



Hunt's Memorial United Methodist Church

The Point



April 2015

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Towson, MD 21204

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Staff

Rev. Gary
Sheffield-James
Pastor

Beth Woody
Secretary
&
Editor of "The Point"

O. J. Spikes
Music Director

Jim Holford
Praise Leader

Service Schedule

9:00 AM
Praise Worship

9:00 AM
Adult Sunday School

10:00 AM
Traditional
Worship

10:00 AM
Sunday School

**Hunt's Church
Preschool**

www.huntschurchpreschool.com

Friends:

On a Saturday night, Laurie and I went to TGIF's (Thank God It's Friday) for dinner. Since we had a 15 minute wait for an available table, we had a chance to people watch. The place was packed. I saw small tables where couples sat facing one another. Scattered about were larger tables filled with several families probably celebrating a birthday or coming home from the children's sporting events. I saw one part of the staff busing the tables and clearing them for the next group of people. The waiters and waitresses were busy taking orders and bringing orders of food to the tables that were assigned to them. You could hear the hum of people talking, laughing, and the sound of music playing over the speakers. Indeed, the place was alive and jumping.

Finally, the hand-held buzzer that was given to us when we first arrived buzzed signaling that we were next to be seated. The waitress walked us to our table and gave us two menus. Inside the menu I read these words, *"In here it's always Friday."* In other words, when you come to this place of business it is a time to celebrate.

As I think about this experience, I wonder if the reason the modern church today is shrinking in numbers is because we have lost our reason to celebrate. When people arrive at our doors, what might that experience be like if there is someone there to greet us and escort us to a place to sit and later on be included in the open invitation to sit at the table of God's acceptance? Is the church alive and dancing in God's Spirit?

On that first Easter morning, the women went to the tomb thinking that their hopes and dreams had ended on that awful Friday when Jesus died on the cross. They brought with them burial spices because only death occupied their thoughts now. The only thing left for them to do was to at least give the body of Jesus a proper burial.

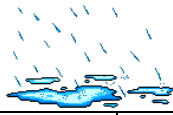
Suddenly, an angel greeted them, saying, *"You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth. He is not here. He is risen!"*

That is the Easter message: God raises Jesus to new life! The power of the resurrection forms and shapes a new community; a community that can say with bold assurance, *"In here it's always Sunday"*, each day is a new day to begin again. That's hope for us not only in terms of eternity but for us right now. In the Risen Christ, we get a clear glimpse of God's kingdom coming alive on earth as it is in heaven.

New Testament scholar and author, N.T. Wright wrote: *"Jesus' resurrection is the beginning of God's new project not to snatch people away from earth to heaven but to colonize earth with the life of heaven. That, after all, is what the Lord's Prayer is about."*

May each one of you have a blessed Easter!

