

## Boasting About Tomorrow

*<sup>13</sup> Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." <sup>14</sup> Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. <sup>15</sup> Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." <sup>16</sup> As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil. <sup>1</sup> James 4: 13-16*

If there is a life lesson from 2020 for me, it would be: "Blessed are the flexible, for they Shall Not Get Bent Out of Shape." I think we all need to admit that this year has bent us, pulled us, pushed us, twisted us, and challenged us so thoroughly that even the most rigid planners amongst us will call uncle. And yet, amongst all the challenges, I can see many blessings. My plans for this year were to celebrate Palm Sunday with all of you, host an egg hunt for the community, to launch "Cup of J.O.E.'s at this and other community events. My plans were to gather around a fire pit on Easter morning at Fairview to celebrate Jesus' victory over death and then jump on a plane to the Holy Land. As John Steinbeck has stated: "the plans of mice and men often go awry". And boy howdy how.



Through the pandemic we have learned to be resourceful, to think outside the box, to let the chaff that was not needed in our faith life blow away, and to rethink our position in the world as Children of God. Through it all you have been very faithful, courageous, and loving, and for this I am eternally grateful. We have learned that the sanctuary is not the only place to gather and worship God. We have learned new ways to hold meetings, Sunday school, celebrate graduates and hold confirmation. We commissioned a new Pastor Patty and learned how to try "not to sing" in our indoor worship, how to hold a socially distanced UMW picnic and new ways to host "Trunk or Treat."



In a nutshell we have learned to be flexible even when we prefer not to. God is bending us, pushing us, twisting us, to a new place. We are as reluctant as the Israelites in Egypt to leave everything that is familiar and be humble enough to let God lead us to a new promised land. The frightening and exciting thing is that this journey has just started. Can we learn to embrace the change and resist the temptation to dig in our heels? I think we can if we encourage and support each other through whatever may come. Can we embrace the fact that all our best laid out plans are "subject to change?" I think we can if we adhere to the wisdom stated in Proverbs 16: 9, "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps." Here are the ways in which we can surrender to the Lord establishing our steps: Do not fail to meet together, do not cease to praise, pray relentlessly, love God

with our entire being, and love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Next year NMUMC celebrates 200 years of ministry in our beloved sanctuary I look forward with anticipation of the mighty works the Lord will accomplish in our midst, are you also anticipating?



## Worship Schedule For The Rest Of 2020:

The Home Safe team has met and has agreed to the following worship schedule for the rest of the year.



**9:30 Service:** This service will continue in the parking lot if the weather permits. This service will move to the schoolhouse (the yellow building down the alley from the parking lot) with a maximum of 25 participants when it is no longer feasible to hold worship outside. It is **vitaly important** when we move inside that everyone who is planning on attending register through the sign-up genius, so we can control the amount of people in the service. Chairs will be provided. This service will

follow the same safety protocol as our 11 a.m. sanctuary service. Masks must be worn and there will be no congregational singing at this time.

### **11:00 Service:**

This service will remain the same with communion celebration on the first Sunday of the month. It is **vitaly important** when we move inside a building that everyone register so we can control the amount of people in the service. Your participation in this matter is appreciated. The maximum amount for the sanctuary is 35 on the first floor and 10 in the loft. Masks must be worn and there will be no congregational singing at this time.

### **Sunday October 25<sup>th</sup> Special Healing Service!**

Both services will offer special Prayers for the sick, the ill, and those who are struggling emotionally will be offered at this special service of healing. Worshippers may stand in proxy for those who cannot attend.

### **Sunday October 25<sup>th</sup> 9:30 a.m. Service Only, The Blessing of the Animals**

Along with the healing service to be held in the parking lot you are invited to bring your animals to worship. Pastor Scott will circle your car in prayer for you and your beloved pet or pets.

### **All Saints Sunday - November 1st**

We will be celebrating and remembering all the saints that have gone on to glory, especially those who have passed over the threshold between November 1, 2019 to November 1, 2020. You are encouraged to bring a picture of your loved one to the service and set it near your car for the 9:30 service or hand it to an usher at the 11:00 service and it will be placed on the altar or in a window. Please contact the church office if you would like your loved one's name to be on the worship schedule or projected on the screen in the sanctuary.

