

# Love Notes

Praising God | Experiencing God | Serving God | Sharing God  
2021 Kingdom-tide (June July August)

## MAKE ALL THINGS NEW

- 5. Reflections on Disciple Study*
- 6. ReEntering Well Updates*
- 10. "Come to the Table"- VBS 2021*
- 12. Anthropocene*
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***28. BAD FENCES MAKE FOR MISERY ON BOTH SIDE***

Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, Silver Spring, MD

©LOVE NOTES, newsletter  
**2021 Eastertide**  
(April 4-May 23, 2021)

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: Sanctuary at Easter Morning.

**LOVE NOTES Editors**

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**How to submit an article:**

Submit any article with Microsoft Word document by email at [good-shepumc@verizon.net](mailto:good-shepumc@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.

Next Issue: Kingdome-Tide II  
(September-November)  
Articles due on Sunday,  
August 15, 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 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 discipleship 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 cutting-edge 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 dependants 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!

Spotlights in Ministries



Church Staff
Rev. DaeHwa Park, Pastor
Dr. Elizabeth Schneider, Director of Music/Organist
Wendy De La Roca Barrios Secretary
Peter Ayok, Custodian

Primary Theme of This Issue:
'Make All Things New'

Inside this issue:

Table with 2 columns: Article Title and Page Number. Includes items like 'From the Pastor', 'Special Thanks', 'Praising God', etc.

WORSHIP & NEW STUDY
Through online (zoom)
11 a.m. Celebration and Worship
Youth Hangout on Sun. 7 p.m.
Children with Storytelling on Sun. at 8 p.m.
The Holy Club on Mon. at 9:00 p.m.
See details on page 11

## Make All Things New this Kingdom-tide

Greetings from the Pastor  
Greetings from the Pastor

On June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, Joseph R. Biden Jr. became the first US President to condemn and reclassify the white supremacist race riots that occurred 100 years ago in Tulsa, Oklahoma, as a race massacre against black people.

He also proclaimed June as National Caribbean-American Heritage Month, National Homeownership Month, National Ocean Month, National Immigrant Heritage Month, Great Outdoor Month, and Lesbian, Gay, Transgender, Bisexual, Queer Pride Month. These proclamations served to start a conversation to the American people about recognizing and eradicating systemic racism and racial discrimination existing in American society.



The Biden administration announced new efforts to narrow down racial wealth gaps and called for all Americans to face together the issue of “safeguarding our environment against the existential threat of climate and other challenges”

by addressing “the economic and moral disparity among Americans, the Department of Housing and Urban Development will advance affordable and sustainable homeownership, so that hardworking Americans can purchase their first homes, increase access to credit and mortgage insurance for borrowers of color, and fully enforce the *1968 Fair Housing Act* to root out systemic discrimination from our housing market and break down the unjust barriers that prevent too many Americans from buying a home.”

During National Ocean Month, we will celebrate “our stewardship of the oceans and coasts, and reaffirm our commitment to protecting and sustaining them for current and future generations.”

On his proclamation on National Caribbean-American Heritage Month, President Biden acknowledged America’s diversity as the defining strength of the nation. “Throughout our history, Caribbean Americans have brought vibrant cultures, languages, traditions, and values that strengthen our country and add new chapters to our common story.”

What a busy day it was!

As an American disciple of Jesus Christ, I felt Jo Biden, one of Roman Catholic companion in Christ was asking other fel-

low men and women of faith to bring forth God’s Kingdom in our midst. Though we live with different political opinions, we live out the gospel—Good News!

Some argues the separation of church and society. I acknowledge it as a reciprocal agent for God’s Kingdom that work together for common good. For me, the church is a refinery where those of us with certain talents—born and/or earned, are gathered and repurposed them by the gospel of Jesus Christ as SPIRITUAL GIFTS.

Come and gather as the talented at Good Shepherd, go forward the world with the gifts to share with all God’s people.

*Rev. DaeHwa Park*

Rev. DaeHwa Park, Pastor

Notes: All citations are from the presidential remarks and proclamations you can find the whole text from the briefing room (on June 1, 2021) in the website of The White House.

### Special Thanks!

Christiana Tumaku Campbell  
Church Council Chair

As I have watched with excitement how things have changed quickly these past couple of weeks since the administration of COVID vaccines, the opening of churches, the opportunity to walk around without masks for those who are fully vaccinated, I want to take this opportunity to recognize all those who have supported the “Entering Well” program since May of 2020.



Kudos to the members of the Re-Entering Well Task Force, to all those who have, and continue to work tirelessly on Sunday mornings behind the scenes to allow for the in-person worship and Zoom services go on; our special Zoom and Facebook IT Specialist, coordinator of Pastor’s ETA and Monitor of the Zoom Chatline; to our Music Director and members of the choir which continues to grow every Sunday; to members of the Trustee Committee, our committed two-person team of counters, pop-in ushers and greeters, our Sunday morning altar flower volunteer, and more importantly Reverend Park. With Pastor Park’s continued help and vision, we continued proclaiming God’s praise.

Good Shepherd members – we are living our vision to make, grow, and nurture disciples of Jesus Christ so lives are transformed!



### Reflections on Disciple Study

by Christiana Tumaku Campbell

Hooray we did it!!! A small group over the last thirty-four weeks completed the *Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study* with Pastor Park. It is unbelievable how quickly the time went. I had always wanted to complete a Bible study but to be honest, I kept making excuses about not having enough time to make the commitment. So, I was very happy when Pastor Park offered the opportunity last year. Through this study, I met a fellow Disciple of Jesus, Wilma of Savage UMC. A very warm and caring individual – which was such a blessing!

Through this Discipleship Study, I was able to achieve a life-long goal – reading the bible from the Book of Genesis through the Book of Revelations. I have tried several times on my own but failed to do so. At the end of each weekly session, the enthusiasm to continue the assigned readings for the next session grew. The thirst for knowledge and a deeper understanding of the scriptures increased. The scriptures spoke to us. Our team studied with curiosity. We were able to read, to understand, God’s mighty creation, the lineage of Abraham, and how Jesus came into the world to save ALL not just a few. What an awesome feat! The true meaning of Romans 12: 4-6.

**[Cont’d on Page 8]**



### “Make all things New”

O Spirit of the Living God fall afresh on me! Let us gather together to set out a new journey with Jesus who is to come! You, the Church of Christ are truly invited to the act of worship on the first round of Kingdom-tide. Make all things new as Jesus promised to His church (Revelation 21:5). This vision has been cast sine the days of Isaiah as God our Heavenly Father wants to unfold His Kingdom anew! Come, bring your family and friends, and let us reason together for what God stores for you and me.



### Giving as the Act of Worship

Thank you for your offerings of talent, time and treasures. As of May 16 we have given \$5,099.84 for the act of worship, discipleship, mission outreach and evangelism; \$ 21,221.31 for utilities and building maintenance; \$9,109 for mortgage; \$ \$14,376.75 for connectional mission share, and 49,920.90 for spiritual leadership from pastor and staff from \$118,476.41 total giving for the annual budget of \$306,037.00. For special ministries incl. Pastor’s Discretionary assistance we gave \$5,813.27. Financial report is available in the office if you need.

### 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  
Zoom Service will be ended as of August 1



### + Special Thanks to Liturgists:

- June 6 - Priscilla Michell
- June 13 – Admire Russell
- June 20 - Elizabeth Sawyerr
- June 27 - Elizabeth Sawyerr
- July 4 - Christiana Campbell
- July 11 - Priscilla Michell
- July 18 - Philip Palmer Jr.,
- July 25 - Christiana Campbell

### Reentering Well Updates

Re-Entering Task Force met on June 1 with the updates of COVID 19 pandemic and vaccination status. There will be recommendations for Re-entering Well in the coming Leadership Team meeting (a.k.a. Church Council): Masks or face coverings are NOT required for the fully vaccinated as of June 13. There will be social distancing markers on the pews for anyone in the sanctuary until further notice. Fellowship As of August 1, zoom service will be discontinued.

