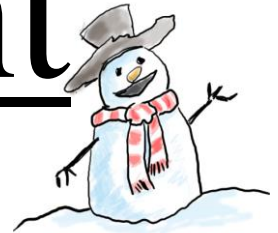




Hunt's Memorial United Methodist Church

The Point



February 2020

1912 Old Court Road
Towson, MD 21204

Phone:
(410) 339-7770
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pastortravisk@gmail.com
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Staff

Rev. Travis Knoll
Pastor

Beth Woody
*Administrative Assistant
&
Editor of "The Point"*

Patrick Weikle
Choir Director

Jim Holford
Praise Leader

Service Schedule

8:45 AM
Praise Worship

10:00 AM
Traditional
Worship

10:15 AM
Sunday School

Hunt's Church Preschool
www.huntschurchpreschool.com

To the saints at Hunt's Memorial UMC,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Ghost. It is an honor to serve God and to pursue God's will together with you here at Hunt's. The future is cloudy at this time, but God remains a shining beacon calling us all into it with confidence that while the path may not be clear, the destination is known.

How then, should we proceed? Let us look to God, remembering whose we are, and what God calls us to. God came down to earth to visit us because when we tried to build a tower up to heaven, we failed. When we try to get to God, we discover that we cannot grasp the fullness, the wholeness, the awesomeness of God. This is as true today as it was in Babel. Our knowledge while mighty is insufficient. Our power, while daunting, pales to insignificance to the one who calls and quells the storm. Our wisdom is ... child's play to that of our God. So, let us not lean onto our own understanding, but instead pursue God's. In Micah 6:6-8 we are told:

“With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Justice is an ongoing work, and we are seeking it for ourselves and our neighbors as actively as we can. Kindness is something we can all work on with each relationship we are blessed to be a part of. Walking humbly – there is something we can think about together. How do we walk humbly with our God?

I have not been gifted with the fullness of God, but what I know is this, God calls us to worship, to study, to pray, and to live out what we are given. We worship God, and thus remind ourselves that we are not God, weekly. I invite your participation as often as that is possible. We study, but of late we have had less opportunities than I think is

**Also included
in this newsletter:**

February Calendar
Ushers & Lay Leaders
Schedules
Holiday Cook-Off
A Moment in Time
2019 Financial
Performance
Hunt's Church Preschool
Women's Fellowship
Senior Highlights
Missions
Casserole Ministry
Cookies for Kids
Assistance Center
of Towson Churches
Lay Leadership
Carroll's-Gill's Permanent
Endowment Fund for 2019
Funhunters Luncheon
"First Lady" Movie
Thank You(s)
Robo Calling
Baptism
Shrove Tuesday
Ash Wednesday
Lenten Study
New Hunt's Church
Cookbook
It's Still
About Your Church
Letter from the Bishop
Clothing Shed

helpful, so let us seek new ways, times, and places to study – later in this newsletter you will hear about a new study at a new time. I invite you to consider joining us as you are able. We pray – I invite you to carefully consider how you can use the prayer list shared every Sunday in our bulletins, and also to consider joining our email prayer chain. If interested, contact beth@huntsumc.org to be added to this list. Living out – that involves presence, gifts, service, and witness.

These are the remaining 4 clauses of our membership, right behind prayers. Be there when the Church is in action. Give to the work, both of yourself and your finances. Serve others in and through this group, we have a lot of ways available to you. Witness to God's action in and through you to those whose lives intersect your own. If nothing else, offer them the words of Jesus, of Andrew, of the Samaritan woman, and of Mary and Martha: "come and see".

The new year is a time to refocus, to review, and to consider how this year can be better than the last. Often, we focus on the physical, the material, and the emotional. Let us not neglect the spiritual. Let us remember this year to walk humbly with our God.