# Advent Schedule- Reclamation Proclamation!

After a difficult year we are going to dig into God's word that reminds us that we have been claimed by God, now it is our chance to reclaim God's promises. (Scripture focus: Hebrews 12: 1-2)



11/29- Reclaiming Hope

12/06- Reclaiming Faith

12/13- Reclaiming Joy

12/20- Reclaiming Peace

12/21- 7 p.m. Longest Night Service

"I would rather walk with a friend in the dark than alone in the light." Helen Keller

This service is designed for those who are grieving or struggling during this difficult season. The service will include healing liturgy, healing hymns and four specific prayer stations that participants can reflect on the loss they have encountered and the healing presence of Jesus Christ who has conquered all things.

12/24- Christmas Eve- Reclaiming Christ

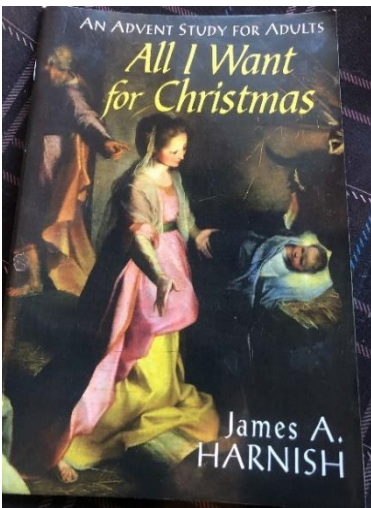
We will be using electric candles this year as we listen to Silent Night. You are welcome to bring your own electric candle or one will be provided for you upon entrance to the service.

11:00 a.m. Service Sanctuary- 35 participants 1<sup>st</sup> floor, 10 in the loft. Sign up early to ensure we have a space for you.

5:00 p.m. Service Sanctuary- 35 participants 1<sup>st</sup> floor, 10 in the loft. Sign up early to ensure that we have a space for you.

6:30 p.m. Outdoor Bonfire Worship- Christmas music by the organist will be broadcast via a speaker in the rear yard of the sanctuary beginning at 6:30 p.m. The service will start at 7:00 p.m. and will last a half hour. Dress warmly, there is no limit to participants, but you must sign up for contract tracing protocol.

We need volunteers to sanitize the sanctuary between the 11:00 a.m. service and the 6:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve. The team cleaning will take place at 12:30 p.m. Please contact the church office if you are willing to volunteer.



## Advent Bible Study- All I want for Christmas by James Harnish.

So, what do you want for Christmas? The question is not for Kids anymore. For adults, the answer is deeper and infinitely more important. Most of us have lived long enough to learn that we find and receive in life largely depends on what we seek. This four-week study during Advent provides us with the opportunity to search our souls and separate the thing we want from the things we most deeply need. This study will be done via zoom on the following Thursday evenings- 11/19, 12/03, 12/10, 12/17.

Study guides will be available in the rear of the sanctuary or if you would like one delivered let the church office know. A zoom link will be sent out on Thursday communications.



Every year at Christmas we give worshipers an opportunity to honor and remember loved ones (living and gone to be with the Lord) by purchasing a poinsettia that will be placed on the altar on Christmas Eve. You can purchase as many as you like. There is a form online or you can call or email the church office. Please make your checks payable to New Market UMC, put poinsettia in the memo line and place it in the offering plate, tithe, or mail. The Flowers are \$10 each (red only). Deadline is November 11<sup>th</sup>.

## Samaritan's Purse

This year we are again offering an opportunity for our membership to be a part of Operation Christmas Child. You may have heard of this as "Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes". If you would like to participate, you may need details. Below is a list of suggested gift ideas along with a list of items that cannot be accepted. If possible, a \$9.00 shipping fee is requested for each box.

### GIFT SUGGESTIONS:

toothbrush  
socks  
wash cloth - bar soap  
shoes/sandals  
comb/brush  
sunglasses  
pens, crayons, markers  
jewelry or watch  
pencils and sharpener  
doll or stuffed animal  
solar calculator  
soccer ball with pump  
coloring and picture books  
toy car  
notebook and paper  
jump rope  
child's scissors  
yo-yo  
flashlight (extra batteries)  
game  
glue sticks

### PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE

toothpaste , candy or gum, liquids or lotions, food items, medications or vitamins, aerosol cans, war related items, used or damaged items, seeds, breakable items or glass containers

Choosing the items, you think will be appreciated by children adds to the fun of giving. Feel free to be creative with your choices. A personal note/picture of you or your family is also welcome. \*\*\* Shoeboxes will be collected at the **November** circle meetings or at church the first three Sundays (**1, 8, 15**) of the month.

