

**LOVE NOTES**

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

[www.goodshepchurch.org](http://www.goodshepchurch.org)



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# Love Notes

Praising God | Experiencing God | Serving God | Sharing God  
Lent-Easter (March-May, 2023)

## Perfect Submission, Perfect Delight!

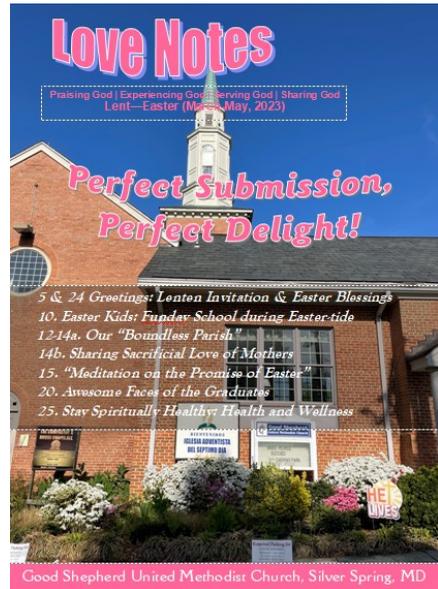
- 5 & 24. Greetings: Lenten Invitation & Easter Blessings
- 10. Easter Kids: Funday School during Easter-tide
- 12-14a. Our "Boundless" Parish
- 14b. Sharing Sacrificial Love of Mother
- 15. "Meditation on the Promise of Easter"
- 20. Awesome Faces of the Graduates
- 25. Stay Spiritually Healthy: Health and Wellness



Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, Silver Spring, MD

**Lent—Easter**  
(March-May 2023)

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: Three Easter Congregations

**LOVE NOTES Editors**

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Submit any article with Microsoft Word document by email at [goodshpumc@verizon.net](mailto:goodshpumc@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 Publisher's mail box.  
**Church Fax No. (240) 670-8157**  
Theme for Next Issue: The Milky Way Disciples: New Family of God!

Articles due on Sunday, May 28, noon

**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 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 those 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 (Isaiah 56:7). 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!



**24/7 "Means of Grace" at Good Shepherd**

**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

Storytelling with Children at 8 p.m.

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 (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

**Wednesdays**

High Noon Prayer at noon

Meeting ID: 409-666-503

Passcode: 581382

Under the Tree of Life 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

Becoming Disciple thru Bible Study at 7:30p

Meeting ID: 961-6016-5713

Passcode: 716470

**Alternative Service? No! Both Services!**

Good Shepherd-Savage Charge has **two campuses**: one in the historic town of Savage and the other in west Silver Spring. Rev. Park serve both campus. **Savage Campus (est. 1888)** gathers disciples from Savage, Laurel, Columbia, Jessup, Ellicott City, and Hanover, MD. **Good Shepherd Campus** brings people from Baltimore, Columbia, Jessup, Bowie, Glendale, Beltsville, Hyattsville, Greenbelt, Berwyn Heights, Lanham, College Park, Takoma Park, Langley Park, Silver Spring, White Oaks, Hillandale, Oakview, Rockville, Wheaton, Aspen Hill, Derwood, Olney, Gaithersburg, German Town, Clarksburg, Fort Washington, MD, Washington, D.C., Manassas, Chantilly, VA. You can join worship service in either site. **Zoom link for Worship at Savage Campus: 857-2252-9072 with the passcode of 655638** at 9:30 a.m. Join one or both!

