



**Mount Carmel United Methodist Church**  
**4760 Mountain Road, Pasadena, MD 21122**  
**(410) 255-8887 (410) 255-6619 fax**  
**[Mtcarmel21122@gmail.com](mailto:Mtcarmel21122@gmail.com)**  
**JULY & AUGUST NEWSLETTER 2019**

---

## **MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR**

As of this writing we've completed two strategic planning workshops. We've taken a close look at our congregation's current situation in respect to our ministries, our finances, and the level of congregational engagement we are experiencing. We have assessed the resources that are available to us and identified major issues that need to be acknowledged as we begin planning. In our second session we took a look at the overall health of denominations and religious organizations in America as well as the health of United Methodist congregations here in the Pasadena area. We examined trends in church membership, attendance, and financial health. It's been a sobering yet encouraging experience.

Our congregation is doing O.K. Not as good as we could be doing but better than a lot of other congregations. We have some issues to deal with relating to worship times, styles, and opportunities. We, along with the other United Methodist Churches in our area, can be described as a "greying" church. This is reflected in our low Sunday school attendance – a characteristic we share with neighboring United Methodist congregations. We are a homogenous group (meaning that there is not much diversity in our congregation). We are an insular group (meaning we love being together but it may be difficult for us to include outsiders or new people and they may not feel comfortable coming here.) We seem to be in the same boat with many other churches in our area in that our financial giving is not quite meeting our financial need even though our budget is essentially a "bare bones" budget.

We have some wonderful strengths going for us. We do traditional worship very well and this is enhanced by having an exceptional choir. We don't seem to be afraid to try new things – like the praise service that we are now doing once a month – September through May. We are very active in outreach and missions through the soup kitchen, Sarah's house, CAMP HOPE, Holiday Sharing, and other programs. We tend towards informality in our worship gatherings which adds to our friendly atmosphere.

As we move forward I anticipate that our strategic plan will build on our strengths and attempt to strengthen some of our weaknesses. Our next meeting will be on July 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. At that time we will be identifying some relevant opportunities for ministry that we may be able to take advantage of and talk about ways of "road testing those opportunities". This will be an exciting meeting because we will begin to plan ways of moving forward and growing our church.

One way of doing this is by identifying specific groups or cohorts of people that we could be serving but aren't – either because they may not feel welcome here or because we are not providing ministries relevant to their needs – and seeking to invite and include them in our life together. We began identifying some of these groups at our last meeting. Some of those identified included single parents, developmentally disabled people and their families, physically disabled people and their families, and members of the LGBTQ community. These people live all around us but may not feel welcome, don't feel that we meet their needs, or feel that they don't fit in. Our homework for the July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting is to think of other cohorts or groups that we could be serving but aren't and come to the meeting with those suggestions.

We live in a challenging time for the Christian faith in general and for our own congregation in particular. Yet it is also an exciting time during which we may be able to chart new paths for the church and for our congregation's ministry. Please be in prayer for us as we continue our strategic conversations. I also invite you to be a part of the discussion, the planning, and the dreaming by participating in the workshops yourselves. We have several left. Upcoming Strategic planning workshops will meet on July 9<sup>th</sup>, August 7<sup>th</sup>, September 9<sup>th</sup>, and October 7<sup>th</sup>. All the workshops are scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. and adjourn at 9 p.m.

Blessings and Peace,  
Mike

## **JULY PASTOR STUDY**

**Topic: Human Sexuality, Tuesday evenings in July at 7pm (all except July 9<sup>th</sup> due to Strategic Planning Workshop).** We will be studying the book *Holy Love* by Steve Harper. Books will be available in the church office. Signup sheet in narthex, or call the church office if interested. Books are \$14 – made payable to Mt. Carmel UMC or placed in the offering with notation: “book purchase.”