Grace & Peace,
Gary



APRIL



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Preschool closed for Easter break: April 6-13			1 Casseroles due by 10 am 12:30 pm AA	2 Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm Worship Service (VanMetre Hall)	3 Good Friday <i>Office Closed</i> 7:30 am Men's Fellowship 6:30 pm Girl Scouts (Agapé House) 8:30 pm AA	4 2:00 pm Rain Date for Easter Egg Hunt
5 Easter Day <i>NO Communion</i> 9 am Praise Service 9 am Adult Sunday School 10 am Traditional Service 10 am Sunday School 2 pm Pickersgill	6 <i>Office Closed</i> 7 pm Trustees Meeting 8:30 pm AA	7 7:30 pm Praise Team	8 12:30 pm AA 7 pm Finance Committee Meeting	9 7:00 pm Fit Club 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	10 7:30 am Men's Fellowship 11:30 am Funhunters to Side Street Café 8:30 pm AA	11 9 am Women's Fellowship Breakfast 11:00 am Memorial Service for Jack Barnes
12 9 am Praise Service 9 am Adult Sunday School 10 am Traditional Service 10 am Sunday School 11:15 am Hand Bell Choir 6:30 pm Sr. High	13 10:45 am Bible Study 7:00 pm Bible Study 8:30 pm AA	14 7:30 pm Praise Team	15 12:30 pm AA <i>NO Church Council Meeting</i>	16 7:00 pm Fit Club 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	17 7:30 am Men's Fellowship 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 8:30 pm AA	18 9:00 am Trustees Work Day
19 9 am Praise Service 9 am Adult Sunday School 10 am Traditional Service <i>Reception</i> 10 am Sunday School 11:15 am Hand Bell Choir 6:30 pm Sr. High	20 10:45 am Bible Study 7:00 pm Bible Study 8:30 pm AA	21 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm Sr. High 7:30 pm Praise Team	22 12:30 pm AA	23 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm Sr. High 7:00 pm Fit Club 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	24 7:30 am Men's Fellowship 8:30 pm AA	25 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Sr. High
26 YOUTH SERVICE 9 am Adult Sunday School 10 am Youth-Led Service 10 am Sunday School 11:15 am Hand Bell Choir	27 10:45 am Bible Study 7:00 pm Bible Study 8:30 pm AA	28 7:30 pm Praise Team	29 12:30 pm AA 7:00 pm Missions Mtg.	30 7:00 pm Fit Club 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal		



Dear Hunt's Friends,

I have been totally overwhelmed with all the cards, prayers, meals, food, and flowers that have been given to me in the past weeks.

Each day I am feeling stronger and looking forward to the day I can be back into my usual activities.

*Thank you for all the support you have given to me. ---
I am blessed!*

Wishing you all a "Blessed Easter."

*Fondly,
Barbara Green*



FUNHUNTERS LUNCHEON

Friday, April 10th

11:30 a.m.

Side Street Café

10921 York Road; Cockeysville, MD 21030

If you are planning to join us, please call Lynn Henss at 443-600-2325, so that she can make reservations and arrange to have us all sit together.

Thank you. – Looking forward to seeing you!

Lay Readers' Schedule

	<u>9:00 Service</u>	<u>10:00 Service</u>
April 5	Jim Foster	P.J. Boyle
April 12	Jody Waters	Ann Bayne
April 19	Mary Foster	David McMillan
April 26	Alan MacEwen	Ken Strubler

Ushers' Schedule

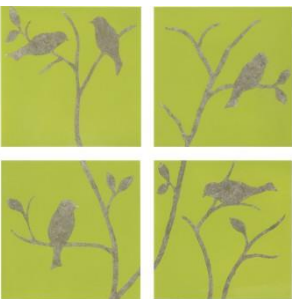
	<u>10:00 Service</u>
April 5	Keith McMillan and Chris Ely
April 12	Keith McMillan and David McMillan
April 19	Keith McMillan and David McMillan
April 26	Keith McMillan and David McMillan



270



prayer shawls
have been received by people
who have benefited from the prayers,
dedication, and creative talents
of the women involved in this ministry.



Recently, the Trustees initiated a painting project to freshen up the ladies' powder room and the men's restroom in the church. These volunteers worked diligently for three days in order to complete the project. They are: Merle Bayne, Steve Lippy, Glenn and Linda Keatts, Ken Parrish, Linda Flavin, Tom Parrish, Walter and Lynn Henss, and Bruce Douglas. Special thanks are also extended to Jody Waters who decorated the ladies' powder room – making it a really beautiful space. We are truly blessed at Hunt's with members who give of their time and talents.



Thanks again!
Charlotte Douglas



Happy spring!! It is so great to be able to take the children outside again to enjoy the fresh air and playground! We have ordered our caterpillar and ladybug larva and the children are eager for them to arrive so we can watch them hatch. We have flowers to plant, eggs to dye, and vegetables to grow. Spring is in the air here at Hunt's Church Preschool.

