

DAVIDSONVILLE UMC
LAMPLIGHTER

APRIL/MAY 2021



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**Our Purpose:
Knowing,
Loving, &
Serving
God and
Others In
Unity**



A PASTOR'S HEART

Do you ever wonder why our church worships online or through drive-in services while the congregations down the street gather indoors? Much of the decision revolves around space and safe seating. We have a larger capacity to worship from our couches or cars than in the Fellowship Hall. We can only seat 50 persons socially distanced in the Fellowship Hall. On average, 92 households (132 people) have been worshipping online each week and over 50 people at drive-in worship.

Early in 2020, we formed a COVID Task Force that monitors the metrics, creates safety guidelines, and decides our next steps. The team includes a leader from each discipline: trustees, worship, evangelism, health, and education. When the case levels rose rapidly beginning in November, we quickly responded to keep worshippers safe.

All of your pastors have a heart for reaching people with the good news of Jesus Christ. Pastor Paul, Pastor Jackie, and I have been taking courses and learning how to engage folks in worship in new and innovative ways. The church has been able to purchase new pieces of equipment and software to make it all possible. God is moving in our new forms of worship, and we celebrate the four new households that are becoming disciples and joining DUMC on April 11th!

(continued on next page)

Alongside the joy of new ministries, the burden of illness and loss weighs heavily on my soul. There isn't a family in our congregation that hasn't been affected by COVID. So many of us have faced excruciating pain and loss in the past year. Of the 150 households that make up the active disciples in our congregation, 21 people have been ill or had someone in their immediate household test positive for COVID. These are the just people that have shared their positive test result publicly.

As a pastor, I have a unique privilege to be with people in some of the most liminal moments of their lives. The moments of new life and birth, and death, final breaths, and the thin veil that separates the two. Three people, intimately connected with our congregation, have lost their lives to Covid-19. Two early on, as we were still learning about the virus and how to cope as a county, and state. COVID restrictions have kept pastors from hospital bedsides, and care facilities and phone calls have served as final conversations. I was blessed to receive a final call from a member of our DUMC family this past year. Those final moments were filled with love, appreciation, prayer, but also fear. Fear of the struggle and death. That conversation, in those final moments of life, will forever be engraved on my heart. Hours after hanging up the phone, they were intubated, and within days, passed away.

I share this story not to frighten you but to help you understand my heart.

As a pastor, I strive to follow the United Methodist Church's first general rule - "Do No Harm." This past year, I have worked hard alongside the task force to keep everyone safe as we lived out that rule. "Do No Harm" meant closing our indoor gatherings and worshipping online and at drive-in services.

Sometimes I feel we are living a 21st-century version of the Exodus story. We have left all that was familiar behind. God has been with us in the wilderness of Covid, supplying us with the necessities of life, like water and manna, and yet we are tempted to grumble, and be willful. We can see the promised land. We will get there - together - we just need a bit more patience as God prepares our souls and the land before us. We are not going back to normal; church will not be what it once was. We are going forward into a new, promised land.

The Lord said to Moses,
"Go, leave this place, you and the people whom you have brought up out of the land of Egypt, and go to the land I promised your ancestors."
(Deut 33:1)

As we adventure toward new forms of worship together, please follow the guidelines for the sake of your safety and that of others. Only you know which worship service is healthiest for you. God is with us everywhere. And please know that each of you has a place in my heart.

God Bless You - Pastor Wendy



NEW SERMON SERIES

In Jesus rising from the dead, we embrace life. This Easter Season, as we celebrate the risen Christ in the world, let us also celebrate ALL of creation. Join us on a journey of understanding the Nature of Faith: who we are among God's creation and what role we play.

SAVE THE DATE

Along side the Nature Of Faith sermon series, we are recommending journeys into nature. You are invited to come and explore with us Sunday afternoons 1-3pm. More information will follow as the dates draw nearer.