## **FAITH HOPE CIRCLE**

The Faith Hope Circle meets again on **September 5<sup>th</sup>**. We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month at 11:45am (September – June) Members bring their bag lunches (drinks and desserts are provided) and enjoy fellowship and discussing ongoing projects. Some of the many plans involve preparing meals for those unable to get out due to illness or weather, organizing and preparing funeral luncheons, supporting various charities, disaster reliefs, and organizations, hosting Bingo for residents and patients at Glen Burnie Rehab, ETC. This lovely group is always looking for new members. Please contact the church office with any questions! 410-255-8887.

## **THE FORUM**

THE FORUM will start the 2019 Fall/Winter season on **Tuesday, September 10 @ 10:00 AM** with a look at The Old Testament as interpreted by Professor Amy-Jill Levine. Professor Levine is currently teaching the New Testament at Vanderbilt University. Her expertise in, and respect for, both the Old and New Testaments makes her a wonderful bridge between her Jewish faith and Christianity.

**SARAH’S HOUSE WISH LIST** – **July:** Alarm Clocks, **August:** Hand Sanitizer

## **CRAFT SALES**

Craft sales for March and April earned \$121 for the general fund. A large part of that was from items made by **Penny Pellegrini** and **Cathy Popp**, so thanks again to them! And to everyone else for your continued support.

Pam Mertz

## **S.P.R.C.**

The Staff Parish Relations Committee met a couple of weeks ago to try to address the dilemma we have regarding the Sunday nursery. Since Jennifer Huber left we have been without a nursery supervisor during the Sunday service. We have advertised in the bulletin each week to no avail. We decided to approach the day care to see if anyone there would be interested but haven't had luck there either. If anyone has any ideas please let me know as soon as possible. The requirements are that the person be here on each Sunday 15 minutes before the service and stay until 15 after the service. The pay is \$15-\$20 an hour depending on experience. It is necessary that they have a background check and fingerprints as required by law. We had thought about using

volunteers as we did a long time ago but the requirements for child care have changed and it probably would not work. Also, right now we only have one service. If that changes we would probably need to have someone for both services. Please search your mind and heart to see if you have a solution for us. My phone number is 410-491-9311 (cell) or 410-437-6992 (home). And my email is [charsar@comcast.net](mailto:charsar@comcast.net). Thanks so much.

Sarah Ann Parsons, Chair

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

Summer Sunday School is in full swing. This means the children and youth come on Sunday morning in play clothes and we go outside if weather permits or have indoor activities. Last week we all enjoyed our painting activity.

**We depend on volunteers to help us during the summer!** There is a sign-up sheet during coffee hour or you can call the church office. You can pick a week to spend time with the children and youth of our church. It's a good time to get to know them. The sign-up sheet has been available for several weeks and as of this writing nobody has volunteered to take a week. We purchased Sunday School material for the summer months, so you don't have to be creative. Just follow the instructions. We have lots of supplies are there is nothing scary about it. Please consider volunteering for one Sunday during the summer and get to know the kids.

I want to take this opportunity to thank **Nikki Sesney** for being a huge part of the Middle and Sr. High Sunday School team for the past 2 years. Her schedule is such that she needs to take a break from teaching, but we welcome her back anytime. **Betsy Gregory** will be joining **Anne Cahill** and **Dee Scott** this Fall to support our Middle/Sr. High kids.

Deb McMurtrey, Sunday School

## **OUTREACH NEWS**

Outreach is gearing up for our summer activities. We have sent our request to the county for names of 20 children in the Pasadena area who need school supplies and backpacks for the upcoming school year. We should have those names in mid-July and will distribute the backpacks along with a list of needed school supplies as soon as the names are received. The filled packs will be needed at the school by mid-August. This could be a costly activity, so we are encouraging our fellowship to "buddy up" with a friend, neighbor, or the person who sits next to you in church to split up the list of needed school supplies. We have been told there are over 4,500 children in our county that are on their list. This is a local outreach program we have been participating in for at least 25 years and hope to continue this tradition. We will keep you posted.

