



Mount Carmel United Methodist Church
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OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2019

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Something that is kind of hard for us to imagine these days is communication without email, print, radio, TV, and all the different forms of electronic messaging that are available to us. It is amazing to think that the Christian Faith spread so quickly and so far without the use of any media at all. The only media available to Christians was word of mouth – a face to face, person to person exchange of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Yes, there were documents – but they were not available to the “rank and file” members of the Christian movement. Many people didn’t know how to read. Making copies of documents was a painstaking and arduous task and perhaps prone to inaccuracy. The epistles of Paul and others were the first to be circulated but they were read to a gathering of Christians – no one had a private copy. The Gospels were also hand written and painstakingly copied but, again, no one had private copies. In fact things did not improve until the mid-15th century when Johannes Gutenberg invented the printing press.

So how and why did the Good News of Jesus Christ spread so far and so rapidly? People shared what they knew of the story of Jesus – but most importantly they shared with one another their own experience and relationship with Jesus. They used their own words, they communicated their own emotions and their own feelings. They didn’t share a history, they shared their-story. There was no printed curriculum to be had. The only curriculum that existed lived in a Christian’s heart. When that was shared it was moving and compelling. So in those one on one, face to face, sharing’s of faith and the experience of Christ - the Church grew – one person at a time, one story at a time.

Over time however, and after the invention of the printing press and all the successive improvements to media, the sharing of faith has become much more informational and less transformational. In that change I believe the Christian movement has lost something precious and vital – the personal touch. If the movement is to flourish into the future it won’t be through the sharing of “approved” information or doctrines, but by the sharing of our individual stories in informal one on one conversations with those who are seeking a relationship with God through Christ.

That may sound like a daunting task and, for those of us who may feel a little inhibited, downright scary. But it’s really not all that hard. Think about it. You are reading this as a member of the Christian Community called Mount Carmel United Methodist Church. You found your way to the church probably because you were compelled by the example or the story of someone else. Maybe it was your mom or dad or a grandparent. Perhaps it was a close friend or a co-worker. Your decision to join the Christian movement did not happen in a vacuum. Someone somehow moved you. They probably didn’t prepare a formal speech or lesson but simply demonstrated Christian living and simply shared with you their beliefs that sustained them, and the story of how God moved in their lives.

The churchy word for this is witnessing. Witnessing sounds scary but it’s really just about telling your story. In that telling of your story you may be sharing with another person something that will transform their life, bringing them joy, hope, assurance, and an abiding comfort. If that other person is a close friend or relation, isn’t that something you want to share with them; that you need to share with the? Believe me – if what you tell them comes from the heart – it won’t be awkward. It will be transformational and you will have given them the greatest gift you could ever give.

You don’t need to know all the right words. You don’t need to know all the fancy theological concepts. You don’t need to be able to quote chapter and verse of scripture. All you need to do is share what your relationship with Jesus has done for you. That’s how the church began. That’s how the Christian movement was sustained for 14 centuries! I’m sure it will work just as well now and sustain us into the future. I encourage you to be a part of the movement. Share YOUR story! Give your friends the greatest gift you have to give! The gift of faith in a loving, eternal, and saving God.

Blessings and Peace, Mike

SAVE THE DATE!

135th Anniversary Celebration will be held **October 20, 2019**. Stay tuned for more details.

S.P.R.C. - NURSERY SUPERVISOR

We are looking to hire a Nursery Supervisor for Sunday mornings. It is an hourly position, 9:30am-11:30am. If you know anyone who may enjoy this part time role, please contact **Sarah Ann Parsons**, ASAP at charsar@comcast.net or 410-491-9311.

FAITH HOPE CIRCLE

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

We will review the Old Testament from the point of view of **Amy-Jill Levine**, Professor of Old and New Testaments at Vanderbilt University. She is not only well-informed, but is very interesting and often down-right entertaining! Hope to see you this Tuesday - or any Tuesday since there is no prep or homework, just learning and laughing. Questions – call Bill Paull at 410-647-5885, wapaull@yahoo.com.

