



Hunt's Memorial United Methodist Church

The Point

March 2021



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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

**(Service time changes
on 3/21 to 11:00 a.m.)**

10:00 a.m.
Livestreamed
Contemporary Worship
and
Traditional Worship
on alternating Sundays

11:00 a.m.
Outdoor
Sunday School

Hunt's Church Preschool

www.huntschurchpreschool.com

Kelley Unger, Director

To God's people at Hunt's -

Grace and peace. It has been, as of the 13th, a year of lockdowns. As I write this, a significant portion of our congregation has had or is getting their vaccinations, so that the nightmare and terror of the COVID pandemic can begin to recede. For all who made that possible, our profound thanks are due. For those who took risks, cared for others, kept the wheels turning, patrolled the streets, stocked and staffed the stores, and did what needed doing, thank you.

In particular, we owe a debt of gratitude to all who made development, deployment, and testing of these new vaccinations possible. As of the latest numbers of which I am aware, well over 44 million have been vaccinated, with fewer than one thousand suffering catastrophic consequences. Since the fatality rate for COVID among the highest at risk is significant, this represents an incredible triumph of medicine over a substantial enemy of public health. Since this has happened before the first anniversary of broad public recognition of this health threat, it is also a miracle. When work began on this front, we were told that anything less than 4 years was unlikely, with less than 2.5 years impossible, yet here we are. To those miracle-workers among us, deep and heartfelt thanks.

To God, who surely blessed, empowered, and directed their efforts, praise. Life is not going to return to pre-COVID patterns of behavior immediately, but there is light at the end of the tunnel. I am looking forward with great anticipation to the chance to worship together with you once again, and someday to hug and greet you with a "Methodist hug" (double handed handshake) for those who aren't particularly touchy-feely. :) To see your smiles, to sing together. I miss all of that. Yet having so many of us come through is itself a blessing. God be praised indeed.



ALSO INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

March
Calendar

Hunt's Church
Preschool News

Office Hours
(revisited)

BWC Scholarship
Information

Financial
News

Missions

A Heart-felt Book:
*Nesting Among
the Wings of Angels*

A Request
from the
Board of Trustees

Thank You
Notes

Moment
in
Time

Easter Flowers
Order Form

Clothing
Shed

While we are not yet ready to burn our masks or sing in chorus, we are going to start planning to resume at least a little more normal life once again. We will start with outdoor worship, weather permitting, on March 21. Since it is likely to be colder on that date than we are typically comfortable with, we will hold services at 11 am for a month or two (we will let you know). They will, of course, be live streamed and we will use the radio transmitter if you prefer to remain in your car.

Our hope is to be worshipping as of that date so that we can have Palm Sunday (March 28) and Easter (April 4) be triumphant celebrations of God and God's victory over death through the saving work of Jesus Christ in person, with children marching, instrumental and vocal music joined by birdsong, and our beautiful congregation celebrating God together publicly on the lawn. Even if weather frustrates, we will praise God anyway – scripture phrases it more colorfully: "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him" Job 13:15, KJV.

Together, let us use this Lenten period to remember, to deliberately cultivate gratitude, trust, and praise, and when Easter comes, we will truly be ready to celebrate.

Godspeed,
Pastor Travis



			March			
	10:00 am Zoom Lenten Study 7:00 pm Zoom Trustee Mtg.	2	3	4 6:00 pm Zoom Re-Opening Task Force Committee Meeting 7:30 pm Zoom Music Enrichment Time with Patrick	5 World Day of Prayer 	6
7 Lent 3 10:00 am Traditional Service Communion 11:00 am Sunday School 6:30 pm Senior High	8 10:00 am Zoom Lenten Study	9	10 7:00 pm Zoom Finance Committee Meeting	11 7:30 pm Zoom Music Enrichment Time with Patrick	12	13 9:00 am Project Morning
14 Lent 4 10:00 am Praise Service 11:00 am Sunday School 6:30 pm Senior High	15 10:00 am Zoom Lenten Study	16	17 	18 7:30 pm Zoom Music Enrichment Time with Patrick	19 6:00 pm Zoom Carroll's-Gill's Permanent Endowment Fund Committee Meeting	20
21 Lent 5 11:00 am Traditional Service on the lawn 11:00 am Sunday School 6:30 pm Senior High	22 10:00 am Zoom Lenten Study	23	24 7:00 pm Zoom Church Council Meeting	25 7:30 pm Music Enrichment Time with Patrick	26	27
28 Palm Sunday 11:00 am Traditional Service on the lawn 11:00 am Sunday School 6:30 pm Senior High	29 10:00 am Zoom Lenten Study	30	31			
HOLY WEEK						

Hunt's Church Preschool News...