Our church is again sponsoring a team to help at Camp Hope this year. The team will be going from July 21 – 27 and as of this writing we have the following people going from Mt. Carmel: **John Gavin** and **Mitch Mattox** going as Adult Leaders and **Stephen Fauconnet** going as a Young Adult Counselor. Rounding out the team will be **Dan Gerben** going as an Adult Leader and the youth are **Ryleigh Gerben, Darby Trout** and **Carly Tebo**. We will be sending them off in our traditional fashion.

We had our second Women's Ministry Potluck dinner on Friday, June 7th. It was a wonderful time of food, fellowship, inspiration and music. Thanks to **Fay Reed** for organizing this new ministry at our church. Also,

thanks to **Doris Smith** for overseeing the kitchen and **Nancy Smith** for supplying the music for the evening. Please consider coming to the next potluck. It will be August 2<sup>nd</sup> in the fellowship hall at 6:30 pm.

Deb McMurtrey  
Outreach Committee

## **NEWS FROM MT. CARMEL CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

Happy Happy Hot Summer! It's not too late to register for summer camp we still have a couple of openings, and lots of fun events!

I would like to share with everyone our very sad news that Mrs. Cathy Popp has decided to retire from Mt. Carmel as our Pre-K Teacher. She has been such a great part of our program for many years and has touched the hearts of many! She will truly be missed. We all wish her well as she starts her new adventure. Mrs. Cathy will remain on the school board, and will be a substitute when she can. Thank you again Mrs. Cathy for your love and dedication to everyone.

Our school has raised \$141.43 from our Rita's fundraiser and \$150.00 from our paint night, Thank you again for everyone's participation. The monies we have raised throughout the school year have been used towards many new items such as new tables, cubbies, shelving units, classroom materials, and we will be purchasing a new climber for the playground along with an updated sand box. We have been so very blessed with all of the participation from everyone we have had this past school year. Thank you!

Our summer garden is growing and we are hoping to taste some wonderful fresh vegetables soon. Thank you again to our summer campers for taking care of the garden this year.

We will be very busy this summer with many special visitors such as the Library Ladies, The Oriole Bird, The Crime Dog, and a special visitor from NASA who will talk about her job. We will also be taking two walking trips, the first one will be to Dunpikin farm where we will enjoy a pony ride and a visit to all of the other farm animals. The second walking trip will be to the 7-11 store where we will celebrate 7-11 day with free slurpees and special treats. Hopefully the weather will cooperate! We will also be taking one field trip on the school bus to the Fair Wood pool to enjoy a day of swimming and a picnic lunch. We are looking forward to all of these fun events.

I would also like to send out a big THANK YOU to all of our school board members from the church who volunteer their time each month to meet and discuss the many decisions we need to make for our school. Thank you also for your time with our many events throughout the year and especially your continued support. Thank you again!

Looking ahead to September: Anne Arundel County Public schools will start on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Mt. Carmel pre-school will start on September 10<sup>th</sup>. Our Back to School Night will be on Thursday, August 29<sup>th</sup>. We hope everyone has a safe and wonderful rest of the summer, stay cool!

Thank you all for your continued prayers and concerns for our teachers, children, and our school.

Dawn M. Rey  
Director

## GIRL'S NIGHT OUT (Woman's Ministry)

Girls Night Out... A woman's ministry to nourish your body & your soul. Pot Luck Supper with devotions/inspiration & music. Come enjoy some fun, food and fellowship on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month... We will take July off and hope you will join us on **Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm** in Fellowship Hall. Open to ALL women. Bring a friend and a dish to share. See Fay Reed with questions.

## May 2019 ATTENDANCE & GIVING

May Monthly Giving – general budget: \$12,262/ restricted giving: \$3,820.

May Attendance – average weekly Sunday attendance was 71.

\*The reporting of attendance and giving figures is behind, due to information for the most recent month not being complete at the time of publication.