SARAH'S HOUSE WISH LIST – **October** – Gift Cards. Donations can be brought to Fellowship Hall and placed in the labeled container (inside the cabinet by the Admin office.)

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Our new year of Sunday School is up and running. The new session for the younger group is a unit titled, Loving God, Loving Neighbor. We will be exploring ways we can be good neighbors to friends, family members, and people who are just waiting to be our friends. The Middle/Sr. class will be having lively discussions and activities in the trailer. This group will also be involved with some community service as we get closer to the holidays.

We are also looking forward to the *135th Anniversary Celebration* for our church on **October 20th**. We are planning special activities for our members and new friends during the Sunday School hour. We hope to see everyone there.

Deb McMurtrey, Sunday School

OUTREACH NEWS

The Outreach committee met recently and finalized plans for our holiday projects. We are asking our members and friends to find one project that interests you and participate with a giving heart. Here are the plans for the upcoming months:

1. **Gather Thanksgiving canned goods** - Starting soon we will be placing a list of food items needed to make up Thanksgiving bags for our friends at the Pasadena Soup Kitchen. Bring in specific canned goods to make a nice Thanksgiving dinner for each family and we will make up the bags. Last year we distributed 63 bags. With the help of the Child Development Center we hope to meet that goal again.
2. **Holiday Sharing through the County** - Our plans include providing Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners and gifts for 5 families and 5 seniors in our area. We expect to receive the names through the county by the first week in November. More information to come.
3. **Gently Used Toys** – for our friends at the Pasadena Soup Kitchen. We are collecting gently used, clean toys including stocking stuffers, puzzles, books, etc. for a give-away table at the Soup Kitchen in November and December. We can start collecting those items now. If you are a grandparent and have some outgrown toys at your house, buff them up and bring them in.

We also may have information next month about the annual Cookie Bake. We don't want you to start turning your ovens on until we get more information about that project.

One more thing... A big Thank You goes to John Schmitz for delivering the largest number of books that was ever delivered to the prison on Ordinance Road. Wow, thank you, John.

Deb McMurtrey
Outreach Committee

NEWS FROM MT. CARMEL CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Happy Happy October!

Fall is finally here and Wow what a beautiful time of year it is!

Pre-school has begun and we are busy getting all of our families settled into their new routines and schedules. We are very excited to welcome two new teachers to Mt. Carmel; **Miss Tammy** and **Miss Dinita**. Miss Tammy is our Pre-K teacher and Miss Dinita is her Assistant. Miss Tammy, having worked here many years ago when she was only sixteen, has returned with a college degree in Early Childhood Education and many years of teaching in a pre-school. Miss Dinita comes with many years of experience and classes in this field. She will also be our opening teacher in the mornings with our school age class. We are happy and blessed to have both of them join our team. **Miss Kylie**, who has been our School-age assistant teacher has joined **Miss Amy** in the mornings and will be her assistant Teacher for the preschool classes. She will also continue to assist with the school age class in the afternoons.

October is the start of our busy year; **fall pictures** for all of our classes will be on **October 3rd, and 4th** and we are praying for many smiling faces. The **pumpkin patch field trip** this year will be on **Friday, October 11th** at **Clark's Eliok Farm**; we are looking forward to picking a pumpkin and visiting the animals. Our **annual Book Fair** will run from **October 21st through October 25th**. This is a great way to jump start your Christmas shopping and buy your favorite little one some books, also helping us earn new books for our classrooms. Our pre-school classes will be celebrating **Grandparent's Day** on **October 23rd, 24th and 25th**. We are so thankful for all of our Grandparents; they truly carry a special place in all of our hearts! Our **Fall Festival** will be on **Friday October 25th** from **6:30-8:00pm**. If you would like to help in any way let us know, we can always use a helping hand! **Halloween celebrations** and **trunk-or-treating** will be on **October 30th, and 31st**, if you would like to decorate the inside of your trunk and give out special treats please let us know; we'd love to have you!

