October 2026

The Perry Scope

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

A Message from the Pastor



I saw a short news story on TV this morning about how stores are selling Christmas items already. It seems crazy to write that in an October newsletter! As humans, we tend to focus on those things which make us happy, so I guess it makes sense that we would want to celebrate the joy of Christmas as much as possible. As Christians, we understand that joy and sorrow, ups and downs, are part of life. We walk through our days in the confidence that God walks with us, no matter what is happening. We rest in the knowledge that we will ultimately live in paradise with Jesus. We sing that our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; that God is the giver of immortal gladness and ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife; joyful music leads us sunward, in the triumph song of life. Yes, we can feel defeated, especially when it seems like life is beating us down, but we know, deep in our hearts, that we are victors in the midst of strife because God is with us. I often say that God goes before us, walks beside us, and follows behind us. Not only do I firmly believe that is true, but I have seen that truth lived out. I enjoy Christmas as much as anyone, but I don't need Christmas to experience that joy. I can find joy and peace on an average October day because my joy and peace are found in Christ who walks with me through that average October day and through the extraordinary days and through the really boring days and through the very painful days. May God help us to show that joy and peace to everyone as we walk through our days, so that they may come to know the love of Christ as fully as we do. Amen and Amen.

Blessings,

Pastor Margery

News and Updates from Pastor Margery

World Communion Sunday, Oct. 4th: As we do every year, we will celebrate World Communion Sunday on the first Sunday of October. This is a joyous time to remember that we are joined by every Christian across the entire world as we give thanks for the sacrifice and love of our Lord Jesus Christ. Instead of our usual way of partaking, we will come up the side aisles and either kneel or stand at the railing to partake. Because the railing will only fit a limited number of persons at one time, we will partake in groups who will then return to their seats to make room for the next group. How wonderful to be reminded that we are all one in Christ!

PRAISE BAND/CHOIR NEWS



The Praise Band/Choir is looking for additional singers/instrumentalists for our Sunday Worship Services.

Practices are on Wednesday evenings at 7pm. Note: The ability to read music is **not** required.

Anyone interested may text or call Don Appel at: 443-991-0189.

We would love to 'hear' from you!





Folk Music Night:
October 10,
7-10 p.m.,
featuring Andrew McKnight
(https://www.andrewmcknight.net/).



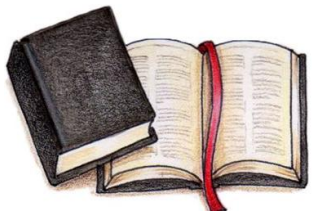
Nationally-acclaimed singer/songwriter and guitarist Andrew McKnight celebrates rural America, weaving his masterfully crafted songs, humorous stories, and poetic drama into a musical soundscape sketched with shades of Appalachia, tasteful slide and jazzy blues, feisty anthems, and rustic folk. His solo performances are powerful and entertaining one-man theatre, delivered with warmth and down-home comfort. His music traverses from old-time Appalachian tunes to contemporary folk and blues, all backed up by his dead-on guitar playing. His set starts around 8:15.

The evening begins with an "open mic" at 7:00. The open mic resumes after Andrew's set.

Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

WE HOPE YOU ARE ABLE TO JOIN US FOR A GREAT EVENING OF MUSIC!

The Folk Music Night schedule, along with additional information, may be found at https://www.folkmusicnight.com/ . Questions may be directed to Neil Zimmerman: 410-529-7176 or ndzimmer@comcast.net .



SCRIPTURE READERS

October 4	**Peggy Whiting**
Oct 11	**Jason Van Hook**
Oct 18	**Kay Pokrzywa**
Oct 25	**Gloria Barlow**

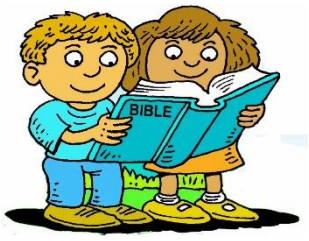
If you would like to become one of our scripture readers, we would love to have you help spread the word!