- **April 18** - Explore Beverly Triton Nature Park (1202 Triton Beach Road in Edgewater)
- **April 25** - Meet the sheep and chickens at the Hopkins Farm (832 Mt. Airy Rd., Davidsonville) Watch for a sign up list for this event.
- **May 16** - Hike the trails at Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary (1361 Wrighton Road in Lothian) Admission Fee: \$6 per vehicle.

IF - The COVID Matrix Indicates That it is Safe to Gather... Then Beginning Sunday, April 18th, Your Worship Choices Will Be:

9 AM – Outside in the Green Cathedral - You are welcome to bring lawn chairs. Outdoor worship is weather permitting. If inclement weather should occur, all registered for outdoor worship will be invited to join us online.

10 AM - Online - from the comfort of your couch.

11 AM – Indoors in the Sanctuary - Safely distanced in the pews.

The re-opening task force continues to monitor the COVID cases for our area. Currently, the number of cases in Anne Arundel is continuing to rise, and there may be further increases due to Easter gatherings. But, almost a quarter of the population has their first vaccination, which is very hopeful! If the infections rise to 25 cases/100K population, it is considered critical, and we can expect further restrictions. Last summer, when we were worshipping indoors, the levels remained below 15/100K. The team is working hard to monitor the local COVID cases and respond as necessary to make sure DUMC continues to make the safest decisions for gathering. Watch your email for updates and changes.

Safety Practices will be followed!

It is exciting to prepare for each of our worship options! And we need to keep one another safe and healthy. For every form of in-person worship, we will wear masks, social distance 6 feet, make use of the hand sanitizer, and refrain from singing together. Registration for in-person worship will continue.

Prayer Requests:

With many of us are not worshipping in person, we want to make sure we continue to be in prayer for one another. We now have a prayer request form on our website. You are invited to use the form to share your prayers, concerns, and joys, all of which will be lifted up in both our online worship and during in-person worship.



Submit a prayer request online: dumc.net/prayer

We also invite you to join us for mid-week prayer on Facebook (Davidsonville UMC) and YouTube (Wendy van Vliet) on Wednesdays at 12 PM!



We are very excited about Spring coming as the trees begin to bud in the beautiful new landscaping around the playground. The gardens will continue to allow the children to be surrounded by nature for years to come.

Last month, while the teachers were waiting on their second round of shots, we had two teachers test positive in the 2's classroom. Thanks to the hard work, social distancing, and cleaning guidelines the teachers are conducting daily, we have no more positive cases. The 2's classrooms were closed for a full week. In addition all the teachers and children were sent home for 2 days and were required to receive a negative test before returning back to school so we could be assured of a clean start. We continue to pray for the children and teacher's health.

We are extremely grateful for the classroom air purifiers that the parents and the church generously donated. The children's health is of the utmost importance to the center and our community.

The Center has applied for a County Grant and the second round of PPP. We are currently waiting on the response.

Hello from the Green Cathedral,

I'm relieved to say with God's care, the Green Cathedral survived the snow, rain and winds of the winter season. The trimming, cutting and mulching was done so it could look it's best for the Easter Sunrise Service; a beautiful time to celebrate our Risen Lord.

Something to think about; The day the Lord created Hope was probably the day He created Spring, Quoted by Bernard Williams.



From our Little Piece of Heaven,
Respectfully, Patricia Cain for
Green Cathedral Committee

Our committee is keeping busy sending cards or postcards to those mostly homebound. Assisted living facilities are slowly opening up to visitors as more people are getting vaccinated. Janet Long is at Brightview in Annapolis and would love visitors if you are in the area.



By the pictures below, you can see I had Janet Long at my house, and I brought her to church one Sunday as well. Carol Chell has been bringing Bev Finn regularly to the drive-in services. Sharon Loss is looking great pictured only 3 days after her hip surgery. Now that more of us have gotten the vaccination, we can look forward to making more visits.