Godspeed –

Pastor Travis



February

Every Sunday
at 11:15 a.m.:
Children's Choir
Rehearsal
and
Hand Bell Choir
Rehearsal



**Sr. High
Ski Trip:**

**February 21
to
February 23**



10:45 am
to 11:30 am
Sr. High
Sub Pick-Up



USHERS:

During the 10:00 service in February:

February 2	Glenn Keatts and Linda Keatts
February 9	John Pollard and Hope Pollard
February 16	Glenn Keatts and Linda Keatts
February 23	John Pollard and Hope Pollard

LAY READERS:

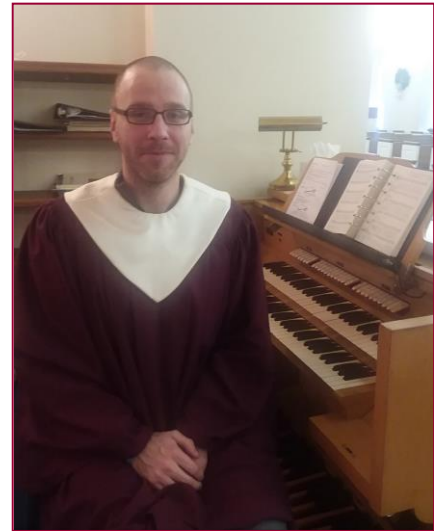
	<u>8:45 service</u>	<u>10:00 service</u>
February 2	Dave McMillan	Keith McMillan
February 9	David Junkin	Pegg Melfa
February 16	Howard Lin	David McMillan, Jr.
February 24	Caleb Knoll	Ann Bayne

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥
Casserole Ministry's Holiday Cook-Off
in Samantha's Home



A Moment in Time ... 1962

Currently at Sunday worship services, we are blessed to have Cheryl Warren (our pianist) and Patrick Weikle (our choir director) provide us with beautiful music, both piano and organ. While enjoying their skills in Church recently, I heard some around me remark, "Isn't it nice to hear the organ along with the piano again on Sundays?" Agreeing with the appreciation being expressed, I decided to do some research on Hunt's pipe organ to share with you.



On Thursday, April 16, 1962, Hunt's sanctuary was partially destroyed by fire. The damage was concentrated around the organ loft, pulpit, and choir area. Among the things needing to be replaced was the church organ. As recalled in a 1986 interview with then longtime organist Beverly Gill, the fire had damaged the organ beyond repair and a new Wicks organ was installed as part of the restoration work. She explained that the new organ was a 3-rank organ, meaning 3 ranks of pipes with two keyboards. In 1983, Bev said the congregation decided to improve the organ by adding a fourth rank of pipes and chimes. Bev said the chimes soon became a favorite of hers. This 1962 Wicks organ with its 1983 improvements is the one still in use at Hunt's today.

Bev also recalled that following the 1962 fire many church members wanted to purchase an electronic organ. She said she and a few other members pushed hard to keep a pipe organ in the Church. When it was found that a demonstration model Wicks could be purchased at a reasonable price, the Church agreed to purchase the Wicks organ. On Sunday, September 16, 1962, the restored sanctuary and its new pipe organ were consecrated. The dedication service's program from that morning lists Clifton D. Cunningham as minister; V. Linwood England as lay leader; Miss Shirley Sekinger as choir leader; and Mrs. Charles Gill, Jr. as organist.

In a recent conversation, our current choir director Patrick Weikle shared that he was teaching himself to play the organ and had only been playing for about a year and a half. He agreed how fortunate it was that back in 1962 Hunt's decided to purchase the pipe organ instead of an electronic one. And when asked about a favorite aspect of playing the organ, he too said it was hearing the chimes. I think many of us in the congregation would agree.

Note: *Beverly (Howard) Gill, born and raised in Riderwood, was a part of Hunt's Church since birth. At age 15 she began playing the Church organ, and at age 16 became the official church organist. As friends recounted at her memorial service, by the time of her death in 1996 Bev had played for 8 different ministers, numerous choir directors, contributed to all the youth services, Thursday night choir rehearsals, hundreds of funerals, numerous weddings, and 44 years of Sunday worship services.*

Information shared by Cheryl Eisenhauer

2019 Financial Performance – The Year in Review!

Throughout 2019, I provided updates on our financial picture as it related to our operating budget. I now want to provide you with a final reporting for the year.

	2019 Actual	2019 Budget	Difference	2018 Actual	2019 vs 2018
Income	\$399,640	\$394,098	\$5,542	\$386,833	\$12,807
Expense	\$402,272	\$427,592	\$25,320	\$405,830	\$3,558
Difference	- \$2,632	- \$33,494	\$30,862	- \$18,997	\$16,365



In a welcome development, November's and December's offerings were strong versus budget and 2018, helping us significantly reduce the projected shortfall. As a result, the shortfall for the year was only \$2,632 versus a budgeted shortfall of \$33,494.