**Savage Campus**

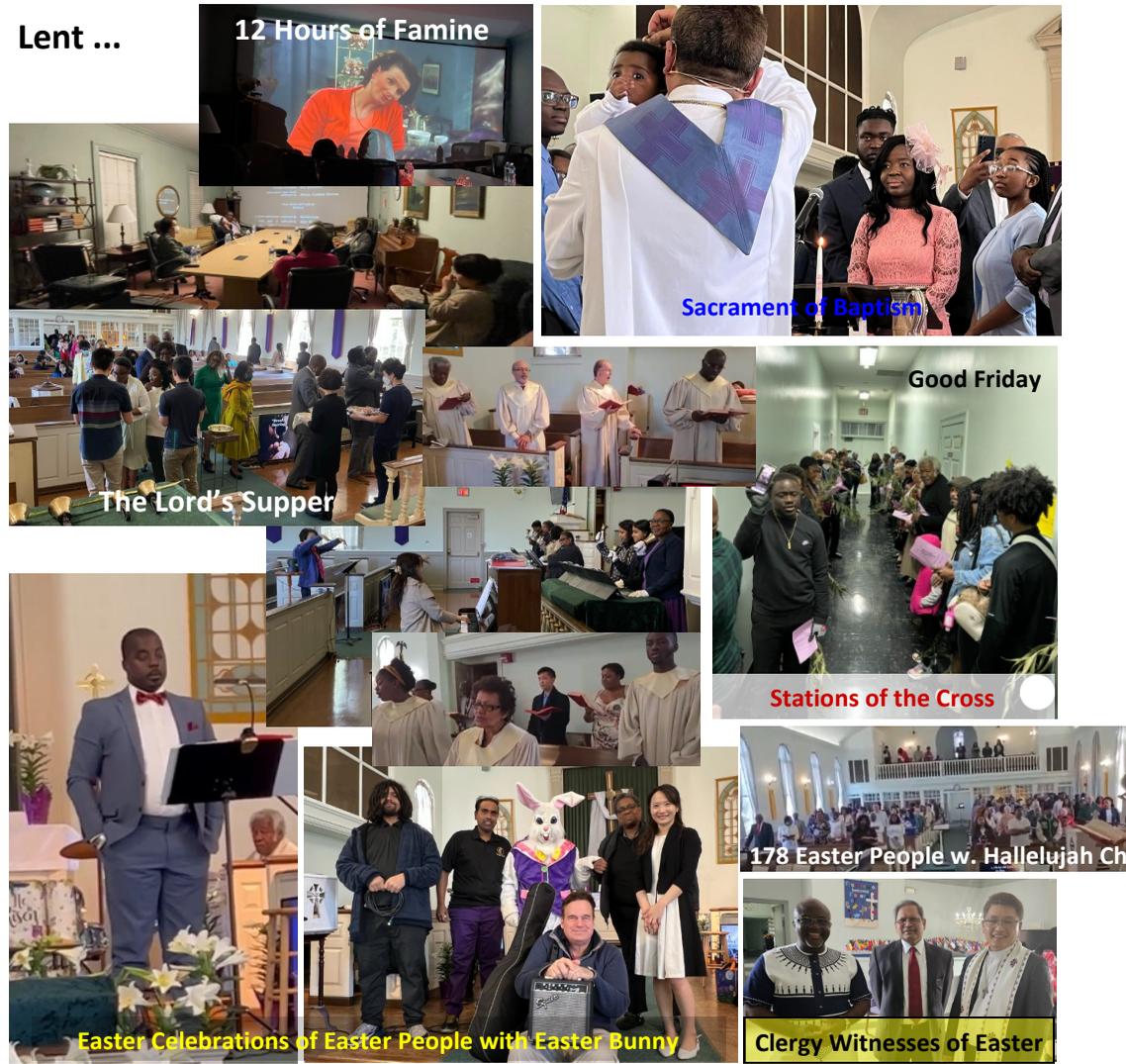


9050 Baltimore Street  
Savage, MD

**Join the Wednesday Night Prayer  
Conference Call  
at 8-8:30 p.m.  
Call 1-945-218-0115  
Access code 6778316#**

To Green Pastures and Quiet Waters ...

Lent ...



 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

Lent - Easter

Spotlights in Ministries



PASTURE CHURCH



CHURCH SAFF

Rev. DaeHwa Park, Pastor  
 (202) 277-8553 | daehwa@gmail.com  
 Szu-Yi Li, Director of Music/Organist  
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 Peter Ayok, Custodian

What's New

Primary Theme of This Issue:

"Perfect Submission, Perfect Delight"

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WORSHIP & STUDY

11 a.m. Celebration and Worship  
 Adult Sunday School on Sun. 8:45 a.m.  
 Under the Tree of Life on Wed. 7:30 p.m.  
 Becoming Disciples on Thu. at 7:30 p.m.

See details on pages 6-8

Perfect Submission, Perfect Delight!

Friends,

Without noticing it, most case while I am driving for a daily routines or doing chores, I sing out, “Per-fect Sub-mis-sion, Per-fect Delight, vis-ions of rap-ture now burst on my sight ~.” Then I just discover myself delved in a journey with Jesus Christ— “My Lord and my God” (John 20:28)!

This year, during the 40 days of Lent, I want every single member and friend of Jesus to gather at Good Shepherd and join the Lenten journey with a theme, “Be Perfect, therefore, as your Heavenly Father Is Perfect” (Matt. 5:48).

Jesus in the gospel of Matthew expects his followers to be little more faithful than the most religiously pious in his days: Pharisees, Sadducees, and the Scribes. Jesus didn’t have much problems with his disciples—“learners” of the gospel, but the teachers of the law—the stakeholders in the ancient Judaism.

Lent is a great time for us to learn about how we exercise “perfect submission” through the means of grace that Jesus ordained. “Be Perfect, therefore, as Your Heavenly Father is perfect!” Come, join, and grow deeper relationship with Jesus through the Lenten disciplines offered here!

Consider this Lent as an opportunity to reinstate your family members and friends, if they have been away from their spiritual journey. Reach “the unchurched”



Directing from the Doctor  
Greetings from the Pastor

neighbors and remind of our presence among them. Let them be impressive from your Lenten style of Christian living.

And then, join the **Great 50 Days of Easter -tide! You are Easter people, the most influential. Raise your voices on what God did in Jesus for His church at each Easter morning in your time. Easter is not a past event to remember, but a present reality to recognize. It is a perpetual reminder for the children of God of all ages of God of the Christ being the first-fruit of the dead.**

Find “Perfect Delight” here at Good Shepherd. Good Shepherd never stop working for your salvation - the transformations of your lives.

We are interdependent. Come and bless one another.

Do not merely seek what you want to obtain. Consider what you can give for others. Come to Good Shepherd, “a house of prayer for all nations” (Isa. 56:7) on a hill!

Let all the living praise the God Almighty, who raised Jesus from the dead. So, brothers and sisters, O my Easter people, raise your voices. Shout! “This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long ~”

Christ is risen. He is risen, indeed. Alleluia! Happy Easter!  
Yours in the Risen Christ,

*Rev. DaeHwa Park*

Rev. DaeHwa Park  
Pastor

Get Connected

“Stay Spiritually Healthy” Health and Wellness

by Valerie Campbell  
Coordinator on Health and Wellness

Hello Good Shepherd,

As some of you may know, my name is Valerie Campbell. I have been a long-time member of GSUMC and recently finished my studies to become a Physician Assistant or PA. PAs are able to diagnose and treat patients, and prescribe medications, just the same as doctors and nurse practitioners.