## Summer Music and Service Opportunities

By Elizabeth Schneider

Good Shepherd's Choir is planning a special **musical offering for June 27<sup>th</sup>**: our "Jubilee" of favorite selections offered throughout the past year of worship services. This is a **much-loved** event that was curtailed, like so many other beloved traditions, in 2020. After this service, Good Shepherd is planning to host an **afternoon fellowship meal** just for our music volunteers including Praise Band members and their loved ones, to show appreciation for their service to God and Good Shepherd UMC.

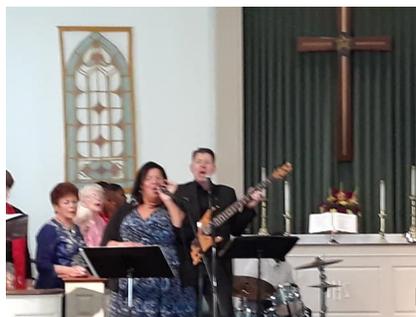
Good Shepherd's **Choir is on vacation for several weeks in July and August**. During these weeks, we request volunteers to assist with our music: please contact Elizabeth ASAP if you might help with praise. Musicians do not need to prepare or perform completely on their own: Elizabeth loves to form small groups, simplify music for children or for less-experienced singers, help members of a family rehearse a family hymn offering, and provide rehearsal tracks on CD or mp3 to help you prepare. Perhaps you may know of a student who would benefit from performing experience with loving and supportive listeners. Please take this opportunity to share and be blessed. **Helping set up outdoor services is another opportunity** to serve the Lord! Outdoor worship has often been held only once per year.



With the pandemic, we have tried to greatly increase the frequency of outdoor worship with its benefits of fresh air, distancing, and none of the indoor surfaces people touch in common. Good Shepherd has such a prominent and beautiful location that our outdoor worship is welcoming and attractive to many passers-by. We often feature the Praise Band outdoors, because the amplified sound is a natural benefit out in the open and it draws interest from those who have never been inside our (or any) sanctuary.

Recently, only two or three individuals have been volunteering to help carry folding chairs, erect tents, attend a welcome table with bulletins, and put things away afterwards. Some of us who do this work are not young and we truly get exhausted, so we badly need a few more crew members to come forward for outdoor setup. A schedule can then be made so that we might hold outdoor worship more frequently in good weather months.

So, during July and August, and of course in the future as well, please pray for ways to serve in music or as part of our outdoor setup crew. The time commitment is very small, and since all our time comes from the Lord, it is a joy to use it in His service with loving friends.





### “Digital Study Hour” That Makes Difference

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.



**Idowoo Boss-Cole  
Hugh Holder  
Colleen Sampson.**

**Wilma Baxtor  
Christina Campbell  
Colleen Sampson**

**Admire Russell  
Elizabeth Sawyerr**

#### [Reflections ... From page 5]

What true leadership means and requires – humility, willingness to serve without glory! Jesus did this himself by washing the feet of His disciples.

By choosing God’s way over the ways of “this world”; by receiving God’s gifts instead of promoting our talents; and by doing God’s work we become God’s very presence in the world.

In closing, we are all in this together. As it is stated in Philippians 4:13 - “We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.” Hope I have piqued some curiosity and interest to join the next Discipleship Study Class. It is doable and it can be done. Please take that leap of faith and join the next class when it is offered! [LN]

#### **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**

#### **Meet the Pastor - Thursdays at 11 a.m.**

Due to COVID, Cokesbury discontinued to offering FaithLink series. You can “Meet the Pastor” in person with an appointment. For guaranteed appointment please call the office no later than Wednesday 2 p.m.

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

#### **Journey thru the Bible**

To cope with biblical illiteracy, Good Shepherd offer 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 choirs at home after dinner. You can read it a chapter or a passage for others through Zoom. Now we read History: **1 & 2 Kings & 1 & 2 Chronicles.**

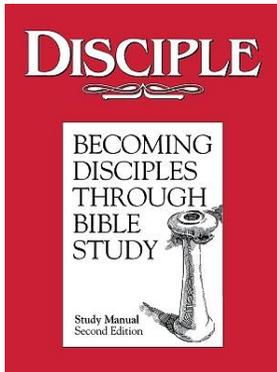
**Meeting ID: 947-5619-4251  
Passcode: 024529  
Tuesdays at 7 p.m.**



**Thru DISCIPLE Study launch Assimilation Tracks ...**

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

**New Disciple Courses Offering in September. For Registration, call in the office.**

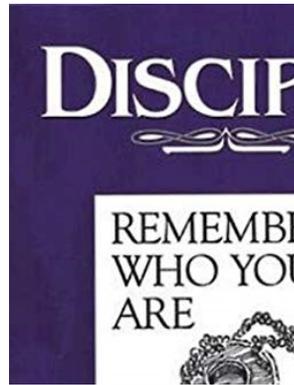


**AT111: Prerequisite Course for All Leadership Track**

Recommended to new members or those who want to read the entire bible through the study.

90-minute 34 weeks of Bible study, helping the learners read more than 75% scripture lessons of the bible with Human Conditions and weekly reflection on the Marks of Discipleship. The study ends of "Spiritual Gifts" session, which helps the learners recognize their gifts to bring to the mission and ministry of the church.

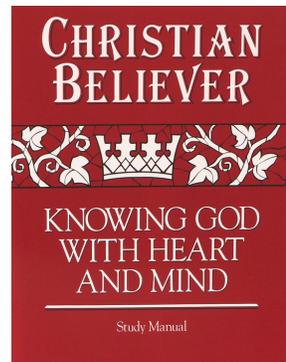
Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. beginning September 22, 2021



**AA201: Action and Advocacy Track**

*Remember Who You Are* helps today's Christians get connected with memory and identity of God's people. The participants will read the major and minor Old Testament prophets and the thirteen Letters traditionally attributed to Paul. To establish the historical context in which the prophets spoke for God, daily reading assignments draw also on the books of Deuteronomy through Chronicles. This study equips disciples to serve as the faithful advocates and voices of God in their spiritual journey in life.

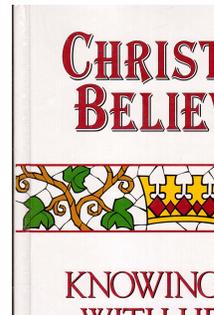
Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. beginning September 22, 2021



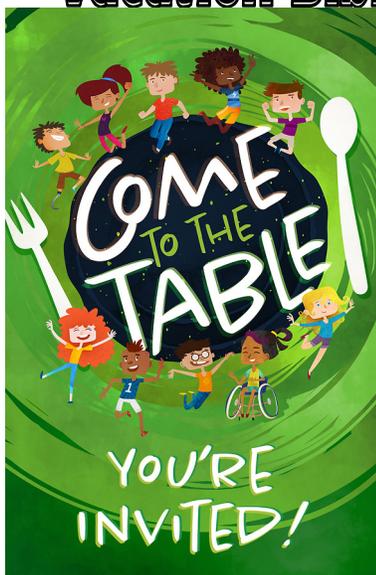
**PDH201: Practical Divinity & Heritage Track**

Provides the participants with the resources for practices to become faithful people called "Methodists." This course helps people explore the spiritual way of salvation. The course equip people to serve as representative of the works of the Lord in the United Methodist connection through the Wesleyan practices of life journey.

Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. beginning September 23, 2021



# Vacation Bible School - 2021



**June 28—July 2, 2021  
(Monday thru Friday)  
10 a.m.—Noon**

**Come to the table.** Children, you are invited to VBS 2021. Our theme is “COME TO THE TABLE.” We will explore the good news of Jesus from the gospels of Luke and John.

Five stories from the gospels reveal the generosity of God, the transforming power of Jesus’ welcome, and offer a model for living and sharing God’s hospitality.

You will see the ways Jesus welcomed and cared for all people, and learn how to welcome others in the same way Jesus did with everyone.



Monday, June 28 “**Be Our Guest,**” (Luke 14:15-24)  
Tuesday, June 29, “**Jesus and the Giant Picnic,**” (John 6:1-15)  
Wednesday, June 30, “**Guess Who’s Coming for Dinner,**” (Luke 19:1-10)  
Thursday, July 1, “**The Last Supper,**” (Luke 22:13-20; John 13:1-20)  
Friday, July 2, “**Breakfast on the Beach,**” (John 21:1-17)

## Program Summary

9:30 a.m. Check-in  
10 a.m. Opening Session - Sanctuary  
10:15a Bible Study  
10:30a Craft Work  
10:45a Refreshment  
11a Music/Outdoor Games  
11:20a Outdoor Games/ Music  
11:40a Break  
11:45a Closing Session - Sanctuary

## Break-Out Session

K-2nd Graders at Youth Room  
3rd –5th at Wesley Parlor  
Headquarter & Clinic - The Upper Room

## For Volunteers

Please use the Signup Genius for your volunteering. All the volunteers MUST be fully vaccinated. Adult teachers and volunteers are required for the participation in the orientation session on Tuesday, June 22nd at 7:30 p.m.

## For Parents

Children need to wear mask during the VBS just as MCPC had in-person learning. Parents cannot be a part of the break-out session. They are welcome to join “Opening Session” at 10 a.m. and “Closing Session” at 11:45 a.m. Both sessions will take place in the sanctuary.

**To “Deybin’s Family with Love**

Deybin and his family of Honduras give thanks to God for our partnership. Our mission project during VBS will sponsor Daybin with school and summer activities. \$38 per month will support him going to 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. Questions? Please call **Christiana Campbell.**

**Young Disciples**



**(←) Two Mission Projects during VBS**

1. The Heifer Project
2. Sponsoring a Child

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

<p><b>Children w. Story telling</b> Sun. at 8 p.m. Zoom ID: 964-1021-2427 Passcode: 541602</p>	<p><b>Youth Hang-Out</b> Sun. at 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 976-1877-7352 Passcode: 914966</p>	<p><b>The Holy Club (Young Adults)</b> Mon. at 9 p.m. Zoom ID: 941-6327-7971 Passcode: 256442</p>
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**Special thanks to Teachers:**

Mrs. Christiana T. Campbell; Dr. Elizabeth Schneider; Rev. & Mrs. Park

Cut out this portion to receive the gift card on Sunday, September 12!

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Date started: \_\_\_\_\_

Date finished: \_\_\_\_\_

**(↙) Read the New Testament during summer and receive a gift card!**

**The Wise Still Seek Him**  
New Testament Reading Chart

**“Serving God through Faithful Stewardship on Our Common Home\*:  
Equipping Good Shepherd United Methodist Church for the Anthropocene.”**

Rev. DaeHwa Park

Over the last two decades I have served as an ordained elder at several United Methodist churches in the greater Washington area. While leading these congregations, I learned that there was a need for a discipleship pathway for the churches I served to make and empower the disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

In 2010, I wrote a 40-page ministry catalog, entitled *Means of Grace that Shapes Our Future*, for Saint James United Methodist Church in West Friendship, Maryland. The catalog was used mainly for new member classes and for the financial stewardship for the church.

Beginning with the mission, vision, value and beliefs of the church, the catalog helped a new disciple grow and find his or her place in the life of the church through the discipleship pathway. The discipleship pathway was developed through the Wesleyan means of grace. It offers eight assimilation tracks that bring up new members to grow to the level of spiritual leaders in the church. Each track requires a year of bible study and lay leadership practice in the area of ministry – worship, study, service and evangelism. Through the assimilation process of each track,\*\* the members of the church learn the ministerial skills and are invited to serve eight different leadership areas of the church.

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\*In his recent encyclical letter, *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis uses the term, referring it to earth.

The catalog has been revised at each pastoral appointment and used for the discipleship pathway for two other congregations: Lanham United Methodist Church, Lanham; and the UMC of Savage in Savage, Maryland. Following the pastoral appointment in July, 2019, it was revised again for Good Shepherd UMC (Good Shepherd) in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Good Shepherd is a relatively young congregation compared to other United Methodist churches in the Baltimore-Washington Conference, yet it is eager to transition into a church of new generations. Established in the early 50s, Good Shepherd has gathered a multi-ethnic congregation in the greater Washington area. Over the last two decades in particular, Good Shepherd received numerous immigrants primarily from West Africa, including English-speaking Asian-Americans. Then, Hispanic and Latino residents began to move into the parish and became the largest racial group. Recently, Good Shepherd has received several French speaking members.

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\*\*For the works of mercy and piety Good Shepherd has developed eight assimilation tracks: 1) Practical Divinity and Holiness Track; 2) Worship and Devotion Track; 3) Sunday School Teacher Track; 4) Small Group Leader Track; 5) Lay Leadership Track; 6) Service and Outreach Track; 7) Prayer and Care and Pastoral Visitation Track; 8) Witnessing and Evangelism Track. (DaeHwa Park, *Means of Grace that Shape Our Future*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, unpublished, 2019), 7, 26-29.

## Congregation Study

The demographic study of the church's parish reveals a unique combination of residents: "silver sophisticated," – a retired, highly educated elderly group, striving "Singles and Starters," – young professionals, and "Cultural Connection," – new immigrants.\* With the demographic change, Good Shepherd launched a new ministry, called, multi-contextual ministry.

Cambridge Track D: "The Winds of the Spirit and Ministries for a Changing World" program helped me to learn that the discipleship pathway of the church needs to be modified in order to face new challenges from climate change and its related environmental crisis.

The DMin project will seek to modify the discipleship pathway of the church, with new theological underpinnings for the moral vision of the church for Anthropocene. The entire church will participate in the project with a questionnaire and a survey. A fieldwork journal will be kept throughout the year. As a project for congregational transition, a sermon series will be associated with the project. Seasonal devotionals and congregational acts, i.e. a Carbon Fast during Lent, will be revamped as the church explores new insights on creation care. During the project a new small group will be organized to lead the Action and Advocacy\*\* track as an objective of the discipleship path-

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\*DaeHwa Park, "Finding "Good-Fearers" in Our Parish," *Love Notes*, Church Seasonal Newsletter, (January-February, 2019): 14-17. Used community demographics generated by InfoSeve.

Chapter One begins with an overview of on the global emergency in our common home, the earth, and the church's need to respond to the environmental crisis caused by climate change. The global emergency will include the human impact on the natural world with IPCC (Intergovernmental Panels of Climate Change) reports and the observations of several advocates, such as Bill McKibben, Amitav Ghosh, Jim Antal, and T.J. Corringe. But, the emergency will be found more in the people living in the secular age with disbelief and a lack of moral vision for God's creation. This would include Good Shepherd, which has not paid much attention to the action and advocacy needed for creation care.

