



Tidings

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February 2019

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

I've always loved February. First, it's my birth month. This year is the big 70 and my birthday cruise was fantastic. Thanks so much for the time away. If you want to do something for my birthday, bring in a box of heart healthy cereal for the collection baskets in the back.

Second, February's color is red, which I love. It's a vibrant life affirming color – think blood, which is life. I want us all to wear red on any Sunday you choose this month.

Finally, its National Heart awareness month, inspired I'm sure by Valentine Day, but mostly it's about inspiring one another to heart healthy habits. During the month, we will share tips to care for your heart, beginning in this newsletter.

February is the month we will engage in a Bible Study based on the identity of God/Christ/Spirit called "What if Jesus Lost His God-focus." It begins on February 5 and will be on Tuesdays at 10 am. Even if you did not sign up in advance, I hope you will participate. If there are requests for the class to be at night, we can do that as well. I need a minimum of 4 participants in each class.

There are many celebrations this month beginning with Scout Sunday; a celebration of the Moore family before they move; and a celebration of music, musicians, and the melody of God with thanksgiving to Bev for her 30 years with us. Come worship God, share in the joy of the family of faith and give thanks to those who do so much for the church.

Praying Our Way Forward: A special General Conference of the UMC will meet February 23rd-26th to find a way forward for our denomination concerning human sexuality. Please be in prayer between 2:30 and 2:60pm each day. See the larger article for more information.

Blessings, Pastor Peggy

FEBRUARY WORSHIP

Sunday, February 3 – Scout Sunday led by Troop 9; Holy Communion officiated by Pastor Peggy

Sunday, February 10 – Moving On and Remaining Firm, with lunch to follow

Sunday, February 17 – Music Appreciation Sunday, with lunch to follow

Sunday, February 24 – Loving, Caring, Giving; Makenzie and Jen Greenwood, guests from Hampstead Food Pantry



FEBRUARY LITURGISTS

02/03 Scout Sunday

02/10 Donna Rucker

02/17 Roni Weikers

02/24 Sherry Wineke

HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



02/02 Brian Martin

02/03 Ruth Crisler

02/03 Georgia Wells

02/05 Sherry Wineke

02/10 Shirley Armacost

02/17 Amy Wineke

02/20 Pastor Peggy Click

02/25 Sharon Kelley

02/28 George Smith

Don't see your birthday on this list? If you would like your name to be placed on our birthday list, email the information to the office including your name and birthday (month/day) to churchoffice@emoryunitedmethodist.org

IT'S ALL ABOUT PRAYER



Prayer Concerns: Our devotion to prayer is one of the greatest ministries we have at Emory. Please remember these requests for prayer in your daily devotions. If you know of anyone who needs prayer, or have changes to update our prayer list, please contact the Church Office.

Pray for: Tim Armacost; Shirley Armacost [recovering at home]; Sandy Caple [grieving her mom's death]; Jack Cashman [Elaine Dodds' brother]; Ruth Crisler; Jeff Davis and Matt Davis [Chuck Davis' sons]; Linda Fair; Regina Glassman [Donna Rucker's aunt]; Shirley Gordon; David Moore [Cliff's brother]; Helen Moore; Alex Obrieht's grandson [Oliver – leukemia treatment]; Bill Williams [Linda Fair's brother]

Prayer Chain: We welcome Jane Alban as our new Prayer Chain Leader. Please let her know of any joys and concerns you wish to have shared with the congregation. You can contact Jane at 410-374-4454. If you want to be another person who calls or emails the church folks, you are very welcome. Call the office to volunteer.

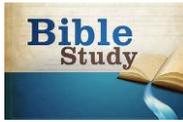


A WAY FORWARD

Praying Our Way Forward: A special General Conference of the UMC will meet February 23rd-26th to find a way forward for our denomination concerning human sexuality. The Council of Bishops calls all of us to pray every day from 2:23-2:26 for the leaders involved in the General Conference. These are the dates of the conference.