With this new ministry, I am excited to bring you **all health resources within our area**, like free and low-cost health screenings and health programs created by the BWMC that will hopefully create healthy habits, strengthen our community ties and increase our spirituality. For example, **April is Stress Reduction Month**. Here’s a quick exercise you can do in moments when you feel overwhelmed, along with prayer.



- Box Breathing -

- Breathe out slowly, releasing all the air from your lungs.
- Breathe in through your nose as you slowly count to four in your head.
- Hold your breath for a count of four.
- Exhale for another count of four.
- Hold your breath again for a count of four.
- Repeat for three to four rounds.

[Source: The Cleveland Clinic]

Wishing you well,

Valerie

Reverend Park and I would like to begin a Wellness Ministry within our church, which aims to serve as a resource for our congregation when it comes to diving deeper into the link between spirituality and health, and how as United Methodists we can use one to improve the other. John Wesley, one of the most well-known theologians in Methodism was an avid believer in the study of medicine and famously wrote in one of his personal journals that “God has more than one method of healing either the soul or the body”. These methods not only included the use of medicine and surgery to of the time but more importantly, prayer. He believed in the importance of not only physical but spiritual health.

### Easter Greetings and Hope of Resurrection of the Believers!

Rev. Nomo Simeon Psy.D

Chers membres de Good Shepherd UMC,

Que la Paix et la Grace de Dieu vous soient multiplie de la par Notre Seigneur le Christ Ressuscite. Il est ressuscite , Il est vivant Notre Seigneur, Jesus Christ.



La resurrection de Jesus est confirmee par le fait historique indeniables suivant:

Sa tombe a ete trouve vide: ceci dit: ni les ennemis, encore moins les disciples de Jesus ne pouvaient soit voler, soit enlever son corps. Car, ses ennemis auraient exhibe la Victoire, en prouvant que Jesus n'etaient pas ressuscite d'une part. D'autre part, meme les disciples n'auraient pas eu le courage de precher et defendre un mensonge pareil, encore moins accepter de souffrir pour sa cause. Le Christ est donc ressuscite. Et c'est pour nos offenses, selon Romain 4:25. Il est ressuscite pour notre Justification.

Celle ci n'est pas qu'un acte Juridique base sur le passe, mais, s'inscrit dans le context d'une relation d'intimite au Quotidien avec Jesus-Christ Notre Seigneur.



**A Memorial Service,**  
celebrating the life of **Charity Okorie**  
**Sunday, May 7 at 11 a.m.**

We are saddened by the sudden passing of **Charity Okorie**, 68, on December 11, 2022 from heart disease. Charity sang in the choir for years. She has been a faithful member of Good Shepherd since July 26, 1986. You may keep **Queenette Joy Chidinma**, her daughter in prayer as she mourn with the death of lovely mother. May God receive Charity in His everlasting arms of mercy!



Chancel Choir hosts church-wide memorial service on Sunday, May 7 at 11 o'clock worship. In lieu of flowers, a memorial giving for **new sanctuary piano** may be offered. Please make a check payable to Good Shepherd UMC, wrote note: **Charity Okorie Memorial Fund. Peace.**

From page 19, "Winter 2022"

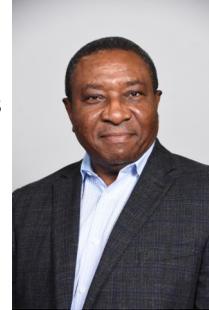
Shall we talk about the dreadful continuing gun violence in America? I heard the Remington Co. who manufactured the gun used by the young man during the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary school in Connecticut nine years ago on 02/14/18 has settled a multi-million suit brought by grieving parents whose kids were killed. But one can wonder how many more victims on a daily basis we are willing to tolerate? No

### A Lenten Message and Blessed Easter to All

by **Dr. Godswill Okoji**  
Lay Leader  
Godswill O. Okoji, MD

Lenten Message to the Believer

The days are shorter in the Northern Hemisphere. Summer is weeks ahead. Darkness pervades in our day and in our lives; the world is full of war, disasters and injustice – brothers killing each other, children dying in crossfires in our cities. These are our times.



It is such a time that we need Christ. It is a time to emulate our teacher and savior Jesus Christ, through Prayers, Abstinence, Fasting and Almsgiving. Lent begins Ash Wednesday and runs through Easter morning excluding the Sundays – a period of spiritual renewal; a time we should ask WWJD (What would Jesus Do?) . A time for deep spiritual discipline, drawing nearer to our Lord.

Let us deny ourselves of greed, bickering, stress, hate, lies and keep a true lent of spiritual awakening and by His grace we shall see Him at Resurrection Sunday. Remain Blessed.



By **Christiana Campbell**  
Council Chair GSUMC

Peace and blessings to All, Christ our Lord is Risen!! All our sins are forgiven; Jesus has paid it all. What a beautiful act of forgiveness. It costs us nothing! Let us go forward in faith, love, joy, and peace rejoicing in the resurrected Christ! A blessed Easter to all.