As a Christian School, we are all inclusive to all thoughts and religions and continue to be a loving community. We believe that teaching religion to the children is very important. We incorporate Bible stories and religious teachings throughout our curriculum but also feel that teaching religion to young children is done through example. Values are a very big part of our teaching. Learning to respect others as well as their space and thoughts is very important as we shape these young children's minds. We are building a more peaceful world one child at a time. We are teaching our students the Christian way by teaching them how to be nice to one another, teaching them empathy, having them work on community outreach projects, and introducing them to a variety of religions, customs and nationalities. We encourage parents, church members, family and friends to stop by and get a sense, first hand, of what a loving Christian community we really are here within our school walls.

Finally, I would like to thank Pastor Gary for celebrating chapel with us each month. The children look forward to him arriving to sing songs and tell us stories. They often ask, "Ms. Kelley when is your friend that plays the guitar coming back?" Or they see him in the school, heading to one of his meetings, and they get big smiles and say "Yay, we are going to church today!!" Doesn't matter the age of the child, they all enjoy spending time with Pastor Gary. Thank you Pastor Gary for adding joy to our children's hearts.



I wish you all a very happy Easter! Enjoy your time with family and friends. Thank you for your continued support and uplifting comments! I have really enjoyed getting to meet many of you. Remember we have an open door policy. Please feel free to stop by and visit, read a story to the children, or just enjoy the feeling of pure happiness.

Kelley Unger

Director of Hunt's Church Preschool



Trustees Church Work Day

Our second monthly workday was filled with accomplishments. Thank you everyone who came out and helped on Saturday, March 21. We organized the custodian closet & Adult Ed room, cleaned and tightened screws on the tables, caulked around the sinks in 2 bathrooms, repaired some storm windows, touched up the paint in the men's bathroom, repaired the weather stripping around the side door, repaired the gates to the garbage can area, repaired the broken heater in the narthex, repaired a light, and cleaned and organized the kitchenette. For those in attendance, we also enjoyed a light lunch and some homemade desserts during our break. Although we will have our spring cleanup workday in April, the next "monthly" workday will be in May.

Ken Parrish

Trustees Chairperson

Will Work for Food



How many of us have seen someone holding a “Will Work for Food” sign at a street corner? And how many different thoughts have gone through our minds? Well, I am hoping a lot of you will come to Hunt’s with one of those signs on April 18 (rain date April 25) and the Trustees’ thoughts are to feed you a picnic lunch in return. Yes, Saturday, April 18 will be the spring cleanup day for our property - the day when we prune branches, clean up after the hard winter, and get our nearly 4 acres ready for summer. The day when we make several trips to the Residents’ Drop-Off Center (aka dump) to dispose of stuff we no longer can use and recycle whatever we can. It’s also an opportunity to visit the Hunt family cemetery and clean up branches there as well. This is our big event to entice those passers-by to stop in for a visit, solely based on our outside appearance. It is also a good chance to talk to those on the grounds crew and find out where you might fit in. For our part, we will provide hamburgers and hot dogs and other picnic foods to make a fun social mid day and thank everyone for their work. Please mark your calendars, and we hope to see you on the 18th (or 25th if it rains). If you include time for the picnic, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. should cover it. Bring the whole family!



Grounds

We are looking for some volunteers with a green thumb.

Here is what our property looks like from the sky. I have highlighted our many flower beds and other landscaped areas.

We need people to sign up to maintain a single bed or with a group to maintain an area of beds.

There is a signup sheet in the hallway next to the kitchenette.



FOR ALL WHO ATTEND HUNT'S SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

As you are aware, this winter, adverse weather played havoc with many area events and activities, including Hunt's services and activities. Our existing adverse weather closing notification procedure was not adequate. Consequently, at the March Church Council meeting, it was approved to begin a robo-calling and texting notification system, which we believe will enable cancellations to be communicated in a more timely and user-friendly method. Many with school age children may already be part of such a system; many other churches have implemented such a system, and it seems to be appreciated by those who receive the notification.



