



Mount Carmel United Methodist Church
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SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER 2019

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

As I prepare this article I am watching the fall approach on the calendar with an increasing sense of panic. I just don't feel I'm ready for the fall. Yet here it comes looming up on me like a train locomotive which seems at first far away and then in an instant is upon you. I'm like a deer frozen in the headlights. And I'm starting to panic because I know that the busyness that has been held at bay over this short summer will overrun my life once again. There is so much to be done, and I'm not ready! Do you feel that way as well? I was mentioning this feeling to one of our ministry leaders and they said, "Didn't you write something about that once? Maybe you need to go back and read it." Sure enough I did! So here it is again, with my advice – do as I say, not as I do.

Be Calm – Carry On. That's a sentiment I saw on a T-Shirt. The T-shirt was being worn by someone in London who was being interviewed in a piece about the Summer Olympics. I don't know the saying's source or origin. For some reason that sentiment has stayed with me as I have been dealing with trying to prepare for vacation, preparing for what looks to be a very busy Fall in our church life, and dealing with family crises of varying intensity – in other words – the business of living. My first response upon seeing this sentiment emblazoned on the t-shirt was; "good – luck!" But upon further reflection I've decided it's a pretty good idea. In all things we need to try to "Be Calm and Carry On" – especially as we go about the work that Jesus sets before us – the work of the church, the work of discipleship.

When you think about it, there is an awful lot going on in the world that we could panic about. In fact there is an awful lot going on in our personal lives that we could panic about – and truth be told I often do. And this, I've discovered, is not a good idea because panic begets panic and pretty soon that's all I do. When I'm distracted with panic I find that I am not able to do very much that's very useful or productive – including dealing the whatever situation has caused the panic in the first place. Decisions that are panic driven are rarely good ones. Knee – jerk reactions are rarely the best reactions.

Come to think of it – Jesus never panicked! He was certainly busy; he certainly acted with deliberation and purpose, but he never panicked. The Gospel description of his ministry often describes periods of almost constant activity – but never panic. He was living the sentiment – "Be Calm and Carry On". And the source of his calm was his Father in Heaven.

One day Jesus told his disciples something that really started them panicking. He told them that he would soon be leaving them and going to his Father in Heaven. Suddenly they realized that they were going to be in the driver's seat – so to speak – and that the responsibility for ministry would be falling to them. I imagine that they started to panic just a little. But then Jesus assured them that he would not be leaving them as orphans; that he would not be leaving them without help or resources. Jesus promised that he would send them the Holy Spirit to guide them and help them in their ministry. So there was no need to panic – as long as they remembered the Holy Spirit was with them!

And that's the key for us as Christian disciples trying to stay calm and carry on in the face of often difficult and discouraging times. We have been given the Holy Spirit to guide us, to comfort us, to strengthen and shield us as we carry on in ministry. We just need to remember to stay connected to the spirit.

So here are some questions you need to ask yourself as panic sets in (and which it looks like I should be asking myself) – whether it be panic over a personal crises or over some difficulty we encounter in ministry. 1) Did you remember to pray? Or did you just leap in without praying? During Camp Hope we found that our work team was a lot more successful when we gathered in a circle in the client's living room and prayed. Believe me – we started to work the first day without prayer and it was pretty disastrous. 2) Are you allowing scripture to guide you? Are you engaged in bible study? Sometimes as we try to put our lives together we discard the instruction manual thinking we don't really need it. Then when the parts don't seem to fit we start to

panic. The Bible is our instruction manual – read it! 3) Are you worshipping regularly in the body of Christ? We need to remember we are not in this ministry thing alone – we are supposed to be doing it with others – so we need to support each other in prayer and worship. In other words - go to church! You will find yourself much better prepared to face those panic inducing situations.

As we get back into the routine of fall, and as we face the challenges of doing ministry in this swiftly changing world, there will be the inevitable panic inducing situations. But also remember that the church, the Body of Christ, continues on, and here you will find opportunities to worship, to pray, to study, and to be in fellowship. Here you will find the resources to – Be Calm and Carry On.

Blessings and Peace, Mike

SAVE THE DATE!

135th Anniversary Celebration of Mt Carmel in Ministry. **October 20, 2019.** Worship, Children & Family Game Time and Dinner. Stay tuned for more details.