**Happy Easter!**  
from staff:  
**Szu-Yi, Li**, Organist and Dir. of Music (left)  
**Peter Ayok**, Custodian (center)  
**Wendy Barrios** (right)

EVANGELISM

Perfect Submission, Perfect Delight

Be prepared for a journey of the 40 days of Lent. All the lambs of God at Good Shepherd, whether faithfully gathered or wayward, are truly invited to the journey that leads us to be perfect as our Heavenly Father is perfect.

Praising God



“Easter People, Raise Your Voices”

Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God (1 Cor.1:22-24). We are witnesses of everything Jesus did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem.



Liturgical Highlights During Lent

- + Sun., February 26, First Sunday in Lent - Imposition of Ashes
+ Sun., March 5, Second Sunday in Lent - Holy Communion
+ Sun, March 12, Third Sunday in Lent - Praise Band
+ Sun., March 19, Fourth Sunday in Lent - UMCOR Sunday (\$) - 12 Hours of Famine - Fri., March 24 11 a.m. thru 11 p.m. The Lord's Supper, Foot Washing, and Farewell Discourse at 9 p.m.
+ Sun., March 26, Fifth Sunday in Lent - Lunch with the Pastor
+ Sun., April 2, Palm/Passion Sunday - Maundy Thursday, Apr. 6 - Perfect Submission: Matthean Passion - Good Friday, Apr. 7 - Contemporary Stations of the Cross

During Easter-Tide

- + Sun., April 9, Easter Cantata at 11 a.m.
+ Sun., April 16, Second Sun. of Easter - Thomas Sunday
+ Sun., Apr. 23, Third Sun. of Easter - Meal Sunday - Native American Ministries Sun (\$)
+ Sun., April 30, Fourth Sun. of Easter - Good Shepherd Sunday.
+ Sun., May 7, Fifth Sunday of Easter - I AM Sunday
+ Sun., May 14, Sixth Sunday of Easter - Mother's Day - Festival of the Christian Home
+ Sun., May 21, Seventh Sun. of Easter - Ascension Sunday; Heritage Sunday
+ Sun., May 28, Day of Pentecost - Graduation Sunday (encounter the graduates on page 20)

Lent - Easter

The Act of Justice (Action & Advocacy)

Augustine Roberts, New Chair; Simeon Nomo, French District; Roberto Velazquez, Mexican District; Bintu Murphy, Fellowship & Hospitality; Leilani McConnell, Action & Advocacy; Wendy Barrios, Love Notes; YoungHoon Park, Greeters; Selina Fitjohn, Communication\_Women; Hugh Holder, Communication\_Men.

Do you want to join the team, contact Augustine at (703) 653-4091.

For Faithful Connection

Grab literature for the mission and ministry opportunities. Get new devotionals. Pick up newsletters, old, new or special issues for your faithful connection in the life of the church.



Stop by a refreshment table in the Upper Room opening before and after 11 a.m. worship service. This table is primarily for the liturgical ministers, such as acolytes, altar guild, book bearer, crucifer, communion stewards, liturgist, ushers, media specialists, choir members, liturgical dancers, hand bell choirs.



JourneyfortheBread.net is Rev. Park's personal website. It gets you connected with his affinity group and life-time study. You can find season's greetings, sermon series he delivered for a decade, streams of Eastern and Western thoughts, and the churches and communities he served.



Questions? Contact Neil Spiller Webmaster & Communication Coordinator



### Bring People to Christ and His Church!

#### Door Greeters

Psalmist sings, "Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked." (Psalm 84:10). A family with children can welcome people at the door. If you want to serve as door greeters, contact **Young-Hoon Park at yhoon12p@gmail.com.**

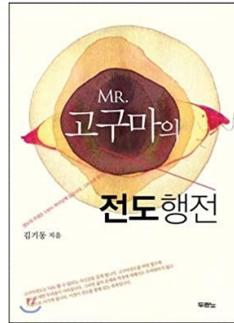


A greatest gift for your friends is to offer Christ. The liturgical season of **Lent-Easter** is a time to offer Jesus. Invite your loved ones—family members and friends come to faith. If there is anyone who is away from faith journey, tell them "Come & See" just as Andrew shouted to his brother Peter! It's the best time for the unchurched to engage in faith. 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**



#### Potato Evangelism on the Way!

Say to your love one, "Do you believe in Jesus?, Just as poking a potato with a fork. See how your targeted individuals respond to your question. If he or she reject you, consider the potato isn't cooked. With the simple word, you sow a seed of the Gospel. The name of Jesus means "the one who saves." Let God grow the seed. Praise the Lord!



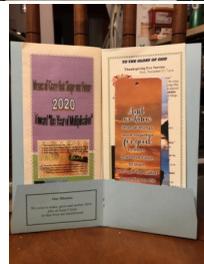
#### Welcome Table

Please come to the welcome table and find out what you need for the ministries and mission of the church.

Welcome table coordinator (s) prepare welcome bag with the information of the church's ministry and programs.

If you want to serve as a volunteer receptionist on Sunday please contact Wendy in the office.

We need volunteers who can prepare the welcome bags for visitors. You can do that.