Respectfully submitted,
Debby Wasson
410-798-6901



The Lighthouse Shelter in Annapolis - We made 125 lunches!

Social Needs and Outreach sponsored the lunches that we made at my house. Gene and I were blessed with the help of Kathy Gabler in making these much-needed sandwiches. At the shelter, they have all the sandwiches in ice chests and fruit in different ice chests, plus snacks and water for people to pick up want they want each day. Anyone can volunteer to make multiples of 25 lunches for any day you choose, so if you are interested in doing this, you or your family you can sign-up online anytime. GREAT PROJECT FOR KIDS TO FEEL USEFUL!! We will be doing this again on June 7th at my house. Kathy Gabler and Connie Haywood will be helping as well!

THE SHELTER IS IN NEED OF CONDIMENT PACKETS (mustard, ketchup, & mayo) THAT YOU GET AT FAST FOOD PLACES OR IN TAKE OUT ORDERS. SAVE YOUR EXTRA PACKETS AND PUT THEM IN A BOX ON OFFICE PORCH APPROPRIATELY MARKED.



Respectfully submitted,
Debby Wasson

Dear friends in Christ,

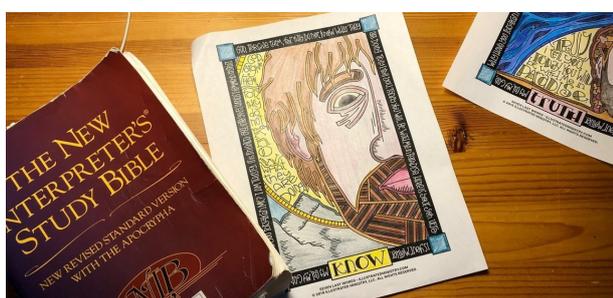
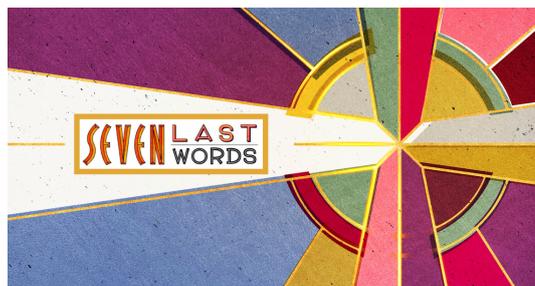
Maya Angelou wrote, "Without courage we cannot practice any other virtue consistently." I suspect she was not just talking about courage as strength in the face of personal danger, but also the ability to be strong for another as they face danger. It's not letting them see the fear on your face. It's not just running into the burning building once, it's holding the door open. It's doing what you're told because no one else will do the job.

It's love and despair and heartache and friendship all rolled into one. It's "BE"-ing because that is what our Lord has called us to do. It takes courage to share the Gospel; it takes courage to walk outside your comfort zone. No doubt it's DEFYING GRAVITY; no doubt it's JUST DOING SOMETHING. Let's all walk the walk in God's shoes. Let's put some good old DUMC mud on our God's shoes and leave His mark as we connect our Church through a Community of love, caring and sharing the Good News Lord, please grant us divine courage.



Yours in Christ, Connie

Thank you so much to Pastor Jackie who led us in our Family Lenten Devotional entitled, *Seven Last Words*. The videos are available to watch on our YouTube channel! Below are some pictures of the experience, one we were so blessed to share!



