

THE SUMMIT

A newsletter for the families and friends
of Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church

Dear Mt. Carmel Family and Friends,

At once the Spirit forced Jesus out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among the wild animals, and the angels took care of him. (Mark 1.12-13)

The 40-day season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, February 14. We will gather that night at 7:00pm at New Market UMC for a service of prayer, meditation, and ashes. I will be assisting Pastor Scott with the service and expect that many of you will come and join us. Lent comes from an old English word for lengthen as in this time of the year the days are getting longer – have you noticed?! Lent is the time we remember Jesus fasting in the wilderness. Some people fast or give up things for Lent. This year, I would ask you to reflect on any bad habits that you have and pray to God for strength to give it up for Lent. But then after Easter, do not think you will return to the way it was, but realize that if you can give it up for 40 days, you can give it up for life.

It also might be that you want to take up something for Lent. Take up a practice of daily devotions, form a small group, come to a Sunday school class, Bible study, or some other intentional spiritual discipline this Lent. To help us on this spiritual Lenten journey this year a daily devotional from the Society of St. Andrew, similar to the one we had during Advent, will be available for all individuals and families of the church. You will be invited to pick one up the Sunday before Lent begins and then read and meditate each day through this season as we prepare for the Easter resurrection.

Have a blessed February,
Pastor Jeff

FEBRUARY

February 11
“God’s Dream”
Deuteronomy 34: 1-12

February 18
Lent 1
“CREED: God”
Genesis 1: 1-5

February 25
Lent 2
“CREED: Jesus Christ”
“John 1: 1-14

The Lenten Season Begins on February 14

Open To The Community

Mardi Gras Pancake Dinner

FEBRUARY 13 ~ 5-7pm

Join us for an evening of fun, food and fellowship as we prepare for Lent. We'll enjoy a pancake and sausage dinner with lots of pancake toppings. Free will offering: 70% will go to Hope 4 Kids and 30% will go toward our mortgage.



Ash Wednesday Service

February 14 ~ 7pm

New Market UMC

On Wednesday, February 14, at 7pm, we have been invited to worship at New Market UMC. Pastor Scott will be preaching and he and Pastor Jeff will offer ashes to all who wish to receive them that evening. Come join us as we begin the season of Lent. During Holy Week we will gather here at Mt. Carmel for Maundy Thursday, at New Market for Good Friday, and Fairview Chapel for Easter sunrise.

Wednesday

Can't Make The Ash Wednesday Service?

You Can Receive Ashes During The Day.

Ashes will also be given out on Ash Wednesday during the HOPE Preschool Chapel at 11am and 12:45pm in the Mt. Carmel sanctuary. There will also be an opportunity to drive up and receive ashes from Pastor Jeff at the portico doors from 4-6pm.





Finances and Statements

Giving statements, for your records and income tax purposes, have been emailed or mailed to all members and friends of the church who contributed during 2023. If you did not receive one, please contact Donna Clawson at donna.clawson@hopemtcarmel.org or 301-662-1303.

Thanks to our generous giving we were able to end the year on a positive note. The Finance team has reviewed the income statements of the church and is happy to report that Mt. Carmel ended the year with a favorable balance of \$ 37,733. This was primarily driven by strong contributions in the month of December, along with careful cost control throughout the year. We appreciate everyone's faithful giving over the past year and have a bright outlook for 2024."

Church Leaders

On Sunday, January 14 we lifted up and prayed for our church leaders who had been elected at the church conference last fall. They are:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Lay Leader: Todd Humphrey | Church Council Chair: Mike Ciampaglia |
| Leadership Equipping Team (LET) – George Kirk | Board of Trustees: Kenny Stine |
| Finance: Bruce Beveridge | Worship: Becky DeLameter |
| Fellowship Team: Tracy Tarr-Carter | Care Team: Terry Granger |
| Outreach Team: TBD | Missions Team: TBD |
| Men’s Group President: Paul Delameter | Women’s Group President: TBD |

Adopt - A - Highway

At the men’s breakfast we voted to adopt a highway for semi-annual clean up. We received word from the county highway department that we have been approved for the 2 mile stretch on MD 144 (Old National Pike) just down the road from the church from “300’ east of the Meadow Road intersection to the limits of New Market.”

**The spring cleanup will be Saturday, April 20, as that is Earth Day weekend.
(If the weather is bad that day we will do it the following Saturday, April 27.)**

Mission News

Operation Christmas Shoe Boxes

We have tracked the 31 boxes Mt Carmel assembled in November for Operation Christmas Child. The boxes arrived in Tanzania and “other places hard to reach” in December.

“Souper Bowl of Caring” ~ February 11

“Score a victory against hunger!

Bring in a donation of soup or other canned items and put it in the bin corresponding to who you think will win the Super Bowl. Food will be donated to local food banks.

Human Relations Day

On Sunday, January 14, \$300 was collected for the special offering for scholarship support for ethnic minority students over the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday weekend. Thank you all for your support. Our next scheduled special offering of the United Methodist Church is UMCOR Sunday on March 10 to support the work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief.

Spring Ridge Elementary and Linton Shelter Mission

Spring Ridge Elementary School In the fall we started a collection drive for hygiene/household items for families with children who attend there. These items are needed because they are not covered under the SNAP benefits. We will identify the top 3 needs each month. Collections can be dropped in the bin under the coat rack across from the Conference Room.