As United Methodists, we have a book of rules called the Discipline. It is changed every 4 years by what we call General Conference, a meeting of world-wide representatives, who gather to decide what, if any, changes should be made to our system, and to the Discipline.

At our last General Conference in 2016, the issue was so intense, that it was decided to have a special session of General Conference in 3 years, after convening a special committee called the Way Forward, that would meet in the meantime and propose some options for how to handle this deepening divide in the church. The committee is made up of 32 people from around the world, and all walks of life. Thanks to all who participated in our discussion.



THE NEW BIBLE STUDY

We will begin on Feb. 5th a study called “What if Jesus Lost His God-focus.” Your prior participation is required. Please indicate on the sign-up sheet if you will be participating. Then take a sheet of paper from the back of the church and describe your basic idea of God/Christ/Spirit so Pastor Peggy has info to work with.

It is to be a formal exploration of our ideas and how scripture does or does not support them. Reserve your Tuesdays at 10am on February 5, 12, 19, and 26. If there is enough interest, we can do an evening study as well. There is paper in the back of the church to use or email or call Pastor Peggy or the office.

CELEBRATIONS THIS MONTH

We begin with Scout Sunday. Worship will be led by the scouts from Emory’s Troop 9! Come be a part of the celebration. You will be finished in plenty of time for the Super Bowl. Support the kids!



Families are moving from this area and we want to recognize their importance to the church and encourage their continuing connection to this family of faith. February 10, we celebrate the Moore family in church and at lunch afterwards. We will celebrate Roni, Clark and Henry Weikers in March.

Music is one of the highlights of our worship together so on February 17 we will celebrate Music Appreciation Sunday. Soloists and some of our former guest musicians will participate. We celebrate the blessing of Bev’s 30th anniversary with Emory and again, follow it up with lunch.



Y’all come!



NATIONAL HEART MONTH

[Sponsored by the American Heart Association]

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for men and women in the United States. Every year, 1 in 4 deaths are caused by heart disease. The good news? Heart disease can often be prevented when people make healthy choices and manage their health conditions.

How can American Heart Month make a difference? We can use this month to raise awareness about heart disease and how people can prevent it – both at home and in the community. Here are just a few ideas:

Encourage families to make small changes, like using spices to season their food instead of salt. Make physical activity a part of the day for you and your children/grandchildren.

See your medical professionals and check your blood pressure and ask doctors and nurses about ways to prevent heart disease.

And spread the word!

We've made it easier for you to make a difference. We will [add information about living a heart healthy lifestyle to the bulletin and newsletter](#). You can share that information too. Wear Red this month to bring awareness to heart disease as the number 1 killer of women and men.



GREETINGS FROM THE COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES

NESAP has enough of most foods at the present time, although they do need juice, cereal, mixed veggies, and oatmeal.

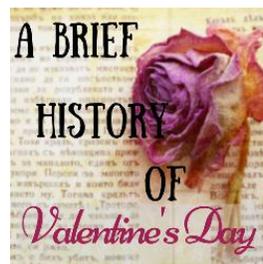
For the month of February, they still need paper products, laundry soap, dish soap, bars of soap, toothpaste, liquid dish soap for hand washing dishes, toilet paper and paper towels.

And for the shelters we are still collecting socks, underwear and warm clothing. The Paula Davis Giving Tree was a big success again this year.

Thanks to everyone who has provided food and clothing to strangers in need.

Until next month, Connie

THE MYTH OF VALENTINE



Every February 14, across the United States and in other places around the world, candy, flowers and gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine. But who is this mysterious saint, and where did these traditions come from?

The history of Valentine's Day – and the story of its patron saint – is shrouded in mystery. We do know that February has long been celebrated as a month of romance, and that St. Valentine's Day, as we know it today, contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition. Did you know? Approximately 150 million Valentine's Day cards are exchanged annually, making Valentine's Day the second most popular card-sending holiday after Christmas.

But who was Saint Valentine, and how did he become associated with this ancient rite?

