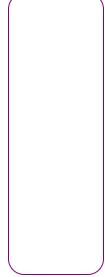
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LOVE NOTES Good Shepherd United Methodist Church 9701 New Hampshire Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20903

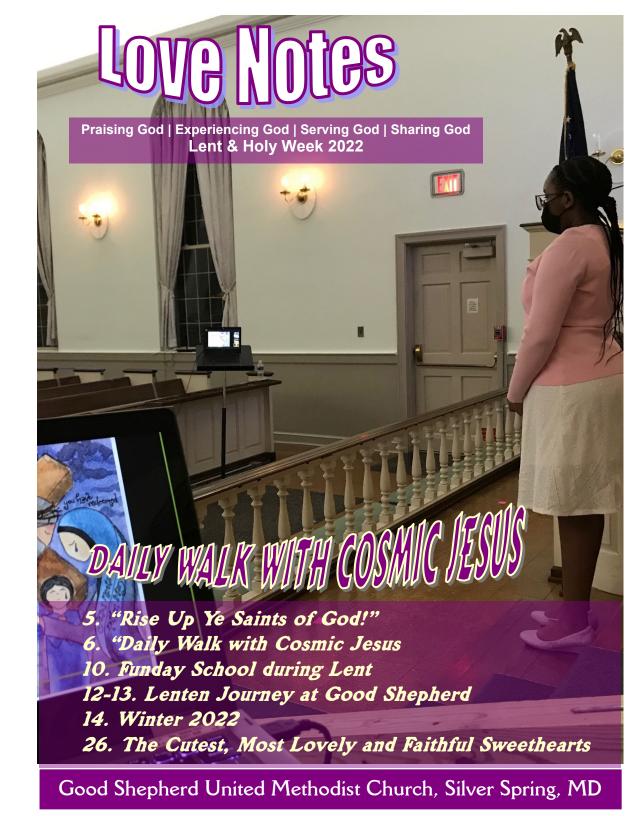
www.goodshepchurch.org



Scan this QR code with your smart phone camera to explore the mission and ministry of our church, Good SHepherd United Methodist Church. Free QR Readers are available in the app stores for your phone. Address Service Requested



PRAISE + EXPERIENCE + SERVE + SHARE



#### ©LOVE NOTES, newsletter Lent & Holy Week Mar. 2-Apr.16, 2022)

LOVE NOTES is the newsletter published by Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, Silver Spring, Maryland. It aims at faithful connection of the followers of Jesus Christ.



Cover image: Shuvai Chivanga reading Stations of the Cross on Good Friday 2021

LOVE NOTES Editors Publisher: Rev. DaeHwa Park

**Proofreading: Marcie Burroughs** Layout and Design: Rev. DaeHwa Park Senior Writer: Leilani McConnell Photo: Vacant Printing and Mailing: Wendy Barrios How to submit an article: Submit any article with Microsoft Word document by email at goodshepumc@verizon.net or mail to LOVE NOTES Editor at Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, at 9701 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20903 or drop off at Editor's mail box. Church Fax No. (240) 670-8157 Next Issue: Great 50 Days-Easter-Tide Articles due on Sunday, April 10, 12 p.m.

#### SEVEN MINISTRY INITIATIVES

#### Sunday Morning

Good Shepherd celebrates Sunday morning as a Sabbath to the Lord and keeps it holy as a day of new beginnings. We would like to begin the first day of the week with the celebration of "Means of Grace" that shapes our future! From the faithful ordinance of Sunday morning, we shape the vital household of God.

#### Assimilation

We help one another to be more like Jesus Christ. Assimilation is an ongoing effort to call, equip and make disciples of Jesus Christ for God's Kingdom. There are 8 assimilations tracks Good Shepherd develops for the joyous work of the Lord, making people blessed. It is a significant part of our Spiritual Journey.

#### Intergenerational

Blessed by the rich heritage of Good Shepherd for more than 60 years, we would like to continue to develop intergenerational relationship among the members and friends. Honoring each generation, Silent, GI, Boomers, X, Millennials, and post-Millennials. We include all generations for their faithful disciple-ship and leadership to all the aspects of mission and ministry of worship, study, service and sharing.

#### Technology

Good Shepherd would like to take advantage of the cuttingedged technology to bring the Gospel of Christ for all, to enhance faithful connections of the members and friends of the church, and to bring forth God's Kingdom in our midst. This includes traditional methods of communication for the heavily dependant on papyrus, paper, audio and wired media.

#### Third Place

Good Shepherd is a third place, like "a city of refuge" (Numbers 35:6), built and consecrated by God for the people of God. It is a place like an oasis with living water. It is a house of prayer for all God's people. Modern sociology demands many of a desperate need of this space, which is missing from home, the first place and from work, the second place.

#### Glocal (Global & Local)

Outreach from Good Shepherd is not limited to a particular location in the community where it serves. Charity begins at home. At the same time we value the mission and ministry to "the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

#### Accommodation

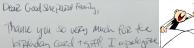
Good Shepherd seeks out all people just as they are. Everyone is welcome in the name of Jesus Christ—"Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the World." (John 1:29b). With radical hospitality we would like to be more like Christ, who healed the sick, ate with the sinners, and sought out the lost. Good Shepherd is a household of God that Christ has opened to the children of God of all ages, classes, genders, nations, and races!

#### Lent & Holy Week 2022



#### Seventy Apostles Are Sent

On Sunday, January 23, Seventy spiritual leaders were commissioned for the mission and ministries of Good Shepherd. Rev. Dae-Hwa Park and Dr. Godswill Okoji, Lay Leader provided Christiana Campbell and other "seventy" apostles with this pin.



Several college students sent "Thank-You Cards and text messages and for College Care Package during Final Exam Season in December 2021.

**Every 2nd Sunday with Lay Preaching!** Rev. Park serves as a part-time ministry. Over the last couple of years, pastor Park had to dash to our church immediately after Sunday worship at Savage UMC, whose congregation never encounter Rev. Park after worship. DS Rev. Green suggested Rev. Park to discuss with SPRC of each church. He did.

The Council approved that Rev. Park stays at Savage until the end of fellowship, beginning Easter.

This means that Rev. Park will NOT preach every 2nd Sunday. He will come arrive later for pastoral roles in the later part of the service and events afterward.

May God bless Savage and Good Shepherd!

#### All Small Group Gatherings thru Zoom Meetings

#### Sundays

Celebration of Worship at 11 a.m. Meeting ID: 566-965-650 Passcode: 900361 Youth Hang-Out at 7 p.m. Meeting ID: 976-1877-7352 Passcode: 914966 Mondays Coffee with the Pastor at 11 a.m. Meeting ID: 631-887-165 Passcode: 375637 You! Becoming Disciple thru Bible Study at 7:30p Meeting ID: 961-6016-5713 Passcode: 716470 The Holy Club (Young Professionals) at 9 p.m. Meeting ID: 941-6327-7971 Passcode: 256442 Tuesdays Journey thru the Bible at 7p.m. Meeting ID: 947-5619-4251 Passcode: 024529 Wednesdavs High Noon Prayer at noon Meeting ID: 409-666-503 Passcode: 581382 Remember Who You Are at 7:30 p.m. Meeting ID: 875-9323-0354 Passcode: 528483 Thursdays Faith Talks at 11 a.m. Meeting ID: 953-5226-0028 Passcode: 014740 Christian Believer at 7:30 p.m. Meeting ID: 845-8194-3369 Passcode: 669555 2nd & 4th Saturdays Confirmation Classes at 1 0:30 a.m. Meeting ID: 922-3881-6546 Passcode: 007143