For the year, income benefited by a larger-than-budgeted payment from the preschool program (\$61,000 vs \$47,000). Offerings for the year were approximately \$8,000 below budget and flat with the previous year at around \$300,000. On the expense side, tight expense management in areas like Christian Education and Church Property resulted in spending lower than what was budgeted.

I would also note that your support of our mission programs continues to be impressive – income of over \$34,000 was received to help support a wide range of programs, including Food For Thought, Helping Up Mission, UMCOR, Board of Child Care, ACTC, Baltimore County Christian Workcamp, Earl's Place, and Camp Hope. Many lives were touched by your generosity.

While the 2019 results were much better than expected, our financial challenges remain, and much work needs to be done to put the church on a firmer financial foundation. The operating budget for 2020 adopted by the Church Council in January reflects another expected shortfall of greater than \$30,000. As I have mentioned before, I don't believe we have a spending problem. Instead, we are challenged by a decline in our membership and flat offerings (three years around \$300,000). In 2020, let's grow both the number of people worshipping within our walls and our giving.

I also wanted to update you on our Pledge Campaign, part of the Stewardship Campaign that was held in November with the theme "God Loves a Cheerful Giver" (see 2 Corinthians 9:6-7). As of the end of the year, 35 pledges were received with a commitment of \$176,192. The number of pledges represented a 33% decrease from the prior year. There is still time to make a pledge – please contact Beth Woody in the church office for a form. The benefit of a pledge campaign is that it gives the Church Council a sense of the funds the church can count on for the year ahead. While we know not everyone who gives pledges, but it is one of the inputs we use to plan our expenditures and commitments for the year.

Did you know how easy it is to give electronically? If you go to our website (www.huntsumc.org) and select “My Offering” under the Stewardship tab, you will find an easy process to give. In fact, you can sign up to give a one-time gift or establish a recurring gift. Imagine, you can set it up once and not have to stress about having your offering ready every Sunday morning or feel guilty when you are away from church due to vacation or illness. Almost 20% of our offering is received this way. Please consider helping us increase this to 40%. Thank you.

Finally, please mark your calendars for March 1st. On this day, I will hold a financial discussion after each of the morning services, where I will review the financial condition of our church and how it has changed over time. These sessions will be similar to those held last February. It is a goal of the Finance Committee to ensure every member and supporter of Hunt’s Church has an opportunity to learn about and understand the church’s finances. We will review the church’s assets and liabilities, last year’s results, and this year’s budget. Please plan to attend.

Please continue to pray for the financial health of our church, so we can continue doing God’s work in the community and around the world. We would also ask that you pray and reflect on how you can best support the church in 2020 using the time, talents, and treasure God has provided you. Thank you.

If you ever have questions about our finances, please do not hesitate to contact me at tedochs@msn.com.

Yours in Christ,
Ted Ochs, Finance Chair

Hunt’s Church Preschool News:

Happy New Year!



We have had a very busy few months at the preschool.

Our Christmas program was amazing, and the children did a nice job performing. They were thrilled to see Santa, and many thought “maybe” he was Pastor Travis. My lips are sealed. It was nice having some church members attend the program. I hope you all had a relaxing holiday and I look forward to a very Happy New Year with you.

We have started registration for the 2020-21 school year and our classes are filling up. Many of our families have come here due to another family that has been part of Hunt's Church Preschool and has passed on a good word about us. It seems our biggest advertisement is word of mouth. Quite flattering to have parents say such great things about our program and teachers. Please help us spread the word.

Our Winter Fest on Saturday, February 8th, from 10:00 – 12:00. We will have a petting zoo, crafts and snacks. Please stop by!



Our Scholastic Book Fair will run February 10 to 14. Come browse our book in VanMetre Hall from 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Books make great Valentine's Day gifts!

Kelley Unger
Director HCPS



The WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP has some exciting plans for 2020!

Lynn Henss is chairing a committee for making a new church cookbook. If you have a favorite recipe, preferably one that has not been printed in a previous cookbook, please send a copy to Beth Woody who will be the repository for the recipes. We are going to have a section devoted to casseroles and a section devoted to Hunt's Favorites.

