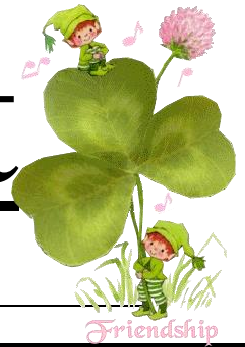




Hunt's Memorial United Methodist Church

The Point



March 2016

Friendship

1912 Old Court Road
Towson, MD 21204

Phone:
(410) 339-7770
Fax:
(410) 339-7790

pastor@huntsumc.org
beth@huntsumc.org
www.huntsumc.org

Staff

Rev. Gary
Sheffield-James
Pastor

Beth Woody
Secretary
&
Editor of "The Point"

Suzanne Woo
Music Director

Jim Holford
Praise Leader

Service Schedule

9:00 AM
Praise Worship

10:30 AM
Traditional
Worship

10:30 AM
Sunday School

Hunt's Church
Preschool

www.huntchurchpreschool.com

Friends,

Recently I read a column written by a Spiritual Director entitled, "*Your Presence Is A Contribution.*" The gist of the article is that being present improves our mental health and deepens our personal growth. The Director goes on to remind us that being in the present is a matter of discipline and intentionality. Her bold declaration is this: "*Your presence matters! Your presence matters!*" She urges us to 'practice presence'.

This article to which I mention is written on the topic of "*Self-Care.*" One of my prayers is this: "*God, help me to be present where I am present.*" If you are like me, then you know that this is not easy for us to do for many reasons. To intentionally 'practice presence' is extremely difficult because each day brings upon us competing demands that require from us an array of various responses. Unforeseen crises arise. The stuff of life interrupts our schedules. Our priorities get re-prioritized. And because we know that life is indeed difficult, then we can fully appreciate how our presence really is a contribution.

The season of Lent in the church is a time of reflection, prayer, reading scripture, and being present to God and others. And we do that by keeping our focus on Jesus. We recall how Jesus serves others and cares for others. We also are aware of how he finds it necessary to get away from others in order to be alone and pray. Over and over again, Jesus shows us the importance of balance; that of being present for others and how that is connected to being present to God.

The last week of Jesus' earthly life is called Holy Week. It begins with Palm Sunday and ends with the glory of the Resurrection. It's important to note that we can't separate the Resurrection from the importance of Palm Sunday. On Palm Sunday, Jesus enters Jerusalem. Jesus shows up. He is present in body, mind, and spirit. With courage and firm resolve, he is present to confront the powers of injustice, hate, and oppression that seek to reign by intimidation and threat of death. Jesus shows up and is present even when at the end of week many abandon his cause. Jesus is present even when his own disciples desert him. Jesus is present with God and others even on the cross when he says, "*Forgive them for they do not know what they do.*"

Jesus shows up for us. Will we show up for him? In this election year, I am reminded of the story of a local politician who lost a close election. The polls indicated beforehand that he would be the likely winner. But that was not to be the case. In his concession speech, he mounted the podium and said, "*I would like to acknowledge the support of all those good people who didn't go to the poles.*"

Jesus showed up on Palm Sunday. And thank God that he did! The good news of Easter is that God's presence of eternal life is both a present reality and a future hope.