#### To Green Pastures and Quiet Waters ...



The cutest; most lovely, and faithful sweethearts recognized on Sun., Feb. 13



LOVE NOTES



New Advent Wreath & New Handbell Choir



JFK Performing Center & National Xmas Tree



Christmas Eve Special Music: Jeremy Park



New Year's Eve Service & COVID Piñata



Red flames signify the historic merge of The Methodist Church and The United Brethren in 1968, which gave birth to The United Methodist Church. As a part of UM connection, we would like to bring for the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness (Matthew 6:33). Green shade of the flames indicates God's Kingdom like "green pastures" to be unfolded as we do ministry together. The blue shade of the cross is consisted of the first two Greek letters of Christ, Xp. Through Christ the living water (John 7:38) the gathering of the faithful disci-

ples shall bear fruits that last. (John 15:16; Psalm 1:3; 23:2; Galatians 5:22-23; Revelation 22:1-3). This vision of God's Kingdom comes from Jesus Christ, the starting point of our faith journey. Shepherd crook symbolizes our commitment to Jesus Christ—Good Shepherd! (John 10:14)

- Designed by Rev. DaeHwa Park

# Spotlights in Ministries

Lent & Holy Week 2022



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## Church Staff

Rev. DaeHwa Park, Pastor (202) 277-8553 | daehwa@gmail.com YoungHoon Park, Interim Director of Music/Organist (301) 633-8459 yhoon12p@gmail.com Wendy De La Roca Barrios Secretary (301) 434-3331 | goodshepumc@verizon.net Peter Ayok, Custodian

Primary Theme of This Issue: "Daily Walk with Cosmic Jesus"

#### **Inside this issue:**

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#### **WORSHIP & STUDY**

11 a.m. Celebration and Worship

Adult Sunday School on Sun. 9 a.m. Becoming Disciple on Mon. 7:30 p.m. Remember Who You Are on Wed. 7:30 p.m. Christian Believer on Thu. at 7:30 p.m.

See details on pages 8-9

#### "Daily Walk with Cosmic Jesus"

#### Friends,

It's spring time. Come out, it's time to clean up. It's time to water and place mulch around trees. Come, gather at the foot of the cross. As we prepare for another cycle of our life in this season of spring, let us clean our heart and mind. Let us fill our hearts with the gospel of Jesus Christ, spiritual nutrition for our soul.

This Lent, Good Shepherd provides a set of means of grace that shape our future. During the season of penitence, we will pray more, serve more, and give more, like Jesus Christ showed.

This year, Good Shep-

herd has an important homework. That is to bring our ministry back to a full scale of the mission and ministries of the church we did years ago.

In spring of 2019, Rev. Dr. Gerard A. Green, Jr. the District Superintendent of Greater Washington District, called me for the pastoral appointment. Rev. Green had confidence that Good Shepherd can revive its vibrant ministry. He shared great potentials you have to bring the church back to **fulltime ministry** soon. Next day, I humbly responded to the call. Bishop Easterling appointed me to go and serve the Lord at Good Shepherd with you all at the 235th Annual Conference.

Over the last few years, the COVID-19 kept us from in-person gathering. We never stopped working for the Lord. I acknowledge liturgical ministers who stepped up to provide safe and secure worship environment.

Fulltime ministry is not merely required for a full minimum compensation package for a pastor. It requires the full time commitment of us all - members and constituents. If anyone would like to stay small, he or she is contributing to the decline of the

> church. Children and youth have been waiting for their church. Young professionals thirsty for sacred space where they can hang out with other faithful disciples with spiritual gifts. Countless members of the church

who need a full package of grace-filled care have been excused by an inclination to a part-time ministry of us all.

Members and friends, prior to beautifying our own backyards, let us clean up the way to our church. Let us pave roads to God for countless souls in our neighborhoods. Let us celebrate Easter with His house filled with sinners forgiven, the sick healed, and souls restored.

Yours in Christ, committed a fulltime service for the Lord and His people in all circumstance,

Rev. Dastwa Pak

Rev. DaeHwa Park, Pastor

3) The BWC gun violence Prevention Team proposed declaring gun violence a public health crisis, especially in light of the high numbers of killings and maiming's among persons, especially youth, in Baltimore and environs. Debate over some parts of the resolution was lively with some dissenters on all parts of the proposal. Among them was language about prohibiting gun purchases by mentally ill (changed to those who suffer from mental disabilities). Objections were raised against blanket prohibitions including citing that it is "not a gun problem, it is a people problem" and "silence will simply speak to complicity". The vote on this was 387 for and 75 against. Other proposals were universal background checks on all purchases; assuring purchases are made only through licensed dealers: prohibiting individuals under restraining orders from purchasing a gun; advocating for more mental health resources; prohibiting large capacity weapons or those that fire multiple rounds with a single pull of the trigger; promoting new techniques to aid law enforcement to trace guns and promote public safety, How this declaration and its parts would be enforced or implemented was not addressed. I am personally very impressed that our BWC is taking on the gun issue. It is heartbreaking to hear of or read reports of mayhem by gun that occur daily in America.

Lent & Holy Week 2022

We have a congress that will not fairly deal with sensible gun controls and weapons are simply too easily obtained and too frequently illegally so as in the recent case of the 17-year old in Oshkosh, WI bran Connectional

dishing his AK47 and killing two people and maiming a third. Or in the case in Georgia of the three who stalked and killed a black jogger. Truly nowhere is safe from gun violence: not home, nor school, nor public events, nor on the street, nor churches nor synagogues nor mosques, nor libraries nor anywhere else. Any one of us or our loved ones could be a victim as any time.

4) Delegates to General Conference will follow the Discipline of being selected via simple majority of those present to vote.

Whatever happens at General Conference should it meet, will affect all of us who identify as Methodist and all too soon we must decide where our faith and consciousnesses lead us. It seems to me a pity that a single issue, full inclusion of LGBT persons, is tearing us apart. I wonder where the independent churches who seem to be thriving stand on the issues and why Methodists cannot honor their motto of "open hearts, open minds and open doors."

We may never know nor understand why some of us are not hetero- nor at home in our birth gender, but we Methodists should honor our history of service and social activism (another hot-button issue for some) as scripture so many times directs us to do. And we should allow those "not like us" to be full participants in the effort. Else how can we follow Jesus' acceptance and appeal to male and female, Gentile and Jew, those who try to be virtuous and those who repent? Respectfully reported,

by Leilani McConnell.



#### **Rise Up Ye Saints of God!**

Christiana Tumaku Campbell A Servant in God's Vinevard

Rise up Ye saints of God! The church for you doth wait, her strengthen unequal to her task; rise up, and make her great. - William P. Merrill, 1911

In the stillness of the night we wait for You our Heavenly Father. The season of Lent is upon us. We thank You for the sacrifice of Your Beloved Son to free us from all our sins, yes, every one of our sins. Each day we wake up and say thanks. As redeemed children and a community of faith at Good Shepherd UMC on Mount Pisgah what are we doing to share the Gospel? What are we doing to share this exciting news that our Heavenly Father sent His only son to save us? Do we want to receive and keep this great news of redemption to ourselves? What if those before us did not want to share this Good News? Where would we be? People of Good Shepherd, what is our vision for the next 6 months, the next year, the next 5 years? Do we truly believe in our church's mission to make grow and nurture disciples for Jesus Christ? What value is there in repeating this mission statement every Sunday morning without any actions? How are we in fact nurturing disciples for Jesus so that lives can be and are transformed? Is GSUMC a Sunday-to-Sunday church? What are we doing to support the spiritual growth for all members of the church? Do we consider ourselves a welcoming congregation?