A schedule is made monthly, so you will have plenty of notice of what the reading would be and what date you would be sharing the Word.

You may contact the church's office at 410-256-6049 or Peggy Whiting to learn more and to sign-up-

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

We had a successful start to our Sunday School Year. Our fourth-grade students received their Bibles. Please congratulate Ryan and Violet when you see them in church. All who make Sunday school possible along with our students received a blessing in worship. I am so grateful for our students and teachers.



Our students will be working on making gifts and cards for our Veteran to receive in November. If you are a veteran or know a family member who was or is a veteran, please send their name to my email (carolewebner@hotmail.com) so that their names may be put into our bulletin for recognition of their sacrifice. Our veterans will be recognized in worship on November 8th.

Our family worship Sunday for October will be October 11th.

Thanks for your continued support of our Sunday School Program.



DRIVE THRU DINNERS

By Pat Walter

I wish to thank the many, many volunteers that have helped with the last two dinners. Without you we could not have any fundraisers. As they say, many hands make light work. This is so true especially when it comes to our fundraisers!

The proceeds from these dinners go to paying down the enormous loan ($230,000) that the church had to take to replace the leaking roof on the Sunday School addition and replace the antiquated sound system in the sanctuary. So, as you can see these dinners are very important for the church.



I am going to give you a **"bird's eye view"** of what occurs to have one of the drive-thru.

We start on Friday at 9 -11:30:

We peel 20 pounds of potatoes, then dice and cook them and eventually make the potato salad. While the potato business is going on, there are those who are slicing and dicing tomatoes, onions, celery, lettuce, rolls (no they don't come sliced). Others are stacking the lunch meat for the cold cut subs, then packing the desserts. Dave Hanna is hand grating 5 large heads of cabbage to make his famous cole slaw. If time allows, we might package the sides and dessert. If not, that gets done on Saturday. Then we put everything away and clean up the kitchen.

Saturday arrives:

Early Saturday:

Saturday morning a good fairy goes to the church early to get the meatballs and sauce on to cook so they will be hot by 4 pm.

Saturday 2-4 pm

At 2 pm the fun starts. If necessary, we put potato salad and cole-slaw in the containers and package the desserts. We set up and put the cold box (for the salads) in the hall. The drinks get iced down so they are cold by 4. They and the desserts are put on tables in the hall. The assembly lines for the cold cut and meatball subs get set up. Everything needed is out and ready, bags, etc. A table is set up by the back door to collect the money. Chairs are put out near the back door so our order takers can sit when there is a break. It's 4 pm and we are ready!

4-6 pm on Saturday

Customers have started arriving! The order takers go out to the cars and take the orders. Runners (our wonderful young people) bring the orders to the kitchen. The sub makers spring into action. The subs are made to order. When finished they are put into bags and sent out to the hall. Sides, dessert and their drink are put into the bag. A bag "checker" makes sure the order is complete as ordered and the runner takes it to the waiting customer in their car. This will continue for the next 2 hours.



6 – 7 pm

At 6 pm we are finished. The kitchen is cleaned, dishes, pots washed, etc. We go home tired but ready for the next dinner!

So as you can see the meals are made with lots of love and laughter and wonderful help– we hope you will continue to join us for 'dinner'!

FOLLOW-UP to the drive-thru dinners

By the time you are reading this story, the third Super Sub Sale occurred on Sept 26th. Thank you to all the volunteers that helped make this latest sub sale successful! Without you all, there would have been no sub sale!

Our next drive-thru dinner (menu still being planned) will occur on Saturday, October 24th. We hope that your support will help continue to make the drive thru dinners

a great fellowship, a great success, and a great joy for the community!

LASTLY: *A* ***big thank you*** *goes to Pat Walter for her amazing leadership & guidance with the dinners!*


HOLIDAY FOOD BASKET

HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS

While it may be hard to believe, but the holidays are right around the 'corner' (I know this must be true; there are Christmas decorations for sale at Walmart and BJ's!). Thus, it is time to start our holiday basket food drive!