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

Barbara Johnson	7/1
Bill Adams	7/3
Keith Scott	7/3
Lauren Gresham	7/7
Sarah Parsons	7/7
Billy Budka	7/8
Earnie Johnson	7/10
Rose Kallenbach	7/12

Stacy Meadows	7/12
William Meister	7/12
Grant Meadows	7/13
Kevin Houtz	7/14
Kendall Krout	7/16
Christian Paul	7/16
Alyson Shelton	7/16
Andrew Phillips	7/17

Mandy Dagleish	7/18
Gracie Nash	7/19
Donna Helowicz	7/20
Dakota Vest	7/21
John Kallenbach	7/22
Evan Schmitt	7/22
Marilyn Williams	7/23
Charles Parsons	7/30
Katie Clough	7/31

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Abel Lillard	8/1
Cari Beuerle	8/3
Wayne Frasier	8/5
Laura Schatz	8/7
Kylie Houtz	8/8
Theodore Sanner	8/9
Donald Krahling	8/11
William Paul	8/11

Phil Byle	8/12
Lexi Paul	8/13
Daniel Popp	8/14
Samuel Groat	8/15
Kathy Hudler	8/16
John Mulkey	8/16
Jennifer Cook	8/19
Diane Malat	8/20

Skip Mosmiller	8/21
Sarah Hallam	8/26
Ashley Reilly	8/26
Valerie Carr	8/27
Matthew Meadows	8/28
Rebecca Paul	8/29
Ann Hein	8/30
Madison Troisi	8/30

## JULY/AUG ANNIVERSARIES

Glenn & Tanya Brumwell 7/19  
Wayne & Trisha Frasier 7/20  
Bud & Sarah Jenkins 7/27  
David & Stacy Meadows 7/05  
Gary & Gail Miller 7/20  
Bill & Gloria Paull 7/01

Richard & Fay Reed 7/18  
Gary & Ruth Schanken 7/23  
Keith & Dee Scott 7/31  
Leo & Sherry Smith 7/09  
Ron & Lana Matovcik 8/09  
Mike & Leslie Fauconnet 8/24  
Wayne & Linda Schatz 8/28

## JULY EVENTS

7/01 – 6:30 p.m. – Tiger Cubs – Church Hall  
7/01 – 6:30 p.m. Trustees  
7/02 – 7 p.m. – Scout Troop 412 – Church Hall  
7/03 – 9:30 a.m. – Prayer Group – Sanctuary  
7/04 – Happy Independence Day!  
**7/07 – 10 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary**  
7/08– 6:30 p.m. – Tiger Cubs – Church Hall  
7/08 – 7 p.m. – Finance Committee  
7/09 – 7 p.m. – Strategic Planning Workshop #3  
7/09 – 7 p.m. - Scout Troop 412 – Church Hall  
7/10 – 9:30 a.m. – Prayer Group – Sanctuary  
7/11 – 6:30 p.m. – Cub Scouts – Church Hall  
**7/14 – 10 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary**  
7/15 – 6:30 p.m. – Tiger Cubs – Church Hall  
7/15 – NO Admin Council  
7/16 - 7:00 p.m. – Scout Troup #412 – Church Hall  
7/17 – 9:30 a.m. - Prayer Group – Sanctuary  
7/18 – 6:30 p.m. – Cub Scouts – Church Hall  
**7/21 – 10 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary**  
7/21 – 7/27: CAMP HOPE  
7/22 – 6:30 p.m. – Tiger Cubs – Church Hall  
7/23 – 6 p.m. – Child Care Board  
7/23 – 7 p.m. - Scout Troop 412 – Church Hall  
7/24 – 9:30 a.m. – Prayer Group – Sanctuary  
7/25 – 6:30 p.m. – Cub Scouts – Church Hall  
**7/28 – 10 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary**  
7/29 – 6:30 p.m. – Tiger Cubs – Church Hall  
7/30 - 7:00 p.m. – Scout Troup #412 – Church Hall  
7/31 – 9:30 a.m. - Prayer Group – Sanctuary

