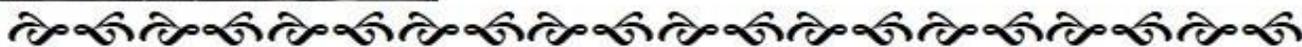


February 2026



The Perry Scope

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



A Message from 'The Pastor

A Message from the Pastor



As I write this message, snow has threatened to cancel worship a couple times. The forecast does not look good for this Sunday, either. Life is like that. We make plans, organize, set things in motion, and then life happens. All our plans need to be adjusted or may even be canceled. All the time and thought and resources we put into this are gone. The reason could be something we might have seen coming and simply lost track of or chose to ignore. For example, we make plans to go on a trip, but a family member has a health crisis. We sort of knew that might happen because the doctor warned us, but we didn't really do much about it. The reason could be something we could not have known about or done anything to prevent. For example, the day before that trip, we all come down with the flu. Stuff happens. We wish that we could control our lives, but we can't. We can trust in our God, who is the same yesterday, today and forever. God's promises are sure. God's love is steadfast. Life may not work out the way we would like, but God walks with us through it all. We are never dealing with "stuff" alone; but God is always with us. "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace." – Numbers 6: 24-26

Blessings,
Pastor Margery



Lenten Bible Study

Pastor Margery is leading a Lenten study based on the book, Unveiled Until Its Season, by James C. Howell.

The study examines our beliefs as expressed in our hymns. We will discuss hymns every week and sing a couple of those hymns during worship throughout the weeks of Lent.

The study will be:

Mondays at 7 pm, Feb. 16 – March 23,

Or Tuesdays at 11AM, Feb. 17 – 24.

Please let Pastor Margery know if you will be participating.



Ad Council News:

You probably have heard that our church leadership has been pursuing the possibility of selling the parsonage. This is very much in the beginning stages, and we want to be transparent in the process. As we journey through this process, we will keep you advised of the details. You may contact Pastor Margery with any feedback.



by *Carole Webner*
for the Sunday School Team

Sunday School News

As I write this article, we have celebrated a brand-new year and are looking forward to the promise of many blessings to come. I hope that all our Sunday school families are safe and healthy in this cold winter weather.

February 14th, Valentine's Day, brings us time to celebrate God's love for all his children. Then on February 18th, Ash Wednesday, marks the beginning of the Lenten season. We will be sending home a weekly devotional with the students for you to share as a family.

The Sunday school team is looking for students to participate with the morning worship services. They could read scripture or liturgy or maybe they would like to hand out bulletins or greet our congregation before worship. Parents if your child would be interested in helping during a worship service would you please contact me at carolewebner@hotmail.com.

Our family worship Sunday will be February 8th. Please enjoy worshipping as a family.

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



by *Brenda Reinhart,*
Chairperson

Come join the Family, Children and Adult Ministries (in other words Everyone) Committee for a

fun afternoon of fellowship in February! We will be meeting at Monster Mini-Golf in Parkville (1969 E. Joppa Road) and playing a round of mini-golf at 2:00pm on Sunday, February 22nd.



Tickets are \$13.99 plus tax per person for one game of mini-golf. Optional add ons are \$7 for ten dollars of arcade play or laser tag for \$10/game.

Kindly RSVP to Brenda Reinhart at brendareinhart@yahoo.com by February 20th for a head count. All are welcome!

Upcoming activities for Children and Families:

- Feb 22nd Mini-Golf Outing at Monster Mini-Golf in Parkville
- Mar 28th Easter Bunny Breakfast at Church
- May 17th Planting Sunday after Church
- July TBD Pool Party
- September TBD Picnic after Church
- October TBD Fall Outing
- December TBD Cookie Decorating after Church
- December Santa Breakfast



by *Shannon Van Hook*

Stitching Love and Prayers in Every Thread

Do you enjoy knitting or crocheting—or want to learn? **Fibers of Love** is a warm and welcoming group where fellowship and creativity come together. We create prayer shawls and blankets to share comfort and God's love with those in need. We meet on the **last Thursday of each month from 6–8 PM**, and everyone is welcome!