How is it possible that I am writing a March newsletter? We have had a very busy February! Between pipes bursting, snow falling and Valentine's celebrations we have been on our toes. The children have been so cooperative and have enjoyed every second they get to spend in school. They come running into school with smiles on their faces and we have even had some children break down in tears when it was time for the school day to end. They are on top of all of our COVID protocols as well, reminding us to use the "magic spray" and reminding each other to social distance.



I am happy to announce that all of the preschool staff has completed both rounds of the COVID vaccine. We wore our vaccination stickers and pins proudly and are very happy to have been given the opportunity to take one step further in ending COVID! We are all ready to get back to a "normal" way of life. We can't wait to not have to wear masks, be able to give our students big hugs, join classes together for fun activities, etc.

Although we look forward to all these normalcies, we all have agreed that life has become much simpler. An advantage of COVID! We have to look for the silver lining! I feel people have become kinder to one another. The human race is looking out for each other more. The rush of life

has slowed down, and we all have had more time to spend with our loved ones. Around the preschool we have taken up exercising, puzzles, reading, knitting, cooking, baking, Pilates, painting and so much more.

I would like to give a shout out to our Parent Volunteer Group (PVG). They have provided lunch and breakfast for the staff

on several occasions and have provided all the necessities for the Holiday class parties. The children have had everything from sweet treats, popcorn, crafts a visit from Santa baring gifts, and huge heart cookies to decorate for Valentine's Day. They have also sponsored many fundraisers at different restaurants around town and they have been a great success. Thank you to all the church members who have supported the preschool in these fundraisers.

I would like to share the prayer our Pre-K Plus says at lunch. Thank you, God, for happy hearts, for rain and sunny weather. Thank you, God, for this our food, and that we are together. Amen.



Kelley Unger  Director

Office Hours, revisited



Hello Hunt's. There has been some indication that people are finding my absence from the Agapé House troubling, and I have been thinking about this. Beth indicates that it is easier to work collaboratively when I am in the office, and she is aware that people are dropping by hoping to see me and make a connection, but not finding me there.

We are in a time of pandemic, and we are not allowing the congregation to attend worship together because we have determined that Hunt's will not be a disease vector for Covid-19. In such an environment, physical availability for "drop in" visitation is problematic. Beth and her physically vulnerable husband, Jim, each received their first vaccination on February 16th.

Two weeks after they receive their second (March 16th), the risk to them of infection drops precipitously. Until that time, my exposure of them to my active household of 5 adults who interact with something like 10+ different communities of individuals, is unwise.

In other words, I am sorry, but I cannot be available for drop in face-to-face visitation, and will not deliberately expose Beth/Jim, members of the congregation, and my family to those risks associated with expanding our collective contact pool by making myself available for drop-in visitation at this time.

Yet the church needs its pastor. So, I have determined that I will plan to come into the Agapé House on Wednesdays to work collaboratively with Beth, but I will encourage the members and friends of Hunt's to not drop by for social reasons, either Wednesday or any other time right now. For those who would like to socially contact me, it is time to find a workable solution, however. I am, as always, on-call, and can be reached at almost any hour by phone at (410) 688-9613. I do ask that on Tuesdays, social calls not be made because I also need a Sabbath, which Sunday isn't for me. The best that I can otherwise identify is to make "office hours" online. Zoom is a barrier to disease transmission and allows face-to-face if not physical social as well as meeting/business contacts.

So starting in March, I will attempt to make myself available via zoom on Mondays and Fridays from 12 noon to 3 p.m., or as requested as long as I am not otherwise committed, to anyone who would like to chat. If nobody 'drops by' at those times, I will be working on my sermons, an activity that can be accomplished while yoked to the computer and will allow me to be productive if there isn't interest in chatting by members of the congregation for all or a portion of that time. As a reminder, the church's zoom account can be accessed by using the following link:

<https://zoom.us/j/3614122146?pwd=VUxrdlY3M2FQUdJsTzRaVVdibVNlZz09>

I hope to 'see' you there. In the meantime, please be safe and prudent. We are coming to the end of this forced social and personal isolation, but let's not make the end a tragic one for any of us if we can help it.

Godspeed,
Pastor Travis



As a reminder, the BWC Scholarship Application closes on March 24.

The Baltimore-Washington Conference will once again be offering college scholarships for the Fall 2021 semester.



Students can apply January 2 – March 24, 2021 through an online application system.