Looking ahead: **Friday, November 15th** we will be having a paint night fundraiser, more information will be coming soon. **Thanksgiving celebrations** will be on **November 25th, and 26th**. **The Center will be closed on November 28th and 29th** for all of us to celebrate with our families. 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 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

August 2019 ATTENDANCE & GIVING

August Monthly Giving – general budget: \$11,906/ restricted giving: \$1,076..

August Attendance – average weekly Sunday attendance was 53.

*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.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Kendall Arnold	01
Nick Pellegrini	01
Virginia Davis	03
Millie Smith	03
Alexis Tongue	04
Alice Hastings	08
Denise Calabrese	09

Stephen Fauconnet	10
Lois Freburger	10
Evelyn Meister	10
Jason Loughrey	11
Colleen Gresham	13
Kallie Lillard	15
Brittney Lenz	19

Kristina Miller	19
Carol Mosmiller	20
Christina Helowicz	21
Amanda McMurtrey	24
Dakoda Ransom	25
Bud Jenkins	26
Sarah Jenkins	31

OCTOBER EVENTS

10/01 – 10:00 a.m. Forum
10/01 – 7 p.m. – Scout Troop 412 – Church Hall
10/02 – 9:00 a.m. – Prayer Group – Sanctuary
10/02 – 7:00 p.m. – Charge Conference at
Community UMC
10/03 – 11:45 a.m. – Faith Hope Circle
10/03 – 6:30 p.m. - Cubs
10/03 – 7:15 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal
10/04 – 6:30 p.m. – Girls Night Out
10/06 – 10 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
10/07 – 6:30 p.m. – Tiger Cubs – Church Hall
10/07 – 6:30 p.m. – Trustees Committee
10/07 – 7 p.m. – Strategic Planning Workshop
10/08 – 10:00 a.m. - Forum
10/08 – 7:00 p.m. – Scout Troup #412
10/09 – 9:00 a.m. – Prayer Group – Sanctuary
10/10 – Newsletter article deadline
10/10 – 6:30 p.m. – Cub Scouts – Church Hall
10/10 – 7:15 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal
10/13 – 10 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
10/14 – 6:30 p.m. – Tiger Cubs – Church Hall
10/14 – 7:00 p.m. - Finance Committee Mtg.

10/15 – 10:00 a.m. - Forum
10/15 - 7:00 p.m. – Scout Troup #412
10/16 – 9:00 a.m. - Prayer Group – Sanctuary
10/17 – 6:30 p.m. – Cub Scouts – Church Hall
10/17 – 7:15 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal
10/20 – 10 a.m. – 135th Anniversary Celebration
10/21 – 6:30 p.m. – Tiger Cubs – Church Hall
10/21 – 7:00 p.m. – Admin Council Mtg
10/22 – 10:00 a.m. - Forum
10/22 – 6:00 p.m. – Child Care Board
10/22 - 7:00 p.m. – Scout Troup #412 – Church
10/23 – 9:30 a.m. - Prayer Group – Sanctuary
10/24 – 6:30 p.m. – Cub Scouts – Church Hall
10/24 – 7:15 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal
10/25 – Child Care Fall Harvest
10/27 – 10 a.m. – Worship – Sanctuary
10/28 – 6:30 p.m. – Tiger Cubs – Church Hall
10/29 – 10:00 a.m. - Forum
10/29 - 7:00 p.m. – Scout Troup #412
10/30 – 9:00 a.m. - Prayer Group – Sanctuary
10/31 – 6:30 p.m. – Cub Scouts – Church Hall
10/31 – 7:15 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal

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:

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.
Choir Rehearsal 7:15 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.

SAVE THE DATE!

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