PRISON BOOK MINISTRY

Reprint of letter: Dear Mr. Magruder, Thank you so much for the donations of books. The congregation of Mount Carmel as usual provided some wonderful books that the inmates have begun enjoying. They books are really helping them pass the time and they are always thrilled to see the new titles by some of their favorite writers. I really appreciate the dedication you and Mt. Carmel have shown towards the inmates and helping them divert their attention. For many of the inmates, reading is time they really treasure. I wish you and your congregation an enjoyable and blessed summer. (from Leslie Pendley, Librarian at Ordnance Road Correctional Center)

S.P.R.C. - NURSERY SUPERVISOR

We are still looking for someone to supervise the nursery for the Sunday Service. We have exhausted our known resources and are looking for suggestions. One possibility is to staff the nursery with volunteers as we did many years ago. (We were spoiled with Jennifer Huber for so many years.) I will be contacting the high school to see if there is any availability there, too. If you have any suggestions or are willing to volunteer a couple hours on Sunday morning, please let me know as soon as possible. We are anxious to have the nursery back in action for the services on Sunday and look forward to any ideas you may have. Please contact me, Sarah Ann Parsons, as soon as possible at charsar@comcast.net or 410-491-9311. Thanks so much.

FAITH HOPE CIRCLE

The Faith Hope Circle meets again on **September 5th**. We meet the 1st 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 – **September** – Baby Wipes. Donations can be brought to Fellowship Hall and placed in the labeled container (inside the cabinet by the Admin office.)

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

We are making plans for **our new Sunday School session** that starts on **September 8, 2019**, the first Sunday after Labor Day. We are fully staffed with volunteer teachers for the upcoming school year and look forward to seeing your children and grandchildren in our classes. Children and youth start the worship hour in church with their families. Then children ages 3 through 5th grade meet in the church hall for lessons and activities and the Middle/Sr. High class meet in the trailer.

Our Sunday School has been involved with **Heifer International** for many years. This year that organization is celebrating it's 75th Anniversary and has sent our church a certificate of recognition. Their accompanying letter states, *"We want to recognize the deep commitment and extraordinary generosity that your congregation has shown Heifer throughout the years."* Looking back, I think our church has been involved with Heifer International for at least 30 years and hope we can continue this tradition. The certificate will be placed on the Sunday School bulletin board at the back of the church hall.

On behalf of our dedicated teachers: **Cathy Popp, Donna Woods, Cindi Hart, Anne Cahill, Dee Scott, Betsy Gregory, and myself**, we hope to see all our familiar faces in September along with new friends.

Deb McMurtrey, Sunday School

KID'S CLOTHES NEEDED! – As school starts, we are in desperate need of clothing for children. We are teaming up with our Day Care Center and Seventh-day Adventist Lifestyle Center to provide gently used or new clothing to students. Donations can be dropped off at our Day Care Center (Fellowship Hall) 8am-6pm. Questions: call Mary Lou Hornig (410) 299-5834.

June and July 2019 ATTENDANCE & GIVING

June Monthly Giving – general budget: \$14,210/ restricted giving: \$4,638.

June Attendance – average weekly Sunday attendance was 61.

July Monthly Giving – general budget: \$10,376/ restricted giving: \$4,100.85.

July Attendance – average weekly Sunday attendance was 64.

*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.

OUTREACH NEWS

The Outreach Committee has been busy over the summer. We appreciate the response from the congregation with the **School Supply/Backpack Program**. Names of 21 students were received from the county for children who qualify for help and attend Pasadena Elementary School. We are pleased to announce that all 21 backpacks were distributed on the first Sunday. Thanks to all who helped with this project. The committee recognizes that this is an expensive venture and is grateful for your willingness to help.

We also continued our tradition of supporting the Camp Hope team. We fixed Goody Bags for each person who went in the name of Mt. Carmel. Along with snacks, a Walmart gift card in the amount of \$15 was enclosed in the bag. We do this on behalf of the entire congregation and make sure we are with them when they leave on their mission. A big thanks to **Pat Johnson and Millie Jewell** for their contributions and help this year.

I like to remind our members and friends that we have on-going local missions available. Feel free to check out some of the following:

B More Caring drop box in the lower parking lot (clothes and bedding only)

The **Oyster Recycling** project also located in the lower lot (Oyster shells only)

Monthly **Girls Night Out** Potluck on the first Friday of the month (yum!)