Grace & Peace,

Gary

<p>MARCH</p>						
		<p>1</p> <p>7:00 pm Trustees Meeting</p> <p>7:30 pm Praise Band</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10:00 am "Casserole Ministry" Casseroles Due</p> <p>12:30 pm AA</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7:30 pm Choir</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:30 am Men's Fellowship</p> <p>6:30 pm Girl Scouts</p> <p>8:30 pm AA</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Women's Fellowship Breakfast</p>
<p>6 Lent 4</p> <p>9:00 am Praise Service 10:30 am Traditional Service 10:30 am Sunday School 11:30 am Hand Bell Choir 6:30 pm Sr. High</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:45 am Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm Bible Study</p> <p>8:30 pm AA</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7:30 pm Praise Band</p>	<p>9</p> <p>12:30 pm AA</p> <p>7:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7:30 pm Choir</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:30 am Men's Fellowship 11:30 am Funhunters to The Peppermill Restaurant 8:30 pm AA</p>	
<p>13 Lent 5 <i>Daylight Savings Time begins</i></p> <p>9:00 am Praise Service 9:30 am Book Club Meeting 10:30 am Traditional Service 10:30 am Sunday School 11:30 am Prayer Shawl Meeting 11:30 am Hand Bell Choir 6:30 pm Sr. High</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10:45 am Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm Ruxton-Hill Associational Meeting</p> <p>8:30 pm AA</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7:30 pm Praise Band</p>	<p>16</p> <p>12:30 pm AA</p> <p>7:00 pm Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7:30 pm Choir</p>  <p>Everyone's Irish On March 17th.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:30 am Men's Fellowship</p> <p>8:30 pm AA</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:00 am Project Morning</p> <p>2:00 pm Easter Egg Hunt</p> 
<p>20 Palm Sunday <i>First Day of Spring</i></p> <p>9:00 am Praise Service 10:30 am Traditional Service 10:30 am Sunday School 11:30 am Hand Bell Choir NO Sr. High</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:45 am Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm Bible Study</p> <p>8:30 pm AA</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:30 pm Praise Band</p>	<p>23</p> <p>12:30 pm AA</p>	<p>24 Maundy Thursday</p> <p>7:00 pm Service (Van Metre Hall)</p>	<p>25 Good Friday Office Closed</p> <p>7:30 am Men's Fellowship</p> <p>8:30 pm AA</p>	<p>26</p> <p>(Rain Date) 2:00 pm Easter Egg Hunt</p> 
<p>27 Easter Sunday</p> <p>9:00 am Praise Service 10:30 am Traditional Service Cantata 10:30 am Sunday School NO Hand Bell Choir NO Sr. High</p>	<p>28 <i>Office Closed</i></p> <p>10:45 am Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm Bible Study</p> <p>8:30 pm AA</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:30 pm Praise Band</p>	<p>30</p> <p>12:30 pm AA</p> <p>7:00 pm Missions Committee Meeting</p>	<p>31</p> <p>7:30 pm Choir</p>		



PICTORIAL DIRECTORY 2016 Needs You!



Almost a dozen of you spontaneously sent an Email endorsing the idea of a new Pictorial Directory and 9 people met with the representative from LifeTouch (Olan Mills is no longer in business) to explore what they had to offer and what our responsibilities would be. Then the idea was presented to the Church Council for advice and approval. Supportive discussion led to enthusiastic unanimous approval to go forward.

What LifeTouch offers, in general: Professional photograph, 8x10 inches, of each family or single person posing for a portrait **FREE** with an option to select other poses and sizes for cash. Publication of a new Directory, designed by us and using our church activity pictures (think 'Howard Lin'); and a church roster – **GET THIS** – which can include 2 phone numbers and 2 email addresses in addition to the usual names, address, and phone. All participants will receive a free Directory.

Our responsibilities are: First to form a volunteer committee to plan and assemble the Directory and Second to engage EACH of you, later, to schedule an appointment (can be done electronically) and sit for a portrait. Our target is 139 portraits. Hunt's Church Preschool's staff & families, friends, neighbors, coworkers, etc. can also participate, but their portraits will not be in the Directory.

Please hasten to prayerfully consider this fun and time-limited opportunity to do something different for the good of us all and **LET BETH** (our church secretary) **KNOW OF YOUR WILLINGNESS TO SERVE.**

Broad brush time line is for the committee to meet this spring to plan the publicity campaign and get the tasks lined up and the contract signed. In September hit the ground running with sign-ups for portraits and the selection of pictures and format for the activity section of the Directory. Portraits will be taken by mid-November (yours will be ready before Christmas). After portraits, the committee will have 2 weeks to submit the entire Directory (it can be done sooner) and, later, 1 week to proof-read.

More details and progress to follow.

On a personal note, regretfully, I will not be able to Chair this committee, but will help whenever I am in town.

Nell Kirby

USHERS:

During the 10:30 service for the entire month of March:

Keith McMillan and David McMillan, Jr.

LAY READERS:

9:00 service

10:30 service



March 6	Pam Schlott	Ken Strubler
March 13	Howard Lin	Blake Leonard
March 20	Jody Waters	Chris Ely
March 27	Jim Foster	Lloyd Schubert

Trustee's Report



The work of the Trustees continues...

Not long after Ken's retirement, actually within a couple of days, Linda Flavin and I received a telephone call from the Preschool asking us for help with a problem with the heat in Van Metre Hall. It wasn't surprising because it seems like we are always having problems with that system! So Linda Flavin hit the ground running and started on a long journey that finally solved the problem with that heating system that had plagued Church for years! Through many meetings with repair companies and a tremendous amount of research, Linda and a group of the trustees discovered that the source of the problem was not the heating system, but the electric circuit breaker that supplied the heat system. She and her team discovered that the thirty-year-old breaker was no longer manufactured and needed to be replaced. We received so many warning signs from the heat system failures, but we never figured out what the cause of the failures were until now! The breaker panel was replaced and the system runs well now!