A denominational research on the church's response to the global emergency will explore the collaborative act among the protestant churches and other faith traditions in the United States. The overview will help Good Shepherd engage questions around how the church can foster the interdependent acts of stewardship for the common good and built environment on the verge of Anthropocene.

Chapter Two articulates three major biblical texts that support new theological underpinnings for the church of Anthropocene. First, the Yahwist tradition of the Creation story (Genesis 2:4b-3:24) will emphasize the role of human beings in God's creation.

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\*\*Baltimore-Washington Conference started Act and Advocacy as one of new five areas of emphasis in the conference ministries since the 233<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference in 2018. This project will serve as an implement of the new emphasis at Good Shepherd UMC, a UMC in the Greater Washington District.



Secondly, the Noaic Covenant on new creation (Genesis 8:22) will provide a broader theological horizon than Judeo-Christian orthodoxy derived from the Abraham tradition (Genesis 12:1-3). The vision of a New Heaven and a New Earth (Isaiah 65:17-25; Revelation 21:1-22:5) will be discussed as the vision of God's Kingdom for all humanity. Thirdly, The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20) and The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6 and Luke 6) will examine an ecclesiastical locale for Anthropocene. The holy observance of Sabbath prescribed in the commandments and also in the Lord's Prayer - the two fundamental rituals of Judeo-Christian spirituality - will help the church acknowledge the gift of Sabbath and Jubilee, where and when the church prospers God's Kingdom vision.

Chapter Three helps Good Shepherd to create a ministerial curriculum to equip the church with an Act and Advocacy track that will make the discipleship pathway relevant to today's tasks of the church. The track will include reading assignments on the act of the Holy Spirit and the significance of the rituals in the process of being an emergent church. John Wesley, inspired by Jeremy Taylor, will arouse a Christian duty inspired by Holy Living. Karl Barth's work on the Holy Spirit will help the church discover their new identity as the "called and sent." \*

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\*Karl Barth, *Church Dogmatics, IV: The Doctrine of Reconciliation, paragraphs 71-72*, (Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1962), 481-901.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer will facilitate the church move toward interdependence. The curriculum will include suggested readings on Jewish spirituality, especially from Abraham Joshua Heschel on *The Sabbath*; and Martin Buber's *I and Thou* by Martin Buber, which will foster the reciprocal collaboration of fellow creatures on creation care. The church will be invited to read indigenous wisdom and scientific knowledge through a few other references, such as Robin Kimmerer's *Braiding Sweetgrass*, and Peter Wohlleben's *The Hidden Life of Trees*. Christian Ethicists, like Jim Antal, Stephen R. L. Clark and Larry L. Rasmussen will provide a roadmap of how to be a "climate church."\*\*

The church will learn how give spiritual leadership to the church and community. With the new curriculum, the members of the church will learn how to write prayers, devotionals, and creedal statements for creation care.\*\*\* The Social Principles of The United Methodist Church will also be a reference.

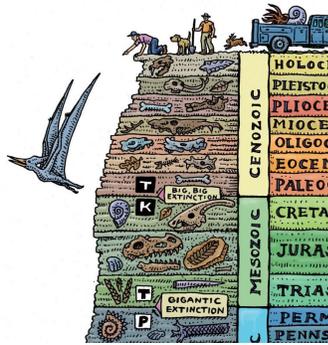
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\*\*Jim Antal, *Climate Church, Climate World: How People of Faith Must Work for Change* (Lanham, Boulder, New York, London: Rowman & Littlefield, 2018).

\*\*\*Jeremy Taylor's *Holy Living and Dying: With Prayers Containing the Whole Duty of a Christian* will be a guide for writing up prayers. Several other references on devotionals regarding creation care, such as *God's Good Earth: Praise and Prayers for Creation* by Anne and Jeffrey Rowthorn, *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home*, by Pope Francis, and *Earth Gospel: A Guide to Prayer for God's Creation* by Sam Hamilton-Poore will be examined for a congregational guideline for writing seasonal devotionals for Lent – the season that Good Shepherd uses for its Christian formation.

Chapter Four contains a conclusion with findings from the project that examine about how Good Shepherd can foster the interdependent acts of stewardship for our common home. The project will explore how Good Shepherd can work with other faith-based communities in the local and global community, especially for the gathering of the faithful people who honor and sustain God’s creation.

Through the growing numbers of the culturally connected, immigrants in the community, the last chapter will pose a question about how Good Shepherd will embrace these new neighbors who might not have room for creation care because of their immediate need of settlement, and will empower them to become a part of “earth-honoring faith”\* body of Christ.

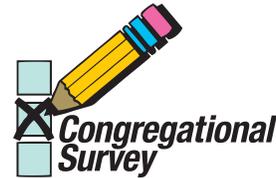


\*Larry L. Rasmussen, *Earth-Honoring Faith: Religions Ethics in a New Key* (Oxford, UK, New York: Oxford University Press, 2013).

## Congregational Study

Friends,

I would like to invite you to join me in search of developing a discipleship pathway in conjunction with our ministry at the verge of Anthropocene, a new ecological epoch after Holocene. This is a part of the Doctor or Ministry Program offered by Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D.C. and Wesley House, one of consortium of the University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom.



Please set aside about half an hour and give your answer. Your participation helps me develop the discipleship path in the church. so that we Good Shepherd may call, equip and send the faithful stewards who will commit to preserve the planet earth—Our common home!

You may use the postcard enclosed herewith as an answer sheet, and mail it to me at Good Shepherd UMC at 9701 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD no later than September 1, 2021.

Thank you very much.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. DaeHwa Par  
(202) 277-8553  
“The Winds of the Spirit and Ministries for a Changing World”  
Cambridge Track D  
Doctor of Ministry Program

## A Congregational Questionnaire for a Quest for Creation Care

The world faces the environmental crisis with climate change. The discipleship pathway of Good Shepherd UMC (GSUMC), a suburban and multi-contextual congregation, has been focusing on a traditional mission of the church to make and empower the disciples of Jesus Christ, especially finding and keeping the un-churched. GSUMC is in need of modifying its ministerial strategy to call, equip and send the spiritual leaders for creation care as the primary task of the church at the verge of Anthropocene.

You are truly invited to this participatory work to create a congregational data, by this questionnaire and survey. By talking this survey, you will begin a hermeneutic approach for an emergent church that meets the spiritual needs of the day. The works of the advocates on creation care will guide a collaborative work of the church for environmental justice. The project will create a new assimilation track on Act and Advocacy, with a leadership training curriculum. It will revise church's ministry catalog, *Means of Grace that Shape our Future* (2019). Those who are willing to participate in an oral presentation, please let me know on the answer sheet (see the postcard enclosed here).



1. What would describe you best?

- ① Members or Regular Attendee of Good Shepherd UMC
- ② Associate members: Children of Good Shepherd
- ③ Former members or clergy
- ④ One of Christian believers
- ⑤ One of God-Fearers or Seekers
- ⑥ One of Atheists
- ⑦ Others (Please specify if you want: \_\_\_\_\_ )

2. What age group do you belong?

- ① Age 12 and under
- ② Junior and Senior High School Age (13 – 18 years old)
- ③ Young Adults (19-35 years old) ④ Adults (36-64 years old)
- ⑤ Senior Adults (65 and older)

3. Regarding the advent of Anthropocene,

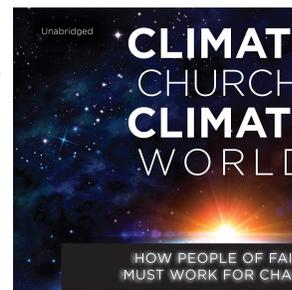
- ① I never heard about it.                      ② I don't know it.
- ③ I am aware of it.                              ④ I don't believe it.
- ⑤ I don't think that it is true.