Shirley Lin is making casserole carriers and would like to see more people involved. They will be sold at the Turkey Dinner along with the cookbooks.

Cynthia Sparks would also like to see themed baskets made to sell at the Turkey Dinner.

We are considering helping out with the shoebox project for this coming Christmas season. During our last meeting, we "Spring-Cleaned" the Resource Room, so that it can be used to sell things at the Turkey Dinner.

The next meeting will be Saturday, February 8th at 10 a.m.



Cynthia Sparks
Co-chair, Women's Fellowship

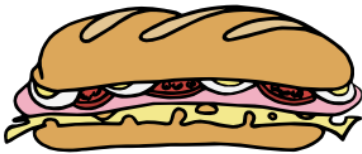


Senior Highlights

Progressive Dinner Fun! The group kicked off the holiday season with their annual Progressive Dinner!



Senior Highlights



Thank you to everyone who ordered subs from us! Your support of our group and activities is very appreciated!

**Subs will be ready for pick-up from VanMetre Hall
between 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
on Saturday, February 1st.**

MISSIONS



Thanks to Pat Barkdoll for being Hunt's representative to the Assistance Center of Towson Churches for many years. In 2019, we had a very successful year with our May food collection and our Thanksgiving Bags in November. Members of Hunt's are continuing to be generous to our neighbors in need. Lisa and the McMillan family are taking over this position. Welcome aboard.

Baltimore County Christian Workcamp is planning the 37th annual workcamp from July 19-24, 2020, once again based at Hunt's Church. BCCW has started to plan next July's projects. There will be an auction on July 19th; contact Howard Lin or Steve Lippy if you are willing to help solicit/procure donations.

Food for Thought We continue to deliver 10 bags of food each week to Dumbarton Middle School to provide 2 breakfast, 2 lunch and 2 dinner meals to 10 students over the weekend. And thanks to the generosity of the congregation, each of those students received a \$50 Walmart gift card to help feed them during the winter school break. We also provided 16 bags containing two different dinner meal items to Ridge Ruxton School in January to help out 8 families. Thank you, thank you, thank you all for your continued support of this mission. The next date for filling the food bags is Saturday, February 22nd, at 1:00 p.m. at the Agapé House.

Earl's Place We provided Christmas gifts for 24 children and grandchildren of the men at Earl's Place, who were extremely grateful, and delivered several dozen cookies to help feed the crowd at the Earl's Place Resolution Run on January 1st. The men continue to enjoy and devour the monthly casseroles. Just a reminder - the name of the umbrella organization that operates Earl's Place has changed from United Ministries, Inc. to Cornerstone Community Housing.

Earl's Place continues to benefit from the casserole ministry and the men are so grateful. The Earl's Place elves bought the men gifts to give their children or grandchildren on Christmas. They were so excited to get these gifts, because they do not have funds to buy gifts. (SEE PICTURE)



Santa's Helpers On behalf of the church, the Missions Committee bought Christmas gifts for a 10-year-old pediatric cancer patient and his four siblings who were spending the holidays at the Ronald McDonald House in Baltimore. The shopping elves had some trouble finding a particular Nerf gun that had been requested by the patient but trust that all went well! We're grateful that we were able to share our blessings with this family.

Helping Up Mission In late November, they were 10 million dollars away from their stretch goal of 61 million goal for the women's center. They are hoping to open in the fall of 2021. Now they are serving 20 women at the spiritual recovery center on Chase Street and still serve around 40 per day with other services at Chase, such as detox, drug rehab classes and shelter.

They are running a little behind of their goal for of 1.2 million dollars for unexpected day-to-day expenses, programs and services for the men and women that come through the doors looking for hope. Let's hope there is good news when we get an update

Shoe Box Ministry Hats off to Amy Black who worked so hard to get 150 shoe boxes filled with goodies and hats and gloves for the Head Start program in Baltimore city. Many thanks to everyone who donated hats and gloves.

Casserole Ministry Please keep those casseroles coming. Look for some new recipes from Samantha, who is going to start tracking the numbers. She hosted a cook-off and the group made 15 huge casseroles. Maybe we can do a cook-off at church in the spring.

Please come to the next Mission meeting on Sunday, February 9th, at 11:30 a.m. in the Adult Ed room.