At the recent SPRC (Staff Parish Relations Committee) meeting, we talked about the potentials and possibilities with Rev. Park concerning full-time ministry, which will make our church vital.



#### Just a few steps away from a vibrant ministry!

#### Full-time Ministry.

SPRC submitted the Church's Profile with a \$98,000 clergy compensation package at Church Conference last fall, which was not sufficient for Rev. Park serving as a full-time pastor, according to DS Green. SPRC and Church Council are tireless working to find strategies to have a fulltime ministry by forming a task-force. The task-force will not simply find financial resources, but also create new Sunday morning ministry structure., i.e., starting a Sunday morning worship with Children and Youth Worship at 9 a.m. Pray for the taskforce to be formed in May.

Church's Outdoor Sign has lost its light for years. The church looked "closed" from dusk to dawn.

The piano in the sanctuary needs to be replaced. The other piano in Lewis Hall is un-

repairable. Any donation in honor of your love ones? Call YoungHoon Park at (240 633-8429 for any furthe information.



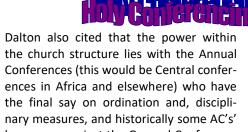
Equipping two zooming cameras and a media booth will make our church more accessible. An Interactive Website will get more people connected.

#### STATE OF THE UM CHURCH

#### by Leilani McConnell

Debate and discussion goes on as to the fate of the UMC as it struggles with its stance on homosexuality and as congregations disaffiliate over the issue. In a UMC E-News article (see Nov. 16 UM News at News umcom.org) a lawyer, Dan Dalton, of a law firm assisting congregations to retain properties when they do separate, predicted the church's future is grim and that it will not exist as it is now. With waning membership and loss of revenues, the UMC has been selling off assets like schools, clinics, buildings, etc. He expresses grave doubt it will be able to afford holding the proposed 2022 General Conference due to financial woes. It is at this conference the Proposal for Reconciliation and Grace is to be debated. The various proposals for churches deciding their stance on homosexuality as it applies to pastoral ordination, full acceptance of gays into the life and working of the UMC, recognition and/or performing (or not) of same-gender marriages would be presented. Also to be determined, when congregations disaffiliate, what will happen to properties?

Dalton says all congregations must have open debate about all these issues. Where will a congregation and its pastor stand? Where will their Annual Conference stand? Dalton added that many churches are unable to afford to stay open due to dwindling membership and aging while the -nowunaffiliated churches are thriving. Countering his opinions, were several bishops from northern and southern Europe and a Hispanic bishop from California conference who expressed great confidence and optimism about the UMC"s future as a transforming and vital entity.



nary measures, and historically some AC's' have gone against the General Conference rules as far back as the Civil War when there was schism between those who supported the South and those who were loval to the Union. Other issues, like prohibition against smoking or performing marriages of divorced persons if a former spouse was still alive, or admitting into full membership non-Whites, or, more recently, the homosexual issues, have occurred. He also said there was sometimes lack of referral to scripture to argue a position, but instead, using social mores as standard.

At the recent BWC Annual Conference held in October, several resolutions were passed. One was to support the GC Proposal cited above (501-133). Our AC has vet to declare its own stance on the gay issue.

#### Other resolutions were:

1) to form a Cemetery Association to oversee funding for maintenance of 3 historic cemeteries, Mt Auburn and Mt Olivet in Baltimore and Mt Hebron in Keedysville. 2) to address the environmental challenges and declare the BWC a green entity. It calls on congregations to consider becoming creation care-givers through study of "Climate Justice: a Call To Hope and Action" by Pat Wilkins, or another sources. Training may be accessed via www.interfaithchesapeake.org/ faithful green leader training program



[Cont'd on page 26]

#### "Daily Walk with Cosmic Jesus"

#### "Daily Walk with Cosmic Jesus"

Come, join our Lenten Journey. We will set out a daily journey with Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. The journey begins from the world like a paradise lost. Mark your calendar each Sunday for an opportunity of your own time of penitence and growth with Jesus, sent by God from a heavenly realm. As we walk with Jesus daily, you will also be invited to the work of piety and mercy: almsgiving, fasting, and prayer. Help your neighbors come to faith. Let all God's people come and be prepared for Easter celebration.

#### Giving Is an Act of Worship

#### Sunil Christopher, Treasurer

We give thanks to God for the abundant blessings in the year of 2021. Thank you for your faithful giving of time, talents and treasures. Here is summary of the treasurer's report for the whole year.

#### Revenue

General Giving	171,529.63
Online Giving	44,908.54
Special Day Giving	4,647.00
Mortgage (incl. online g.)	10,888.93
Rental (Buildings & Parkin	g) 58,913.70
Savage (Clergy Benefit)	8,142.75
Online giving fees	884.38
Miscellaneous	22.00
Total	300,505.93
Designated Giving Total:	20,231.39

Many thanks!

## LOVE NOTES

#### Celebration of Worship thru Zoom On Sundays at 11 a.m. Meeting ID: 566-965-650 Password: 900361

For facebook view, please **request** friends at Facebook.com/DaeHwa.Park



#### Expenditure

14,725.00
136,534.95
73,512.33
27,329.38
36,531.75
6,953.64
295,587.53
-884.38
4,034.02

#### Council approved **\$348,633** as **2022 budget** on December 14, 2021

Mission & Ministries	27,689.00
Clergy & Staff	194,402.00
Church Operation	120,000.00
Mission Share for UMC	35,668.00
Mortgage Payment	30,000.00

May God Bless!

#### Lent & Holy Week 2022

#### · ·

## Useful Ministry Resources

#### "Means of Grace that Shape Our Future"

©2019 Edited by Rev. DaeHwa Park This is a church ministry catalog that includes the mission, vision, values and beliefs of the church. Published for the purpose of new member class, known as "Lunch with the Pastor," Rev. Park call, equip, and send the exploring members of Good Shepherd. This 52 page booklet elaborates how to serve the Lord and His people in a joyous life of the church. The booklet is available in the Upper Room. Check the information rack.



**JOR OUR BLESSED** 

CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

0

Edited by Rev. DaeHwa Park

Resources

**For Our Blessed Christian Marriage**: A Marriage Counseling Guideline, edited by Rev. DaeHwa Park, not published. 43 pages. Before they say "yes," the marring couples should review 1) where they begin, 2) what they are going to bring, and 3) what they will see in their wedding. Rev. Park uses this guideline for marriage counseling for the engaged couples as well as for those who would like to renew their marriage relationship. For Wedding or the Reaffirmation of Marriage Vow, please contact Wendy in the office.

#### At the Altar: A Lay Leadership Manual.

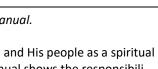
#### Edited by Rev. DaeHwa Park

Would you like to serve the Lord and His people as a spiritual leader. Check this out! This manual shows the responsibilities and necessary ministerial skills for laity. There are more than 25 lay leadership job description. Give your time and talents as spiritual leaders—committee chairs, coordinators, and/or administrative officers. The booklet is available in the Upper room information rack.

#### Christ Time for the Church:

Good Shepherd Mission Calendar for 2022 75 copies of the church calendar was printed and distributed This planner includes the sermon series, major Christian holidays, and church events. Out of print. Don't miss four seasons at Good Shepherd and awesome faces of Good Shepherd. For your own copy, please call Wendy in the office.







Page 26

#### LOVE NOTES

#### ["Missions Ministry"] From page 16

Missions also purchased a goat, two chickens, three ducks and two rabbits through World Vision before Christmas. We gave year-end monies to Shepherd's Table (who celebrated the serving of their 2 millionth meal in December!) and the Montgomery Co. Homeless Coalition. And, for Good Shepherd we bought a new Chrismon Tree and dedicated it to Janice.