If you are unable to fill a whole shoebox but have items to contribute, boxes will be placed in the back of the sanctuary, the library of the Education Building and the Schoolhouse for your gifts.

There is a new choice this year to 'build a shoebox' online. There are a few categories, with choices in each, that you may choose from and your shoebox will be filled and delivered by volunteers at Samaritan's Purse. The web address for that is [samaritanspurse.org/buildonline](http://samaritanspurse.org/buildonline). It is relatively easy to use and may help anyone who is short on time or isn't doing much shopping now. Also, this option is fun for adults as well as children. The suggested donation for this is \$25.00 which includes the \$9.00 shipping expense.

Above all else, please pray for the children, their families and communities, as they enjoy these gifts, learn about God and become lifelong Christians. Thank you for your interest in the mission of Operation Christmas Child.

(You may contact Linda New at 301-882-7151 or [rowlnlin@hotmail.com](mailto:rowlnlin@hotmail.com) for more information.)

# Kids Sunday School

## Get ready to Zoom

New and exciting things are happening in our Sunday school classes.

Each week we are either Zooming with the teachers or watching the latest video from Harry, our VBS monster.

Zoom links will be sent the Thursday before the class in the Thursday email and will also be sent by email. If you do not get the children's Sunday school emails contact Donna at [declawson16@gmail.com](mailto:declawson16@gmail.com)

The teachers have also put together Zoom Bags! Each bag contains puzzles, projects, coloring pages to go with each lesson and even a few surprises!! Bags are in the Education Building kitchen (near the microwave.)

Pick up your bag today!

**We hope you will join us! The schedule is below.**

**All Zoom lessons begin at 1p.m.!!**

**October 25:**

Zoom: Pumpkin Prayer



**November 1:**

Video: Geodes

**November 8:**

Zoom: All Saints Day

**November 15:**

Video: Gratitude

**November 22:**

Zoom: Let's get ready for Advent

**November 29:**

Video: First Week of Advent

**December 6:**

Zoom: Second Week of Advent

**December 13:** Video: Third Week of Advent

**December 20:** Zoom: Fourth Week of Advent

**December 27:** Video: Happy Jesus' Birthday!

**Advent Zoom Bags will be available 29!**



### **Trek or Treat Parade! October 25 at 5 p.m.**

Trunk or Treat will be a lot different this year. All participants should arrive at the New Market United Methodist parking lot (5501 Old New Market Rd) by 5:00 p.m. You will remain in your cars until an usher invites you to either: have your picture taken at the photo station or line up for the parade. The guided parade will proceed with social distancing into downtown New Market with a New Market Fire Department supervised crossing of Rt. 144 and return to the New Market town park where treat bags will be handed out. **There is space for 50 cars, registration is required.**

## Vital Conversations on Race will continue on Thursday's at 7p.m.:

Vital conversation topics will be discussed on 10/29, and 11/12  
We will switch to an Advent study every Thursday during that season.

## Charge Conference – November 1st at 6:15 p.m. via Zoom

Charge Conference will be virtual this year.  
A Zoom link will be sent out when it is available.  
If you would like to participate in the conference, please contact the church office.

## Eagle Scout Project at NMUMC



Marshall Proctor has successfully completed his Eagle Scout project for our resident Troop 628. Marshall provided a new home for the cemetery stones that belonged to the Methodist Episcopal North church. We will dedicate this project at the end of our 11:00 a.m. service on November 1. Below is a brief history of the headstones.

### Tombstone Plaque Legend

These tombstones and an iron fence on the north side of Main Street are the only reminders of the New Market Methodist Protestant Church, 1831-1940. Members opposed to slavery split from this church (New Market UMC) in 1831, and by 1840 built a brick church on the north side of Main Street. In

1940, a year after the national Methodist church healed its split over slavery, these congregations reunited. A physician bought the vacated church, built his home and office beside it, and then tore down the aging building, using the bricks to build a privacy fence, itself no longer standing. Not long after, wanting to enjoy his side yard, he hired several men to remove the tombstones one night and pile them by what was then the C&P Telephone Company switching station, now our Education Building. The stones sat in piles for several years, until church members planted the stones in rows on the back lot of the New Market Methodist Protestant Church. We have since replanted them here, in their own grouping.