**DON'T FORGET THAT FEBRUARY
IS THE BOARD OF CHILD CARE COOKIE DRIVE.**



February's suggested recipe is "Stuffed Peppers".
(Copies of this recipe are on the table
near the main entrance doors of the church building.)

Yummy in my Tummy

The drop-off deadline to place the casseroles
in the church's freezer is 12 Noon on **Wednesday, February 5th.**



VALENTINE'S PARTY

JOIN US IN VAN METRE HALL

**FEBRUARY 9TH
11:00 - 12:00**

FUN ACTIVITIES FOR THE KIDS!

**COFFEE & HOT COCOA BAR
FOR THE ADULTS!**



cookies for Kids



During the month of **FEBRUARY**, Hunt's Church has been asked to provide cookies as a special treat for the children at the **Board of Child Care** which is located right here in Baltimore County (just off Liberty Road – just outside the Beltway). There are cottages where the children live, a school, a chapel, an administrative building, a dining hall/kitchen, play areas, etc. They provide a safe haven for children who cannot live at home for various reasons.

So, we need cookies!!! Homemade, store-bought, prepackaged (all those Girl Scout cookies you bought and didn't eat!), anything that you think children will enjoy! If you donate "gluten-free," "sugar-free" or "peanut-free" cookies, please make sure that they are clearly designated with these specifications.

We plan to deliver 100% of the cookies on Sunday, February 23rd
(right after the 10 a.m. worship service).

So please bring them in and put them in the labeled bin in the Coat Room.

Please write the number of cookies that are in each container on the OUTSIDE of the container. (Example: 1 dozen, 2 dozen, 14 cookies, etc.) This will make counting the cookies much easier.

Last year (2019), we collected 386 dozen cookies (an all-time high record). Can we set a new record this year? Thanks in advance for all your help in making things a bit nicer for the children at the Board of Child Care.

--- *Mary Ellen Lippy*

Remember:
Deadline is Sunday, February 23rd

BOARD OF CHILD CARE
of The United Methodist Church, Inc.

**WE ARE
BLESSED
TO BE A
BLESSING
TO OTHERS.**

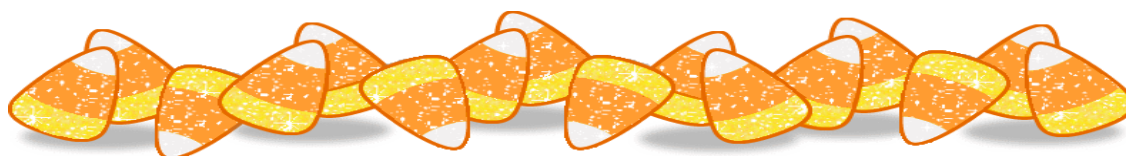
Assistance Center of Towson Church

Gratitude to all for a wonderful 2019 ACTC Thanksgiving Basket Project!
from
Linda Lotz, Executive Director



Excerpts from Linda's letter:

- We are so grateful to all of you who helped us come together to provide Thanksgiving to so many in our area. Together, we gathered 2,417 Thanksgiving bags filled with food.
- On Thursday and Friday, we gave out 1,612 of these bags to 24 area agencies that serve the county and city. Two examples are Lutheran Missions and Prologue, Inc. We then provided 678 families who walked in on Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week, and received a bag and a turkey or gift cards towards a turkey.
- This year we had 605 turkeys to give to families!
- We gave away many other good things: candy, books, makeup, household items, other fresh foods and baked goods, stationary and festive napkins and so forth.
- We set aside 75 to give away at Christmas, and the remaining 52 we broke down to put into our regular food stream. We received many other donations of additional non-perishable food over the course of the week and into the following week. Last quarter, we gave an average of 4.5 tons of food a week from ACTC's pantry. That is an incredible amount of food, and we are so grateful to our volunteers and donors for making this possible.



Prayers Needed



Hunt's Church needs lay leadership.

Several critical roles have become open and are in need of capable, committed laity to lead us. These include Church Council Chair, Lay Leader, Lay Member to Conference, and Evangelism Chair in addition to several committee member openings.



The Lay Leadership Committee (formerly called the Nominating Committee) is diligently working on this, but your prayers are needed at this time. Thank you.