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



2021 Financial Performance – Just Getting Started!

As I have done the past few years, I plan to provide updates about our financial performance on a regular basis. Here is our performance through the end of January:

	2021 Actual through January	2021 Year-To-Date Budget	Difference	2021 Operating Budget
Income	\$98,468	\$97,681	\$787	\$383,809
Expense	\$31,652	\$31,371	- \$281	\$408,750
Difference	\$66,816	\$66,310	\$506	- \$24,941

Due to some large annual gifts from members that are typically received in January, we brought in much more than what we spent for the month. As you can see above, though, this was expected and the budget for the month reflected it, so we are actually tracking close to what was budgeted. Our budget for 2021 reflects a shortfall of just under \$25,000. While the church does have reserves to cover this amount, I would ask that you pray about our financial situation and challenge you to do more if you are able to do so. A financially strong church enables us to continue the many meaningful ministries of our church that impact not only our members but the communities in which we live and beyond. 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



Missions

The "Shoe Box Mission" is the gift that keeps on giving. For years, the generous people of Hunt's and friends, have donated great items and they are so appreciated. At the beginning of the COVID pandemic, Trish, Ellie, Suzanne, and I decided to sort through the treasurers. In doing that, we were able to make up sets of hats, gloves and socks for Earl's Place: 20 sets, ACTC: 30 sets and BCC: 30 sets. Also, we have put some aside for next Christmas. Thanks again for all of your support. We will keep you updated on our needs in the fall. We no longer need shoe boxes, as we are now using cute Christmas bags, which are easier to handle.



If you have not already sent money for the Board of Child Care "Cookie Drive", it is not too late. The Missions Committee is still matching your donations up to a \$1,000.00.



Many thanks to Samantha Moritz who has taken the Casserole Ministry to new levels. Samantha and her family will be moving to Arizona in the spring. We wish them well and will miss them. Suzanne Young has volunteered to send recipes out every month, and Walter and I will make the deliveries. Please keep the Casseroles coming. If you have any recipe ideas, please contact Suzanne. The freezer will remain in the Agapé House for the time being.

DON'T FORGET YOUR LENT OFFERING, THAT SUPPORTS BOTH BALTIMORE COUNTY CHRISTIAN WORKCAMP AND CAMP HOPE. PLEASE SUPPORT THESE GREAT PROJECTS.

Nesting Among the Wings of Angels

"Flowing among inspirational and thought-provoking quotes is a visually uplifting experience of simple colorful gestures dancing on geometric birdhouse surfaces. 'Nesting Among the Wings of Angels' is a positive visual journey of how one patient transformed the chemotherapy experience into a homage to the caregivers and other chemotherapy patients." (Copied)



Softcover

<https://www.blurb.com/b/10573449-intuitive-visions-nesting-among-the-wings-of-ange>



Double-Check those Doors!

The Board of Trustees asks everyone entering and exiting the Church building and/or the Agapé House to double-check themselves to ensure that doors are locked and closed securely before leaving the church grounds.

Thank you! Together, we can all stay safe!

The Board of Trustees

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

To my Hunt's family and friends,

It is extraordinarily difficult to come up with the right words. I want to thank you for the incredible, ongoing support Bill and I have received from you over these past few months. The cards, notes, words of encouragement and the many, many prayers received fill my heart. And the Meal Train with its wonderful volunteers has been a gift. Thank you to Trish Funderburk for setting it up for us.

This has been, and remains, a journey, but you have most assuredly helped make it easier. Belonging to this church family is truly awesome. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Gratefully,

Tammy Bând



Dear Hunt's Church family,

Thank you for your cards, emails, and telephone calls expressing sympathy and support upon the recent death of my father, Walter Snook, at age 99. While some of you met my father when he visited from Florida, many of you regularly asked about him whether you had met him or not, which we greatly appreciated. The Christian love, prayers, and support of our Hunt's family help so much in times like these - thank you!

Linda & Glenn Keatts

Dear Friends (Hunt's Memorial UMC),

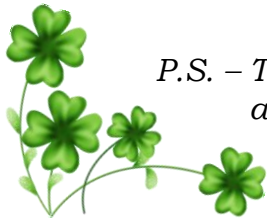
Please accept our heartfelt gratitude for your generous gift of \$1,242 to the Board of Child Care. We are sincerely grateful that you have supported BCC over the years. It is through the support of thoughtful donors like you that we can fulfill our purpose of "enriching communities, one family at a time."

We are diligently expanding services and multiplying our impact. Our youth are continuing to receive safe housing, education, and behavioral healthcare. Beyond this, we are building the well-being of local families through our Strengthening Families Program and other community-based programs.

