



# DEEP ROOTS VISIBLE GRACE

May 2020

A newsletter for the families and friends of New Market UMC.



## Stuck at Home

I think it is beneficial to view our current circumstances in the light of the scripture story of Noah and his family. There are many similarities between our current stay at home directive and the story of Noah and his family. Noah was instructed by God that in order to preserve his family and escape calamity that he not only needed to build this safe haven but had to stay in it for some time. This took a lot of preparation, (how much toilet paper would they really need) how much food needed to be secured so that not only them but the animals in their care could survive the ordeal?

There are varying perspectives on just how long Noah and his family were “quarantined” in their new home. The Bible tells us that it rained for 40 days and 40 nights. The story recounts how even the highest mountains were covered with water and that the waters flooded the earth for 150 days. If you think you have a bad case of “cabin fever” in this time, just think how badly this fever had to be for Noah and his family. They could not go out and take a walk, make a quick trip to the grocery store, or binge-watch Netflix. There are many “educated guesses on how long they were sequestered in their new houseboat, some say 5 months others a year before the land was dry enough and vegetation began sprouting enough to nourish the inhabitants waiting patiently or impatiently on the gopher wood contraption. I think it is safe to say that they were “trapped” at home for a very long time.

Here is the beautiful thing, I want all of us to take hope in, the first verse of Genesis 8. It tells us that God remembered not only Noah but all the wild animals and livestock, God remembered all of the new creation. Is this to say that we worship a forgetful God? Did God forget that he had placed Noah and his family on the ark, the way we forget that we are boiling water for spaghetti while we watch *The Tiger King*? The Biblical meaning of remember in the Bible is that God is present and active in a given circumstance. God remembered (was present and active) Rachel and Hannah and opened their wombs (Genesis 30:22 and 1 Samuel 1: 19). God remembered (was present and active) His Holy word and covenant to Abraham (Psalm 105: 42). Jesus said to do this in remembrance (Jesus is present and active) in our communion meal. God is remembering us also in this time of crisis, God is present and active in rescuing us, refining us, saving us, and redeeming us. Trust in this, God is faithful, God does not leave us or forsake us, God is present and active with us. The wind (spirit) of God will come and dry up this virus in due course, we just need to remain faithful and patient. God is at work in all of God’s creation to heal and make whole.

Pastor Scott

### A Pastoral Letter Addressing Some of Your Questions:

Dear Friends,

These weeks have been overwhelming hard in unique ways for each of us. We unite in prayer for our community and world hoping for vaccines, treatments, and miracles to release humanity from the threat of Covid-19. We pray for all who serve selflessly in these days and ask God’s protection to surround them and their families. We pray healing for the sick and comfort for the anxious and grieving. We also pray for each other as our families are challenged with economic hardship, changes in work, school moving into our homes, and the physical distance that has been put between us and our loved ones. Know that your pastors and your church family hold you in prayer.

## When and How Will We Get Back to Worship?

The Governor and Bishop have extended the restriction for large group gatherings until Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. We will continue to worship through recorded services available on our website at [www.newmarketumc.com](http://www.newmarketumc.com). We hope everyone in our church family is tuning in especially on Sundays. Choose the best time for your family to gather. Some are doing “church time” in the morning, our family is gathering at the table just before lunch with Matthew playing on the floor.

If you are tired of screen time, listen on your device while you walk or run. While we long to be together this is an opportunity for each family to remember that it’s not the location of worship that matters but that we worship God in “spirit and truth” (read John 5). When we return to worship we may need to gather in smaller groups or outside locations for a while. We are good at being creative and adapting. We will get back together as soon as it is wise and safe. Even after we return to in-person worship we will continue offering recorded services for those who need to continue staying home for health reasons.

## What If We Don’t Have Internet or a Computer?

We are making DVD’s of our recorded services and would love to drop one off at your home. Please call the church office at 301-865-3530 to request recorded services. Don’t delay we are eager to bless you.