4. What would be the most significant causes of the advent of Anthropocene?

- ① Industrial Revolution                      ② Human Pride and Abuse of Resources
- ③ Rapid increases of Human population
- ④ Deforestation                                ⑤ Emission of Carbon Dioxide
- ⑥ Part of Evolution of Universe          ⑦ I don't know



5. What is the attribute of God do you use most when you pray.
- ① Creator of Heaven and Earth; Author of Life
  - ② Almighty and Everlasting God
  - ③ God, Heavenly Father
  - ④ Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
  - ⑤ Lord (King of kings, etc.)
  - ⑥ God of Universe (Great Spirit, etc.)
  - ⑦ God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
6. What are the primary tasks of the church? Please write numbers as significance on the answer sheet.
- ①  [ ] Offering Worship and Teaching for Personal holiness
  - ②  [ ] Social Holiness for Peace and justice
  - ③  [ ] Evangelism: Bringing the good news of Jesus Christ to the unchristian.
  - ④  [ ] Outreach: Serving for the outcast and the poor
  - ⑤  [ ] Sacraments (Baptism and Holy Communion) and Ecclesial Acts (Wedding, Funeral, etc.)
  - ⑥  [ ] Equipping Disciples for God's Kingdom and Righteousness incl. Children and Youth
  - ⑦  [ ] Advocacy for Political Action and Social Awareness
7. What would be the top priority of the ministry of the church?
- ① Proclamation & Witness
  - ② Fellowship & Member Care
  - ③ Service and Outreach
  - ④ Advocacy and Actions
  - ⑤ Sacraments and Ecclesial Acts (Weddings, Funerals, etc.)
  - ⑥ Searching the Scripture
  - ⑦ Prayer and Meditation
8. What would you be the best description of the Kingdom of God?
- ① Going and living in Heaven
  - ② Peace and justice for all
  - ③ Restoring the Planet Earth as God Created Good
  - ④ Christian Perfection
  - ⑤ World without Sins and Problems
  - ⑥ Make Human Society (Built Environment) Prosperous and Peaceful
  - ⑦ A Place and time where God is in charge



### Congregational Questionnaire Cont'd

9. What have you done for Creation Care?

- ① Personal Prayer
- ② Read references related to Creation Care
- ③ Recycling
- ④ Improve automobiles and home with renewable energy facilities
- ⑤ Participated advocacy events
- ⑥ Academic or Scientific Research on Environmental Concerns
- ⑦ Join an advocacy event at least once within the pastor 5 years

10. Which scripture does it resonate to your concerns for Climate Change?

- ① "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." (Genesis 8:22)
- ② "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy." (Exodus 20:8)
- ③ "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." (Isaiah 41:10)
- ④ "Behold, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind." (Isaiah 65:17)
- ⑤ "your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." (Matthew 6:10)
- ⑥ He replied, "Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." (Matthew 17:20)
- ⑦ "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- ⑧ "Behold, I am making everything new." (Revelation 21:5)

11. In his book, *The Power of Ritual: Our Need for Liberating Rites that Transform Our Lives and Our Community*, Tom F. Driver talks about a variety of rituals that transform the lives of people. What do you think the primary roles of the church for Anthropocene?

- ① Prayer
- ② Cooperate Worship
- ③ Searching of the Scripture
- ④ Evangelism and Witnessing
- ⑤ Political actions for Policymaking
- ⑥ Interdisciplinary Dialog with Scientist
- ⑦ Monetary Contribution to Research or Advocacy Events

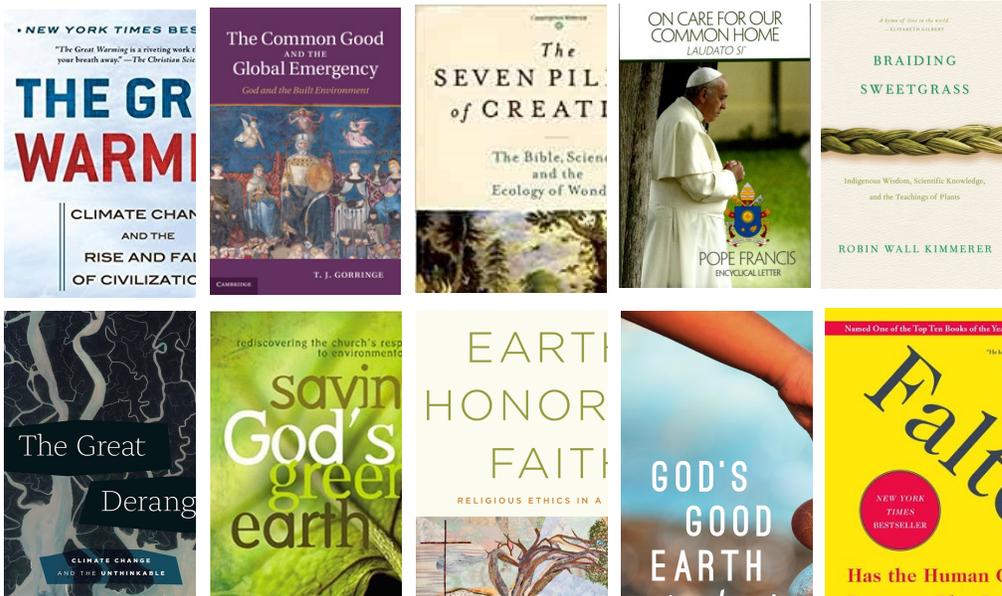
Congregational Study

12. What is your expectation of the church on Creation Care?

- ① Preaching from the Pulpit
- ② Learning Opportunities from Scientists and Policymakers
- ③ Forming of Small Groups for Action and Advocacy
- ④ Art Exhibition
- ⑤ Music Concert to Public Awareness
- ⑥ Local Service Project (Recycling, etc.)
- ⑦ Others (Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_)

13. How do you see Jesus Christ in conjunction with Christianity at the verge of Anthropocene? (answer all that apply)

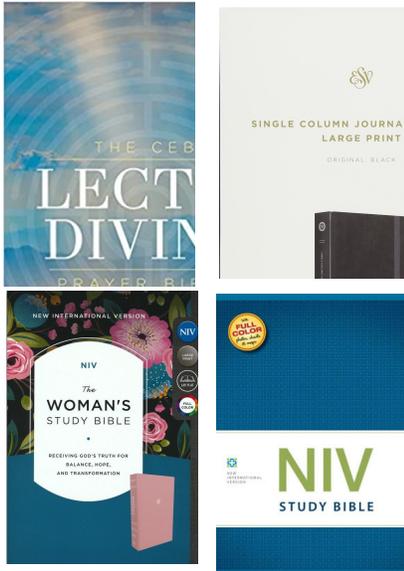
- ① The Savior of the World
- ② The Great Teacher: The Word, The Truth, The Light of the World
- ③ The Lamb of God who Takes Away the Sins of the World
- ④ The Son of God
- ⑤ The Lord of lords and King of kings
- ⑥ The Great Priest who Reconcile All of Lives with God
- ⑦ The Healer and Sustainer
- ⑧ Cosmic Christ: The Lord of Universe
- ⑨ The Healer
- ⑩ The Advocate, The Counselor, the Helper



## A Daily Journey with the Holy Word

Summer is a good time for you to read bible. Good Shepherd offer a daily reading guide for those who have not chance to read the whole bible. Begin each day with a gospel lesson and end with Hebrew scripture and you will be able to complete reading of the entire bible. "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

The best way to read the bible is to bring your own bible. Here are several study bibles for your own meditation and journaling.