Can't make it to our meetings? You can still be part of this mission by creating at home. If you need supplies, just let us know—we'll gladly prepare a kit for you. Come share your gifts, learn new skills, and help wrap others in warmth and care! Through shared time and heartfelt work, and a lot of laughter, we strive to wrap others in warmth and God's love.



UMCOR – United Methodist Committee on Relief

DID YOU KNOW: When disaster strikes—whether it's a hurricane, flood, or other emergency—basic necessities like food and water often take priority. But one essential need is frequently overlooked: **menstrual hygiene supplies.**

For women and girls in crisis situations, access to pads, tampons, or other menstrual products is not a luxury—it's a matter of dignity, health, and safety. Without these supplies, individuals are forced to improvise with unsafe materials, increasing the risk of infection and discomfort. This can lead to serious health issues and emotional distress during an already traumatic time.

Your support matters. We are asking for donations of **unscented sanitary napkins (regular, thin & long), unscented tampons (regular and super), panty liners, bath size soap (in their packaging, no Ivory or Jergens) travel size wet wipes, 4 gallon bathroom trash bags, flushable wipes, 2 oz bottles of hand sanitizer, laundry detergent sheets, and gallon zip lock bags for disposal.** These items will be distributed to women and girls in areas impacted by emergencies and natural disasters. Every contribution makes a difference! Also, UMCOR asks for a \$2 (per kit) donation to cover shipping. Won't you consider a monetary donation?

Please bring your donations to **Perry Hall UMC. Collection boxes will be in the narthex and Social Hall.** Together, we can meet this critical need and show Christ's love in action.



Memorials

A donation has been made to the Memorial Fund in memory of Carl Elam, a longtime member of our church.



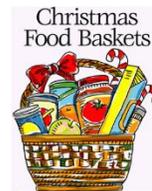
Don't forget the thrift shop is open every Saturday, 9-12pm. It offers great selection on clothing, outerwear, home decor and so much more at wonderful savings! Come shop and find your latest outfit or accessory for you or your home!



Folk Music Night
Saturday, February 14
7 pm -10 pm

Featuring the Steven Gellman Trio
Leave winter behind and come on out and enjoy a great evening of music

ndzimmer@comcast.net .
- Neil Zimmerman



Recap of the Holiday Basket Distribution:

The holiday Basket Distribution has been going on over 20 years. Each year, even during covid, you have all shown your love to your community by providing holiday dinners – from the turkey to the cranberry sauce! This year was not an exception. The original goal was 50 families for Thanksgiving and 50 families for Christmas. Well, you totally blew past the goal. Yes, you provided for many more than the original 100 families! Do not worry, every family that requested a holiday basket received one! But, because of you and Camp Chapel's generosity, the pantry continued to give the donations to the pantry families that came in December (after the distribution on Dec. 13th) Special 'bonus bags' were made and given out containing the holiday items so that there were dozens of families who 'were' given a surprise bag along with their pantry donations.



One thing that was expressed to each of the recipients as they received their holiday basket was that “the holiday baskets came from you – not the pantry, not the government, but

you – the families of the church to their family!” Pastor Margery spoke to the original 100 families as they came to pick up their baskets – wishing each a blessed holiday and the pantry volunteers expressed to the same holiday message to the bonus holiday basket families. The cards they received also wished them a happy holiday from you and invited them to come and visit. Your love was given!

and businesses and individuals throughout the community! The food drives came by box truck, by vans, by cars, and even by police vehicles! They were formed and run by children who met for cheering practice, by alumnus of IND, by men and women who cheered on the Ravens, by people who worked and visited your local real estate firm, by those on the way home and passed the White Marsh Police precinct and by children at 6 local schools! They were our friends, our neighbors, and most of all, you! Your little pantry literally received thousands of items of food over the past two months – to the point that we have been able to store food surplus for February and maybe March. Every week, people came and delivered boxes, totes, bags, and cases of food. To try to imagine the blessing – well they say a picture is worth “a 1000 words,” than here are 20,000 words!