Pastor Travis, Chair of Lay Leadership

Update on the Carroll's-Gill's Permanent Endowment Fund for 2019

According to the Carroll's-Gill's Permanent Endowment Fund agreement, interest earned from these investments can be used to support different missions and ministries, not the general operating budget of the church. This year the Carroll's-Gill's Permanent Endowment Fund gave money to support the following agencies, organizations and/or projects:

Hunt's Mission Committee as the Endowment Fund Committee's way of thanking everyone who either supported the "Mulligans for Missions" golf tournament as a sponsor and/or participant to help raise money for the Mission Committee.

St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center, whose mission is to create and maintain equal housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income people primarily in Baltimore City and encourage and support strong and diverse neighborhoods.

Greater Mondawmin Community Council to support seven young men to assist special needs children at Baer School during the summer or for a work project.

Angel Gowns by BaBa to help cover their cost for postage.

UMC Retreat & Camping Ministries to help send children to a UMC camp that may not have been able to go otherwise.

Helping Up Missions to help provide dental care.

Athletes Serving Athletes – Help purchase and maintain specialized wheelchairs and other equipment for individuals living with disabilities.

COPS - Maryland Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors. This is to help the survivors and children of Law Enforcement Officers killed in the "Line of Duty."

Chestnut Ridge Volunteer Fire Department to help purchase a new fire truck and replace supplies for the ambulance.

Help support a missionary in Intervarsity Christian Fellowship program at Goucher College.

UMCOR to help where the most need is.

Back on my Feet organizations. These organizations share a common interest in building community through running and empowering others to achieve their goals and discover their very best selves.

As well as to the following:

ACTC
Board of Child Care in honor of Gordon Fronk
Baltimore County Christian Workcamp
Christmas Shoe Box program
Maryland Food Bank
Heifer International

Robert Sparks, Chairperson

Funhunters Luncheon

Friday, February 14th – 11:30 a.m.

Please join us for a delicious luncheon at
The Hibachi Grill 2033 E. Joppa Road (21234)

*If you are planning to attend,
please contact Lynn Henss at 443-600-2325,
so that arrangements can be made
for all of us to sit together. Thank you!*



Skip Lipman's **"First Lady"** opens on Valentine's Day!



The **"First Lady"** is a theatrical movie that is a modern fairytale for the whole family about an autumn romance with a twist. Nina May has written and directed a classic style romantic comedy that harkens back to a genre we all love.

For more information, see: firstladymovie.com or talk to Skip! I am personally interested in a possible road trip if it isn't being shown locally – talk to me (Pastor Travis) if you are interested.

From Skip: I have been blessed to play a key role in every phase of this production, from concept through distribution. This is really my baby. We have a small core team here at RWP, I get to wear a lot of hats. I am a producer, but I really got to stretch my creative muscles on this one as well. I have been involved from concept, through post-production and now into the marketing and distribution. I am the production designer, sets, props and wardrobe guy, art department, web designer, chief cook and bottle washer ;) Ha, I even did visual effects in the film, what an adventure.

A personal note about being a Christian Filmmaker: It didn't happen overnight, but I feel that I was called by God to tell stories that glorify Him. Not every project that I work on is a Christian film, but I am a Christian filmmaker and I want my work to reflect that.





Thank you for the generous gift at Christmas to my family. We had a lovely Christmas break and were able to enjoy it so much more richly for your generosity. Your persistent grace and generous spirit make serving at Hunt's so much more enjoyable. Thank you!

Pastor Travis Knoll and Family

My sincere thanks for your heart-felt and generous Christmas gift. We used it to pay ongoing medical bills. I appreciate your ongoing concern and support for me.



*Beth Woody
Administrative Assistant*



Thanks to all my friends at Hunt's for their generous Christmas gift. It was greatly appreciated.

*Jim Holford
Praise Band Leader*

Thank you very much for the Christmas gift. I really appreciate your kindness. It is so nice to be part of such a loving and caring community. Happy New Year!



*Kelley Unger
Director, Hunt's Church Preschool*

If you have not yet signed-up to be listed for a robocall and/or robotext from Hunt's in case there was a church closing (e.g., due to adverse weather conditions, road closings, or no water, heat, or electricity, etc.) and want to be included, please contact Beth Woody (Beth@HuntsChurch.org or 410-339-7770).