**BYO.**  
BRING YOUR OWN  
*Every Sun*

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### JUNE

<u>Morning</u>	<u>Evening</u>
1. Matthew 1	Genesis 1, 2, 3
2. Matt. 2	Gen. 4, 5, 6
3. Matt. 3	Gen. 7, 8, 9
4. Matt. 4	Gen. 10, 11, 12
5. Matt. 5:1-26	Gen. 13, 14, 15
6. Matt. 5:27-48	Gen. 16, 17
7. Matt. 6:1-18	Gen. 18, 19
8. Matt. 6:19-34	Gen. 20, 21, 22
9. Matt. 7	Gen. 23, 24
10. Matt. 8:1-17	Gen. 25, 26
11. Matt. 8:18-34	Gen. 27, 28
12. Matt. 9:1-17	Gen. 29, 30
13. Matt. 9:18-38	Gen. 31, 32
14. Matt. 10:1-20	Gen. 33, 34, 35
15. Mat. 10:21-42	Gen. 36, 37, 38
16. Matt. 11	Gen. 39, 40
17. Matt. 12:1-24	Gen. 41, 42
18. Mat. 12:24-50	Gen. 43, 44, 45
19. Matt. 13:1-30	Gen. 46, 47, 48
20. Mat. 13:31-58	Gen. 49, 50
21. Matt. 14:1-21	Exodus 1, 2, 3
22. Matt. 14:22-36	Ex. 4, 5, 6
23. Matt. 15:1-20	Ex. 7, 8
24. Matt. 15:21-39	Ex. 9, 10, 11
25. Matt. 16	Ex. 12, 13
26. Matt. 17	Ex. 14, 15
27. Matt. 18:1-20	Ex. 16, 17, 18
28. Matt. 18:21-35	Ex. 19, 20
29. Matt. 19	Ex. 21, 22
30. Matt. 20:1-16	Ex. 23, 24

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**JULY**

<i>Morning</i>	<i>Evening</i>
1. Matt. 20:17-34	Ex. 25, 26
2. Matt. 21:1-22	Ex. 27, 28
3. Matt. 21:23-46	Ex. 29, 30
4. Matt. 22:1-22	Ex. 31, 32, 33
5. Matt. 23:1-22	Ex. 34, 35
6. Matt. 23:23-39	Ex. 36, 37, 38
7. Matt. 24:1-28	Leviticus 1, 2, 3
8. Matt. 24:29-51	Lev. 4, 5
9. Matt. 25:1-30	Lev. 6, 7
10. Mat. 25:31-46	Lev. 8, 9, 10
11. Mat. 26:1-25	Lev. 11, 12
12. Mat. 26:26-50	Lev. 13
13. Mat. 26:51-75	Lev. 14
14. Mat. 27:1-26	Lev. 15, 16
15. Mat. 27:27-50	Lev. 17, 18
16. Mat. 27:51-66	Lev. 19, 20
17. Mat. 28	Lev. 21, 22
18. Mark 1:1-22	Lev. 23, 24
19. Mk. 1:23-25	Lev. 25
20. Mk. 2	Lev. 26, 27
21. Mk. 3:1-19	Numbers 1, 2
22. Mk. 3:20-35	Num. 3, 4
23. Mk. 4:1-20	Num. 5, 6
24. Mk. 4:21-41	Num. 7, 8
25. Mk. 5:1-20	Num. 9, 10, 11
26. Mk. 5:21-43	Num. 12, 13, 14
27. Mk. 6:1-29	Num. 15, 16
28. Mk. 6:30-56	Num. 17, 18, 19
29. Mk. 7:1-13	Num. 20, 21, 22
30. Mk. 7:14-37	Num. 23, 24, 25
31. Mk. 8:1-21	Num. 26, 27

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**AUGUST**

<i>Morning</i>	<i>Evening</i>
1. Mk. 8:22-38	Num. 28, 29, 30
2. Mk. 9:1-29	Num. 31, 32, 33
3. Mk. 9:30-50	Num. 34, 35, 36
4. Mk. 10:1-31	Deuteronomy.1, 2
5. Mk. 10:32-52	Deut. 3, 4
6. Mk. 11:1-18	Deut. 5, 6, 7
7. Mk. 11:19-23	Deut. 8, 9, 10
8. Mk. 12:1-27	Deut. 11, 12, 13
9. Mk. 12:28-44	Deut. 14, 15, 16
10. Mk. 13:1-20	Deut. 17, 18, 19
11. Mk. 13:21-37	Deut. 20, 21, 22
12. Mk. 14:1-26	Deut. 23, 24, 25
13. Mk. 14:27-53	Deut. 26, 27
14. Mk. 14:54-72	Deut. 28, 29
15. Mk. 15:1-25	Deut. 30, 31
16. Mk. 15:26-47	Deut. 32, 33, 34
17. Mk. 16	Joshua 1, 2, 3
18. Luke 1:1-20	Jos. 4, 5, 6
19. Lk. 1:21-38	Jos. 7, 8, 9
20. Lk. 1:39-56	Jos. 10, 11, 12
21. Lk. 1:57-80	Jos. 13, 14, 15
22. Lk. 2:1-24	Jos. 16, 17, 18
23. Lk.2:25-52	Jos. 19, 20, 21
24. Lk. 3	Jos. 22, 23, 24
25. Lk. 4:1-30	Judges 1, 2, 3
26. Lk. 4:31-44	Judg. 4, 5, 6
27. Lk. 5:1-16	Judg. 7, 8
28. Lk. 5:17-39	Judg. 9, 10
29. Lk 6:1-26	Judg. 11, 12
30. Lk. 6:27-49	Judg. 13, 14, 15
31. Lk. 7:1-30	Judg. 16, 17, 18

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Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. (Psalm 119:105)

# Serving God

## Christmas in July

Come, join our Summer mission project. As school begins after a year-long distant learning amid COVID-19 Pandemic, children in our area will return to in-person learning. We would like children in our community be ready for school as they are looking forward to the first day of fall semester on Monday, August 30.



**By Philippe Kituka Lolonga**  
June 3, 2021 | BENI, Congo (UM News)

## UMCOR aids displaced people in Congo

Your generous giving goes to natural disaster. We participated UMCOR Sunday, March 14, 2021 See how your special giving has been used beyond the local church at <https://umcmision.org/umcor/>



*Jean Tshomba, coordinator of the United Methodist Committee on Relief's disaster management office in East Congo, explains to displaced people where the aid comes from and how it is distributed at Kalinda Stadium in the Mulekera commune in Beni, Congo. UMCOR provided almost \$100,000 USD for food and other relief. Photo by Philippe Kituka Lolonga, UM News.*

## The Act of Compassion (Mission Outreach)

### Thank-You

#### Christmas in April

By Janis Taggart

House #24 house cap Lee Renta  
Owner: Sandria Johnson  
Location: 5907 South Gate Drive,  
Temple Hills, Maryland.

I was only person from GSUMC at this job site. I got there at 8 a.m. met with the House manager and co-manager. At 8:30 the entire team assembled all women (sorority sisters: alpha kappa alpha) apart from the managers. Due to COVID we couldn't work inside the home, so, we were assigned to work in the yard. We removed one truck load of weeds, falling trees. We also planted flowers. We finished 11 a.m.



#### From Susie Sinclair-Smith (June 2, 2021)

Chief Executive Officer

Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless  
Rockville, MD

"Thanks to your generous gift of \$400.00 dated 5/5/2021, we can continue to support our clients as we face the challenges of the COVID-19 health crisis..."