## AUGUST EVENTS

8/01 – 6:30 p.m. – Cub Scouts – Church Hall  
8/02 – 6:30pm Girls Night Out – Fellowship Hall  
**8/04 – 10 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary**  
8/05 – 6:30 p.m. – Tiger Cubs – Church Hall  
8/05 – 7:00 p.m. – Admin Council  
8/06 - 7:00 p.m. – Scout Troup #412 – Church Hall  
8/07 – 9:30 a.m. - Prayer Group – Sanctuary  
8/07 – 7:00 p.m. – Strategic Planning #4  
8/08 – 6:30 p.m. – Cub Scouts – Church Hall  
**8/11 – 10 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary**  
8/12 – 6:30 p.m. – Tiger Cubs – Church Hall  
8/13 – 7 p.m. - Scout Troop 412 – Church Hall  
8/14 – 9:30 a.m. – Prayer Group – Sanctuary  
8/15 – 6:30 p.m. – Cub Scouts – Church Hall  
**8/18 – 10 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary**  
8/19 – 6:30 p.m. – Tiger Cubs – Church Hall  
8/20 - 7:00 p.m. – Scout Troup #412 – Church Hall  
8/21 – 9:30 a.m. - Prayer Group – Sanctuary  
8/22 – 6:30 p.m. – Cub Scouts – Church Hall  
**8/25 – 10 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary**  
8/26 – 6:30 p.m. – Tiger Cubs – Church Hall  
8/27 – 6:00 p.m. – Child Care Board  
8/27 - 7:00 p.m. – Scout Troup #412 – Church Hall  
8/28 – 9:30 a.m. - Prayer Group – Sanctuary  
8/29 – 6:30 p.m. – Cub Scouts – Church Hall

A complete calendar of events can be found at <http://mymcumc.org/events/>

## WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

### Sunday:

Worship 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.  
Nursery 10:00 a.m.

### Monday:

Tiger Cub Scouts 6:30 p.m.

### Tuesday:

Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m.

### Wednesday:

Prayer Group 9:30 a.m.

### Thursday:

Cub Scouts 6:30 p.m.

## LITURGISTS SCHEDULE

Carol Mosmiller	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday
Phyllis Basil	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday
Warren Magruder	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday
Nancy Trimper	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday

## Hello Mt. Carmel eGivers!

Starting as soon as you're ready, you too can be a Mt Carmel e-Giver! Let us know and we will be happy to help you get setup. - Financial Secretary, Dave Shelton

**Fresh Flower Fee Increase:** The cost of fresh flowers on the alter has increased to \$30. Silk flower fees remain the same (a donation of your choosing.) Please continue to put your payment in the offering on the day you have requested the flowers.

## NEW MEMBERS

### **Jim & Betsy Gregory**



Betsy has been Mt. Carmel's Administrative Assistant for just about a year now. She enjoys working in the office with Pastor Mike and getting to know the Mt. Carmel's family. Jim is a Mechanical Engineer and works for Exelon Corporation. Betsy and Jim moved to Pasadena from Severna Park 3 years ago. They just celebrated 27 years of marriage and have 2 sons, Joey and Teddy. Joey is off to Law School in August and Teddy, graduating from University of South Carolina in May, is job searching. Betsy and Jim love boating, fishing, and crabbing!

## ***Girls Night Out...***

Girls Night Out is an open invitation to ALL women  
to share a couple of hours of fun, food, fellowship and a short devotion.  
We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month throughout the year.

**We will not meet in July**

Our next gathering will be  
**Friday, August 2, 2019**

**We start with a pot luck supper at 6:30pm**

Laughing and trading stories  
we always have a ball...  
*We don't have it all together  
but together we have it all.*

We pick each other up  
each time we fail or fall..  
*We don't have it all together  
but together we have it all.*

We share our joys and problems  
whether large or small...  
*We don't have it all together  
but together we have it all.*

*~Abbey Press*

Please plan to join us. Bring a friend and a dish to share.

***For I am longing to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen you ~  
Or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine.***

***~Romans 1:11-12 NRSV***