Our work on the Choir Room continues. **The painting has been completed.** We are now moving on to installing a new floor system that will not only be acoustically superior to the carpet that is in there now but also durable and last long into the future. ----- **Additionally**, we are looking for a new piano for the Choir Room. So, if you have a piano that is in good working condition and you would like to donate it to the Church, please let us know and we will gladly move it for you.

Based on the success of the past, our Saturday work days will continue on the third Saturday of the month well into the summer!

In closing, if you see something that needs attention, please email me at bgerdman@verizon.net and we will add it our list....**Our next "Project Morning" will be on Saturday, March 19th, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.**

Rusty Erdman ----- Co-chair of the Board of Trustees



It is so nice to see the snow melting and the sun shining!
We are hoping the groundhog was correct.

We are starting our next session of “Mommy & Me” this month. If you, or anyone that you know, are interested we will be happy to give you the details.

Also, during this month, we will be celebrating Dads with our “Dads and Donuts” breakfast. The children are excited for their special man in their life to come share a morning with them.

Our Scholastic Book Fair will begin on March 7th. We will have lots and lots of children’s books on sale at great prices. There will also be some cook books and adult reading available.



We are excited to welcome Ms. Jody (Waters) this month. She will be doing an Easter chapel with the children.

We are preparing for Spring Break at the end of the month. Geesh, where has the time gone?! When we return in April, we will be watching our ladybugs and butterflies hatch and we will start a small garden. The children always love seeing new life born and enjoy growing their own plants and vegetables. We spend a lot of time discussing how God creates life and how we can appreciate and protect it.

I hope you all have a wonderful Easter!

Kelley Unger

Director - Hunt’s Church Preschool



USED SPORTS EQUIPMENT NEEDED

Any type of used sports equipment will be gladly received.

Please place your donated sports equipment in the labeled box in the coat room.

If you have any questions or need something picked up... don’t hesitate to contact:



Jim Foster at (410) 296-2355 or jfoster57@gmail.com
Melissa Regan at (443) 799-5164 or Melissa.regan2@gmail.com

Most equipment will be used by youth in west Baltimore,
with some lacrosse sticks going to kids in South Africa.



COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES

Grace Lutheran Church (8601 Valleyfield Road; Lutherville, MD) cordially invites you to join them for *Bible Study, Food & Fellowship*, and *Worship* on the remaining Wednesdays during Lent (March 9 & 16).

- 5:30 p.m. **Bible Study** (in the Activities Room)

Book: "24 Hours that Changed the World" by Adam Hamilton

If you plan to attend the Bible Study, please call 410-828-5115 to obtain a book.

- 6:30 p.m. **Lenten Supper** (in Reinheimer Fellowship Hall)
(Free Will Offering)
- 7:30 p.m. **Community Lenten Service**



FUNHUNTERS LUNCHEON – Friday, March 11th – 11:30 a.m.

**The Peppermill Restaurant
1301 York Road – Lutherville, MD 21093**

If you plan to attend, please contact Lynn Henss at 443-600-2325



Ever ponder what heaven's like? Have you experienced a "God wink"? A God wink is something that happens in your life—an experience/situation you know is beyond coincidence. You know from this encounter, God is there. Maybe you've lost someone you've loved. If any of this sounds like you, then attend Hunt's book club, on **Sunday, March 13th, at 9:30 a.m., in the Adult Education Room**. Be prepared to share your "God wink" and talk about two of your favorite excerpts from the book:

Touching Heaven: A Cardiologist's Encounters with Death and Living Proof of an Afterlife

http://www.amazon.com/Touching-Heaven-Cardiologists-Encounters-Afterlife/dp/1455562785/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1454365945&sr=8-1&keywords=touching+heaven

Note: Dr. Crandall reads his book. His reading is passionate and moving. Should anyone want the audio version, feel free to contact Margie Anne.

Please **RSVP** your attendance to Margie Anne at mbonnett@closingsales.com or 410-560-1040.