Mission Team  
Chair: Janis Taggart

Committee Members:

- Carol Penne
- Leilani McConnell
- Phylomena Black
- Eleanor Newman
- Marcie Burroughs
- Idowoo Boss-Cole
- Elizabeth Sawyerr
- Vernice Lee
- Glee Prahinski

*Wish to join? Sign in through a tear-off section of the Sunday bulletin or Call Janis Taggart at (301) 434-2151*

### Pastor's Discretionary Fund Esp. COVID COMMUNITY FUND

Your generous extra giving makes possible to relieve life burdens for those who are in need. Rev. Park meets our neighbors in desperate situation, who especially are not eligible for government aids during COVID-19 Pandemic. According to recent report from the Committee on Finance, we are very low on the Discretionary Fund without having Holy Communion, where extra giving raised the fund. 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.



## Rise of Evangelism Movement at Good Shepherd

### Door Greeters Wanted

Door greeters are ones who welcome worshippers at the door. A family with children and youth can encounter visitors as they come to church.

Please sign in through a tear-off portion of the weekly bulletin if you would serve a Sunday as door greeters on a Sunday morning for 30 minutes prior to worship at 11 a.m.

Contact: YoungHoon Park, Pastor's wife at [bishopswife@hanmail.net](mailto:bishopswife@hanmail.net)



### Welcome Table Coordinator Wanted

Evangelism & Witness temporarily find a location for the welcome table. Thank you for Trustees. This will be an information booth with welcome bags, and ministry guidelines. Please contact **Elizabeth Sawyer** if you would like to be on duty on Sunday mornings.

**Next Meeting -**  
**Tuesday, August 24 at 7:30 p.m.**  
  
**Zoom Id: 928-5860-0929**  
**Passcode: 386158**

### Committee News -

By Simeon Nomo

We held our first Committee meeting of Evangelism & Witness on Tuesday, March 2. at 7 pm via zoom. Those virtually present were: Rev Park, Elizabeth Sawyerr as the Chair, Dr. Nomo as French ministry, YoungHoon Lee Park as Greeter, Coordinator.

We shared our thoughts and ideas about how to reach people in our parish with the good news of Jesus Christ. Our primary goals during COVID-19 Pandemic is to find the lost souls.

We explored several objectives of the Committee.

- To shepherd new members. The church members will be assigned to chaperone our new members. Elizabeth has shared how this type of Evangelism was successful in the past;
- To introduce both Spanish and French ministry in the church as to reach out to them;
- To continue Evangelization or Communication through the web site;
- To set up and maintain a welcoming table in the Upper Room;
- Working with worship and music to host musical events aiming at Evangelization.
- To invite new persons in the service every 3rd Sunday as "Bring a Friend Sunday," beginning on April 18 2021 (Updates: TBD due to COVID)
- to revisit the Igniting ministry

We couldn't elaborate all the to do list.

**Next meeting will be on April 20 2021 at 7:30 p.m. through zoom.**

## Kingdom-tide 2021



### 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 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 the word of mouth and the demonstration of our examples as the hands and feet of God

is 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 name of the website at **[www.goodshepchurch.org](http://www.goodshepchurch.org)**.

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

### 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 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 words of mouth**, which may be required your own ownership of the mission and ministries of the church.

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 3rd Sunday is  
"A Bring a Friend Sunday"**

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### Committee Members

Chair, Elizabeth Sawyerr  
 Door Greeter Coor.: YoungHOon Park  
 Lunch with the Pastor Co.: Bintu Murphy  
 French District: Rev. Dr. Simon Nomo  
 Spanish District: Roberto Velazquez  
 Communication Coordinators:  
 Webmaster: Neil Spiller  
 Recoding Secretary: Leilani McConnell  
 Love Notes: Wendy Barrios

Join us as Committee Members! We welcome **young professionals !**

## From Trustees

By Carol Penne

(Excerpted from the minute)

Meeting convened at 1:00 p.m. with Dunstan welcoming everyone to our first (mostly) in-person session in over a year.

**Attendees:** Dunstan Thomas (chairperson), Stuart Coxic-Barrios, Marcie Burroughs, Beresford Dakin-Davis, Vernice Lee, Pat McConnell, Bintu Murphy (Guest Church Coordinator), Rev. DaeHwa Park, Carol Penne (Secretary).

### **AGENDA:**

**Parking concerns** – Trustees Vernice and Carol recently met with Mark Terry and Lee Rand of Montgomery County's Traffic Operations office, and learned that the gravel area is county right-of-way and is therefore available for parking to any county resident. They proposed: 1) posting a "No Parking Allowed" sign to cover the day and hours in the area where our trash pickup normally occurs, 2) using this same sign to limit the number of hours a vehicle can park there at all other times, 3) in other parts of the gravel area, posting a sign saying "Parking in this area limited to x (number to be determined by the trustees) number of hours at one time."

**Action:** Trustees discussed possible approaches to resolving the parking problem and decided to move forward on several fronts. Trustees voted to request no parking during specific hours in front of our trash pickup area and parking in other areas be restricted to 4 hours. Trustees will also investigate creating additional parking areas on church property.

**PPP loan** – Dunstan asked pastor to update us on the status of forgiveness of the church's PPP loan acquired during the summer of 2020. Pastor responded that Sunil is still waiting to hear from CapitalOne Bank as to when we can begin the forgiveness process and what documentation will be required. **Action:** After further discussion, trustees asked Vernice (a co-signer on the church bank account) to contact the bank for an update on when and how to seek loan forgiveness.

**Building use request** – Trustees received a request from Music Director Elizabeth Schneider, writing on behalf of the Maryland Christian Youth Band and Orchestra, seeking to rent the sanctuary, Lewis Hall and one classroom for their rehearsals. These would occur every Tuesday and Thursday, from September through April, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. beginning with \$100 monthly pay for the use of three rooms for 16 hours.

**Action:** Trustees asked Pat and Carol to contact the director of the Youth Band and Orchestra. Trustees will also contact Ashton UMC, where this group previously met.

**New handrail for chancel area** – Pat says it will be very difficult to anchor a handrail in this area. Marcie also pointed out that choir members already use a railing on the lector's podium for going up and down the chancel steps.

**Action:** Trustees will not install a handrail. Pastor will follow-up with the church member who donated money for this purpose to see if they would like their money refunded or put toward another use.

[Cont'd on Page 29]

## SOME UPDATES

By Leilani McConnell

While the UMW isn't meeting we still try to stay in touch with each other. A few are attending worship in person, others see each other on ZOOM and of course many reach out via phone. We long for the day when we can gather.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED will hold its annual Friendship Day on June 04, place yet to be announced if held in person. Otherwise it will be through social media.. I shall try to find out and let you know. It is at this event we gather items for kids-to-camp, Crossways Community, and/or Central Union Mission. Personal care items, small books and toys for kids are collected. Let Leilani know if you would care to contribute.

SHEPHERDS' TABLE held an event May 08 to honor local heroes. Funds were raised to the tune of \$63,000+ that will go a long way to pay for services offered to community. A happy addition to its outreach is the creation of an URBAN GARDEN in which veggies and herbs will be grown to supplement food offerings. Volunteers for the gardening are welcome. Should you be interested go to email at [jilnakoathary@shepherdstable.org](mailto:jilnakoathary@shepherdstable.org). To read more about the May event and upcoming outreach go to [www.shepherdstable.org](http://www.shepherdstable.org).

The United Methodist communications sponsors webinars on current topics and the next one is planned for Tuesday, May 24 at 8PM EDT. To register (it is free) go to [news-desk@umcom.org](mailto:news-desk@umcom.org), seek the May 20 Daily Digest news item re; the webinar "Raise Your Voice Against Racism" and click "Register Now." There will be links to former webinars as well.