### Lent - Easter

## The Act of Worship (& Music)

**Sunil Christopher**, Worship Chair  
**Jackie Holder**, Communion Steward  
**Carolyn Brannon**, Altar Guild  
**Milford Doughty**, Crucifer  
**Aanya Singh**, Book Bearer  
**Vera Davies**, Head Usher  
**Stacey Matthews**, Nursery Coordinator  
**Abie Ngala**, Acolyte Coordinator  
**John Knox**, Media Ministries  
**Bintu Murphy**, Hospitality  
**Dunstan Thomas**, Fellowship Coordinator

Worship Committee

#### An Observation

by Leilani McConnell

It has been challenging for congregations since the COVID plague afflicted us, now for three years. Un-happily people still get sick and some still die or live with long term after effects. Many churches lost attendance and while we are slowly returning to in-person services, we may never recover fully.

But I would like to appeal to all who DO attend to come on time. While sitting in the chancel, most Sundays I wonder if there will be more in the pews than are in the choir. By 11:30 we usually have more folks but, hey, we are supposed to start at 11AM.

Okay – part of the challenge is that Pastor Park must trans-ish from Savage UMC and then finalize the electronic set-up.

Would it be better if we set the start time at 11:30 to give him more wiggle room? Would people be there by then or would they still trickle in til noon? What do you think?

## WORSHIP

#### "Easter Cantata"

featuring Praise Band, Handbell Choir, and Chancel Choir

by Szu-Yi Li, Director of Music

Dear Good Shepherd, Spring is sprung and Easter is here! I am excited to share with you that we will have an **Easter Cantata** to celebrate Easter Sunday. Chancel choir and praise band will work together on several songs. Handbell choir will also participate to perform *What Wondrous Love*. Sylvester Lewis, our beloved singer from GSUMC will sing a solo piece, *Were You There*, for us. Feel free to reach out to me if you want to join us in celebration with your voice or other musical talents!

#### Special Thanks to Liturgists

##### + Lent:

- Feb 26: Bintu Murphy
- Mar. 5: Philip Palmer, Jr.
- Mar 12: Christian Davies
- Mar. 19: Simeon Nomo
- Mar. 26: Christiane Taca
- Apr. 2: Philip Palmer, Jr.
- Apr. 9: Christian Davies

##### + Easter-Tide:

- Apr. 16: Admire Russell
- Apr. 23: Frances Bakarr
- Apr. 30: TBD
- May 7: Simeon Nomo
- May 14: [vacant]
- MAY 21: [vacant]
- May 28: Christiana Campbell

Digital Studies 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.

**Thru DISCIPLE Study launch Assimilation Tracks** ... Join small group study for biblical literacy that equips your discipleship adventure at Good Shepherd!

Disciples are "learners" of the gospel of God in Jesus



**"UNDER THE TREE OF LIFE"**  
Those who

**"Becoming Disciples through Bible Study"** calls, equips, and strengthens the children of God of all ages to engage in their scriptural path to discipleship. This Fall, we have **young adults in class. Valerie Campbell, Kevin Zac-Williams, Kayla, and Augustine Roberts.** Join a small group of companions in Christ. Walk through the Bible with your friends like the followers of Jesus for your discipleship. Live out the marks of disciples. "Becoming Disciples through Bible Study" meets on **Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m.**

complete **"Remember Who You Are"** returned to this 30-week study that **equips as spiritual leader** with the writings of the Hebrew scriptures and the Johannine literature and general letters of the New Testaments. **Wilma Baxter (Savage), Christiana Campbell, Carol Penne, and Colleen Sampson** attract more than a dozen of Facebook friends. During Advent, the participants study **Ecclesiastes and Psalms.** The class is offered on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m.

**Zoom Meeting ID: 875-9323-0354**  
**Passcode: 528483**

**Zoom Meeting ID: 870-9910-8977**



**Creation Care Seminar** will be offered during on Monday, April 24 at 7:30 p.m. Through

Climate Church, the participants will learn a new way of a missional works of the church at the verge of Anthropocene. Rev. DaeHwa Park, Facilitator

**Zoom ID: 878 7664 1091**  
**Passcode:017682**



**We proclaim the gospel in French and in English. Come to Shepherd Nook on Sunday morning at 9 a.m. Meet Rev. Simeon Nomo. Questions? Contact him at snomo48@yahoo.com.**

You can join any study now. Use the zoom links and passcode to join each study. Surprise other participants with your insights.



United Methodist Women Assembly

**"Turn It Up!"**

by Leilani McConnel

\_\_\_\_\_ 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. Exhibitors 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](http://www.assembly2022.org) and follow the menus.

**Thank You!**

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 up and take down the Lewis Hall, who worked the welcome tables, and donated snacks for participants.

**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**

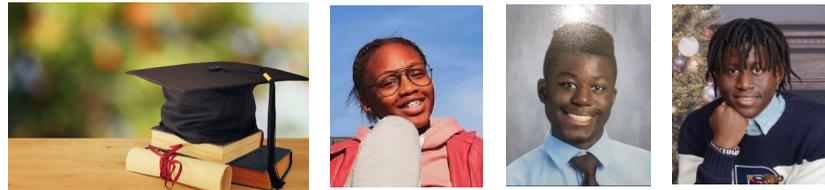
We appreciate those who helped "green the church" for Advent.

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.

### Celebration of Young Professionals!

Good Shepherd recognizes young professionals who have completed their courses of study and graduate this season. These are the sons and daughters of Good Shepherd—faithful young disciples of Jesus Christ and laborers of the Lord’s vineyard. Let us gather and congratulate. While recognizing them, we also support other students who undertake their studies in school, training centers, and other places of special skills. Graduates, come, put on your regalia on Sunday, May 28, 2023.