Children’s Sabbath

## Can We Get an Update on The United Methodist Church?

Due to the pandemic, General Conference, the global meeting of United Methodists, has been postponed from this spring to the winter of 2021. Organizers want to ensure the health of all the delegates and the recovery of our communities before adding the burdens of travel and gathering. Our Annual Conference meeting of the Baltimore Washington Conference has been postponed until the fall of 2020. Please continue to pray for all of us who seek to follow Jesus and share his grace and love as a part of our United Methodist connection. May we rise up from this pandemic humbled, refocused, and reminded of how critical our connections with each other truly are.

## A Blessing:

Friends, as we journey through these disorienting days remember your life is not on hold. Much of what made up life has been stripped away. This is an opportunity to remember that only God is eternal and only our love for God and others will endure. These days are an opportunity to re-center our lives around God and then rebuild, as restrictions are lifted, the fulfilled. May God bless, heal, strengthen, and resurrect you to new life!

You are loved,  
Pastor Scott, together with Pastor Jenny, Pastor Helen, Pastor Laura (& Pastor Jay)



Luc Lugez

## Updates - Cards of Caring

Pastor Scott's brother Rod's wound is now almost fully healed, and he is looking forward to the next phase of his journey which will include molding his leg and then getting a prosthetic.

1675 Saltsburg Ave. Indiana PA 15701

**Willie Hipkins** is now home and improving. He would like to thank everyone for their cards, phone calls and especially your prayers.

7067 Catalpa Rd. Frederick, MD 21703

**Paul Zimmerman** is also back home and recovering.

P.O. Box 223, New Market, MD 21774

**Sherry Bowers'** (Ruby's daughter) boyfriends mother Betty Mayne passed away in April. We offer our prayers and condolences.

5729 Yeagerstown Rd., New Market, MD 21774

**Missy Cooke** asks for continued prayers for Jaden (leukemia) and Danny (Covid-19)

**Jeanne Beard** North Hampton nursing home.

**Marion Conrade** a cousin of Rowland New, is in ICU at a hospital in Nassau County, NY in very serious condition, with acute dementia and now other serious issues.

**Thelma Gesling** continuing cancer treatment.



Rod Clawson

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## GET READY WE ARE GOING ONLINE WITH ADULT Sunday School or Bible Study?

As much as we want to meet face to face, it appears it will still be awhile, and we have to be thankful for what we can do through our virtual technology. We are going into our third month of social distancing and have heard many of you are missing your small group Bible studies and/or adult Sunday school. We are wading into the waters of the virtual classroom with our spiritual discussions.

Our first "Bible Study/Sunday School" will be meeting on **Sunday, May 17th at 9:30 a.m.** via the Zoom application and will last approximately an hour.

Not sure how many of you are familiar with ZOOM, but it can accommodate joining a meeting with video and audio through a computer, iPad or Smart Phone. However, for those of you with just good old flip phones or land lines, you too can join by calling in and entering a password to get to the audio portion of the meeting. This is a technology that is a WIN-WIN for all of us.

We are encouraging as many of you as possible to attend, just so you experience and give us feedback on the good, the bad and the ugly of the process. The feedback will lead to a more positive experience for all, as well as, assisting with decision on whether or not it is feasible create additional virtual small groups wanting to tackle specific interests that will appeal to some but not all.

The first study topic will be communicated next week, but if you have any suggestions, please feel free to let us know when you confirm your participation.

Please contact Patty Robinson, by e-mail: [pattyrob16@msn.com](mailto:pattyrob16@msn.com) or by calling (h) 301-882-7703 or (c) 240-441-1170 if you are interested in participating and she will get send you the ZOOM invitation, or call you personally with "call in" phone number and password.

Please come join us on another new adventure that has come about during this time like no other we have experienced, isn't it great how God is still providing ways for us to worship Him.