## Women of Faith

I hope you are as interested as I am in the visuals Pastor Park creates for Sunday sermons. They are informative and provocative and usually very timely. I am impressed at how he weaves scripture into secular topics.

We are heartsick about our friend Janis Taggart's medical difficulties. She is receiving intensive rehabilitative therapies for speech and physical mobility lost by a stroke and we know the journey back to wellness will be challenging and long.

For those who care to send cards to her, is at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, Room 149, 4940 Eastern Ave., Baltimore, MD 21224.

For years Janice has been our faithful Missions Ministry Coordinator and most of us have participated in one or more of our outreach projects to which she has directed us. Members of the Ministry have worked with her to facilitate collection and distribution of goods and monies and services, but she has been the heartbeat and conductor. We pray she will be able to participate if not lead this ministry as healing allows.

Most recently, because of the Covid plague, we did not field a team for Christmas In April. That entity, FYI, is sponsoring a fund-raising golf tournament planned for September 27 to be held at the Courses at Andrews Air Force Base from 9 – 3. For info or to register go to [www.christmasinaprilpg.org](http://www.christmasinaprilpg.org). Only 160 golfers will be allowed to participate so sign up – first come, first served.

NOTE – Montgomery Co. Dept of environmental Action has issued a ban on use of non-degradable plastic drinking straws effective Dec 01, 2021. We have paper straws in the church kitchen. **[LN]**

## BAD FENCES MAKE FOR MISERY ON BOTH SIDES

By Leilanni McConnell

I hope you, like me, have been enjoying the singing of the cicadas, sound I find pleasant. I also am fascinated by these extraordinary creatures. I was nudging one with my finger and inadvertently upended it. It buzzed at me until I turned prone again. I am reminded when I see or hear one that they are peacefully biding time until their emergence every 17 years and when they do come out, they do so to make love, not war.

If you like me have been saddened and appalled at the continuing animus between some people against (pick the "Other") resulting in violence. This latest conflict between Israel and Palestinians living in Gaza, makes one wonder if ever these two can "just get along". Some years ago I participated in an organization called "Sharing Jerusalem" that held gatherings during which Arabs and Caucasians, Christians, Muslims and Jews would talk about the ongoing conflicts between Israelis and Palestinians with a hope for ways forward to create a two-state solution. The organization has disbanded as far as I can tell – I could find no reference to it on line now – and it would seem so has the hope for resolution.

We heard reports of the apartheid-like impositions with which Israel, though they deny it, has burdened the Arabs living in Jerusalem and Gaza and the West Bank, areas intended to be shared or given as sovereign territory to Palestinians.

The wall went up cutting off access to jobs, schools, medical facilities by Arabs, and even cutting through farm lands and olive groves owned by Arabs for generations.

As Jewish settlements confiscated areas intended for or occupied by Arabs, many of whom were already displaced when Israel was formed in 1948, hostilities grew more persistent. Arab homes were not infrequently bulldozed to make way for Jewish families with little or no compensation to the displaced. (As a matter of protest some years ago the UMC divested itself from the Caterpillar Co. whose CEO was Methodist, and whose bulldozers were often used in the destruction.) The excuse by Israel was that the homes, sometimes having been in the families for generations, were built without a permit, yet permits are very difficult, if not impossible, to obtain. The latest conflagration was said to have erupted over just such a situation in Gaza.

Access to water for Arabs has been cut off, building materials denied when they were deemed to be "contraband", olive groves destroyed, fishing rights taken away, and other indignities have made daily life a misery in so many ways.

Israel has a right to exist and the Jewish people have suffered great intolerance for centuries. To have a universally recognized homeland has been a blessing to Israelis. But do not the Arabs born and/or living in Israel or the territories assigned to them as "Palestine" not have the same right?

The militant organization Hamas. in my view, is wrong to take their hurt and anger out through rocket fire. They should be in part at least held accountable for the number of casualties happening in Gaza now. If they would stop, hopefully Israel with its much mightier military, would stop retaliatory bombing. Then. God willing and the world keeps turning, perhaps sincere and serious peace talks and resolution to the Palestinian homeland question could be brokered. Lord knows it is time.

But, again in my view, the ever-expanding settlements must stop, too. Some compromise over East Jerusalem needs to be made. What should America's role be? Many think any sympathy for or compromise that favors Palestinians is "antiSemitic, meaning prejudice against Israel. (Hello - both Jews and Arabs are Semites.)

I admit we should care just as much about the conflicts among African people like the Hutus and Tutsis, or the warring factions in Yemen, et al. And we have no excuse for ignoring the centuries of hurt imposed on our Blacks nor for tolerating the backlash against BLM. We Christians owe our very existence to Jesus, a Jew of Galilee who gave Himself for Jews and Gentiles, Romans and Greeks, males and females, Blacks and Whites.

It hurts when we attack each other and we should care deeply. Can we not take a lesson from a humble bug and "make love" when we have the chance? Can we not have good fences and peace, too?

Musings from Leilani McConnell

### ***[Trustees ... from page 26]***

Memorial plaques for Maggie Howard and Timothy Afolabi.

**Action: These will be paid for from the Trustees budget.**

*Good Shepherd's web page* (<http://www.goodshepchurch.org/>) – Pastor would like to have access to our webpage so he can make improvements and update church information. Webmaster Neil Spiller is hesitant to share the password due to concerns about compromising website security. Pastor believes trustees should be the keeper of all church passwords and asked if trustees could approach Neil about sharing the password.

**Action: Beresford will look into the matter.**

*Computer in financial secretary's room* – Pastor noted that the desktop computer which holds the church's financial giving records and QuickBooks which the treasurer uses to document church finances is not connected to the internet. This is complicating the church treasurer's ability to use QuickBooks to maintain our financial records.

**Action: Beresford volunteered to meet with pastor and Stuart on Monday (June 8) to see if wi-fi can be extended to this computer. Pastor noted that the computer is dated and should eventually be replaced.**

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m. [LN]

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

*Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.*  
Ephesians 6:4



Dedication of Flow  
Carol Penne



Graduation Sunday (5/16)  
Philip & Gladys Palmer



Becoming Disciple

Please share the images you captured in the life of Good Shepherd.

#### Our Proud Graduates



Mekhi Todeman; Jared Sawyerr, Zarina Davies, Kwannette Lewis



Liturgical Ministers



Special Music  
Sylvester Lewis



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 disciples 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)

- Rev. DaeHwa Park



New Sermon Series beginning August 22



On Sunday, September 5, wear jean to celebrate the gifts of our vocations, careers, and calling.



We Issa and Ronalda Kallista get married on Friday, July 23 at 10 :30 a.m. Please welcome Mr. & Mrs. Conteh

### 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

Children with Sing-Along & Storytelling

Meeting ID: 964-1021-2427

Passcode: 541602

#### Mondays

Coffee with the Pastor at 11 a.m.

Meeting ID: 631-887-165

Passcode: 375637

The Holy Club at 7 p.m.

Meeting ID: 941-6327-7971

Passcode: 256442

#### Tuesdays

Journey thru the Bible at 7p.m.

Meeting ID: 947-5619-4251

Passcode: 024529

#### Wednesdays

High Noon Prayer at noon

Meeting ID: 409-666-503

Passcode: 581382

#### Thursdays

Faith Talks at 11 a.m.

Meeting ID: 953-5226-0028

Passcode: 014740



Join the Wednesday Night Prayer Conference Call at 8-8:30 p.m.

Call 1-515-603-3157 Access code 809996, option #1

LOVE NOTES

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

[www.goodshepherdchurch.org](http://www.goodshepherdchurch.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.

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