## Hope 4 Kids Is Resuming Packing!!

It is with great excitement that Hope 4 Kids announce they are resuming their monthly fellowship. Due to COVID, we have had to modify our process. Until further notice, all packings will occur at the New Market church schoolhouse. If you are interested in volunteering, please email [hope4kids.foodpacks@gmail.com](mailto:hope4kids.foodpacks@gmail.com)

All packings will follow our Home Safe protocols. Masks must be worn, and social distancing will be observed. Each month, volunteers **must** sign-up to help. If you are interested in volunteering this month, simply click the link below: [October Packing Sign-up](#)

### Packing schedule for this school year.

All packings will occur at the NM Schoolhouse at 6 p.m.  
November 16, December 21, January 18, February 15, March 15, April 19, and May 17.



## ***Cup of J.O.E.'S (Jesus Over Everything Coffee Ministry)***

***The coffee ministry team would like to inform the congregation that our soft kick-off at the New Market Farmers Market was a success. We engaged in conversation and relationship with over 75 people in 4 hours. This convinces us that this is an effective outreach ministry and we are planning on going full steam ahead with other venues and hope to one day have a coffee cart/bike of our own. Please pray for this ministry and if you would like to join the team contact Pastor Scott.***

## **Confirmation 2020 Schedule**

**Overview of Sessions: (All sessions: Sundays 6:30-7:30 p.m. unless noted)  
 Bolded dates are optional offerings in tandem with MCUMC**

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>October 28<sup>th</sup></b>  | <b>AMPED (MC Parking Lot) 6:30-8:30 p.m.</b>                                  |
| November 8 <sup>th</sup>        | Why are things so messed up sometimes? The Problem with Sin                   |
| <b>November 11<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>AMPED (MC Parking Lot) 6:30-8:30 p.m.</b>                                  |
| November 22 <sup>nd</sup>       | What's God's Purpose? Jesus- Born to Save                                     |
| December 6 <sup>th</sup>        | How do I experience a relationship with God? (Justification & Sanctification) |
| <b>December 16<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>AMPED (MC Parking Lot) 6:30-8:30 p.m.</b>                                  |

### **LIFT (Ladies In Faith Together)**

If you have any questions or would like to be included on our LIFT emails, contact Donna at [declawson16@gmail.com](mailto:declawson16@gmail.com)



### **Christmas Luncheon UMW**

**Dec 8th in the schoolhouse. More details to follow in November.**

**NMUMC is excited to welcome the Hanson family as new members. Welcome Troy, Kate, Isaac, Lily, Ben, Sarah, and (Piper)**



**Join me in welcoming Benjamin Joseph Meehling to the New Market UMC family. Benjamin was baptized on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020**







**From the of Carole Zimmerman, Finance Chair**

October is Pastor Appreciation Month – please take a moment to share a compliment, to say “THANK YOU” and continue to PRAY for Pastor Scott and his entire family as he serves God and us.

As you may recall, in my last newsletter article (April) we were seeking a volunteer to serve as church treasurer. Since we were unable to find that person within our congregation, we have contracted with a local bookkeeping service, Accounting Support Services. We are in the process of transferring our files and adopting new procedures as we transition to this new service. It is anticipated that within the next month that transition will be completed.

We are grateful to Thersa (Dowling) for her service as church treasurer during the last 7+ years and are fortunate that she has agreed to stay on the finance team. Please join me in thanking her for her years of service and wish her the best in the future with her ‘spare’ time.