A CARD MAKING EVENT sponsored by Making Cards for our Troops is coming to Davidsonville, planned for May 15. We will gather pending COVID numbers and using COVID safety measures to make all occasion cards for our troops. Interested? Contact Pat Brodsky at cardsfortroops2398@gmail.com

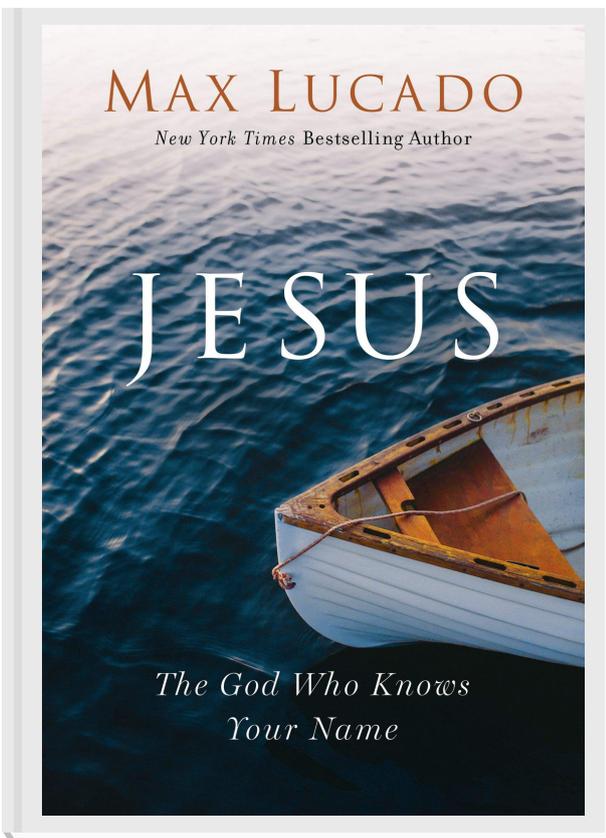


The Tongues of Fire BBQ Ministry will be holding its first sandwich sale of the year on May 22nd. Offered will be smoked pulled pork or chicken and sliced pit beef sandwiches with housemade coleslaw, along with chips and beverages. The hours will be 11AM - 2PM, or until sold out. For more information contact me at bbq.pilgrim@verizon.net.

Yours in the Lord's service,
Blair Smith
pitboss TOF

DUMC Scholarship Application

Davidsonville United Methodist Church scholarships are given to members of DUMC and members of the DUMC Youth Group. The purpose of the scholarships is to assist students in continuing their education after graduating from High School. Scholarships are awarded based primarily on active participation in church activities, as well as financial need. Applications are due by Sunday, May 2nd. You may submit completed applications with essays to the church office. (dumcoffice@dumc.net) A scholarship committee, formed of church members, will review applications and awards will be announced in June.



Jesus: The God Who Knows Your Name by Max Lucado

Our Wednesday evening small group known as SALT (Scripture Applied in Life Today) begins a new study on April 21, at 7 PM. Books are available in the office for only \$8.50. We meet through zoom, so you can join us from the comfort of your couch. Newbies are welcome!!!

Jesus. Perhaps you've heard about him, studied him, or prayed to him. But how well do you know him? We can know not just facts about Jesus but his heart, his joy, his passion, his pain, and why he gave so much to save us. Look long into the heart of Christ and you will see more clearly the person you were created to be.



BWC Ministries

Upcoming Events Opportunities for Discipleship, Growth and Transformation

Faith, Science, Truth: Pastor, please help me decide

April 6, 11 a.m.

Nicole Rochester leads an in-depth conversation on what clergy need to know to help guide decision-making about the COVID vaccine for themselves and others, and strategies for addressing and mitigating vaccine hesitancy. [Learn more.](#)



Wellness & Missions

Both/And: Creating Hybrid Worship April 8, 9:30 to Noon and 6:30 to 9 p.m.

(The same workshop is offered at both times.)

Jason Moore leads this innovative session on maximizing hybrid worship for online and in-person audiences. [See a video](#) about this event. \$20 [Register for Morning Session](#) [Register for Evening Session](#)



New Faith Expressions

Christians Engaged in Faith Formation

Thursday, April 8, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

This month's conversation is on summer ministry ideas.

[Join the Zoom Meeting.](#) [Learn more.](#)



Young People's Ministry

Sunday After Easter Worship with the BWC Cabinet

April 11

A worship service presented by the BWC Cabinet will [premiere on YouTube](#) at 7 a.m. After it airs, it will be available for viewing anytime. The service will feature the "Seven Post-Resurrection Sayings of Christ." See more, below.