Likewise, if your contact information has changed, please let Beth know.

Thank you. -- *Steve Lippy*

Baptism of Lillian Elizabeth Kroeger

Sunday, January 12, 2020



Lillian's Parents: Gregory & Lauren Kroeger
(Pictured with Pastor Travis Knoll and their daughter, Lily)



THANK YOU from Pastor Travis and the people of Hunt's Church



This February, we thank especially the Christmas elves here at Hunt's Church who so beautifully decorated both the church building and the Agapé House for the holidays, and who then returned those decorations to their hiding places when our holiday was concluded. The work did not go unnoticed! Thank you!

The Trustees have been busy this winter already.

I hope that you have noticed and will enjoy for many years, the new carpeting that was laid in the church building's halls and the new door to the Resource Room that lets in so much light to the hallway.

If you happen to see a Trustee nearby, please thank them yourself! 😊



SHROVE TUESDAY Pancake Dinner



**Grab the Butter! Grab the Syrup!
It's Almost Time!**

**Tuesday, February 25th
6:00 – 7:30 PM**

Come Hungry for Food & Fellowship!

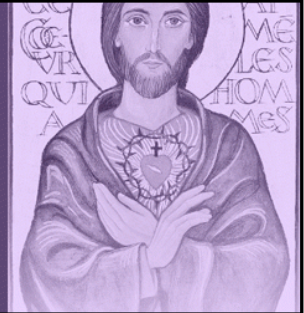
**Ash Wednesday Community Service
at Hunt's Church!**



Lenten Study to begin February 27: Who Are We?

“During this Lent,
let us all ask the Lord:
Make our hearts like yours.”

-Pope Francis



A study initiated and sponsored by Bishop LaTrelle Easterling

As the church faces an uncertain future, churches in the Baltimore-Washington Conference are called to explore the heart of their faith with this 18-week interactive study (in 3, 6 week sections) on who we are as a people of God, as United Methodists, and as the people of the Baltimore-Washington Conference.

“Who Are We?” is an introspective study of head and heart. Part one of the three-part study takes a deep dive into exploring who we are as God’s children. Out of that, we are invited to reflect on where we have missed living out of our divine inheritance both personally and as a gathered community of faith. “Who are We as the People of God?” begins with seeking fresh insights into the nature of God, examines our identities as enslaved people and continues with our journey through wilderness toward ongoing liberation from bondage and celebrating that freedom. Discover what it means to live out of the fullness of our identity in God and bless multitudes as a result

Hunt’s will be using these materials during Lent to guide our study
on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. at Blakehurst
and Thursdays at 6 p.m. (dinner provided) in VanMetre Hall.

There is no cost for this study, materials will be provided by the congregation.

As usual, our weather policy is if the Baltimore County Public Schools are closed or close early due to weather related events, evening activities will be canceled, and we hope you are safe and at home in those situations.

Pastor Travis



“What’s Cooking” at Hunt’s?

Submitted by Cheryl Eisenhauer

A new church cookbook is in the “oven”. It will make its debut at this year’s Turkey Dinner on Saturday, November 14th. Please begin now to gather your favorite recipes. Oldies but goodies from previous years welcome, but also looking for some new entries. We’re adding a new category in this publication to include some quick and healthful make ahead main dishes.

All recipes need to be typed and sent as an email attachment to Beth Woody at the church office. Beth has graciously agreed to be the collection site for the recipe submissions.

Beth@HuntsChurch.org

The deadline for submitting your recipes is April 15, 2020.



Mark your calendars now and start sending in your entries.
(If you want to submit a recipe but do not use email, please let us know.)

Reminders will appear periodically in the Sunday bulletin.

Please contact Cynthia Sparks or Linda Flavin if you have any questions.



It's Still About Your Church

Jan 8, 2020 | Arkansas United Methodist

By Gary E. Mueller, Bishop of the Arkansas Annual Conference

I am ready to admit something I've been in denial about for a long time. Even though I've invested a great deal of blood, sweat and tears trying, I simply cannot fix what's broken in the United Methodist Church. I can't fix the polarization that now imprisons us. I can't fix the outcome of this May's General Conference. And I can't fix the uncertainty we face as a church.