The Holiday Food Baskets are completely supported by the families of the church and have been occurring for over 20 years! The baskets provide all the ingredients for a family to prepare their own dinner of celebration. This gift from the church families has always been greatly appreciated by the receiving families!

Throughout October and November we will be collecting the 'same menu' of food for these baskets as we have done in the past. What will be different is the distribution! This year we will be distributing the baskets on **Sunday**, **Novemeber 22 from 11:30 – 1:00 pm inside the Fellowship Hall** (right after coffee hour).

The new date/time for the distribution is to make this distribution 'warmer' for our volunteers plus also giving the church families and the receiving families a chance to meet and actually spend a little Fellowship time with each other. We plan to have coffee and donut available for the receiving families, in case they would like to sit for a few moments and chat. The baskets will be available as they arrive, in case they are not able to enjoy a little visit – but we are trying to make it possible for this 'Fellowship" to happen.

While the cost of everything has gone up higher, we recognize that achieving a goal of 50 baskets for Thanksgiving and another 50 baskets for Christmas may be tougher this year – for everyone!. But we are planning the second distribution to occur on **Sunday, December 13 from 11:30 – 1:00 pm** in the Fellowship Hall (just like the Thanksgiving distribution). We won't know until we see how things go in the food drive.

While a 'basket' is filled with love you may wonder what is in the holiday food basket -

It takes **12/13 items** to fill a basket:

- $15 gift card to Walmart to be used for the turkey/main entrée
- a box of Instant Mashed Potatoes (medium size)
- a box of muffin mix
- a box of brownie mix OR a box of cake mix plus a tub of icing for the cake mix
- a medium size box of stuffing mix
- a medium size can of yams/sweet potatoes
- a can of corn; a can of green beans
- a can of peas
- a can of mixed vegetables or carrots
- a can of jellied cranberry sauce
- a can of gravy for the entrée

If you prefer to leave the shopping to others, a monetary donation certainly will be

accepted. You may give the donation during the church service (please mark it for holiday baskets) or stop by the office to drop it off or see Laura/Dave and we will make sure your purchases are made! (Aldi's loves us !)

So, **thank you** in advance for making this mission so successful and we hope you will also participate on distribution day – by enjoying some Fellowship time with the receiving families.!



by Brenda Reinhart

Fall is upon us – leaves changing colors, fresh made apple cider, pumpkins decorations, cool evenings, and fall festivals all around us! Come join us at Fellowship at the Farm on October 4th from 2 – 4pm. Tickets are $18.50 a person and must be bought in advance (online) Fall Harvest Days Tickets 2026 | Parkville, MD . The tickets include hayride, rides, mazes, and so much more! Please, also RSVP text/contact Brenda at 443-286-5026 (so she can know how many are joining the fun and fellowship that day).

This event is a wonderful time for everyone in the PHUMC family/friends to join together, have fun, listen to laughter and music and welcome the fall season (not to mention finding great food, pumpkins, and that wonderful apple butter or pumpkin pie!).

For more information, there is a flyer attached at the end of this Perry Scope OR you can check out the Weber's website Fall Harvest Days Tickets 2026 | Parkville, MD OR talk with Brenda Reinhart.

(Note: See larger version of the flyer at the end of the Perry Scope)





FIBERS OF LOVE

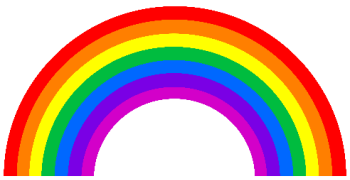
Lori Gall

We are working on pumpkins and then we will lead into winter hats for donations.

Note: If you want to participate but can't come to the meetings, Lori can supply you with yarn and then you can bring your finished projects to the 'next' meeting. The creating /giving Prayer shawls, blankets for the Linus Project and next hats are always needed and welcomed.