Thank you again for your generosity and for helping the youth in our care.

Gratefully yours,
Laurie Anne Spagnola, MSW
President & CEO

BOARD OF CHILD CARE



P.S. – Thank you all for thinking on the tough times everyone's having – and thinking about us, too – with this kind and generous gift!

Dear Friends.

Wow, you made my day! Thank you for helping us provide Hope, Help, and Home with your recent donation of \$1,000.

A former resident once said that he was smiling down to his toes. That is how your support makes me feel. Grateful from head to toe.

So many things are difference now, but it is so comforting to know that you and others are in our corner. Even with the additional challenges the virus has created, the men continue to move forward working on job skills, obtaining employment, and moving to their own spaces.

I hope that our updates and the knowledge that you are truly changing lives makes you smile down to your toes, too.

With gratitude,

Sheila Helgerson
Executive Director



Cornerstone
Community Housing
HOPE • HELP • HOME

P.S. – Our world's brighter because you care. Thank you for the casseroles, holiday gifts, and this donation. But most of all, thank you for caring!

Moment in Time... 1938

On Sunday, January 23, 1938, Hunt's congregation began a weeklong celebration of its 165th anniversary. The minister at the time, Rev. John E. Stacks, planned an entire week of festivities. The culminating evening event on January 30th was an address to the congregation by member Roy Bankard as he flew over the church in his plane.

As quoted from the Union News, "The feature of the day's program will be an address made by Maryland National Guard Lieutenant Roy Bankard at 8 o'clock in the evening as he flies over the church in his aeroplane." The Evening Sun went on to explain that "Lieut. Bankard's talk will be picked up by radio and amplified to the congregation over a speaker system."



With aviation still new and exciting in 1938, what a crowd-pleasing event this must have been for both Hunt's congregation and the surrounding community. It appears to have gotten coverage in at least three newspapers: the Union News; the Baltimore News Post; and the Evening Sun. A copy of the broadcast can be found among the Church's historical records in the Bicentennial Parlor

Roy Bankard was the brother of Hunt's member Helen Howard, who is fondly remembered by many of our current longtime membership. Roy joined Hunt's as a teenager and was a vital part of church life until the 1940's when the National Guard was mobilized, and he began active duty in the U.S. Airforce. He was one of the first to occupy Japan after WWII and received the Legion of Merit award. After 30 years of service, he retired from the military with the rank of Colonel in 1960. He later worked as an executive with General Dynamics Corporation. In 1980, he and his wife retired to Colorado where he died on February 3, 1990.

In an interview following her brother's death, Helen recalled that soon after moving to Riderwood in 1919, her family received a welcome visit from "Aunt" Mary Andrew who invited them to attend services at Hunt's Church. At the time, Roy was 16 and Helen was 8 years old. From then on, she explained, the Bankard family's lives became closely tied to Hunt's. She also remembered how at age 17, with their mother's permission, Roy joined the National Guard, and soon after began flight instruction at the local Curtiss-Wright Airport Flying School. She remembered how much he loved flying, and what an avid Boy Scout he was, among those initiating the Scout Troop at Hunt's, and becoming its Scout Master. But she pointed out one of her favorite memories was of the part Roy played in the 165th anniversary celebration held at Hunt's when he gave his aerial address to the congregation eagerly awaiting below.



Information shared by Cheryl Eisenhauer

Note: During the 1930's and 1940's, small airports popped up all over the USA. By 1941, the Curtiss-Wright Airport constructed in 1929, had become the largest airport in the Baltimore area, stretching across the city/county line near Pikesville. However, by 1949 it had closed, and the land was sold to developers. If you were to visit the area today you would find the Green Spring Shopping Center, Wellwood Elementary School, and numerous surrounding residential neighborhoods.

EASTER FLOWERS

Each year at Easter we remember, and honor loved ones by having spring flowers adorn our worship area. The choices this year are as follows:

___ **Hyacinths** (3 blooms; 6" pot) \$11.00
___ *Purple* ___ *Pink* ___ *White*

___ **Geraniums** (6" pot) \$14.00
___ *(Two toned pink shades)*

___ **Tulips** (6" pot) \$11.00
___ *Yellow* ___ *Red* ___ *Pink*

___ **Hydrangea** (3-5 blooms; 8" pot) \$24.00
___ *(Assorted colors only)*

\$ _____ **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 bring 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 14.**



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

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

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

Please understand that these items are a hardship and expense to dispose of.

***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.



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

*Address Service
Requested*