In addition to closings due to adverse weather, this system can be used for other causes, such as no heat, no electricity, no water, etc., which may occur anytime throughout the year, which is why we are beginning to implement it now, rather than wait until next winter.

We anticipate using a service to actually do the robo-calling or texting at the request of an authorized person from Hunt's. If the line is busy, robo-calling will try several more times; it will also leave a message on an answering machine after the message.

Since there will be a cost per call or text, we are requesting that only one member per household be placed on the list to be notified and preferably by only one method—either a call or a text. (Note—A text will cost half as much as a call.) Notwithstanding, due to your household “dynamics,” if more than one individual needs to be contacted or the designated contact person needs to be notified by both methods, that can be done. Some of the details of the new system still need to be determined (e.g., what time to do the notification by, who are the authorized Hunt's individuals); however, we need to begin to develop and compile the notification data base now.

1. If the Hunt's office already has your telephone number, we will **assume** that it can be used for robo calling **and** for your entire family unit. If there are two numbers, the home number will be used. If you are not sure what telephone number(s) Hunt's has, contact Beth Woody in the Church office (410-339-7770 or beth@huntsunc.org).
2. However, if you want to opt-out and you do not want to potentially get a robo call from Hunt's, then let Beth Woody know.
3. Or, if you want another telephone number to be used (such as a cell phone) for the robo call, then, likewise, notify Beth, along with the name(s) that the notification will serve.
4. Or, if you would rather receive a text, then notify Beth with the necessary number, along with name(s) that the notification will serve.
5. And, for any of you for whom Hunt's does not have a telephone number, if you would like to be on Hunt's notification list, then contact Beth with your telephone number and whether you would like a robo call or a text, along with the names that the notification will serve.

Utilizing such a service has the potential to inform most, if not all, people for whom we have contact information, that there is a change in scheduling for whatever the reason. Presently, it is anticipated to use this service sparingly for the cancellation of church-wide events; hopefully, it would never have to be used.

Steve Lippy

410-296-9150

s.lippy@verizon.net

Missions

March Report

THANK YOU to the congregation for your support and donations:

- 101 dozen cookies for the children at the Board of Child Care
- 16 casseroles for the Casserole Ministry in March.
These casseroles provided a healthy, enjoyable meal for people at:
 - Martha's Place - transitional housing for women coming out of drug treatment and addiction
 - The JACQUES Initiative at the University of Maryland Hospital – a program with a holistic care model that provides long-term treatment for people infected with HIV
 - Earl's Place – housing and supportive services for men who were formerly homeless

March Missions –

- 1) We are collecting unopened dry and wet cat and dog food for clients of Meals on Wheels who have pets. This is a program called Kibble Connection which is a collaboration between the MD SPCA and Meals on Wheels. See more information at <http://www.mdspca.org/programs/kibble-connection/>. Please put the food in the labeled bin in the coat closet.
- 2) Casseroles need to be in the Hunt's freezer by 10 a.m. on Wednesday, April 1.
- 3) We have the opportunity to serve a meal to the homeless at Manna House on Saturday morning, April 11. Five people are needed. The group will meet in the church parking lot and leave by 7:25 a.m. and would be back at the church by 10:45 a.m. Please let Melissa Regan know if you are interested.
- 4) We are collecting new and used athletic shoes of any size (but no cleats) for a group of kids and young adults in South Africa. There is a labeled bin in the coat room. Barb Cox will be going with her adult sons and a small group of volunteers on their annual mission next summer to teach lacrosse and deliver school supplies and shoes to children there through a program called The South African Lacrosse Project (see <http://www.southafricanlacrosse.org/>).
- 5) The Lent special offering goes to support the Baltimore County Christian Workcamp and Camp Hope, both important hands-on missions that Hunt's members participate in to repair homes of people who can't manage it on their own.

(If you are an electronic giver, remember to specify a donation for these special offerings online, or put a check in the offering plate with the specific mission you are donating to on the memo line. Thanks.)



THANK YOU FOR THE COOKIES !