**Vinice Cole, Jelan Davies, Chrystal Taylor** (photo unavailable), and **Keanen Thompson**. Vinice graduates from Clarksburg HS; Jelan from Mt. St. Joseph HS, Chrystal, from Hammond HS, and Keanen from Blair HS. These four seniors completed Confirmation Class in 2020.



**Edeline Davies**, graduates and earns the Bachelor of Arts from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, majored in Public Health and Pre-Nursing Program on May 25, 2023.

**Jeremy Park**, graduates and earns the Bachelor of Science from A. James Clark School of Engineering of The University of Maryland, College Park, MD, majored Chemical Engineering on May 22, 2023, after completing the requirements of University Honors in 2022.

**Gideon Park**, graduated and earned Master of Public Health at the University of North Carolina, Gillings School of Global Public Health, Chapel Hill, NC, on August 2, 2022. Thesis: “Addressing Problems Presented by Transportation Barriers in Cleveland County,” A Capstone Project submitted to the faculty of the UNC at Chapel Hill in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Masters of Public Health in the Public Health Leadership Program, Nutrition and Health Policy, and Management, 2022”

**Valerie Campbell**, completed and earned Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant Studies from the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore, MD, on December 16, 2002.

**Szu-Yi Li**, Organist and Director of Music, completed the Doctoral program, and earns D.M.A. (Doctor of Musical Art) at the School of Music, the University of Maryland, Collage Park, MD on May 22, 2023. Dissertation Title: “Hungarian Composers of Piano Music: From Liszt to Ligeti.

**Rev. DaeHwa Park**, completed the Doctoral program and earns D.Min (Doctor of Ministry) through Cambridge Track D: The Winds of the Spirit and Ministries for a Changing World, Wesley House, Cambridge, UK. Dissertation: “Serving God through Faithful Stewardship on Our Common Home: Equipping Good Shepherd United Methodist Church and The United Methodist Church of Savage for the Anthropocene,” ©Rev. DaeHwa Park, 2023.

### The Act of Devotion



#### Nurture (Discipleship) Committee

**Christiana Campbell**, Discipleship Committee Chair  
**Philip Palmer, Sr.** Adult Sunday School;  
**Jason Washburn**, Hispanic Ministries  
**Rev. DaeHwa Park**, facilitator of Disciple, Assimilation Tracks  
**Valerie Campbell**, Youth Coordinator;  
**Andrew Zac-Williams**, Young Adults Fellowship

Everyone is invited to **Adult Sunday School**. Come, walk in **Wesley Parlor** and share manna on **Sunday morning at 8:45 a.m.** Encounter companions in Christ. Questions? Contact **Philip Palmer, Sr.**



#### 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**



#### The Holy Club - Mondays at 9 p.m.

Keep you flames of faith with covenant discipleship like the twelve disciples of Jesus Christ and the young people at Oxford who started the Methodist society. This is a weekly session for Good Shepherd Young Professionals. Join this Monday church.

**Zoom Meeting ID: 631-887-165 Passcode: 716470**



#### 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.

As we begin a new liturgical calendar, Savage would you to master the knowledge of salvation from the Bible this year. Join this reading plan, and you can read once through the Old Testament, twice through the Psalms, and twice through the New Testament. One of ways for the reading the entire bible begins with brining your own Bible. Praise the Lord!

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

Jesus is risen. He is risen, indeed. It is true. Children, read a letter the Apostle Paul sent to the children in the city of Corinth: "For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that **Christ died for our sins** according to the Scriptures, that **he was buried**, that **he was raised on the third day** according to the Scriptures, and that **he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve**. After that, **he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time**, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then **he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me** also, as to one abnormally born" (1 Corinthians 15:1-8). Wow. I can believe that. What about you?

# The RESURRECTION



**Read Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20, and Acts 1.**  
**Answer the questions below.**

- 1 Who rolled away the Messiah's tombstone?
- 2 On which biblical Feast was Yeshua (Jesus) raised from the grave?
- 3 What did the religious leaders give the Roman guards to keep quiet?
- 4 Which woman met the Messiah outside the tomb?
- 5 When Mary Magdalene, Mary mother of James, and Salome went to the tomb with their spices, what did they find?
- 6 What did the two strangers say to the women outside the tomb?
- 7 Which disciple doubted that Yeshua was alive?
- 8 After the resurrection, the disciples went fishing on which Sea?
- 9 How long did the Messiah stay on earth after His resurrection?
- 10 What were Yeshua's final instructions to His disciples?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Bring your answer sheet on a Sunday during Easter-tide the Great 50 Days for a prize!

## Lent - Easter

### Winter 2022

By Leilani McConnel

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. 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 extend 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. Those who defend their anti- (you name the issue) actions as "religious freedom" I will not understand.

[Continued on page 24]



### Our “Boundless” Parish

by Rev. DaeHwa Park

The parish of Good Shepherd is at the verge of rapid change of its demographics. Located at west Silver Spring, a satellite city of Washington, D.C., nation’s capital, Good Shepherd faces constantly changing its culture and lifestyles. For the effective ministry, Good Shepherd must stay relevant to this rapidly changing parish.

For the last few decades, Good Shepherd has gathered in God-fearers or seekers. Compared to many other United Methodist churches, homo-geneous, common in our region, Good Shepherd started its ministry with the gathering of rich diversity: Caucasians and African Americans, and others. Now, Good Shepherd serves a gathering of Christians with **their 24 different nationalities**. Obviously, the parish faces different challenges to meet the spiritual needs of the new constituents of different language—the Spanish-speaking, the French-speaking, and so on.