One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death.

Other stories suggest that Valentine may have been killed for attempting to help Christians escape harsh Roman prisons, where they were often beaten and tortured. According to one legend, an imprisoned Valentine sent the first "valentine" greeting himself possibly to his jailor's daughter, who visited him during his confinement. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter signed "From your Valentine," an expression that is still in use today.

Although the truth behind the Valentine legends is murky, the stories all emphasize his appeal as a sympathetic, heroic and romantic figure.



EMORY CHAPEL CEMETERY CORPORATION MEETING

The Emory Chapel Cemetery Corporation will hold an important meeting on Monday, March 4, 2019 at 7 pm in Emory Church Hall. All adult members of Emory Church are considered to be members of the Corporation, as well as any burial plot owners from the community. If you or a family member has ever purchased a plot in the Emory cemetery, you are encouraged to attend. There are critical issues which need to be discussed, including the election of new trustees and officers, and the healthy financial fitness of the cemetery corporation. Whether or not you are a plot owner, your participation would be appreciated. For more information, contact Ronnie Hamm or leave a message on the church phone (410-429-6008).



SCHOLARSHIP TIME AGAIN

The Baltimore-Washington Conference will once again be offering college scholarships for the Fall 2019 semester. Students can apply January 3 to March 7, 2019 through an online application system. Scholarships are available to students attending or enrolling in accredited colleges and universities of the United States. Students must be an active member of a church for at least one year and be attending (or will attend) an accredited college or university within the United States, full-time. Students will need to provide their official transcript (high school or college) and contact information for two church references (pastor and another member of the church). In addition, the student must have a 2.5 GPA or higher on a 4.0 scale.

For additional information and to apply, visit www.bwcumc.org/administration/local-church-resources/scholarships/.

EMORY'S UMW NUT AND CANDY FUNDRAISER

There are still some nuts and candy available from the Women's fundraiser. Please support this mission. See Donna Rucker for availability and type remaining, and if you care to purchase any for your own kitchen or for gift giving [410-375-0973].



SHEPHERD'S STAFF'S 3RD ANNUAL EMPTY BOWLS OF CARROLL COUNTY

Sunday, March 31, 2019 – Portico, St. John's Catholic Church
45 Monroe Street, Westminster

A simple meal of soup and bread and a handcrafted bowl to take home as a reminder of those whose bowls remain empty.

Come sample soups from the area's top restaurants!
Tickets are now available – Call 410-857-5944.

Looking for ways to be part of a meaningful community event? There are many ways you can help with this meaningful and fun event. We will be hosting several bowl making parties in February. We're excited to say that last year over 600 bowls were donated and distributed at this event. In addition, we will of course need volunteers to work during the event.

If you or your group would like to make bowls or volunteer at the event, please contact Karen Fau at Karen.rau@shepstaff.org.

BITS AND PIECES

- February's elder friend is Ruth Crisler – Please send cards, visit or call to remind Ruth how important she is to Emory Church. Ruth Crisler, 15709 Hanover Pike, Upperco, MD 21155 – 410-374-4474. Her birthday is February 3, so a card would be special now!
- February meetings are as follows: Council on Ministries–2/12; SPRC–2/19. Both meetings are at 7 pm.
- The Out-to-Lunch Bunch will gather on Tuesday, February 26 at Noon at Greenmount Station. Please RSVP to Jane Alban – 410-374-4454 – so we have a count for the restaurant. Everyone is welcome. Join friends for a Dutch treat lunch and good conversation!

FEBRUARY'S MISSION IS LOAVES AND FISHES



We are scheduled to prepare and serve lunch at the Church of the Brethren beginning at 10 am on Saturday, May 4, 2019. Volunteers are needed to help prepare and serve the meal. Lunch is served at 12:00 pm and we are usually finished around 1:00 pm. We appreciate any monetary donations to purchase food items. Editor's note: If you want to add to the usual mission donation, please put your offerings in the plate marked for Loaves and Fishes. Please see Dale or Evan if you are interested in helping.