I hope you have noticed we again have four brass candlesticks on the altar. Carolyn Brannon found a shop in Annapolis that repaired the two that were broken and rehabbed the other two so the quartet now look brand new. Missions covered the cost of this.

We shall meet again April and anyone interested may join us on a Thursday in April (date TBA) at 10:30 A.M. in the church parlor. **[LN]** 

Rice (long grain, white rice, brown rice)

Bagged Beans (black, pinto / red beans,

Sun, Apple & Eve, Honest Kids Grains

(spaghetti, macaroni) Snacks (apple sauces cups / pouches, mixed fruits, granola bars) Families request canned mixed

vegetables - no canned corn, peas, etc.

this important project. [LN]

Thank you for your continuing support of

lentils) Juice boxes for kids such as Capri

["Food Outreach"]

from page 16

#### ["Rise Up Ye, Saints ..."] From page 5

At the last Council meeting we put the formation of the full-time ministry task force ("tentatively named") as a new business.

Leadership Team and members of GSUMC, I am inviting volunteers to join a task force to come together to explore opportunities for growing and nurturing; and to develop short- and long-term plans for the future of our church; and for moving toward a full-time ministry. Please contact me at <u>christianatumaku09@yahoo.com</u> if you have any questions or would like to join the task force. Let us rise up to make GSUMC a beacon of <u>hope</u> on Mount Pisgah Church Road. **[LN]** 

# 

**The Upper Room Daily Devotional** for March-April is available in the Upper Room. Please take a copy for your Lenten Devotional. The large print is also available in the office. Call Wendy if you need one.

#### Lent & Holy Week 2022

#### The Act of Worship & Music

#### **Liturgical Highlights**

- + Ash Wed., Mar. 2, at 8 p.m.
- Imposition of Ashes
- + Sun., Mar. 6, First Sunday in Lent - Holy Communion
- Holy Communion
- + Sun., Mar. 13, Second Sunday in Lent - Praise Band
- + Sun., Mar. 20, Third Sunday in Lent
- + Sun., Mar. 27, Fourth Sunday in Lent - UMCOR Sunday
- Lunch with the Pastor (New Member)
- + Sun., Apr. 3, Fifth Sunday in Lent - Holy Communion
- + Sun., Apr. 10, Passion/Palm Sunday - Praise Band
- + Easter Sunday
- Easter Cantata w. Choir and Handbells

#### + Special Thanks to Liturgists:

- Mar, 2 Ash Wednesday: Marcus Davies Aanya Singh; Theodore Park; Shuvai Chivanga
- Mar., 6, Philip Palmer, Jr.
- Mar., 13, Marcus Davies
- Mar., 20, Rev. Simeon Nomo
- Mar., 27, Janet Auber
- Apr., 3, Christiana Campbell
- Apr., 10, TBA
- Apr. 15, Good Friday: Elizabeth Sawyerr 6 more readers: TBA
- Apr. 17, Easter: Philip Palmer, Jr.





Make a Joyful Nose!

YoungHoon Park Interim Dir. of Music

Praise the Lord. Praise God in the sanctuary. ... Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. (Psalm 150:1-6).

Come, join **Chancel Choir**. Come with your friends and family members. On your way to worship, come an hour early and join the rehearsal at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings. During Lent, we sing choral music that praise Jesus Christ. Beginning Sunday, March 6, we will prepare Easter cantata. Lift up your voice!

On Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. **Praise Band** practice. We prepare 3-4 gospel music for Praise Service on the 2nd Sunday of each month. We also sing Palm Sunday on April 10. Shout for the Lord!

On Easter, we will ring **Handbells** with two Easter hymns. Immediately after Sunday worship, we will practice Handbell music. Your giving of an hour for this special music will be associated with Easter cantata. Light lunch with refreshments will be offered. Lift up your instrument!

For question and information, please contact YoungHoon Park at yhoon12p@gmail.com or (301) 633-8429.

#### Page 7

#### Digital Study Hours That Equip Spiritual Leaders

Study is one of the defining dimensions of Christian discipleship. *Knowing God*, Bible Study and theological inquiry help us to grow in our faith, which enables us to claim the Gospel for ourselves and share it with others.



Lent begins with the imposition of Ashes on Ash Wednesday. Lent is the season of 40 days, not counting Sundays, before Easter. It comes from the Anglo-Saxon word "lencten," **which means "spring.**" The season is in preparation for the celebration of Easter. Historically, it was <u>the time of preparation for the baptism of Christian converts</u>. It is a season for all Christians to engage in self-examination, repentance, prayer, fasting, self-denial; and reading and meditating on God's Holy Word.

#### Coffee with Pastor - Mondays at 11 a.m.

Take advantage of this time with a cup of coffee. Meet the pastor for your own prayer concerns, comments on church's mission and ministries. Those who come to the meeting get a coffee mug with our church logo and Rev. Park's name on it as souvenir. **Meeting ID: 631-887-165; Passcode: 375637** 



LOVE NOTES

#### Meet the Pastor (Faith Talk) - Thursdays at 11 a.m.

weekly faith talk on Thursdays for Advocacy and Actions! Helps the participant explore the biblical, rational, traditional, and experiential positions of the people called Methodists. A good faith talk for mom's morning out.



Meeting ID: 953-5226-0028; Passcode: 014740

#### Journey Thru the Bible - Tuesdays at 9 p.m.

To cope with biblical illiteracy, Good Shepherd offers an opportunity for you to encounter the word daily. JTB aims at the reading of the whole bible from Genesis thru Revelation at least weekly. If you are too busy to read the bible, plug yourself in this program while resting after work or while doing chores at home after dinner. You can read a chapter, or a passage for others through Zoom. Now we read all four canonical Gospels during 40 days of Lent: **Matthew, Mark, Luke, John.** 

Meeting ID: 947-5619-4251; Passcode: 024529



#### **BWC Ministries Grants & Awards**

BWC Ministries provides mission and ministry-related grants and awards to BWC churches, organizations, and/or related agencies. These grants are solely for the use of ministries based in the BWC of the UMC and are made possible through apportionment giving, individual giving, grants partnerships and some Sunday offerings. Visit the grants webpage to view application requirements, the next deadline is April 1. Visit <u>https://</u> www.bwcumc.org/resources/grants-andawards/

**Becoming a Certified Lay Ministers** (CLM): Applications for the 2022-2024 CLM class of the Baltimore-Washington Conference are now being accepted. Learn more and see if you qualify. The application process includes meeting with the pastor, local SPRC, and the district superintendent *before the July 1 deadline*. The class starts in September and is a two-year commitment. Questions may be directed to Linda Flanagan, Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministries.

#### Internship Opportunity

The Board of Church and Society is recruiting for Ethnic Young Adult interns to work at the D.C. agency, June 5 to July 30, learning about the work of justice, peace and advocacy. Applicants must be United Methodists between the ages of 18 and 22. Learn more --

https://www.umcjustice.org/what-youcan-do/internships/



#### 2022 Lenten Bible

**Study: Speak A Word** Speak a word of faith as you enter into a weekly study for Lent featuring prayerpoems by Bishop LaTrelle Easterling. This six-week small group study delves deeply into reflections for individuals or groups, on truth, trust, healing, hope, love, humility, journey, joy, service and more

(see the study at https:// www.bwcumc.org/resources/lent-2022//)

#### 2022 BWC College Scholarship Application Available - March 24 (deadline)

Students who are currently enrolled in college or who are seniors in high school are encouraged to apply. There are several different scholarships sponsored by the BWC. Apply here at https:// aim.applyists.net/Form/Edit/9329774

## 238th Baltimore-Washington Conference - June 1-3

The 238th Session will be held at the Baltimore Waterfront Marriott Waterfront Hotel. An online Pre-Conference Briefing will be held April 30 from 9:30 a.m. to



**Thank-You Notes from Advent Families** (See the related article on page 16)



Lent & Holy Week 2022

#### Thru DISCIPLE Study launch Assimilation Tracks ...

Join small group study for biblical literacy that equips your discipleship adventure at Good Shepherd!