MISSIONS

February Report – **THANK YOU** to the congregation for your support and donations:

- 1 – Nineteen casseroles in February for our Casserole Ministry
- 2 – \$474 for the Special Offering for The Wesley
- 3 – 206 dozen of cookies for the children at the Board of Child Care

March Missions

We will be collecting items throughout March that are current **needs of the homeless** coming for meals at Manna House so we can take them when we go on April 2. A labeled bin will be in the coat room. **Needed items include:**

- **Travel shampoo**
- **Razors**
- **Travel body lotion**
- **Deodorant**
- **Wash cloths**
- **For men: boxers, briefs, undershirts, pants (size 30-34), belts**
- **For women: underwear (sizes 5, 6, 10-14) and bras**

We are collecting **new and used sports equipment** for kids in Baltimore and South Africa. There is a labeled bin in the coat room. The only sport we don't want equipment for is golf!

Casseroles were collected for the “**Casserole Ministry**” on Wednesday, **March 2**.

The **Lent Special Offering** will be split between the Baltimore County Christian Workcamp and Camp Hope. If you normally give your offering to Hunt's electronically, please consider putting a check in the offering plate with “Lent Special Offering” in the memo line, or edit your online giving to include a missions donation.

The **One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering** will be collected on **March 6**. This offering helps cover the administrative costs for the United Methodist Committee on Relief so that every dollar given to UMCOR relief efforts can go to the program specified. One Great Hour of Sharing has been an ecumenical effort since 1949 to collect money to assist those in need.



Missions News –

Our new mission, **Food for Thought**, has started! We are providing weekend food to five food-insecure students at Dumbarton Middle School. Helpers are needed to purchase specific food items and to help pack the bags of food. Interested? Please contact Merle Bayne, Marcia Conlin, or Ann Gallant. **Food for Thought needs \$25 gift cards to Giant by Sunday, March 20th -- We are planning to give the gift cards to these students to get them through spring break which starts on March 25th. Please give these to Merle Bayne or Marcia Conlin. Or you may make a financial donation for Food for Thought** (on check's memo line) **and gift cards will be purchased with your donation. Thank you!** (Checks: payable to Hunt's Church)

We have the opportunity to serve a meal to the homeless at **Manna House** on Saturday morning, April 2. Two more 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.

The next Missions meeting is on Wednesday, March 30 at 7 p.m.

Also, if anyone has an idea or would like more information on any project, please contact Melissa at melissa.regan2@gmail.com.

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 containers (that made counting the cookies much easier!).

So how did we do? **Well, we collected 206 dozen cookies (plus one extra).**

Our previous record was 149 dozen cookies in 2014 – so we have a new Hunt’s record! **THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

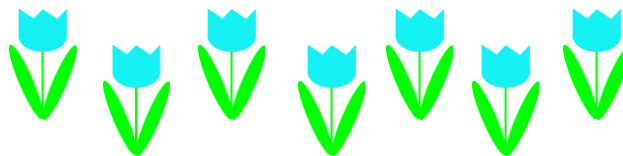
Steve and I delivered all of the cookies to the Board of Child Care on Sunday, February 21st. Two staff members welcomed us, helped us unload the cookies, and placed them in the pantry (next to the kitchen). We were told that they would be sorted and distributed on Monday morning.



Thanks again for 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 2 cookie donors who each left a small specially marked bag of cookies for him. – Thanks!



In Preparation for our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 19th, at 2:00 p.m.

Please pick up one or more bags of **empty** plastic eggs (by the inside Sanctuary doors).

Please return the **filled** plastic eggs to the same location or to the Resource Room by **Sunday, March 13th**. *Thank you.*

Come to our Easter Egg Hunt

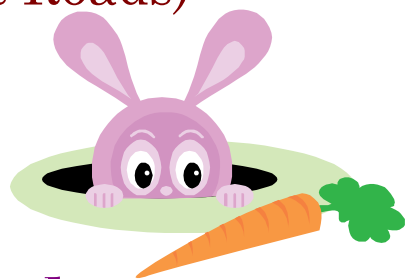


Saturday, March 19, 2016
2:00 PM

**HUNT'S MEMORIAL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
(Corner of W. Joppa & Old Court Roads)

Rain Date:

Saturday, March 26th, at 2:00 p.m.



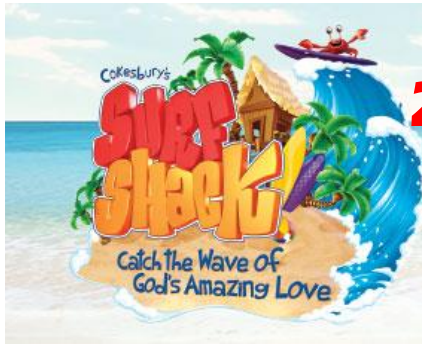
Just a reminder: Bring your own basket.



