churches and to share highlights of our own. People in our society tend to think about the needy, hungry, and poor during this season, and we are collecting donations for our holiday food distributions. Check out the display in the Fellowship Hall or in the October issue of the Perry Scope for a list of items to donate. If you prefer, you could donate money, and someone will shop for you. The holiday food distribution does not include food from the Food Pantry, only that collected by our members and the members of Camp Chapel UMC, so please be generous.

Of course, the Food Pantry feeds people all year long; people are continually food insecure and hungry and need us to help. People also need our help through the Thrift Shop. Donations of good quality clothing and shoes are welcome throughout the seasons. We sell the items at a very low cost and provide decent clothes for those who may not be able to afford even the items sold at other types of discount pre-owned clothing stores. Our Fibers of Love mission uses our creative skills to help those in need. Camp Chapel UMC members not only help with the Food Pantry, but also shared their mission to feed others through teaching about and organizing gardens. Linden Heights UMC is reaching out to children in their neighborhood with meals and fun activities. Towson UMC members are sewing small quilts which are given to an organization which provides backpacks (with the quilts inside) to children in foster care. Together, the Hub churches are making a huge impact to spread the love of God. Let us rejoice as we build God's kingdom together!

Blessings,
Pastor Margery





Advent Bible Study: You are invited to join the Advent Study, based on the book, An Unlikely Advent by Rachel Billups. This is a 4 week study examining the

Christmas story through the lens of Zechariah and Elizabeth, Herod, the magi, and the shepherds. The book will cost \$15.00. We will meet on Mondays at 7pm, Nov. 24th – Dec. 15th and on Tuesdays at 11:00am, Nov. 25th – Dec. 16th.



Blue Christmas

Our annual "Blue Christmas" will be on Tuesday, December 16th.



by
Laura Hanna

When October started, we had 160 families scheduled to

get help from the pantry. By October 15th we had 20 additional families added to the schedule! Yes, the pantry has been very busy and the phone continues to ring from new families needing help. (In one 24-hour period we had 13 messages for help!) We do not see this need decreasing (or even slowing down) anytime soon as the pantry continues its mission.

On the brighter side, this time of year brings the community together in helping the pantry. At this writing, there are already 7 organizations/schools/ social groups planning holiday food drives. These range from White Marsh Precinct #9 to Perry Hall High School to Perry Hall Ravens Roost and local realtor Cummings & Co. We also have other schools and are waiting to hear from 8 other organizations! These holiday food drives are a true blessing for the pantry – the shelves get empty very quickly and these food drives give us some reserves to last into winter.

While we are partnered with Maryland Food Bank, even they are having a difficult time in keeping up with the demand!! The need is great across the state, across the county, across the communities. For our pantry, all donations are greatly needed and always truly appreciated! While we had been serving about 160 families a month, it is now looking to be about 180 families (or higher) during November and December. Thank you to our volunteers for handling the craziness with love, compassion, and laughter. Thank you to our

donors – big and modest – your contributions keep the shelves of the pantry filled!

Without our donors and volunteers there would not be a pantry – you are all wonderful!!!

God Bless you all!!!

Happy Thanksgiving!



ANNUAL HOLIDAY BASKETS

Believe it or not – but Thanksgiving is less than a month away which means the annual holiday basket distribution is only a few weeks away!

As we work towards the goal of bringing a holiday dinner to 50 families, do know that during these difficult times your contribution will bring a family true happiness.

Every holiday basket/bag will contain one of each of these items:

- Boxed Mashed Potatoes
- Boxed muffin mix
- Boxed stuffing mix
- Boxed Brownie mix or Boxed Cake mix w/ icing
- Canned Sweet Potatoes
- Canned Jellied Cranberry Sauce
- Canned gravy
- Canned Corn
- Canned Green Beans
- Canned Mixed Vegetables
- Canned Peas or Carrots

PLUS a \$15 gift card from Walmart for the turkey/ham.

The distribution dates that are planned are:

Definite: Thanksgiving Saturday, Nov. 22

Tentative: Christmas, Saturday, Dec. 13

**TIME:
1-3 PM**

Monetary donations: If you prefer to donate monetarily, the shopping will be done for you! Just drop off your monetary donations or gift cards in the Sunday basket OR stop by the pantry/office to drop it off.