**Derek Rudge** is a rising 6<sup>th</sup> grader.



**Ben Hanson** is a rising 6<sup>th</sup> grader.



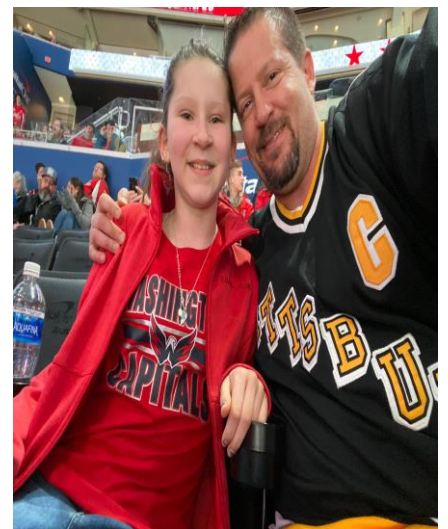
**Kasey Barboza** is a rising 6<sup>th</sup> grader.



**Ross Padilla** is a rising 6<sup>th</sup> grader.



**Owen Valenzuela** is a rising 9<sup>th</sup> grader.



**Kat Capiella** is a rising 6<sup>th</sup> grader.



Congratulations to **Danny Ashbaugh** and his new daughter **Naia**.



**Brianna** and her new brother **Benjamin Joseph**, children of **Joey and Jessica Mehling**.



## Congratulations Graduates

We know that this has been a particularly hard year for our graduates. Our prayers are with you as you find new ways to celebrate these momentous occasions.



**Luke Summers**, son of Tim and Susan Summers and grandson of Thelma Gesling, is graduating from Bucknell University with a degree in Mathematical Economics. Luke served as manager of the Bucknell Men's Basketball Team all four years of school, working with the coaching staff in several capacities and had the opportunity to travel to two NCAA tournaments, Europe and Hawaii. These experiences have led Luke to pursue a career in collegiate basketball coaching.

Luke is a life-long member of New Market United Methodist Church, being baptized as an infant in 1998 and confirmed in 2011. His church family is very important to him and he enjoyed Sunday school and serving as acolyte for many years.



**Caleigh Bernota** from Tuscarora HS to Stephenson University - undecided or business

On March 25, 2020 **PFC Andrew McCollum** graduated from AIT Training at Fort Lee, Virginia as a Culinary Specialist. Andrew has returned home and will continue Battle Assembly each month with his assigned Company in the Army Reserves. Andrew is the son of Melinda McCollum. Andrew anticipates returning to college in the fall to finish his Bachelor's degree.



**Joey Brescia & Ethan Hart – Photos Unavailable**

**Joey Brescia** graduating from Linganore High School.

**Ethan Hart** from Linganore HS to Dickinson In Pennsylvania - undecided

**Scott Bernota** from Damascus HS to Towson University - Engineering/physics





We sure miss seeing you all! We will be back together soon, until then send us a few things so everyone can see your faces and your creations. Send us pictures of your quarantined life and any art projects that you would like us to share. You can send the pictures to the church office [hometownchurch@comcast.net](mailto:hometownchurch@comcast.net) or my phone 301-418-0863.

Miss Donna

## Noah's Ark

Unscramble each of the clue words.

Copy the letters in the numbered cells to other cells with the same number.

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|-----------|----------------------|
| TARLA     | <input type="text"/> |
| NANTOECV  | <input type="text"/> |
| TARHE     | <input type="text"/> |
| FOODL     | <input type="text"/> |
| FAEL      | <input type="text"/> |
| HONA      | <input type="text"/> |
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| CESPYRS   | <input type="text"/> |
| TERFAH    | <input type="text"/> |
| ROFTY     | <input type="text"/> |
| RIPA      | <input type="text"/> |
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| RAK       | <input type="text"/> |
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| LAFMEE    | <input type="text"/> |
| MAEL      | <input type="text"/> |
| NAIR      | <input type="text"/> |



### Hi VBS Parents and Kids -

We want you to know "To Mars and Beyond" Vacation Bible School is still on the New Market United Methodist Church calendar for the week of July 27-31, although the way in which we conduct it may be very different. If you have not registered there is still plenty of time. Don't forget to invite a friend so they too can "Explore Where God's Power Can Take YOU!".