We are thankful for your financial support and encourage your continued giving. **NMUMC By the Numbers** since April 17<sup>th</sup> are:

April 24<sup>th</sup> & May Deposits: \$17,230.64  
 Regular Offering -- \$13,619.64  
 Debt Reduction -- \$400.00  
 Parsonage Rent -- \$2100.00  
 Building Fund -- \$100.00  
 Pastor’s Discretionary -- \$50.00  
 Hope 4 Kids -- \$65.00  
 Upper Room -- \$6.00  
 Lenten Mission -- \$300.00  
 Mission -- \$60.00  
 New Market Community Care -- \$380.00  
 Organ Fund -- \$150.00  
 Online Giving Total: \$4256.11  
   Regular Offering -- \$4038.84  
   Community Care -- \$100.00  
   Online Fees -- \$117.27

June Deposits: \$20,085.64  
 Regular Offering -- \$15,104.64  
 Debt Reduction -- \$185.00  
 Parsonage Rent -- \$2100.00  
 Pre School Rent -- \$1950.00  
 Pastor’s Discretionary -- \$520.00  
 Hope 4 Kids -- \$65.00  
 Upper Room -- \$11.00  
 Pre School -- \$150.00  
 Online Giving Total: \$1388.70  
   Regular Offering -- \$1348.07  
   Online Fees -- \$40.63

July Deposits: \$17,455.21  
 Regular Offering -- \$10,729.68  
 Building Fund -- \$150.00  
 Memorial Fund -- \$465.00  
 Organ Fund -- \$150.00  
 Pastor’s Discretionary -- \$50.00  
 Hope 4 Kids -- \$40.00  
 Community Care -- \$900.00  
 Upper Room -- \$3.00  
 Parsonage Rent -- \$2100.00  
 Pre School Rent -- \$2700.00  
 Office Supply return -- \$8.45  
 W/C Insurance Refund -- \$138.00  
 Fuel Oil Rebate -- \$21.06  
 Online Giving Total: \$594.18  
   Regular Offering -- \$310.00  
   Memorial Fund -- \$265.57  
   Fees -- \$18.61

August Deposits: \$24,907.57  
 Regular Offering -- \$11,600.65  
 Building Fund -- \$150.00  
 Memorial Fund -- \$750.00  
 Organ Fund -- \$150.00  
 Pastor’s Discretionary -- \$782.92  
 Hope 4 Kids -- \$65.00  
 Debt Reduction -- \$5150.00  
 Upper Room -- \$9.00  
 Parsonage Rent -- \$4200.00  
 Worship Supplies -- \$1050.00  
 Church Maintenance Donation -- \$1000.00  
 Online Giving Total: \$1310.33  
   Regular Offering -- \$1207.03  
   Memorial Fund -- \$100.00  
   Fees -- \$3.30

September Deposits: \$15,568.72  
 Regular Offering -- \$14,634.72  
 Building Fund -- \$100.00  
 Organ Fund -- \$300.00  
 Pastor’s Discretionary -- \$100.00  
 Debt Reduction -- \$300.00  
 Upper Room -- \$9.00  
 Hope 4 Kids -- \$125.00  
 Online Giving Total: \$2106.78  
   Regular Offering -- \$2060.00  
   Online Fees -- \$46.78

Mortgage Balance:  
 as of 4/21 -- \$52,009.04  
 as of 10/5 -- \$34,602.32

In addition to the above income, in April we applied for a PPP loan through the SBA CARES Act. The application was approved in May in the amount of \$24,990.42. All of these funds were used for payroll and utility expenses. This loan/grant has provided almost the \$29,972.54 decline in giving (March-August) we have experienced.

We are waiting for the bank to release the forgiveness application once the HEALS Act is passed. Assuming all of our expenditures are forgiven, the loan will then become a grant and will not need to be repaid.

Best wishes for a month filled with blessings, good health and love.



## **2020 Giving Campaign and Financial Planning for 2021**

It has been the goal of the Church Council and the Finance Team to eliminate the parsonage/schoolhouse mortgage by the time it needs to be renewed in January 2021.

The mortgage balance as of this printing is \$32,603.24, with three payments remaining. At the time of renewal, the estimated remaining amount would be approximately \$26,300. The Council has agreed that this year's Thanksgiving offering be put toward eliminating this debt.

We are aware that this has been a difficult financial year for many of our families, as well as the church, but we are hopeful that as you look at your end of year financial status that you will consider giving generously toward this goal. Please mark your donation as Mortgage Debt and either drop it in the offering plate, mail it, or drop it off to the church office. Another option is online giving, but please keep in mind there is a percentage cost for this service as you contemplate which way you are planning to give.

The Finance Team encourages everyone to submit their planned giving amount for 2021. This will help greatly in their budgeting for the coming year. Giving forms will be available at both services and online.

Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness.

Church Council

**Pastor Scott Clawson**

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