Over the last few years, we’ve focused on a few unique targeted groups in our ministries: 1) culturally connected - immigrants, 2) the silver-sophisticated, the elderly members of the church; and 3) the single starters – young professionals.



Good Shepherd has launched a Multi-Contextual Ministries as the Rev. Park was appointed in July 2019. Then, the leaders of the church have prayed for **a new paradigm of the ministry that would thrive** the church. Here are some findings.

First, Good Shepherd is blessed by many awesome and faithful followers of Jesus Christ: members, friends, clergy, and staff. Secondly, however, the work of the Lord has been done by the

same people. The numbers declined. Smaller number of the people have taken care of more works.

Some may blame the COVID-19 Pandemic as one of the primary reasons for the dramatic changes. But, seriously, **a micro-managing of the work of the church** should be serious cause for challenges.

Worse was the part-time pastoral appointment from July 2019, never done for more than a few decades of the history of the church. So what? Should we complain the reality of the part-time ministry? Should we see the church declining? Some might say that time will solve the problems. Others might think that we are living in a difficult time. Well, there was a climatic decade of secularism that the society would declare “God is dead” in the 60s, when Good Shepherd grew a lot!

### The Act of Compassion (Mission Outreach)



#### Mission (Outreach) Committee

**Leilani McConnell**, Mission (Outreach) Chair; **Eleanor Newman**, **Idowoo Boss-Cole**, **Carol Penne**, **Marcie Burroughs**, **Vernice Lee**, **Phylomena Black**, **Elizabeth Sawyerr**.

#### Mission Ministry

by Leilani McConnell

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 a plaque in her honor to be dedicated in May when we add hers and others' plaques to 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 partner Indian schools, Rehobeth Christian School in New Mexico and Enemy Swin 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.

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 Christmas 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 AM in the church Parlor.



If you want to join Mission Teams, please do not hesitate to keep in touch with Leilani McConnell, chair.

Special Sundays are celebrated by United Methodists with churchwide offerings:

- **Native American Ministries Sunday**, 3rd Sunday of Easter, April 23.
- **Peace with Justice Sunday**, 1st Sunday after Pentecost, June 4.
- **World Communion Sunday**, 1st Sunday in October. October 1.
- **United Methodist Student Day**, last Sunday in November, November 26.

#### 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.

### 2022 Advent Families Thank You

by Carol Penne

We want to share beautiful thank you letters Missions received from the children of the Advent families we assisted this past Christmas. Good Shepherd was able to make the holiday a little easier and a little brighter for four families who were struggling with illness, unemployment, and disability.

Your generosity meant each family received monetary gift cards to purchase groceries, pay bills and buy necessities for their children. Missions is also grateful to Neil Spiller for coordinating a special donation from his daughters – Avian crocheted warm hats for everyone and small toys for the children, Piper contributed beautiful handmade soaps.

The children’s **thank you notes** remind us of how important this outreach project is and how much it means to our community.



Dear people that will give us presents  
Thanks for the presents you guys gave us  
and for all the kids!  
Have a great Holiday!!!



THANK YOU!

Muchas gracias  
por lo que hacen.  
Dios Los bendiga.  
Siempre. y se los  
multiplique mucho.  
Feliz navida.  
y  
prospero año nuevo.



### Meditation on the Promise of Easter

**Multi-Contextual Ministry** (Chair, Philip Palmer, Jr.), a new name of a group of people that some other churches might have it as “a long-range planning group,” “master plan committee,” or “Master’s Committee,” I have called up until the recent years of ministries. Unlike the tasks of the committee that focused more on building expansions or campus developments, MCM brings up people with a series of important questions: Who we are; of whom we gather, to whom we send; for whom we serve, and with whom we establish God’s Kingdom.

Thus, Good Shepherd works hard to find co-workers of God’s Kingdom. Surprisingly however, recently we learned the fact that Good Shepherd lose some new co-workers, rather than finding. We find some ones new. We saw many unsettled. A back-door was ajar as we opened the front door wide. Over time, we learn that how-many we find was important as much as how-many we keep! We were managing decline!!

We appreciate several hard-working disciples yet struggled burning-out. Our Sunday morning ordinances (worship, study, and fellowship) have been administered by a single group of the same people. We have a dozen of people prepare the weekly service. A dozen of Chancel Choir praise God with weekly anthem. A doze of the Praise Band lift up their voices with new songs. A dozen of ringers lift up their instruments.

A doze of teenagers praise God with their gifts in music on the fifth Sundays. The other dozen of people serve others

### OUR PARISH: 4 PASTURES

- **Pasture I – Church Area**
  - ❖ Adelphi, College Park – “First Landing”
  - ❖ W. Silver Spring, Lanham, Greenbelt
  - ❖ Bowie, Glenn Dale
- **Pasture II**
  - ❖ Hillandale, White Oaks – “Developers”
  - ❖ Burtonsville, Fulton
  - ❖ Columbia, Jessup – “Settlement B”
  - ❖ Ellicott City, Baltimore
- **Pasture III**
  - ❖ Langley Park, Colesville – “Settlement A”
  - ❖ Wheaton, Glenmont, Aspen Hill
  - ❖ Rockville, Mont. Village, Olney
  - ❖ Gaithersburg, German Town, Clarksburg
- **Pasture IV**
  - ❖ Oakview – “Founders”
  - ❖ Takoma Park
  - ❖ Washington, D.C.
  - ❖ Northern Virginia



through mission projects. A handful of facilitators equip a few individuals, who already have gone through many other trainings.