Lastly: if you would like to help with the distribution on Saturday, Nov 22 - **we would love your help!** The work is easy - wishing the families a happy holiday and placing the holiday basket in their car! The more church members that help deliver the joyful holiday wishes - the better!! **Hope you can join us** for 2 hours of laughter, love, and holiday joy. :-)



by Denise Boyd, Chairperson

It has been another busy month for the Trustees. We continue working on the cleaning of the building and changeout of rooms.

Annual inspections of the parsonage and the entire building have been completed and reports sent in at the Church Conference. Additionally, the annual inspections of the alarm system, the fire extinguishers, the elevator, and with the Fire Marshall have been completed.

The air conditioning system has been fully repaired, FINALLY! And after changing over to heat, we had a minor glitch in that system, as well. Fortunately, we think that has been taken care of.

With a building this large it is difficult to try to keep up with the "little things" that might need repair or touch-up. Therefore, we are asking that as you travel about the building, please be aware of your surroundings. If you see anything that needs repair, replacement, or removal, please contact the church office. We would like to take care of the "little things" before they become "BIG THINGS".



*by Carole Webner...for
the Sunday School Team*

The Sunday School classes are underway and we are all learning about God's love and having so much fun. Our students from 7th-12th grade along with Debbie Siegert, Jason Reinhart and Sydney Lee shared their gifts of drama with us in worship on October 12th. "The Heavenly Express" gave us all a lesson to think about. Our students are such a blessing to our congregation.

This month we are writing notes to our veterans to thank them for their service to our country. We have a small presentation to honor the veterans of our church planned for Nov. 9th. If you would like to join us with a short note of thanks you can find a basket in the narthex with note cards to share your thoughts.

In January 2026 the Sunday School program would like to initiate a family worship Sunday once a month. On the 2nd Sunday all our students will join their families and the congregation for worship. Worshipping God is a large part of our Christian faith. Having our students in worship will be a great opportunity for them to be part of the Perry Hall congregation. Parents look for a reminder email to let you know when to have your children join in worship.

November is "Operation Christmas Child" month. Please bring all your boxes to the church by November 23rd and share your blessings and God's love with children around the world.

Can you believe Christmas is coming! November 30th is the first Sunday of Advent. Our students will be placing the Chrismons on the sanctuary trees during worship. We hope you will have a spirit filled advent season.

Thank you all for your continued support of our Sunday School program.



by Debra Gayles

Thanks to Debbie Siegert for planning our October meeting which started with prayer and scripture. We welcomed a member from our sister church, Camp Chapel. We also enjoyed painting fall 🍁 ornaments and eating fall inspired snacks. Our November meeting we will celebrate by sharing a Friends-Giving meal! November 13th, 7 PM. You are invited to join us and bring a friend! 🍷🍷



by Kathy Loggins

The Thrift Store is now changed over to our fall/ winter inventory . October has been busy for our volunteers. When we re-opened we had a chance to catch-up with some of our regular customers and meet some new ones , who were looking for some great deals. Our inventory changes almost every week, with the generous donation we receive from our church family and the public.

The Thrift Store will be open on Sunday, November 16th, 11:00AM- 12.30, after the church service, and during coffee hour. If you have not had a chance to stop by on a Saturday to see our merchandise this will give you a chance to.



Folk Music Night: November 8, 7-10 p.m., featuring Michael Kelly.
(<http://www.michaelkellytunes.com/>).

Michael Kelly weaves tasteful,

melodic acoustic guitar playing, soulful vocals, and poetic storytelling in every song and keeps your foot tapping. A prolific songwriter, he will share his catchy, unique melodies and sweet stories in songs that transport you in time. His set starts around 8:15. The evening begins with an "open mic" at 7:00. The open mic resumes after Michael'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**



Breakfast with Santa



Come enjoy a fantastic breakfast and share a fun morning with the kids! Who can turn down pancakes, eggs, sausage, sausage gravy and biscuits, home fries, fruit cup, mini

muffins and donuts, and drinks? And while you enjoy your breakfast, Santa will make his way through the dining hall to greet you and your children.

After breakfast, take a trip upstairs for all the exciting fun! Outside Santa's parlor, you will find some papers to write a letter to Santa. Place them in the box for special delivery to the North Pole.