Lastly, Lori is trying to get info on making hats for the NICU and to donate to homeless as well – anyone that can help in getting information, feel free to contact Lori

Next Meeting : October 22nd
At 6 – 7:30 pm
Hope you are able to join us



Thrift Store News

By Kathy Loggins

The August 29th Thrift Shop Super Sidewalk Sale was a great success. On Friday, August 28th , we had **11 volunteers** help sort, label, and pack bins. The next morning started early (7 am early!) with more volunteers helping by setting up tents, tables, and bringing all the racks/bins out to the parking lot. At 9 the community started coming, looking and shopping for all the wonderful items that were available! We could not have made this a success without everyone's help! God Bless you all!









But the fun and success did not stop with the Sidewalk Sale! September has been busy for all the volunteers with the September Super Stuff a Bag Sale. During each Saturday in September, customers have been able to stuff a brown bag for $5.00 or a white trash bag for $10.00 with any and all wonderful finds! These two major events have made many new customers for the thrift shop.

Since the inventory for the thrift shop is so extensive, we continue to look for collaboration with local schools and other organizations to which we can donate clothing for their members/families. Any questions/suggestions , contact Kathy.

United Methodist Women of Faith

By Jeannie Ross

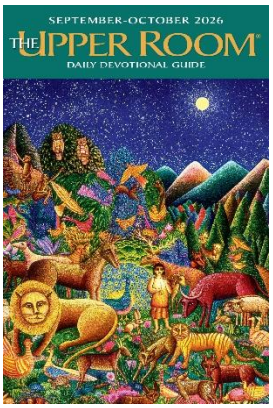
During the September meeting of the Women of Faith group, Pastor Margery spoke about the upcoming Hub in person meeting.

Debbie Siegert read from John chapter 15, along with an excerpt from the *Upper Room**. Debbie also provided details about the Church Fair.

Our next meeting will be in October. Fall will be in full-swing, the holidays are just around the corner – and the fellowship among all those who come will be filled with friendship, laughter, love, and filled with the Spirit of our Lord. We hope you will be able to join us!

LADIES COME JOIN US
FOR FELLOWSHIP AND FUN

Next Meeting: *Monday,* October 8th at 7 pm



***For anyone who would like a copy of *Upper Room*, there are small and large print copies located in the Narthex (on the table and also on the display shelf located on the main wall) as well as in the church office. *Upper Room* is a publication that provides daily, inspirational prayer and thoughts for the**

month. Feel free to take your personal copy anytime.

Blessing of Education Ministries



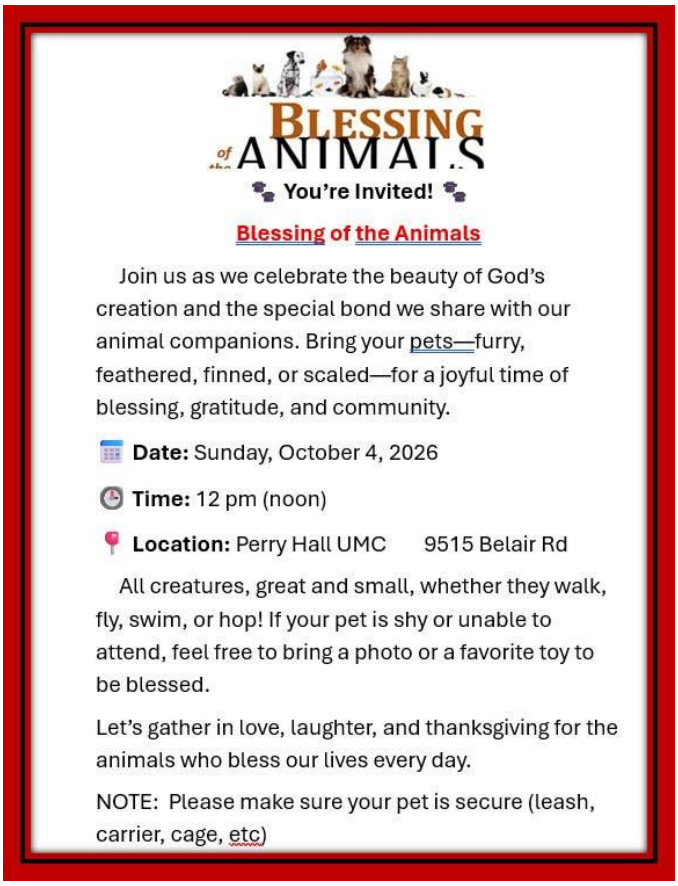
A special recognition and blessing was bestowed upon our Sunday School teachers on September 20th. As the new 'school year' has started, we prayed for a wonderful year for our teachers and their students as they grow in understanding of the scriptures and traditions of the faith.

