

The Webster Word

October 2026 Webster Congregational Christian Church Volume 26, Issue 10

A community of faith in Havre de Grace

October 2026

Webster Congregational Christian Church of the United Church of Christ
4100 Webster Road, Havre de Grace, MD 21078 * 410-939-1884

27	28	29	30	1	2	3
• Birthday Sunday, Coffee Talk, 10:30 AM • Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 PM- 3 PM		• Bible Study 11 AM on Zoom	• Think Group 5:30-6:30 PM • Emmanuel Baptist 7 PM	• Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30 PM		• Upper Chesapeake Bay Pride Festival 1-6 PM
4	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**
• World Communion, Soup Coffee Talk 10:30 AM • Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 PM -3 PM	• Emmanuel Baptist Ladies Bible Study 6:30 PM	• Grace Place 9:30 AM (dessert) • Bible Study 11 AM on Zoom	• Think Group 5:30-6:30 PM • Emmanuel Baptist 7 PM	• Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30 PM		• Emmanuel Baptist Outreach 10:30 AM -12 PM
11	**12**	**13**	**14**	**15**	**16**	**17**
• Sunday Service, Coffee Talk, 10:30 AM • Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 PM- 6 PM		• Bible Study 12 PM on Zoom • Official Board Meeting 7PM	• Think Group 5:30-6:30 PM • Emmanuel Baptist 7 PM	• Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30 PM		• Emmanuel Baptist TBA
18	**19**	**20**	**21**	**22**	**23**	**24**
• Sunday Service, Coffee Talk, 10:30 AM • Deacons Meeting • Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 PM- 3 PM	• SCCW 11:30 AM at Webster Church	• Bible Study 12 PM on Zoom	• Think Group 5:30-6:30 PM • Emmanuel Baptist 7 PM	• Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30 PM • Boy Scout Court of Honor 7:15 PM		
25	**26**	**27**	**28**	**29**	**30**	**31**
• Birthday Sunday, Halloween Party, 10:30 AM • Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 PM- 3 PM		• Bible Study 12 PM on Zoom	• Think Group 5:30-6:30 PM • Emmanuel Baptist 7 PM	• Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30 PM		

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Bible Study notice:

Bible Study will meet via Zoom at 11 AM on Tuesday, October 6th and at noon the remaining Tuesdays in October. *Each week in Bible Study, we investigate and study the scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday. Those who attend have commented that they gain greater insight into the sermon (which always focuses on the scripture reading) each week.* Email or call Pastor Jim if you are interested in

A Message from Pastor Jim

For the past forty-one years Mike and I have never missed our constitutional right to vote, in either the primary or the general election. But during these past forty-one years I don't ever remember praying for the election. I don't mean praying for a particular candidate to win, I mean praying for the actual election itself. But every night for the last few weeks along with my prayers for the congregation of Webster Church and their friends and loved ones, I have found myself adding November 3rd to my prayers. I find myself praying for a safe, non-violent, fair election, where everyone who is registered to vote is allowed to, and that no one is turned away from their poll site for perverse and nefarious reasons.

This past Sunday, part of my message was on the "Parable of the Two Sons" from Matthew's Gospel. Matthew writes, "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" The chief priests and leaders of the temple said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

I have to admit that this parable has always taken my personal inventory. "Which son am I? Am I the one who commits to doing something and then doesn't follow through? Or am I the one who says, 'absolutely not' and then eventually changes my mind?" If I'm honest with myself I know I have often been both. And hopefully I'm not alone. For me, this parable has always held a mirror up to my integrity. Do I do what I say, or not?

But for Matthew this parable is all about righteousness. John becomes the standard bearer for righteousness and the measure by whom all are judged. The tax collectors and prostitutes believed him; the chief priests and elders did not. So, Jesus' question is not really integrity, about saying or doing, but between believing or not believing in John.

And because Jesus chooses to be closely identified with John, their authority is intertwined. Both come in the way of righteousness, and both have been given their authority from heaven. So, according to Matthew, our status in the kingdom of heaven depends on our reaction to Jesus and John. The tax collectors and prostitutes who occupied the lowest social rank acquired a higher status than the chief priests and leaders of the people because they changed their minds and received John and eventually followed Jesus.

But with the general election looming large, let's pretend that this parable is all about the candidate's integrity. What do you think? Are you going to vote for the candidate who always promises to go to Washington or Annapolis and vote for the issues they campaigned on, but then doesn't? Or are you going to vote for the candidate who doesn't always agree with what you believe, but when they hear from their constituents they vote for what is wanted and needed by the people they represent?

I pray that my election prayers will be answered and that we will have a safe and fair election on November 3rd. And I also pray that you will vote for the candidates with the most integrity, the one who does the will of their constituents, and not that of their own.

MODERATOR

If you have recently been in the Social Hall you couldn't help but notice sheets of paper spread out on two of the long tables. Heidi and Doris have identified all the functions that are staffed by volunteers and members have been signing up to perform these tasks. Some people sign more than one sheet and generously agree to give their time and talent to multiple jobs. Examples of the tasks are Deacons, fundraisers, Trustees, Blessings in a Backpack etc. I am amazed at the commitments members have made to our Church functions. Our ability to function and provide a house of worship is solely dependent on an engaged congregation. Practically no one just comes to worship services but rather serves throughout the year in many duties. How can we honor this devotion? How can we measure the value of your time? How will you be rewarded? May you find peace and personal satisfaction by giving in this way. You are loved and appreciated.