AT111: Prerequisite **Course for All Leadership** Tracks





its plural form (the commu-

nity). We are a community of

Participants in this 32 week

study will read the major and

minor Old Testament proph-

ets, with the exception of

Daniel, and will read the thir-

teen Letters traditionally

attributed to Paul. To estab-

lish the historical context in

which the prophets spoke for

God, daily reading assign-

ments draw also on the

Zoom Meeting ID:

875-9323-0354

Passcode: 528483

Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

of

through Chronicles.

Deuteronomy

memory.

books



**Remember Who You** 

### Christian BELIEVER

PDH201: Practical Divinity

& Methodist Heritage Track

#### The Christian Believer

**Are** The driving idea in this focuses on classical teachstudy is the connection beings of the Christian faith tween memory and identity presenting, explaining, and interpreting them in a way as the people of God. The that participants can underword *You* in the title is meant stand, using words, symto be heard both in its singular form (the individual) and bols, and hymns.

> Participants will examine the writings of ancient and

modern CHRISTIAN Christian Believer commenta tors and view video presen-KNOWING GOD bv WITH HEART AND MIND leading Bible

Though the study, the participant will affirm what they believe in God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, and Church. Join this course. You will be able to share your theology, Christology, and ecclesiology.

tations

scholars.

**Zoom Meeting ID:** 845-8194-3369 Passcode: 699555 Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

Page 9

NURTURE

AA201: Action and Advocacy Track

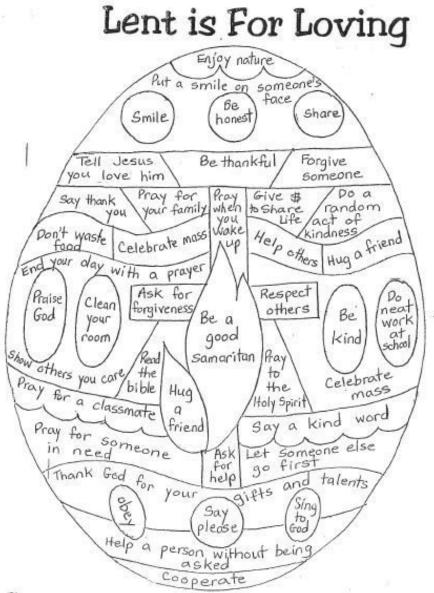


**Becoming Disciples thru Bible Study** is designed to develop strong local churches through the indepth study of Scripture. Through DISCIPLE, persons are strengthened in their faith and guided into service and ministry. Strong, biblically nourished leadership will help your church grow in vitality and Christian discipleship. recommended Strongly for all disciples. You can read the entire bible. Through Becoming Disciples thru Bible Study, the participants will explore their spiritual gifts that make, empower and equip other disciples. Strongly suggested for New Members or those who are seeking a leadership in the church.

Zoom Meeting ID: 961-6016-5713 Passcode: 716470 Mondays at 7:30 p.m. Love Notes

## **Funday School**

Through prayer (P); fasting (F) and service (S) and throughout 40 days of Lent! Join us!



Spirit of God, fill me with Jesus' life

Those who defend their anti- (you name the issue) actions as "religious freedom" I will not understand Shall we talk about the dreadful continuing gun violence in America? I heard the Remington Co. who manufactured the gun used by the young man during the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary school in Connecticut nine years ago on 02/14/18 has settled a multimillion suit brought by grieving parents whose kids were killed. But one can wonder how many more victims on a daily basis we are willing to tolerate? No appeals to Congress or to states has resulted in a national registry, licensing of fire arm owners or even controls on buying and selling. We license dog groomers and barbers and manicurists but I have never heard of death by pooch shampoo or hair clippers Ghost guns? Why are they allowed at all? Why should a juvenile have access to an assault weapon? Why should little kids be able to find unsecured guns in their homes and accidently shoot themselves or a playmate? Why should there be no limit on the amount of ammunition one can purchase and storehouse? Why should unvetted sales over the internet be allowed? Why should anyone have a weapon so powerful I can fire bullets through building walls and kill people inside? (well, okay Sweeny Todd), or nail polish. What is it about the American psyche that one's individual rights mean every one else's rights are to be curtailed? How do we understand and deal with bullying if we cannot determine its reasons? Why have hate crime legislation if its genesis cannot be discussed?

## Missions Plus

#### How did

White/Anglo/Aryan become the preferred norm anyway? Even Jesus would have a hard time fitting in today, being no doubt swarthy, not blond and blue-eyed. And being an ethnic Jew? Would he have survived Germany in WWII or be safe in a synagogue today?

OOPS! I have brought up a lot of topics no longer allowed to be talked about but I hope you and your kids do. **[LN]** 

#### [From "UMW ..." - pg. 15]

#### **MORE THANKS!**

We so appreciate the volunteers who helped with the Nov. 14 reception for our departing Music Director. The food was yummy and plentiful. Those who donated to gifts for Elizabeth are also sincerely thanked. She and her family were very pleased and touched at the outpouring of good will to her. We shall miss her but wish her very well in her new endeavors.

#### THANKS AGAIN

We appreciate those who helped :green the church" for Advent. And finally we thank Frances Bakarr for the beautiful crystal chandelier in the entry way. It offers a bright welcome to the church family and our visitors. **[LN]** 

Ash Wednesday is March 02 at 8PM. An adult Lenten study will commence with Philip Palmer Sr. on Sundays at 9.

Another issue raised was Pastor's desire to be assigned to us full-time. He has consulted with our District Superintendent without satisfaction. We are saying we still cannot afford a full-timer given our current financial woes. (We share his compensation package with Savage UMC 60/40%).

**EVANGELISM** – Chair Elizabeth Sawyerr expressed dismay at being left out of planning for the new church directory after having proposed it. She added she was not sure what her role should be going forward. It is an issue to be resolved with pastor and Leader Council chair.

**NURTURE** - Christiana reported that Youth ministries continue. We have six confirmands attending classes every other Saturday and the Sunday evening youth meet by ZOOM. It is hoped to restart the young kids time and Pastor has tried to engage them when they are present on Sunday mornings.

**PASTORAL CARE:** Augustine Roberts, a new member, has become an American citizen. Janice Taggart's family will hold a memorial service for her on April 23 at the church. One of our elder members, <u>Virginia Bacon</u>. will be moving to a facility in Annapolis to be nearer to daughters. <u>Gladys Palmer</u> lost a sister and our Custodian <u>Peter Ayok</u> lost a sister in Cameroon.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 p.m. Next to meet in May.

Leilani McConnell, Council Secretary

#### From "Winter 2022" - pg. 14

Even the Constitution that many tout as being impinged did not recognize slaves as whole beings and the Declaration of Independence, while saying "all men are created equal", did not etend that recognition to slaves or women originally. We have made progress but have a way to go and if we disdain those "Others" who helped shape us, we should stop talking about how exceptional we are.