Here is the link to register.

<https://www.myvbs.org/NMUMC/>

If you have any questions please contact Patty Robinson - [pattyrob16@msn.com](mailto:pattyrob16@msn.com)

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# FINANCIAL NEWS

For some time, we have been talking about the need to set up an online giving option. As we all look for new ways to do things, we have now added that option for those who find that a convenient way to continue their giving. Details for the program are: Church members are not charged; however, it is not a free service. There is a service charge for each transaction (2.9% + 30 cents for credit cards or 1% + 30 cents for ACH transfers). Donors are encouraged to increase their donation to absorb this cost; otherwise, your donation to the church will be reduced by the amount of the fees collected by Tithe.ly. If this program might be of interest to you, check out the website at [Tithe.ly.com](http://Tithe.ly.com).

'No fee' options of giving are: to use your bank's bill pay option, to drop your check in the mail slot at the church office (5 Prospect Street) or to mail your offering to the church at: PO Box 111, New Market, MD 21774.

We would like to thank David Robinson, our webmaster, for his assistance in moving this project forward.

For several years, our church treasurer, Thersa Dowling, has asked that another person be named to fill this position. Since it appears that no one within the congregation is interested, we are now exploring other options. However, if you (or someone you know) has a bookkeeping background and might be interested, please contact me or Thersa for details.

We are thankful for your financial support and encourage your continued giving. **NMUMC By the Numbers** are:

**March 8<sup>th</sup> Deposit: \$6,152.01**

Regular Offering -- \$3,229.01  
Hope Preschool Rent -- \$2,700.00  
Debt Reduction -- \$125.00  
Easter flowers -- \$98.00

**March 15<sup>th</sup> Deposit: \$1,499.84**

Regular Offering -- \$1,159.84  
Organ Fund -- \$150.00  
Debt Reduction -- \$150.00  
Hope 4 Kids -- \$40.00

**March 27<sup>th</sup> Deposit: \$5,219.00**

Regular Offering -- \$5,115.00  
Easter flowers -- \$104.00

**April 7<sup>th</sup> Deposit: \$11,834.64**

Regular Offering -- \$9,141.64  
Building Fund -- \$100.00  
Memorial Fund -- \$25.00  
Organ Fund -- \$150.00  
Parsonage Rent -- \$2,100.00  
Pastor's Discretionary Fund - \$100.00  
Debt Reduction -- \$150.00  
Hope 4 Kids -- \$65.00  
Upper Room -- \$3.00

**April 17<sup>th</sup> Deposit: \$4,210.00**

Regular Offering -- \$3,805.00  
Mission -- \$405.00

**Mortgage Balance as of 4/21 -- \$52,009.04**

We look forward to the time when we can all be together again in the 'new normal'. Until then, give someone a call, send a card, or note . . . keep in touch . . . 'we will get through this together'. -

*Carole Zimmerman, Finance Chair*

# Parish

## News



The Leadership Equipping Team at Mt. Carmel is excited to share that the Bishop of the Baltimore-Washington Conference has appointed Rev. Thomas Jay Blake to Mt. Carmel effective July 1.

Rev. Jay is coming to us from Eastern United Methodist Church in Baltimore, where he has served for the past six years. Prior to that, Rev. Jay served at United Methodist churches in Bel Air, Hagerstown and Buffalo, New York. Rev. Jay received his Master of Divinity degree from Howard University in 2005 and has 17 years of experience as a pastor in the United Methodist Church. He is an elder in the Baltimore-Washington Conference.