Ann Helton, Moderator

NOTES FROM THE DEACONS

OCTOBER is packed with many memories of my years in the classroom. I always had many costumes in my classroom for the students who forgot to bring one for the parade or left it at home and had parents that both worked. Then there was the year when the PTA Officers (sponsors of the parade) voted to have a themed parade, DOWN ON THE FARM, to eliminate blood and gore. The one mom who obviously disagreed came as a mummy. I had many a mom to calm down after that parade. Now in retirement I only have to hand out candy as the neighborhood children stop by for TRICK OR TREAT, and I love this task!!!

Our Sunday services for October are as follows:

- **10/04 Communion/Coffee Talk/WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**
- **10/11 Worship/Coffee Talk**
- **10/18 Worship/Coffee Talk**
- **10/25 Worship/Coffee Talk/Birthday Sunday**

As always the deacons are ready for suggestions and questions.

Tony Dooley, Deacon

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LECTIONARY READINGS FOR OCTOBER:

October 4 – Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 and Psalm 19, Isaiah 5:1-7 and Psalm 80:7-15; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

October 11 – Philippians 4:1-9; Exodus 32:1-14 and Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Isaiah 25:1-9, and Psalm 23; Matthew 22:1-14

October 18 – Exodus 33:12-23 and Psalm 99; Isaiah 45:1-7 and Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13); Matthew 22:15-22; **1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

October 25 – Deuteronomy 34:1-12 and Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17; Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 and Psalm 1; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; **Matthew 22:34-46**

Service Attendants:

DATE	READER		GREETER	USHER
October 4	Lauren Dooley	Communion	Hugh Nash	Barbara Nash
October 11	Carol Greimel		Beth Jackson	Carol Greimel
October 18	Doris Lyttle		Gary Lyttle	Tony Dooley
October 25	Marge Joseph		Beth Jackson	Lonna Smith

Society of Congregational Christian Women (SCCW)

The SCCW October meeting is on Monday, October 19th, at 11:30 AM at Webster Church. We will prepare for the bazaar on Saturday, November 7, 2026.

The bazaar will feature an all-you-can-eat breakfast, lunch items, white elephant, collectibles, and crafters. As you do your fall cleaning, collect good, clean, usable items for our white elephant room. Please, NO clothing. Items may be brought to church and placed in the scout room.

Plan what one or two items you can bake for the bake table. Plan when you can help to set up the white elephant room and social hall at noon on Monday, November 2nd and at the Bazaar on Saturday, November 7th. Some help will be needed to help Victoria and I on Friday morning, November 6th to bake pies and in the afternoon at 4 to box the pies. Sign up sheets will be available closer to the date.

If you have any questions, see Doris Lyttle.

Doris Lyttle, President



Those celebrating October birthdays are:

Lindsay Cohen-Lloyd
Heather Long
Paula Whitacre
Hunter Allen
Jonathan Zader
Julie Pensell
Al Burden
Austin Barnes
Rachael Pedersen
Troy Samuel Morse
Sara Wasielewski Mason

CLERK'S REPORT

Things Happening at Webster Church

Deaths
Geraldine "Gerry" Krotee

- Bay Pride is at the Concord Park on Saturday, October 3rd, 1-6 PM
- The October Official Board meeting is Tuesday, October 13th at 7 PM.
- The Bazaar is between 9 AM and 1 PM on Saturday, November 7, 2026.
- Thanksgiving pies will **NOT** be baked this year due to the lack of and high cost of apples.
- Anyone from Webster Church may attend the Official Board meeting and copies of the minutes are available upon request. Contact Doris Lyttle.

Blessings in a Backpack – Support a Child

Webster Congregational Christian Church is preparing to continue to pack backpacks of nonperishable food to deliver to 75 students at Havre de Grace Elementary School each week for the 2026-2027 school year. At least $12,000 is needed to feed 75 students for a school year. Approximately $175 will supply food for a year per child.

Students who have the proper nourishment to fight those hunger pains are better behaved and progress better academically.

If you would like to contribute to the Blessings in a Backpack Webster Church fund directly, send your contribution to

Blessings in a Backpack Bank Lockbox
P.O. Box 950291
Louisville, KY 40295

Remember to write Havre de Grace Elementary on the memo line.

Or donate at
https://giving.blessingsinabackpack.org/organizations/havre-de-grace-elementary-md


FALL BAZAAR & CRAFT SHOW
WEBSTER CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHRUCH OF CHRIST
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2026 9AM - 1 PM
ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST 9 - 11 AM * $12
LUNCH - HOT DOGS, SLOPPY JOES, CHICKEN CORN SOUP, PIE ALAMODE
BAKE TABLE, WHITE ELEPHANT, CRAFTS, & COLLECTIBLES
CHERRY PIES $15, PUMPKIN PIES $12, CHICKEN CORN SOUP $7.50/QT
THE SPRING FROST AFFECTED OUR APPLE FARMER, WE WILL HAVE LIMITED APPLE ITEMS ON OUR BAKE TABLE.
TO PREORDER- CALL DORIS @ 410-937-9054
OR EMAIL DLYTTLE@COMCAST.NET SUBJECT PIES
WEBSTER CHURCH - 4100 WEBSTER RD, HDG, 21078
WWW.WEBSTERUCC.ORG
WEBSTER UCC



Special Notes

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OCTOBER