Are we so afraid of library books they must be banned? Of course being selective as to the age of the reader makes sense, but to demand banning of books ignores the reality that kids from a very young age have access to the media, especially the internet, that is rife with information, dis- and real. And there are numerous places that include all the subjects parents claim to be incensed about. Don't let them go to a museum, read a newspaper, listen to the radio, watch TV, see a movie or hear the lyrics of a lot of popular music, or even read certain Bible stories lest they engender questions or be adversely influencing. That is what teachers and mentors (including parents) are there for, to help them understand and learn from. The Post article cites some teachers who now respond to kids' questions with "I have no opinion on that" for fear of being fired if they discuss a banned topic. Where will our little ones go, then, to ask? It seems to me we demean the intelligence of our own children by denying them information. One of the beauties of Christianity is its inclusiveness as cited so often by Jesus. We love being part of a congregation with so many ethnicities represented.

## conformands have met for Confirma- During the season of Lent, the confirmands

**Confirmation through Remote Learning** 

6 : 2 2 8 6

Six conformands have met for Confirmation Class on 2nd and 4th Saturdays through zoom meeting. There are: Shuvai Chivange (8th), Earnest (9th) and Chelsea (7th) Okie, Theodore Park (8th), Christian Salcedo (8th), and Aanya Singh (8th). With study on Church's faith in God, Jesus Christ, Holy Spirit, the Church and its mission and ministries, these young

disciples learn how to be like Jesus.



caster, PA for a tabernacle tour followed by viewing live musical, King David at the Sight and Sound Theater. On May 20, the confirmands will participate Confirmation Rally at Lovely Lane UMC in Baltimore one of three main events to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the church, established in 1772. Lovely Lane is a street where American Methodism was birthed.

will gather in the church on Friday, March

25 for 12 Hour of Famine (See below). On

April 9, they will leave for a field trip to Lan-

#### 12 Hours of Famine at Good Shepherd

11 a.m. Join it with Fasting of your Lunch

5 p.m. Gathering with Praise, Prayers & Offerings
6 p.m. Reading 1 & 2 Peter
7 p.m. Movie: The Giver
9:30 p.m. Planning Youth Activities
10:30 p.m. Liturgical Training: Lively Word
11 p.m. Break-fast with Eucharist



Deybin and his family of Honduras give thanks to God for our partnership. With \$38.00 per month, we can send Deybin to an elementary school. If you want to support this project, please make a check payable to GSUMC: Sponsoring a Child. All the donation will be acknowledged as your giving to church. During the Pandemic year we supported Deybin with \$494. Questions? **Call Christiana Campbell**.

#### Faithful Connection of Children and Youth amid the Pandemic

Funday School For Kids Now with Kids Sunday Bulletins! Available on Sundays

**Youth Hang-Out** Sun. at 7 p.m. *ZoomID: 976-1877-7352* 

Confirmation Class 2nd & 4th Sat. at 10:30p.m. ZoomID: 933-3881-6546

**Young Disciples** 

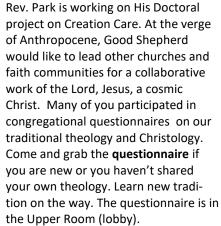
#### Lent & Holy Week 2022



Mr. Philip Palmer, Sr Facilitator of Adult Sun. School; President of UMM; Chaplain of Chancel Choir

on Sundays, March 13th and 20th. On Sunday, Mr. Philip Palmer, Sr. will bring a message: "Preparing for the Cross." Do not miss Lenten message based on Psalm 51:10-17. Currently, Mr. Palmer leads UMM, facilitates Adult Sunday School, and serves as a chaplain of Chancel Choir. Formerly, as Leadership Team Chair, (a.s.a. Church Council Chair) puts GSUMC on a firm foundation. On March 20, Dr. Goodswill **Okoji** proclaims the gospel of Jesus and he will share his witness to Jesus Christ, born to die not only for people but also all the living. As the children of God, let us deny ourselves and take up the cross and follow Jesus, sent by God from His Heavenly Realms. He is our Lay Leader from January 1 this year. As a medical doctor and faithful Christian, like Luke, a Gospel writer. Please hear him speaking the gospel of Jesus in "orderly account" and relevant to our









Join the Wednesday Night Prayer Conference Call at 8-8:30 p.m. Call 1-515-603-3157 Access code 809996, option #1

Jackson New Hampshire side and off Room 8. Home Depot gave us an estimate of \$12000 for the Jackson entry doors which will be put on hold. Trustee Beresford Dakin-Davis at the 02/20 Trustee meeting suggested we look at steel doors which would be cheaper than wood and perhaps more secure. Further inquiries will be made to locate a vendor(s) for estimates.

The Mt Pisgah road parking problem was finally addressed by Montgomery Co. who placed 4-hour parking signs along the way. However, they were not placed where potential parkers might notice them and some were in the wrong location.. The County has come back to place them in better locations but trustee shave additional concerns to discuss with the County...

The Cottage clothes washer was replaced. Trustees are pleased with the current tenants signed a new lease which increased their rent by the county's allowable 1.4%.

PASTOR'S REPORTS - SPRC Chair Nathan Block was not at the meeting to present Pastor's plea to be allowed one Sunday a month to stay longer at Savage UMC, arriving late or perhaps not at all to Good Shepherd. Savage has expressed frustration that they do not get enough of his time on Sundays to meet with new members or fellowship or to be available for business. Hence his proposal to stay late every second Sunday commencing in May. As it is, with their service from 9:30 to 10:30 or later, Pastor must hurry to get to Good Shepherd for its 11:00 service. Once there time is taken to set up the ZOOM

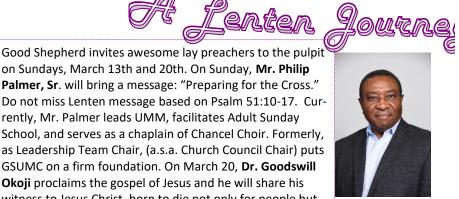
connections and often things do not commence until well after the hour. On the second Sun-days we have the praise service with band and it was proposed our Intern Admire Russell could preside until Pastor arrives or take the whole service. The group had no prior information about this and were somewhat reluctant to give an okay. However Leilani and Philip and others said they thought Pastor's request was not unreasonable. We gave tentative approval. We also requested a message (from SPRC) about this change be prepared and shared with the church membership.

The issue of continuing the ZOOM access to those parishioners who prefer still to stay home for services, was discussed and we shall continue for foreseeable future.

On the seconds Sundays, we will either NOT have ZOOM or have to figure out a way to continue it because access is linked to Pastor's personal computer and his ZOOM license (which cost app. \$20 / mo. Refunded to Pastor). Christiana and Pastor's wife Young Hoon have both helped with the link-up every Sunday and it is hoped something can be worked out. One suggestion was that the Trustees acquire their own account that could be used.

Philip palmer Jr. suggested we consider a You-tube account but it was not met with enthusiasm.

Pastor is still working on his doctorate and will be away a few Sundays upcoming. On those days Admire, or Philip Palmer Sr. or Lay Leader Dr. Okoji will give the message. Plans are afoot for the Lent and Easter.



Fasting on Fridays,

Freewill offering from the

cost of the meal(s) from

fasting on Fridays may be

brought on Sundays for a

special offering for the

hungry. The collection

Voluntary

Dr. Godswill Okoji, MD Lay Leader Member of SPRC & Finance

#### Lent & Holv Week 2022

#### Leadership Team Meeting Minute - Feb. 22 at 8 p.m.

ATTENDING: Chair Christiana Tumaku, Pastor Dae Hwa Park, Trustees Carol Penne, Vernice Lee, and Pat McConnell, Finance Chair Andre Small, Financial Secretary Idowoo Boss-Cole, Evangelism Chair Elizabeth Sawyerr, Gladys Palmer. Philip Palmer Jr., Treasurer Sunil Christopher, Saundra Craig, Ministerial Intern Admire Russell, and Secretary Leilani McConnell

The meeting opened with prayer by Elizabeth Sawverr.