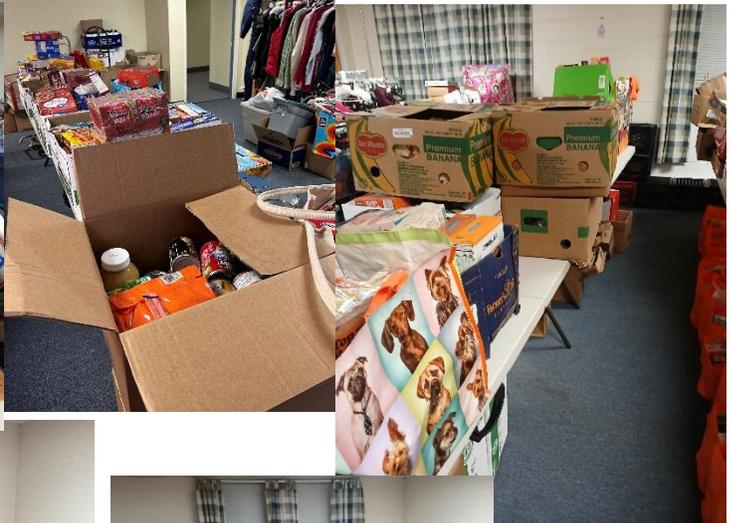
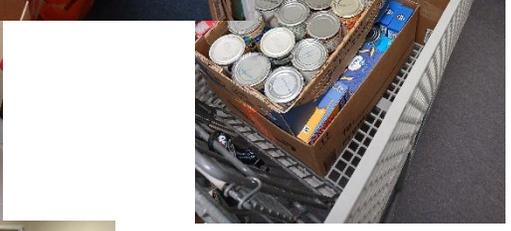
Food Pantry

The new year, 2026, is one month old – winter has shown itself to be cold, windy, even snowy! Hoping

you are staying well and warm. While 2025 might have ended over a month ago – there is much the pantry has to tell.

Throughout November and December, the pantry has been blessed by so many community organizations and individuals in wanting to help ‘stock the shelves’. In the past, during the holiday seasons, the pantry usually experienced about 6-7 holiday food drives from local schools and organizations – this year that was not the case! In fact, the pantry was the recipient of **more than 25** food drives from organizations and schools





BETWEEN NOVEMBER/DECEMBER:

OVER 25 “COMMUNITY RAN” FOOD DRIVES

+

SCORES OF INDIVIDUALS DONATING BOTH FOOD OR MONETARY DONATIONS

=

1000'S OF CANS, BOXES, AND CASES OF NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS

YES, the pantry has been truly blessed this holiday season by you and the community at large— by your monetary donations and by your physical donations. THANK YOU.

While all the physical donations were wonderfully accepted it did require a lot of labor on the donors and the volunteers (labor that was welcomed). The labor of love was led by two fearless leaders: Mary Raab and Peggy Winchester! With their guidance the “A team” conquered processing all these wonderful donations (inspecting every can, box, package for dates and dents!). The donors knew of the long tasks for inspecting their donations and many of them had already assisted by having the donations already checked for dates, already boxed like items, already for the shelves. While the tasks were monumental, these two ladies and their team of volunteers that assisted conquered each donation with humor, precision, and literally magic – imagine going to the grocery store and buying 100 carts of groceries and then going home and putting it all away! Now you know what these superheroes conquered!

This holiday season was truly a blessing to the pantry! The pantry is ready for 2026 and while times are very tough for our community – the pantry will be able to

serve. The numbers in need are staggering, but just like the story of the ‘loaves and fishes’ – the pantry will serve.