The month "needs" list for **Sarah's House** that is listed in the bulletin

7th Day Adventist Soup Kitchen (you can contribute help or funding)

One last thing -one of the global missionaries we support through the United Methodist Church is **Sun Lae Kim**. She has been serving in Mongolia for 17 years and retired on July 14th. I believe our church has been supporting her since the beginning of her term. I'm sure many people remember at least one of her visits to our church. We wish her well in her retirement. The committee will be looking at our global projects at our next meeting.

Looking ahead to next month, please watch this space for our upcoming holiday projects.

Deb McMurtrey
Outreach Committee

CRAFT SALES

Craft sales during May and June earned \$20 for the general fund. Thank you for your continued support.
Pam Mertz

NEWS FROM MT. CARMEL CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Happy Happy September! Wow, where has the summer gone?

This summer around Mt. Carmel was pretty quiet, not as busy as I would have liked but the children had a great time. We had a couple of special visitors come in to the center especially McGruff the crime dog, and the Policewomen with him. They talked about stranger danger, and how you can pursue a career as an officer when you grow up along with many questions asked from the students. A special visitor from The NASA space center came to visit with a lot of interesting facts and information. We also had a couple of visits from Kona Ice where they enjoyed flavorful snowballs. Our yearly summer walking trip to Dimpkin Farm is always a favorite for everyone. Pony rides, feeding the animals, and exploring the farm, what a great experience it was for new and returning students. Our new field trip this summer was a pool day visit to Cedarwood cove, and a trip to lunch at McDonald's. It was a long day but everyone had lots of fun and has requested to go again next summer. A special thank you to Miss Jo Ogle for helping us plan this trip to her community pool, it was a great day!

Our fall classes will be starting on **September 10th, and 11th**, and we are almost filled in all of our programs so if you know of anyone looking for a great school please let us know. September will be a month of getting to know everyone; some new faces and some old ones. We are so blessed to have all of these children attending our school. Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers for a safe and blessed school year.

Dawn M. Rey
Director

GIRL'S NIGHT OUT (Woman's Ministry)

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 1st Friday of the month throughout the year at 6:30pm for Pot Luck Supper. Ladies, don't miss out on another opportunity, mark your calendars now.

Upcoming gatherings will be:

Friday 6th September, 2019

Friday 4th October, 2019

Friday 1st November, 2019

Friday 6th December, 2019

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

“For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”
~Matthew 18:20 NKJV

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Irving Groat 1
Kathi Kallenbach 1
Lana Matovcik 2
Brenda Vest 3
Wayne Schatz 4
Ann Johnson-Biehl 6
Nicholas Troisi 6
Betty Klein 8

Joe Barnes 10
Mary Lou Hornig 11
Gary Miller 11
Pamela Mertz 13
Mackenzey Adams 15
Paul Fauconnet 16
Richard Wade 16
Frank Horni 17

JoAnn Scanlon 17
Norman Blakeney 19
David Meadows 19
Jo Ogle 22
Julia Scanlon 22
Brooke Adams 27
Richard Holt 29
Andy Mosmiller 29

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Irving & Debbie Groat 9/4
Brian & Jennifer Arnold 9/5
David & Colleen Gresham 9/5
Daniel & Cathy Popp 9/7
David & Ann Hein 9/7

Norman & Lisa Blakeney 9/14
LeRoy & Jeanne Jones 9/16
Richard & Sharrie Wade 9/16
Philip & Ruth Rilee 9/27