Blessing of the Animals

Before God created humans, he had created the animals of the earth! On **Sunday, October 4th at 12 noon** there will be a special service/blessing event for those "special members" of the family.

The service will be held on the parking lot behind the church and will last about 15 minutes. - All are welcome to share in this blessing and joy with their pets.

Please note : The one requirement is that your pets need to be secured by leash or carrier.



Pantry News

Summer has ended and the cool days of fall have begun. While the vacations time for many were enjoyed, the pantry was working hard in its mission – to provide food to those in need. In fact, the pantry served over 450 families between June - August! While this number may be hard to understand – serving 450 families – maybe it is better to look at it from the church's perspective – during that same time, the pantry bagged and gave away approximately 4500 bags of food!

As the need continues to grow (in fact we added 20 new families in the last 3 weeks alone), the pantry shelves continue to need to be restocked even more so..

So far, between the community, the church families, and Maryland Food Bank the shelves remain stocked. But it is a constant demand while at the same time the cost of everything for everyone continues to rise.

To start the fall off strong, the church held its fall food drive on Sept. 20th. The community donations and the church families' donations helped restock the shelves. The monetary donations allow the pantry to buy what is needed, when it is needed.

As we enter the holiday season, we will be hoping and praying that the community support continues with holiday food drives that many organizations and schools have held in the past for us.

But always know that we are very THANKFUL for your continued support! We may be small in size – but the pantry's mission continues to succeed each and every week.



ONE FAMILY AT A TIME!

FUND RAISER –

FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS!

Boscov is partnering with PHUMC with a fund raiser!

We are participating in the Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Fundraiser. 100% of your $5 donation goes to Perry Hall UMC Church, everyone benefits!

What: Purchase a shopping pass for $5 and receive 25% off the lowest prices all day long!

- **Where:** Coupon is good for In-Store Only
- How: available during coffee hour or at the office or see Laura Hanna/Peggy Winchester
- **Date:** Coupon is good on Wed, Oct. 21th
- **Store Hours:** 8AM – 11PM

HUB EVENTS:

Camp Chapel UMC



Pumpkin Painting

October 25th

2 – 4 pm

Free BUT you must pre-register online starting Oct 1st - there is limited availability – so register early Camp Chapel United Methodist Church – United Methodist Church

TOWSON UMC

Concert – Celebrating of Hymns

October 11th

4 pm

Free

Check website for further information Towson Church – Loving boldly. Serving joyfully. Leading Courageously.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Sending the happiest wishes to our birthday and anniversary celebrants! Hoping your special day is filled with happiness!