HELP OUR CHURCH TO GROW – GIVING MADE EASY



How can we make giving any easier? As you have heard from those in our congregation who are using our electronic giving: Electronic gifts are **fast** and **secure**, and they reduce administrative costs, allowing more of every dollar to fund the important work we are called to do. There are **no checks** to write. Schedule and manage recurring donations or we can do it for you. Make one-time donations to special appeals. Also, you can **discontinue at any time**. If you would like to give electronically, visit our website or contact the church office or Elaine Dodds at edodds45@gmail.com.



OFFICIAL INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

As winter has finally arrived, now is a good time to review our Inclement Weather Policy: All evening events at the church will be canceled on weekdays if Carroll County schools close or dismiss early. If the worship service or other events to be held on the weekend are cancelled due to inclement weather, a message will be on the church answering machine and emails will be sent out, or call Pastor Peggy at 443-253-0943. It should be posted on the major television channels as well. Be safe at all times!



WORDS OF THANKS

Thank you very much for my blanket. It is the softest thing I have ever felt! – From a child who received a Project Linus blanket.

To Our Friends at Emory United Methodist Church,

Have you ever said or felt like saying “enough is enough?” These words can follow an especially difficult task that has gotten the better of your patience, or they can follow a lengthy challenge that has worn you almost to the point of defeat. Either way, you are in need of encouragement, renewal or, most importantly.... You are at the point where reaching out for help is needed to achieve your goal.

Your donation to NESAP’s assistance programs means that you are there to encourage, renew, and help families who have had enough... enough of being hungry, enough of wearing shoes with holes in them, enough of being cold without utilities, or enough of going without critical medications. It is no longer an option to do without because family members are in harm’s way.

It is hard for caregivers to ask for help. Pride manifests itself as embarrassment or gruffness. Unworthiness is expressed through tears or murmured conversations. At NESAP, you help those who are struggling to achieve their goal of caring for their family. With care and compassion, we assure them of their own self-worth.

Thank you for your donation of school supplies, food items, and store donations. We also appreciate your referral to Doceo for a \$50.00 donation to our organization to help our neighbors in crisis. You help us have enough...food, clothing, and financial assistance....to help those who are in need. You help us have enough so we can serve others for the glory of God.

His Blessings, Lynn Sheavly, Executive Director

FEBRUARY 2019
The outreach for the month of February
is Loaves and Fishes



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 7 pm AA/Al-Anon  Groundhog Day!
3 10 am Boy Scout Sunday Worship w/ Communion	4 9:30 am Project Linus	5 10 am Bible Study What If Jesus Lost His God Focus?	6 5:45 pm Wednesdays are Wonderful dinner “Souper Supper”	7 7 pm Boy Scouts	8	9 7 pm AA & Al-Anon
10 10 am Worship Luncheon after Church Moore Appreciation	11 9:30 am Project Linus	12 10 am Bible Study What If Jesus Lost His God Focus? 7 pm Council on Ministries meeting	13 5:45 pm Wednesdays are Wonderful Valentine Celebration Wear red or pink	14 7 pm Boy Scouts  Valentine's Day	15	16 7 pm AA & Al-Anon
17 10 am Worship Music Appreciation Luncheon after Church	18 9:30 am Project Linus	19 10 am Bible Study What If Jesus Lost His God Focus? 7 pm SPRC meeting	20 5:45 pm Wednesdays are Wonderful dinner	21 7 pm Boy Scouts	22	23 7 pm AA & Al-Anon
24 10 am Worship Guests from Little Hampstead Pantry	25 9:30 am Project Linus	26 10 am Last Bible Study God Focus? Noon–Out-to- Lunch Bunch Greenmount Station	27 5:45 pm Wednesdays are Wonderful dinner	28 7 pm Boy Scouts		

**ITEMS FOR THE MARCH NEWSLETTER ARE DUE BY FEBRUARY 21
 BUT ARE WELCOME EARLY!!**