Training Tuesdays: Jesus and Justice April 13, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Dr. Douglas Strong explores how our United Methodist tradition holds together evangelistic piety and social advocacy. [Learn more and register via Zoom.](#)



New Faith Expressions

After Christendom: A Crucible Course

April 14, 28, May 12, 26

Even though Christianity has lost its position of dominance and privilege, this online seminar explores the many possibilities now before the church. [Learn more.](#) The cost is \$50. [Register here.](#)



New Faith Expressions

UMVIM 101 Training

April 17, 10 a.m. to noon

Rev. Jeff Childs will equip and orient Volunteer in Mission leaders to prepare their teams to go out as short-term missionaries. [Register.](#)



Wellness & Missions

Earth Day

April 22

Celebrate with a number of [worship resources](#). Learn more about the denomination's [creation care ministries](#).



Advocacy & Action

Equity 2.0

Begins April 26

The E2 cohort provides participants with tools and accountability structures to become an IDEA (Inclusive, Diverse, Equitable, and Antiracist) leader. [Learn more.](#) [Register.](#)



Advocacy & Action

Training Tuesdays: Grant Writing Basics

April 27, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

This webinar will provide basic steps to research and write a grant with Scheherazade W. Forman. [Learn more.](#)



New Faith Expressions

Next Level Leader Academy

May 4, 10 a.m. to Noon

Evaluating, Eliminating, and Energizing: Making Ministry Matter presented by Rev. Donna Claycomb Sokol. [Learn more.](#) [Register.](#)



Leadership Development

Deacon Exploration Session

May 15, 1 p.m.

Provides an overview of the Deacon's role and ministry within the life of the church. [Register online.](#) Contact the [Rev. Leo Yates](#) for more information.



Leadership Development



Baltimore-Washington Conference

The United Methodist Church

Visit bwcumc.org for links and more information

In Memoriam:

Wilma "Jean" Ford, 1925-2021



Wilma Jean Fee Ford passed away peacefully on February 8, 2021. "Jean" to Marylanders, enjoyed being a wife, mother and homemaker. Jean was a member of the Birdsville-Davidsonville Homemakers Association and attended the Annapolis Christian Women's Society. The highlight of each year was to visit her parents in Rose Hill, VA, where she shared many fun times with her large family. After retiring, she and her husband, Bobby, enjoyed traveling the US. She also loved flower gardening, which was evident when you drove up to their home in Birdsville. Jean loved her family and took great pride in fixing the Sunday Dinner gatherings as well as all the Holiday celebrations. Jean was the true matriarch of the Ford family, loved and respected by each family member.

My family and I would like to thank our friends at DUMC who sent cards upon the passing of my mother, Jean Ford. I was overwhelmed and felt so blessed by the number of cards received and for all the warm, caring expressions of sympathy each of you shared. I wish I could thank each one of you individually. Perhaps those of you who knew her smiled a little as your memory of her came into your thoughts. She was certainly a woman who made a statement. Be it verbally or in her appearance. We have continued to share with each other the many sides of one Wilma Jean Ford.

It was her wish to have a simple funeral. The pandemic made it a little more simple than we would have planned. A family graveside service was held and we sent her home to "I'll Fly Away", one of her favorites. But I'm sure the celebration she received from the Lord and the angels when she entered The Kingdom was a grand one.

- Pam Matousek and family



Sara Carter, 1932-2021

Sara H. Carter of Davidsonville, MD passed away on February 17, 2021. Sara was born on December 21, 1932 in Dundalk, MD to the late James and Sarah Hess. She worked in the telecommunication industry for Western Electric and AT&T. Sara was a 47 year member of Davidsonville United Methodist Church where she enjoyed meeting, sharing and doing for others. Sara and her husband, the late George Carter, spent time traveling throughout the United States as both tent campers and RVers.