Stop in Santa's Parlor to visit the elves and make some fun crafts! You will find Santa and Mrs. Claus there, too! This is a great photo opportunity!! Then make your way down the hall to find the Elves waiting to help you with some fun games!!

Don't forget to look for Ms. Kim. She will be available to paint faces during the entire morning, so be sure to stop by and see her!

Visit our signup below to purchase your tickets TODAY!! Cost is \$13 per person. Children (4-8) are \$8.00, & 3-under are FREE!

To order tickets, go to: [Perry Hall United Methodist Church: TICKETS - Breakfast with Santa!](#)

We also need help in many areas that day. Don't have children to bring? Why not give us a hand? It is fun to watch all the children with their excitement! Go to: [Perry Hall United Methodist Church: HELP NEEDED - Breakfast with Santa!](#)



Save Those Calendars!

The Food Pantry is once again asking for donations of your unwanted 2025

calendars. Please save all those that you receive in the mail and bring them to church. You can give them directly to Peggy Whiting or place them in the Food Pantry mailbox on the wall outside of the church office. The Food Pantry clientele will be happy to receive them!



Come join in the fun! Help beautify our church!!

At 9:00 am on Saturday, November 29th, the Altar Guild members will meet in the sanctuary to transform our church into a festive and beautiful display of Christmas Joy!

For those who may NOT be members of the Altar Guild, we don't want you to feel left out of the festivities. Join us in the Fellowship Hall – same time, same day – and help us build a winter wonderland. There are many activities that we will enjoy throughout the season and a beautiful Fellowship Hall will make them all so much better! We also have several outside organizations that will be using our Fellowship Hall during the holidays, and it will certainly enhance their event, as well.

If you have any extra decorations, feel free to bring them to see if we can use them in some way. Any questions, call Denise at 443-787-8687.



More Drive-thru Spaghetti FUN!



Every first Saturday of the month, you can find these dedicated folks, as well as several others, gathering



together for work **AND FUN!** There are jobs that everyone can do, from cooking spaghetti to

washing dishes, packing cold items in bags to collecting money, even being a car hop!

We are always looking for more people to join our wonderful crew. If you are looking for some fun and fellowship, why not join us? Call Denise at 443-787-8687 to all the details!!



(Outside Group Events Not Included)

- November**
- 1** – Thrift Shop open 9 am-12 pm
 - Drive-thru Spaghetti 4-6 pm
 - **“Fall Back” with your clocks!**
 - Daylight Savings Time starts**
 - 2** – Coffee Hour after church
 - 3** – Bible Study 7 pm
 - 4** – Bible Study 11 am
 - 5** – Choir and band rehearsal 7 p
 - 6** – WISH 10:30 am
 - 8** – Thrift Shop open 9 am-12 pm
 - Folk Music Night 7 pm
 - 9** – Honor our Veterans during service
 - Coffee Hour after church
 - 10** – Bible Study 7 pm
 - 11** – Bible Study 11 am
 - Finance Meeting 7 pm
 - 12** – Choir and band rehearsal 7 pm
 - 13** – United Women of Faith 7 pm
 - 15** – Thrift Shop open 9 am-12 pm
 - 16** – Coffee Hour after church
 - 18** – Ad Council Meeting 7 pm
 - 19** – Choir and band rehearsal 7 pm
 - 20** – United Methodist Men 7 pm
 - 22** – Thrift Shop open 9 am-12 pm
 - Holiday Basket Distribution 1-3 pm

- 23** – Coffee Hour after church
 - OCC Shoeboxes collected and blessed
 - Organ Recital 2 pm
- 24** – Advent Bible Study 7 pm
- 25** – Advent Bible Study 11 am
- 26** – Choir and band rehearsal 7 pm
- 27** – **Happy Thanksgiving!**
- 29** – Thrift Shop open 9 am – 12 pm
 - Altar Guild decorates sanctuary 9 am
 - Decorate Fellowship Hall 9 am
- 30** – Coffee Hour after church



A Thanksgiving Dinner Prayer for Protection

The Graceful Chapter

Our Heavenly Father,

We are thankful for all Your blessings, goodness, and mercy upon us. We are grateful for the people in our lives who bring meaning and beauty to our days.

Thank You for watching over us and bringing us safely together today. Let Your blessings rest upon everyone here, and may Your protection surround us always.

We pray that all our heartfelt prayers will be answered according to Your will.

In Jesus' mighty name,

Amen