You will also have the opportunity to get your picture taken with the Easter Bunny between 1:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.

(Parents – bring your cameras)





2016 Vacation Bible School

Catch the wave of God's Amazing Love
Hunt's Memorial United Methodist Church
1912 Old Court Road
Towson, Maryland 21204

June 20June 24
9:00 a.m. to 12 Noon
Ages 4 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.

All children **must** 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.

2016 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.)

Teachers Needed
for
Vacation Bible School



If you would like to volunteer ,
please contact *Annie Smith* at
annieepsmith@gmail.com or
443.935.2333



369



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

The next Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting is scheduled for Sunday, March 13th, at 11:30 a.m., in the Adult Education Room.



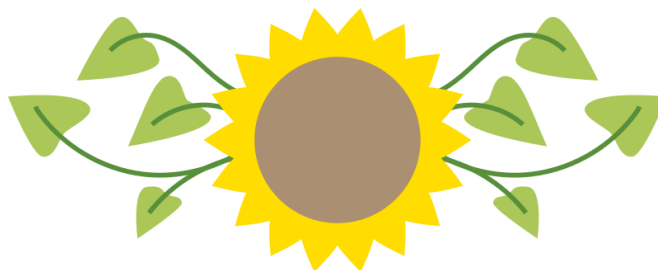
I want to express my gratitude to the church for the recent monetary "love gift" that was given to me as a thank you for filling in as the Choir Director during the spring and summer of 2015. I thoroughly enjoyed working with the choir and being able to share our music with our congregation. The money that I received came to us at an integral time for our family (we were in the process of moving!).

*Thank you for thinking of me!
Barbara Anastasion*

We want to thank the church for all of the prayers, prayer shawls, casseroles, cards and phone calls that we have received during our months of medical issues and recovery. Our lives have been a roller coaster since October 20th, and our church family has made that a little less bumpy. Carl still has a ways to go, so we appreciate your continued prayers. We hope to be back in church soon.

Thank you,
Linda and Carl Pittack

Thank You
for your Kindness





The Worship Committee hopes that you enjoyed the enhanced service that was held on February 28th!



We are working on enhancing the worship experience for various upcoming holidays and events from March through June. We also have some ideas for the summer months, and we are looking at ideas for the fall as well. We welcome any input and/or ideas that our congregation may have – so please share those thoughts with Barbara Anastasion, the Worship Committee chairperson.



The next Worship Committee Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 2, at 9:30 a.m.



Summer Handbell Program !



Have you or your children ever wanted to learn how to play handbells?
Here is your chance!

(This idea is a work in progress. We first have to see how many people are interested, then we can see if the idea can be implemented. We may decide to do a day-long event, or a two-day event, or a weekly meeting for a certain amount of summer weeks. – We are not sure yet!)

Barbara Anastasion



HANDBELLS for youth



Attention all 5th through 12th graders!

Do you want to learn how to play handbells?

If so, please email Barbara Anastasion at climbrei@aol.com, with the subject line "Youth handbells at Hunt's." Please include the following information: first and last name, age, current grade level, prior musical experience (if any). Please include what times work well for you to attend rehearsals during the summer (morning, afternoon, evening, etc.) If we have enough interested people, we will compile the info and pick a time that suits the majority.



HANDBELLS for children

Attention all Kindergarteners through
4th graders!
Do you want to learn how to play
handbells?



If so, please email Barbara Anastasion at climbrei@aol.com, with the subject line "Children's handbells at Hunt's." Please include the following information: first and last name, age, grade level, prior musical experience (if any). Please include what times work well for you to attend rehearsals during the summer (morning, afternoon, evening, etc.) If we have enough interested people, we will compile the info and pick a time that suits the majority.



HANDBELLS FOR BEGINNING ADULTS:



Attention all adults of any age and college students! Have you wanted to learn handbells, but didn't know how to go about starting? If so, please email Barbara Anastasion at climbrei@aol.com, with the subject line "Adult beginning handbells at Hunt's." Please include the following information: first and last name, prior musical experience (if any). Please include what times work well for you to attend rehearsals during the summer (morning, afternoon, evening, etc.) If we have enough interested people, we will compile the info and pick a time that suits the majority.



Hunt's Memorial United Methodist Church
1912 Old Court Road
Towson, MD 21204

*Address Service
Requested*