TREASURER'S REPORTS: Sunil led us through review of Income and Expenses Forms, Balance sheets and the 2022 Budget all created as of Jan 27, 2022. We are solvent, but just barely.

The good news is that earlier this month we had our 2020 Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) loan of \$17,000+ secured through our bank, Capitol One, forgiven. The bank had begun to debit loan re-payments from our account in Oct. 2021, but they have refunded some of those debits in the amount of \$8695.83 The withdrawal for Feb. is yet to be refunded. Sunil thanked Trustee Vernice Lee, Chair Christiana, and loan originator Pastor Park for their efforts in pursuing the loan forgiveness. He added that Capital One was becoming more difficult to work with because they, as other commercial banks are doing, are closing branches and going digital with few opportunities for walk-in consults. He suggested we consider another bank that would still offer full service.

There were some questions raised about the Pastor's discretionary fund, and the reporting of Advent family monetary donations, Carol produced documentation verifying the total funds received for the families.

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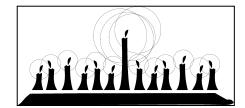
Andre, Finance Chair will be working on catching up with data entry that was not done since November 2020 in part because of our transition from one Treasurer to the next in 2021, and because there had been difficulties with the QuickBooks program. Our counter room computer is not internet connected so Quick Books cannot automatically enter data. However, he is working on it while seeking assistance as the process will take, in his estimation, months. We need all these data to be updated in order to have an audit done. A new data entry system would be expensive so he wants to try to make this one work for us.

Idowoo, Fiancial Secretary, who monitors our giving, says we are woefully behind need, only \$28,000 received since Jan, 01, in great part because we have so few pledges for 2022. She also recommended all bills be paid direct to vendors and not through reimbursement checks issued to church members. She does not track the on-line giving. She urged us to save on expenses as much as possible especially for non-mandatory outgo like salaries and Mission Share. A member informed the group that the BWC may have loans available o enhance church security.

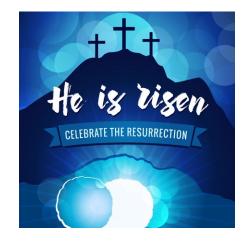
**TRUSTEES** – Carol Penne spoke for Chair Dunstan Thomas. We have been working towards replacing the damaged and unsecure entry doors at Jackson Mt Pisgah side,











Liturgical Highlights "Daily Journey with Cosmic Jesus" 40 Days of Lent - 2022

Mar., 2, Ash Wednesday 8 p.m. Imposition of Ashes

Mar. 6, First Sunday in Lent



Mar. 13., Second Sunday in Lent Daylight saving time starts

Mar., 20, Third Sunday in Lent

Mar., 27 Fourth Sunday in Lent UMCOR (UM Commission of Relief) Sunday

Apr. 3, Fifth Sunday in Lent

Apr., 10, Palm/Passion Sunday



Good Friday, April 15

7:30 p.m. Enactment of the Living Lord's Supper and Passion of Christ

Easter Sunday, April 17

11 a.m. Easter Celebration w. Easter cantata and Handbell Choir Congregational Hallelujah Chorus

A Day at GSUMC

#### **WINTER 2022**

#### By Leilani McConnell

The new year is well on its unsettling way and we are already past Valentine's Day and soon to be in the Lenten season. Unhappily we are also into the third year of dealing with the Covid plague which is still infecting a startling number of new victims every day. We are all weary of wearing masks and observing other safety precautions and the frenzy of dealing with those who push back against health and government agencies who have tried hard to keep us informed and establish mandates to keep us safe. By now we all know of someone who has been afflicted or even succumbed with no end in sight. The Baltimore-Washington conference has issued "Re-entry Guidelines" as of 02/14/22 that urge continuing to wear masks (K95 and NK95 preferred) when gathering inside and to refer to one's county guidelines that are, in turn, under CDC guidelines. One may go to e-mail CDC-info or call 80232-4436.

It has become a political football that has even led to threats against elected officials, school boards, teachers, and medical people by those who refuse to accept that the virus is real and dangerous and to follow safety guidelines themselves or to protect their kids while declaring their civil rights are being attacked.

As if that isn't enough, we also are dealing with those (admittedly mostly White people) whose hair is on fire about what and how U.S. history is being taught in K-12, again to the point of threatening teachers and their families. Some so-called

"conservative" governors have even passed mandates AGAINST any reference to our slave-holding past or a long list of other topics (see "For Teachers, Confusion and Caution", Washington Post of 02/15 in which is cited that New Hampshire has passed a law that forbids "teaching that people of one age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, creed, marital status, familial status, mental or physical disability, religion, or national origin are inherently inferior or superior to people of another"). Some have even banned the term "diversity" and encouraged people to report suspicions of any taboo topics being referenced on a hotline. (no doubt to the detriment of teachers and counselors, et al) originally. all to protect a [White] child from discomfort. REALLY? What about the discomfort of Black kids for the past 400 years? That Asian kids are suffering now related to suspicions about the COVID, or Muslim kids since 09/11? Do we want to dumb down a whole generation that should learn from the past?. We considered our native population as uncivilized savages better pushed out of the way or exterminated rather than learning from them and honoring millennia of their being here first and we have broken many treaties with them and disdained their sacred places.

Without the slave labor our "new" country would not have progressed for nearly three centuries before manumission. Sure our TRUE history is full of triumphs but also with shameful actions.

[Cont'd on page 22]

#### The Act of Justice and Evangelism

The primary task of Evangelism is to bring the gospel of Jesus Christ to the children of God of all ages. We have a variety of media to reach out to the seekers in our community. We send out a pastoral letter to new residents each season. Post card and Community Newspapers are also the other media. The survey shows that by the word of mouth and the demonstration of our examples as the hands and feet of God

#### **Inviting Others**

In keeping with our commitment to invite others into a loving, prayerful relationship with God, Good Shepherd is becoming more intentional about reaching out to others and receiving those who respond, relating them to God, nurturing them in faith, and sending them to serve.

Our Evangelism team leads ways in developing necessary tools and welcoming habits, and have undertaken bold new initiatives to increase the visibility of our church in the broader community and to develop a culture in which more of our members are actively reaching out and receiving others into the church. Reaching out others in the name of Christ is the responsibility of every Christian.

Invite others for worship, study and service opportunities. No greater evangelism than **the word of mouth**, which may be required for your own ownership of the mission and ministries of the church.



are the best known strategy to bring the gospel. Here is another way that you can be an access to the gospel. We have a magnetic bumper sticker with a domain n a me of the website at www.goodshepchurch.org.

For any other question or comments on Evangelism activities, please contact, Elizabeth Sawyerr or Rev. DaeHwa Park at (202) 277-8553.

**Team Members:** Hugh Holder; Roberto Belazquez, Simeon Nomo, Leilani McConnell, Wendy Barrios

As a church, the faithful disciples, called out of many, pursue ownership of the mission and ministries of Good Shepherd UMC.

Begin with your children and spouse. You may or may not change them. God can change. Your job is to bring them to the presence of God!

Every 4th Sunday is "A Bring a Friend Sunday"

Please come to the welcome table and find out what you deed for the ministries and mission of the church. WD is an If you want to serve as a volunteer receptionist on Sunday please contact Wendy in the office.



Welcome All just as you are!



Are you or your friends looking for a house of worship and praver? You shall come to Good Shepherd UMC, Silver Spring, MD. We welcome you, just as you are. We will be your audience.