Bess Keller (1924-2021)

Bess Keller, 96, peacefully passed away on Sunday, March 21. Bess taught Sunday school at Second Presbyterian Church and was active in church activities. She worked at Concord Telephone Company for many years as a secretary and was member of the Concord Telephone Retiree Group as well as the Business and Professional Women's Organization. Bess had a huge heart and never met a stranger. She enjoyed doing crafts with her Grandchildren. She loved beach trips, eating popcorn at the movies, drinking sweet tea and having a Frosty from Wendy's. She enjoyed walking in gardens as well as reading novels. Bess lived her life to the fullest and fiercely loved her family, friends, and her UNC Basketball.

Baptism

Morgan Oakley Carr, daughter of Christina Carr and Robert Estep, was baptized on Sunday, March 21st. The child was so excited that she clapped her hands with joy when it was announced that she was now our little sister in Christ.



3 WAYS TO GIVE



Giving Envelopes

Give by cash or check with in worship Sunday mornings



Online Giving

Give a one time gift or set recurring donations on our website: DUMC.net



Text Giving

Text \$(desired amount) to 410-324-6399 to give via text message



April

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 2 - Emily Stanek | 15 - Linnea Pierru |
| 5 - Ken Werre | 15 - Blair Smith |
| 6 - David Attenberger | 16 - Bonnie Campbell |
| 6 - Kalle Kontson | 21 - Gracie Egbert |
| 6 - Diana Schneider | 22 - Mark Bowser |
| 7 - Bobby Baur | 23 - Katie Bisci |
| 7 - Joe Niemann | 23 - Mason Moesley |
| 7 - Jan Rolko | 24 - Cindy Buechling |
| 8 - Sarah Simpson | 24 - Jim Hopkins |
| 9 - Becky Robertson | 24 - Joe Emert |
| 10 - Rob Gabler | 27 - Jackson Sparks |
| 10 - Steve Iannicelli | 27 - Dixon Wood |
| 10 - Barbara Moore | 28 - Lisa Wasson |
| 14 - Carolyn Wilson | 29 - Raymond Chell |

May

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 2 - David McKeever | 19 - Rebecca Hollamon |
| 2 - Roger Vales | 19 - Charles Hollamon |
| 3 - Nelson Outten | 19 - Raye Long |
| 5 - Steve Arslanian | 19 - Joseph Maslar |
| 5 - Jeanne Bowser | 20 - Kristiana Burgess |
| 5 - Howard Hardesty | 22 - Grace Iannicelli |
| 7 - Frank van Vliet | 23 - Elisa Jillson-Stanek |
| 8 - Emery Bisci | 25 - Mary Conklin |
| 8 - Lonnie Taylor | 25 - Emma Singler |
| 10 - Tim McArdle | 26 - Steve Cornelius |
| 10 - Pat Wood | 26 - Harlow Manahan |
| 11 - Charlotte Maslar | 28 - Kevin Wright |
| 12 - Alex Joya | 29 - Rusty Lamar |
| 13 - Carter Clurman | 30 - Noel Doney |
| 14 - Robert Ingram | 30 - Noah Doney |
| 15 - Megan Arslanian | 30 - Courtney Klute |
| 15 - Sara Kronenthal | 30 - Susan Lamar |
| 18 - Bruce Angevine | 31 - Dane Hall |



- 4/1 - Roger & Vonda Vales
 4/22 - Florence & Robert Ingram

Davidsonville United Methodist Church
 P.O. Box 370
 819 West Central Avenue
 Davidsonville, MD 21035

**Submission of material for the Lamplighter does not guarantee publication and is subject to editing.*

Website: dumc.net
Phone: 410-798-5511
Email: dumcoffice@dumc.net
Pastor: Rev. Wendy van Vliet
Facebook: Davidsonville UMC
Instagram: dumc_church