Kelsea Rogers
Birthday on Oct 1st



Linda Gaylor
Firthday on oct 14th

Tyler & Kelsea Rogers
3rd Anniversary on Oct 21st

Debbie & Neil Zimmerman
36th Anniversary on Oct 21st

Paster Margery & Willie Schammel
32nd Anniversary on Oct 29th

Debbie Zimmerman
Birthday on Oct 30th



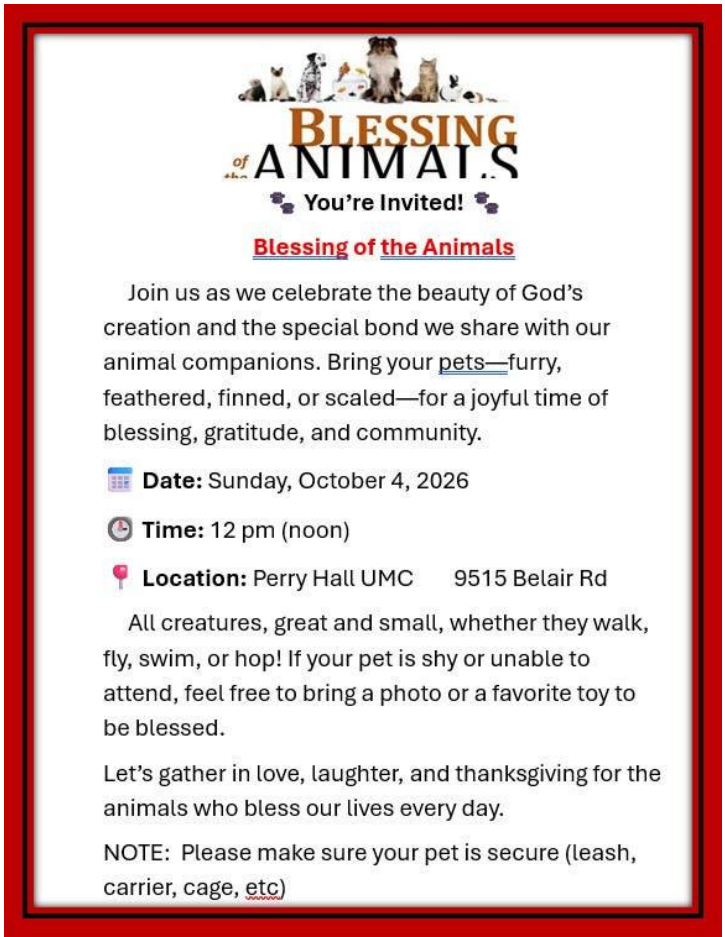
WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OCTOBER

1	**WISH 10:30**
2	*Girl Scout Troop 801 6:15 pm* *KC Dance 5:30 – 8:30 pm*
3	
4	**World Communion Church Service** 9:30; **Blessing of the Animals Service 12 pm;** **Webers Farm Fellowship 2- 4 pm**
5	Bible Study 7 pm
6	Bible Study 11 am *Girl Scout Troops 4134; 4321; 246* *6 pm; 6:15 pm*
7	Choir/Praise Band Practice 7 pm
8	**United Women of Faith 7 pm**
9	*KC Dance 5:30 – 8:30 pm*
10	**Folk Music Night 7 pm**
11	**Family Worship Service; Pastor Appreciation** 9:30 am **Heavenly Haven** 2 pm *Girl Scout Troop 1021 6:15 pm*
12	Bible Study 7 pm
13	Bible Study 11 am **Ad Council 7 pm**
14	Choir/Praise Band Practice 7 pm
15	*Girl Scout troop 1112 6:30*
16	*Girl Scout troop 801 6:15 pm* *KC Dance 5:30 – 8:30 pm*
17	
18	**Church Worship Service 9**:30 am
19	Bible Study 7 pm
20	Bible Study 11 am *Girl Scout Troops 4134; 4321; 246* *6 pm; 6:15 pm*
21	**Boscov Friends Helping Friends 8 am – 11 pm** Choir/Praise Band Practice 7 pm
22	**Fibers of Love 6 pm**
23	*KC Dance 5:30 – 8:30 pm*
24	**Drive-Thru Dinner 4 -6 pm**
25	**Church Worship Service** 9:30 *Girl Scout Troop 1021 6:15 pm*
26	Bible Study 7 pm
27	Bible Study 11 am
28	Choir/Praise Band Practice 7 pm
29	
30	*KC Dance 5:30 – 8:30 pm*
31	*Fellowship Hall Rented 2 – 6 pm*

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.

HAPPENING ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH





FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS FUND RAISER

October 21st

8 am – 11 pm