You're truly invited to the next **Lunch with** the Pastor, a new member feast. Mark your calendar on Sunday, March 27. Bring your neighbors if they look for a church. LWP begins immediately after the Sunday worship. New members will hear the mission, visions, beliefs and value of Good Shepherd, while they share their faith journey. This is a good opportunity for new members to encounter the spiritual leaders of the church. Those who participated this fellowship feast will be guided to join as a professing members on a Sunday they wish to join.



A family with children and youth can welcome at the door with Mrs. Park, beginning Easter season. Contact at

# LOVE NOTES

Invitation to a bilingual Bible study program (French-English)

#### By Rev. Simeon Nomo

Do you want to bear witness of Jesus to the ends of the earth? We shall overcome a language barrier. Join us our new bilingual fellowship with Scripture. Here is brief information.

Goal: reach out the French-speaking Christians for their spiritual growth.

**Objectives:** To reach out the French speaking community in the area of west Silvers Spring Maryland through a dynamic bilingual Bible study and prayer meetings. We will invite our friends and friend's family to participate in an hour Bible study weekly. After 3 months we will organize a graduation program in conjunction with membership service to celebrate those who joined the church.

Interventions: Beginning Easter season, we will hold a 1-hour Bible study at Shepherd Nook downstairs at Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. Come and learn gospels in French. Pray the Lord's Prayer in French. Bless your friends in French. Sing hymns in French. Enjoy French fries as well.

#### **Other Plan:**

- Prayer Meetings on Saturday 5 to 7 p.m. - Family movie nights, etc.

#### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN ASSEMBLY

#### **"TURN IT UP!"**

is the theme for the 2022 Quadrennial Assembly of the United Methodist Women to be held in Orlando, FL at the Orange County Convention Center on May 22 -24, 2022. It will focus on women's being active and activists for social justice and welfare. Women of faith coming together for a better future are comforted and strengthened by reflecting on today's challenges and finding ways forward.

Assemblies are usually held every four years between General Conferences but due to the Covid 19 pandemic was postponed from 2020. It is always an inspiring and joyful event with women from across the states and around the world gathering as one in faith. Plenary sessions feature outstanding women leaders and have included Judy Woodruff, Hillary Clinton, and Marian Wright Edelman at past events. There will be numerous workshops focusing on self care and actualization to promote impetus for social outreach, as well as Bible-based studies. Exhibiters will have a variety of items for sale, interactive activities for education, and displays promoting a plethora of subjects.

A Legacy Banquet will take place on Sat. evening (tickets available at registration). On May 21. an UBUNTU Day of Service is offered wherein attendees may volunteer at one of a variety of charitable entities in Orlando or on site of the Assembly.. This is a great time to meet and work with other women.



This year, for those who do not want to attend in person, Assembly is offering ON LINE VIRTUAL access for \$235. One may register for this on line or call 800-850-7928 Mon-Fri 9 – 5. This will include a virtual town Hall session on Friday or Saturday.

Cost for attendees is now until April 11, 2022 \$365 for Assembly. Additionally is the cost of hotels (\$158 - \$203/night double occupancy up to four per room), the cost of transportation, and meals and any purchases made.

Go to www.assembly2022.org and follow the menus.

#### **THANK YOUS!**

We missed the chance in the last two Love Notes as the wrong articles authored by Leilani were published. So these are belated. The two days of photo shoot for the proposed updated church Directory were well attended and we processed a large number of persons. We got somewhat backed up a couple of times so waiting was longer than hoped. (I did suggest to the Re-Member entity who were taking the photos that 10 minutes between participants was not long enough.) A few persons missed their opportunity and for that we apologize. We hope they and anyone else who did not attend the sessions submitted photos to the Church Office so their images may be included when the directory is published. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped set ap and take down the Lewis Hall, who worked the welcome tables, and donated snacks for participants. [Cont'd on page 23]

Page 15

Thank you Letters from Organizations We Helped

#### **Good Shepherd's Generosity Continues** - Advent Families

#### by Carol Penne

Another pandemic year, another opportunity to reach out and provide assistance to our community. For the 15<sup>th</sup> year, the Missions Team's Advent Families drive provided resources to families who continue to struggle from the financial, social and health fallout of the Covid pandemic. Good Shepherd raised funds to help three families - an extended family of nine and two families of four. In total, we helped 10 children (ranging in age from 2 to 13) and six adults.

Thank you to everyone who gave financial gifts to purchase Visa or MasterCard debit cards. These were shared with the families to help them cover the costs of food, clothing, utility bills and medicines as well as Christmas for their families. Good Shepherd's generosity didn't stop there. Via the newly-installed We Care box, we also received socks, gloves, toys, and personal care items. Warm throw blankets, enough to give each family two, were donated. Two regulation-size basketballs were received and, as luck would have it, two of the families included boys of just the right age to enjoy playing basketball. All of these bonus items were packaged into large gift bags (with the able assistance of Leilani McConnell, Vernice Lee and Elizabeth Sawyerr).

Thank you to Pat McConnell (pictured below with Freddy Climaco, our Broad Acres contact) for assisting with the pickup on December 22.





After the holidays, we received many beautiful thank you notes from the families – we've reprinted some of them below so you can see first hand how much your generosity means to those we help. After the holidays we received many beautiful thank you notes from the families. We've reprinted some of them here (see on page 24) so you can see first hand how much your generosity means to those we help. [LN]

#### Update on Food Outreach

Thank you to all of you who continue to contribnon-perishable ute goods for Good Shepherd's food closet. Every Sunday we see more and more canned and boxed

goods appear on the table in the Upper Room. These items are shared with those who come to the church seeking food assistance and with Broad Acres Elementary School a representative from the school visits the church at least once a month to pickup donations which are then distributed to families in the neighborhood.

Broad Acres alerted us that they have a great need for specific food items (see list below). [Cont'd on page 26]

#### The Act of Compassion (Mission Outreach)

#### **Missions Ministry**

The Missions Ministry group have met twice recently, carrying on the work of our late friend and Chairwoman, Janice Taggart, whose spirit is very evident when we gather.

The members shared the cost of plaque in her honor to be dedicated in May when we add hers and others' plagues tp the Memorial Garden wall.

We are so grateful for the generosity of those who donated to the Advent Family project in 2021 and for ladies from Riderwood and former members Diane Rogers and Laura Kane who all gave us numerous knitted items-sweaters, mittens, scarves, hats and lap robes we divided among the Advent families and our two partners Indian schools, Rehobeth Christian School in New Mexico and Enemy Swim Indian Day School in South Dakota, and the Gerald Ignace Indian Health Clinic in Milwaukee. TO the latter three we mailed 10 cartons of knitted goods and socks and underwear and other small items.

#### [Cont'd on page 26]



## **OUTREACH**

#### **Pastor's Discretionary Fund**

Your generous extra giving makes it possible to relieve life burdens for those who are in need. Rev. Park meets our neighbors in a desperate situation. If you are willing to share your monetary gift. Make a check payable to Good Shepherd UMC and write a note: Pastor's Discretionary Fund. 100% goes to our neighbor at the spiritual discretion of the pastor. All the disbursement records have been kept in the office. Do good for the least! Praise the Lord.



nited Method sts continue to pray and respond to the war

now being waged in Ukraine. On February 24, Russian military forces invaded Ukraine, causing hundreds of thousands of people to flee their homes. US govern- $\hat{k}$  ment aid officials report that the people  $\hat{k}$ of Ukraine have been caught in the middle of conflict for nearly eight years, and there are currently 2.9 million in need of § 🤅 urgent humanitarian assistance. To assist 🗞 in these efforts individuals and congregations are encouraged to give to The United Methodist Community on Relief (UMCOR) International Response and Recovery fund (Advance **#982450**). Make a check to Good Shepherd and write this 3 Advance code on the check memo section.