Do know, that while the shelves are filled “right now”, even Maryland Food Bank has had to cut back due to a major cut in funds. Yet, because of the generosity of you and the community, the pantry has been able to buy and stock what has not been provided. Your kindness is making a difference for all of those in need!

Here is the recap of your pantry's for 2025

- Number of days the pantry served: 144 days
- Number of families served: approximately 2000 (about 4000 individuals)
- Number of bags of food provided: approximately around 19,000 – 20,000
- Number of volunteers working: approximately 30
- Number of volunteer hours total: over 2400 hours

GOD BLESS YOU ALL!

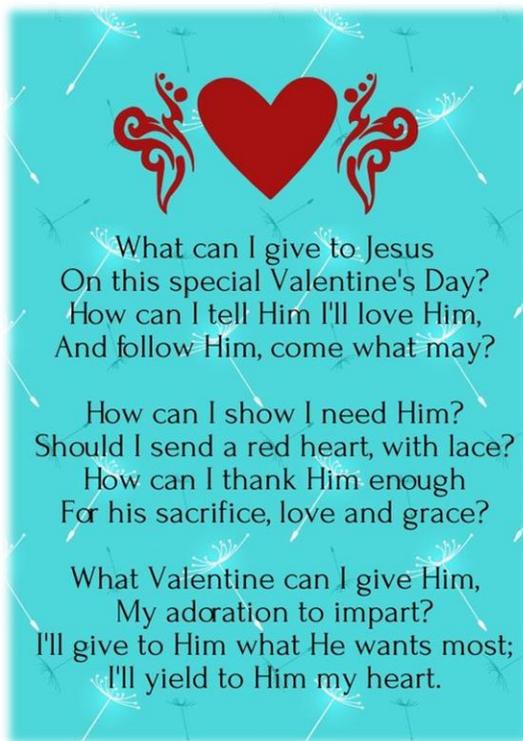


current information). Please check our Facebook and website for all cancellations and delays. Be safe!

(Outside Group Events Not Included)

February

- 4 - Choir and band rehearsal 7 pm
- 5- WISH Group 10:30 am
- 7 – Leadership Workshop 9-4 pm
Thrift Shop open 9 am-12 pm
Spaghetti Dinner 4-6 pm
- 8– Coffee Hour after church
- 11 - Choir and band rehearsal 7 pm
- 12 - United Women of Faith 7 pm
- 14 – Thrift Shop open 9 am-12 pm
– Folk Music Night 7 pm
- 15 – Perry Scope article deadline
Coffee Hour after church
- 16- Lenten Study 7 pm
- 17 - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
4:30-6:00 pm
Lenten Study 11 am
- 18- Ash Wednesday Church
12 pm – ash with communion
7 pm – ash with communion
- 19 – United Methodist Men 7 pm
Choir and band rehearsal 7 pm
- 21 – Thrift Shop open 9 am-12 pm
– Private Party FH 1-5 pm
- 22 — Coffee Hour after church
-Monster Mini Golf
- 23 – Lenten Study 7 pm
- 24 – Lenten Study 11 am
- 25 - Choir and band rehearsal 7 pm
- 26 – **Fibers of Love**
- 27 – Perry Scope Mailing 11 am
– Bible Study 12 pm
- 28 – Thrift Shop 9- 12



Our policy is to close when Baltimore County Schools close.
If schools delay

opening, morning meetings are cancelled. If schools close early, evening meetings and events will be cancelled at church. On the weekends, the schools may still cancel or delay their weekend events, so please check the Baltimore County Schools website. On Sundays, we may also need to cancel worship and Sunday School if our parking lot is not accessible, regardless of school cancellations- check online or call the church office (voicemail message should have

PHUMC Mission Statement
We are a Christ centered community compelled by God to share God's unconditional love with everyone, outwardly focused and growing in faith.