February Needs: Toilet paper, Hand soap, Trash bags

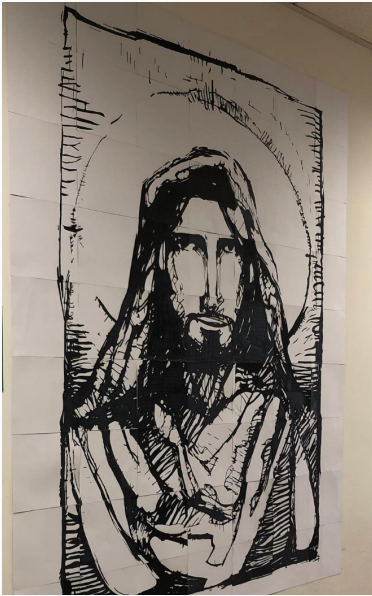
Linton Shelter has ongoing needs for things to help as they minister to people at the shelter. Collections can be dropped in the bin under the coat rack across from the Conference Room.

February Needs: soups, Tea bags, hand/feet warmers



**HOPE 4 KIDS
FOOD PACKING
FEBRUARY 15
6PM
New Market UMC
Schoolhouse**

Please note the date change. All ages are welcome to join our mission to support our community children!



Coming Soon: New Congregational Grid Drawing

The picture to the left is our grid drawing from last year. It was a fun way for our congregation to connect during the winter months.

What will our new grid drawing be?

All you need to be able to do is count and color in a space.

Be sure to pick up your packet in the first-floor Gathering Hall beginning on February 18.

Directions will be included in the packet.

Please return finished packet by Palm Sunday, March 24.



2024 Mt Carmel Golf Tournament July 18

Mark your calendar for our 2024 Golf Tournament at Holly Hills Country Club. Brochures are available in each of the Gathering Halls. We are looking for sponsors and golfers. If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer to help with the tournament, contact Rene Ciampaglia at r.ciampaglia1212@gmail.com



Mt Carmel UMC Car Window Clings Are Here! *Be Sure To Get Yours!*



Youth Group Meeting March 3

After church on Sunday, March 3, Pastor Jeff will host a pizza party and discussion with youth, parents and any people who would like to help us restart our youth ministry here at Mt. Carmel. He is asking everyone to lift this ministry in prayer over the next month. We will need at least two adults which could include a parent.

Background checks will be required for everyone's safety.



United Methodist Men's Breakfast

On Saturday, January 26 a dozen men gathered at the church for breakfast and talked about restarting a men's group. Paul DeLameter was elected as president, Dave Carlson as treasurer and Paul Eichelberger as secretary (see picture) with Larry Anderson and George Weisgerber as advisors given their experiences in groups at previous churches. Several ideas and ministry possibilities were discussed and adopting a two-mile stretch of highway for a semi-annual clean up was affirmed.

The next breakfast was set for 8am on Saturday, February 24 with Jeff Simonson coordinating the breakfast.



Women's Group Organizational Meeting February 25 at Noon

On Sunday, February 25 at noon, all women of the church are invited to gather together in the great room to talk about reorganizing the United Methodist Women now called United Women in Faith here at Mt. Carmel. A soup and salad luncheon is being planned. Watch for more information in the bulletins and a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board as we get closer to that date.



FEBRUARY

Children's Ministry



Easter Egg Hunt
March 24
(During 9:30 & 11:00 Sunday School)

As we enter into the spring season, we will begin asking for easter egg filler donations. Please label them for Sunday School. A mixture of small toys and candy is welcome. A donation box will be in the first-floor Gathering Hall soon.

Vacation Bible School - June 17-21

We are having a "Food Truck Party" for VBS to be on a roll with God! Our next meeting is 2/28 @ 6:45pm. We welcome any fun props you want to make to support decorating the church.



Summer Camp At Manidokan July 28-August 2

This year we will share a week at Camp Manidokan with a few churches. To help with camp scholarships it is important for us to know how many of our children would like to go to camp this summer.

Please reach out to Michele Stine if you have youth or children interested in attending Manidokan this year, or if you are feeling called to be a leader or volunteer to help during our week at camp.

CONTACT US

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer for any of our upcoming Children's Ministry programs, contact Michele Stine.
Michele.Stine@hopemtcarmel.org

Let your
Light
Shine

January Happenings!



Thank you to Barbara Burdsall ,
Rene Ciampaglia, Diane Sweeney,
and Sharla Worley for cleaning the
church kitchen. It looks fabulous!!



Some of Kevin Worley's shipmates
enjoying the cookies sent by our
CARE Team.

Men's Breakfast!



A picture from our Chili Cook-off



Worship with Us Each Sunday



Sunday Services:

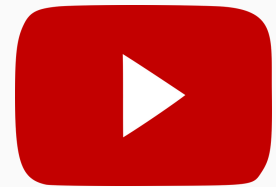
8:15am Join us in the sanctuary for a small intimate service and begin your Sunday with Communion, prayer, scripture, and a message weekly!

9:30am: Join us in the sanctuary for a traditional service with our choir or bell choir. Adult, Children, Youth Sunday school and Nursery

11am: Join us in the second-floor Great Room for a contemporary service with our Praise Team. Adult Sunday school, Children's Church and Nursery

Facebook Live and YouTube

You can view the 9:30am and 11am services on our Mt Carmel Facebook and YouTube pages each Sunday.



Giving Instructions:

Sunday:

Place your offering in the collection plate.

Your Bank:

You can schedule monthly gifts straight from your bank; this is a secure, no-fee option.

Vanco:

This provides another secure online option. Follow the link on the church website (www.hopemtcarmel.org) to donate through the secure Vanco site.

GivePlus+ App:

Download the free GivePlus+ mobile app and search Mt Carmel UMC. Log in or donate as a guest.

Mail:

Mail your offering directly to Mt. Carmel:
Mt.Carmel UMC, 9411 Baltimore Road, Frederick, MD 21704



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