**Multi-Contextual Ministry team envisions** a ministry of “inter-dependence,” working together for one another. After the 4 DX taskforce meeting prior to the Pandemic, we have met Full-time Ministry Task Force. While we will continue to move toward the Full-time Ministry, we felt a need of parish realignment.

On Monday, April 24, a handful of people gathered for brain-storming. We shared visions and goals for parish development. We also hear from one another how we thrive. From the meeting, we would like to develop four pastures in one parish—the current mission field. As you can see, our parish is far greater than you can imagine.

## Sacrificial Love of Mother

This year, we celebrate the 70th years of ministry. For one of the projects we refurbish the sanctuary pews. We have to pay more attention to the changes of demographics around the church. Seventy years ago, a dozen of faithful followers of Jesus, from Oakview (an edge of God's Kingdom in pasture IV), built by Good Shepherd on a holy hill at the current campus of Pasture I, from which the flock scattered out up to Lanham, Bowie, etc. We acknowledge many developers of Good Shepherd residing and settling in the pasture II. Other flock began to scatter toward the Pasture III (Montgomery County and beyond). With another flock move down south and settle in Northern Virginia and beyond.

It is a time to "tend" the Lord's sheep scattered around the surface of the earth!

Mark your calendar on the first Sunday in June - June 4! While celebrating Trinity Sunday, the First Sunday after the Day of Pentecost. During the fellowship, we will meet the members of the flock residing in each pasture.

We recognize 116 individuals from 62 membership unit (a family or a person) in Pasture I; 235 individuals from 107 MU in Pasture II; 89 individuals from 32 MU; and 60 individuals from 37 MU. Yes, the flock of the Lord here at Good Shepherd scattered around.

On the first week of the Kingdom-tide, each member will encounter the residents, neighbors, or commuters living in each pasture. (→)

GSUMC would like to hear the wonderful story of our mother on Mother's day.

### 12 Words of the Title

Please write about your mother within 12 words. We will share these words on the bulletin and during worship service.



Send 365 words or less concerning your mother in writing or by email at [goodshepherdchurch@verizon.net](mailto:goodshepherdchurch@verizon.net) no later than May 7, 2023. Any mail-in participation should be mailed no later than May 7 for the guarantee of competition at **9701 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20903**. All the submission may be shared in public during worship service on Mother's Day or special issues of Love Notes. Please also include contact information.

Look forward to surprise at an unexpected awesome friends of Jesus at that time. We hope a pair of shepherd and shepherdess elected among the flock of each pasture: one who will tend the seep on behalf or the Good Shepherd.

Help the weak if you find. Walk two miles if any one in your pasture asks for a mile. Give a ride for those who do not have automobiles. Remember what the Lord said as the Apostle Paul reminded the church in Galatia: "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ (Gal. 6:2).

Our parish is boundless, yet the constituents in the parish, as great as the Planet Earth will be safe and secure. Alleluia! [LN]



## Meditation on the Promise of Easter

by Leilani McConnell

I just reread the powerful message delivered by our **Bishop LaTrelle Easterling** in response to the nation's observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day in which she laments the disparity between the promises of America as intended by our founders and the realities we experience every day. Realities of prejudice and inequality mostly aimed at persons of color or ethnicities not Anglo nor Christian. As she so aptly put it, "**we celebrate the man (King) while ignoring his message**", just as we have done with Christ.

All the premises and promises of our Constitution really only applied to a fraction of the populace at the time (white men) and it is not so different in practice today. Women had to fight and, yes even die, for the right to vote and earn other rights of property, education, and self determination. Those came even later for non-white citizens. Now we argue against full recognition for LGBT+++ persons. While we are more open about our vast diversity, we still are suspicious of the "Other" however we define them.

As we approach Easter when **Christians acknowledge our moral failures** that took the supreme sacrifice by the most perfect god-human to have lived, we are promised all will be better because He overcame death, thus **being a model for our being able to overcome and start again and even earn Paradise**. It is a beautiful premise and should give us hope in times of despair.

## This Easter

But **2 millennia later we are in a mess** in society, we think that wielding a gun will save us and we cannot get enough of them. We challenge truth, curtailing free thought and are dumbing down generations of the young. We are despoiling our very home planet. We are in perpetual war over territory or ethos and if lives are wasted, well, there are a lot of us. We traumatize the balance of nature and we may ultimately lose the ability to recover. We depend more and more on artificial intelligence in the (in my view) misguided notion that machines can solve everything or make life easier while distancing us from human interaction.

I agree with the Bishop. I think we HAVE "ignored the message." I struggle with believing in a good and a merciful, fair God who has a positive plan for each of us and being aware that so many live in misery or have their lives cut short through violence. (Guns again). How can their miseries be attributed to a God who has loving plans for us all? **Must there be some who thrive and others who do not to somehow balance a divine plan?**

I don't know. I do know that if we lose hope we are doomed. I do know if we ignore the miseries we cannot claim King's nor Christ's messages. I do know that if we allow evil over good, we don't deserve the promised hereafter. It takes courage and that can be hard. It takes faith and it can be challenged. But come Easter, we will try and we thank God for providing us a way to overcome.