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

9/01 – 10 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary

9/02 – Happy Labor Day

9/03 – 6:30 p.m. Nominations Committee

9/03 – 7 p.m. – Scout Troop 412 – Church Hall

9/04 – 9:30 a.m. – Prayer Group – Sanctuary

9/05 – 11:45 a.m. – Faith Hope Circle

9/05 – 6:30 p.m. - Cubs

9/05 – 7:15 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal

9/06 – 6:30 p.m. – Girls Night Out

9/08 – 10 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary

9/09 – 6:30 p.m. – Tiger Cubs – Church Hall

9/09 – 6:30 p.m. – Trustees Committee

9/09 – 7 p.m. – Strategic Planning Workshop #5

9/10 – Newsletter article deadline

9/10 – 10 a.m. - Forum

9/10 – 6:30 p.m. – Nominations Committee

9/11 – 9:30 a.m. – Prayer Group – Sanctuary

9/11 – 7:00 p.m. – Finance Committee

9/12 – 6:30 p.m. – Cub Scouts – Church Hall

9/12 – 7:15 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal

9/15 – 10 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary

9/16 – 6:30 p.m. – Tiger Cubs – Church Hall

9/16 – 7:00 p.m. - Admin Council

9/17 – 10 a.m. - Forum

9/17 - 7:00 p.m. – Scout Troup #412 – Church Hall

9/18 – 9:30 a.m. - Prayer Group – Sanctuary

9/19 – 6:30 p.m. – Cub Scouts – Church Hall

9/19 – 7:15 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal

9/22 – 10 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary

9/23 – 6:30 p.m. – Tiger Cubs – Church Hall

9/24 – 10 a.m. - Forum

9/24 – 7:00 p.m. – Child Care Board

9/24 - 7:00 p.m. – Scout Troup #412 – Church Hall

9/25 – 9:30 a.m. - Prayer Group – Sanctuary

9/26 – 6:30 p.m. – Cub Scouts – Church Hall

9/26 – 7:15 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal

9/29 – 10 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary

9/30 – 6:30 p.m. – Tiger Cubs – Church Hall

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:

Forum 10:00 a.m.
Boy Scouts 7:00 p.m.
ASAP 6:45 p.m.

Wednesday:

Prayer Group 9:00 a.m.

Thursday:

Cub Scouts 6:30 p.m.

LITURGISTS SCHEDULE

Carol Mosmiller 1st Sunday
Phyllis Basil 2nd Sunday
Warren Magruder 3rd Sunday
Nancy Trimper 4th 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.

LETTER FROM SUN LAE KIM (dated July 4, 2019)

Dear Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I thank and praise the Lord for your gracious and faithful partnership with me in sharing the Gospel with and making disciples of Mongolian people for the past 17 years.

I'm writing my last letter to all of you as a missionary in Mongolia with a grateful and heavy heart. It has been an amazing 17 years. I arrived in Mongolia with no personal gifts or talents, just a thankful and humble heart and desire to share the Lord's love and grace that I received and experienced. I knew no one in Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia and I was lonely. I had no choice but to totally depend on the Holy Father, the Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. It felt good to be in Mongolia because I felt like I was in my hometown in Korea. Perhaps because Mongolians were like Koreans in their appearance and Koreans and Mongolians are ethnically related.

Mongolia means “brave.” Mongolia is also called “Blue Mongolia” due to the summer sky being so clear, blue and clean. I thought how good our life would be for the people here if their heart and mind were clear and clean just like their summer sky. The winter was so much different. I would call it “black gray sky”. What a difference between the summer and winter here. I saw the same opposite spectrum with the Mongolian people, who are literally progressive and brave. The men are physically very strong perhaps because meat is the staple of their meals. At the same time, women are emotional and full of tears. The country is both open and closed due to Russian and Asian influence.

For the past two months, I had time to reflect on life and ministry here. My prayer, when I arrived, was that I could share the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ with the Mongolians. When I shared the Gospel with them, it felt like I was “freeing” their folded wings one at a time so that they may one day fly like an Eagle to pursue the dreams and visions on their faith. When I shared the Gospel with young children, I felt like I was drawing the hearts of Jesus in their clean hearts and minds and with hope that they would be like a tree planted in a stream of water. Being here for 17 years allowed me to see the tree that I was hoping and praying for. These children became youth and young adults, who went abroad to work and study; some becoming GMF missionaries, pastors, ministers and church lay leaders. They were thankful and praised the Lord when they saw the Lord’s words helping them grow in their faith and live a holy life.

In the past, they lived in a difficult situation with no hope, but now they have hope because they live lives of faith that please God. After they met the Lord, the purpose of their lives began to change. Most satisfying for me were the moments of seeing them learn, praise, pray, evangelize, and serve. I’m so thankful to all my beloved children, young adults and believers who have worked together with me to save souls and lives in Mongolia.

As I leave Mongolia, I would be grateful for your prayers for me to become a person who is in the heart of God and will continue to fulfill the will of God. All praise and honor to our Lord Jesus Christ. May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you, your families and your ministries.

With a most grateful heart,
Sun Lae Kim

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