“Thank You” to all who baked, made, bought, or brought cookies for the Board of Child Care. And thanks for marking the number of cookies on the outside of the bags/packages/containers (that made counting the cookies much easier)!

So how did we do?



Despite Church services being cancelled (due to bad weather) on February 22 – and encountering snow/sleet/freezing rain/ice on March 1st – we still managed to collect 101.5 dozen cookies! (That’s 1,218 cookies!) -- Not bad!

Steve and I delivered all of the cookies to the Board of Child Care on Monday afternoon, March 2nd (after some of the ice melted). A staff member welcomed us, had us place the cookies in the pantry area (next to the kitchen), and immediately began placing bags of our cookies in the boxes which were going to be distributed to the cottages (where the boys and girls live) on Tuesday morning. My guess is that by the time you read this, many of our cookies will be “history”!

Thanks again for braving the bad weather and making things a bit nicer for the boys and girls at the Board of Child Care!

--- *Mary Ellen Lippy* ---

P.S. – Steve also wanted me to thank the anonymous cookie donor who left some cookies (marked “Cookies for Steve”) especially for him. He enjoyed them! Thanks!

Ham and Potatoes

"Casserole Ministry"

Ingredients:

1 tsp. salt
3 cups water
3 cups potatoes, cubed
1/2 cup milk
1/2 cup butter
1/2 cup onion, chopped
1/2 cup flour
2 cups ham, cooked, cut into small pieces
3 tbsp. chopped parsley
2 cups canned peas, drained (or 2 cups frozen peas)
1 cup grated cheddar cheese
(Optional: about 1 teaspoon of fresh black pepper)

1. Add salt to water and boil.
2. Add potatoes and cook for 15 minutes. Drain and reserve liquid.
3. Add milk to liquid. Set aside.
4. Melt butter in saucepan, add onions, and cook until soft.
5. Blend flour (whisk) into milk mixture and cook on low heat until thickened.
6. Add ham, parsley, peas, onions, and potatoes to milk mixture and pour into casserole pan. *This recipe makes a generous 8" x 8" x 3" casserole. If doubled, it will make three 8" x 8" x 2" (cake pan) casseroles*
7. Top with grated cheese.
8. Cover with aluminum foil.
9. Freeze and place directions on top.
- 10.



Ham and Potatoes

Ingredients: salt, water, potatoes, milk, butter, onion, flour,
ham, parsley, peas, cheddar cheese, pepper

Defrost overnight (or all day) in refrigerator.

Preheat oven to 325 degrees.

Heat for 25-30 minutes (until warmed throughout)



2015 Vacation Bible School

June 22June 26
9:00 a.m. to 12 Noon
Ages 3 years – 2nd grade

Enroll your child according to the grade just completed this school year.
We will have two Preschool Classes, a Kindergarten Class, and a 1st & 2nd Grade Class.
Your 3 year-old *must* have turned 3 by September 1, 2014 AND be potty trained.
It is extremely important to register ahead of time as materials are ordered according to age and class assignment.

For additional information, please contact *Annie Smith* at annieepsmith@gmail.com or 443.935.2333

We are pleased to offer VBS for no charge this year. Optional donations received will go towards funding future Hunt's Memorial United Methodist Church VBS programs and services.

2015 Vacation Bible School Registration Form

Child's Name: _____

Child's Nickname: _____ Child's Date of Birth: _____

Parents'/Guardians' Names: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Emergency Name & Phone Number (different from above)

Allergies: _____ Grade Completed in School: _____

Special Requests (please explain):

(Examples: Carpools with someone; wants to be with another child; etc.)





2015 Vacation Bible School

June 22June 26

9:00 a.m. to 12 Noon

Ages 3 years – 2nd grade

*If you would like to volunteer in V.B.S. as a teacher or an assistant,
please contact Annie Smith at annieepsmith@gmail.com*

Hunt's Memorial United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 332
Riderwood, MD 21139

Address Service Requested