Even more significantly, the Holy Spirit has helped me realize I don't have to fix the church. It belongs to Jesus, and he's got it covered. This doesn't mean I'm stepping back, shrugging my shoulders and saying, "It's going to be what it's going to be." Rather, I will be focusing on what Jesus is calling every United Methodist congregation in Arkansas to do – becoming the most Jesus loving, disciple-making and sharing Jesus' love church you can be. I love the United Methodist Church and the way of being Christian it shares. But ultimately, local congregations matter more than denominations – even our beloved United Methodist denomination. People need your local church, not a denomination. Your community needs your local church, not a denomination. And most importantly, Jesus needs your local church, not a denomination.

This means the single most pressing task is enabling your church that has a unique location, is filled with a unique group of people and possesses a unique history to become the church Jesus wants you to be – a vital congregation that makes disciples of Jesus Christ, who make disciples equipped and sent to transform lives, communities and the world.

Embrace your identity. Your church is literally the Body of Christ. So act like it! Love Jesus, follow Jesus, grow in Jesus, be transformed in Jesus and share Jesus in ways that make it clear whose you are. Get serious about investing in those things that form you as the Body of Christ: prayer, Bible study, involving people in intentional discipling groups and reaching out to your neighborhood in ways that touch real people in real ways with real love.

Live out your purpose. Jesus uses your church, and the disciples in it, to continue his mission of making disciples, forming disciples, and equipping and sending disciples to transform lives, communities and the world. Help people discover their spiritual gifts, bless them and then unleash them in your congregation and into the mission field that begins right outside the doors of your sanctuary.

Demonstrate the difference Jesus makes. Almost every congregation has figured out how to thrive with a diverse group of people who have perspectives that are diametrically opposed. Don't see this as a problem; see it as a wonderful opportunity to show how Jesus brings together people who normally wouldn't give each other the time of day. Keep people worshiping together on the same pew, praying together, studying together, serving together and caring for each other.

I want to be absolutely clear about something that some people may consider to be a scandalous idea. Yet I am convicted of its truth. The future of your church is not dependent upon what happens in the United Methodist Church. Don't let the uncertainty, or brokenness, paralyze you. Move ahead boldly and confidently. Your church will still be part of the Body of Christ. Your church will still make disciples of Jesus Christ. Your church will still form deeper disciples. And your church will still equip and send disciples to transform lives, communities and the world.

The painful reality is that we United Methodist Christians face an uncertain future. As Jesus leads us toward it, I want you to know something. I consider it an honor and a privilege to walk with you. I believe in you. I trust you. And, most importantly, I love you.

EASTER FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH

Each year at Easter we remember, and honor loved ones by placing spring flowers in our sanctuary. The choices this year are as follows:

Lilies (4-6 blooms) \$11.00

Hyacinths (3 blooms; 6" pot) \$11.00

Purple Pink White

Calla Lily (3-5 blooms; 6" pot) \$16.00

White Yellow

Tulips (6" pot) \$10.50

Yellow Red Pink

Hydrangea (3-5 blooms; 8" pot) \$23.00

Geraniums (6" pot; Red) \$10.50

\$ _____ *Total of Order*

NAME _____

Amount included with this form: \$ _____ *Paid by* *check* *cash.*

FLOWERS ARE PRESENTED

In loving memory of _____

In honor of _____

Presented by _____

(Please PRINT all names as you wish them to appear in the bulletin)

CONTRIBUTIONS MADE TO THE MISSION FUND – In Lieu of Flowers

In loving memory of _____

In honor of _____

Given by _____

Please indicate which plants you are ordering, fill in this total form, attach payment, and place it in the offering plate or mail to the church office (1912 Old Court Road; Towson, MD 21204).

Checks are to be made payable to *Hunt's Church*.



**ORDERS NEED TO BE SUBMITTED
BY --- SUNDAY, MARCH 15.**



Items Accepted: All clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, pillow cases, drapes, and stuffed toys.

(Your donation **will not** be cut up or shredded.)

Please ... no rags, fabric scraps, toys or household goods.

***Hunt's receives revenues based on the estimated weight of clothing recycled.**

To help keep your donations clean and dry, please put your donations in plastic bags.



(Located on the Agapé House lot)

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

*Address Service
Requested*