Rev. Jay was born in Baltimore but grew up in Hagerstown, where his mother and grown son still live. He is excited to move to the East Frederick community, where he will be closer to his family and new congregation. Rev. Jay loves to lead worship and Bible study. He is also a musician who plays organ, lead guitar, bass and drums. For the past few years, Rev. Jay's pastoral and ministry focus has been on bringing peace and healing to Baltimore, as well as efforts to feed and nurture the children of Baltimore and Haiti.

It is with sadness at saying goodbye to Pastor Jenny, Jon and the boys, yet with excitement and anticipation of opportunities for vibrant ministry, that we will be entering a new phase in Mt. Carmel's 166-year history.

Yours in Peace and Health, Mt. Carmel Leadership Equipping Team

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### **Do the Current Realities Impact Our Upcoming Pastor Change?**

The Bishop shared last Saturday that pastors will still shift to their new congregations on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Thus I, Pastor Jenny will move to Eldersburg to serve the people of Wesley Freedom and your new Pastor Jay Blake will begin to lead you in July. The Bishop shared that grace will be given over the summer to allow the pastor transitions to happen in ways that are healthy and allow for celebrations, services, and

goodbyes. Pastor Jay and I have spoken several times and have a friendly relationship. We are both committed to caring for you and making sure you have space to grieve, celebrate and begin anew. It is my longing to spend time with each of you prior to the appointment change. I am hopeful we will be able to gather in June in meaningful ways. These final months sure have been different than any of us would have imagined and we can acknowledge there is grief in the loss of time together. Our time together over the summer will be all the sweeter and more necessary.

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#### ***What Are You Still Wondering?***

Send your questions to [pastorscott62@gmail.com](mailto:pastorscott62@gmail.com) or call 240-409-8119 and I will be happy to speak to your questions in the next newsletter and an upcoming Jesus Talk.



### **New Date for the Celebration of Ministry with Pastor Jenny June 28<sup>th</sup>**

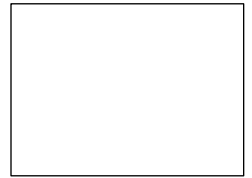
Please note that our Celebration of Ministry shared with Pastor Jenny has been moved to Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. *Details will be shared later in May.*

#### ***A Gift to Honor Pastor Jenny and Fortify Mt. Carmel's Ministry Future***

It is customary for a congregation to give a gift to a departing pastor and their family. Pastor Jenny, Jon and the boys, wish to express their deep gratitude for the years of support, meals, prayers, back up grandparents, home repair, desserts, and love which you have shared with them. As a gift to celebrate the ministry shared and with great hope for the future of Mt. Carmel ministries, the Smiths are requesting that gifts in their honor be made to the Mt. Carmel Building Fund.



New Market United Methodist Church  
Rt. 874 & North Alley  
P.O. Box 111  
New Market, Maryland 21774  
301-865-3530  
**Address Service Requested**



*May Newsletter*  
*New Market United Methodist Church*  
*We serve Christ in the world and the community as we share His love*  
*with all of God's people. Come be a part of our faith family.*



## **Bits and Pieces**

The new windows have been installed in the Ed. building and the new roof is slated to start in the middle of May. Thank you to everyone who contributed to these improvements.

**Online Worship** will continue until new directives are received by our Bishop.

### **Local Pastor School**

Patty Robinson is doing online work this month to complete her local pastor training. The District Superintendent stated that we can have a church wide vote for Patty when we can gather together again. Please keep her in your prayers.

### **Congratulations**

Susan Stevens has completed her Basic Lay Servant course.

**Pastor Scott Clawson**  
**Dr. Rev. Jenny Smith**  
**E-mail: [hometownchurch@comcast.net](mailto:hometownchurch@comcast.net)**  
**[www.newmarketumc.com](http://www.newmarketumc.com)**  
**[www.facebook.com/hometownchurch](http://www.facebook.com/hometownchurch)**