



The Webster Word

August 2026 Webster Congregational Christian Church Volume 26, Issue 8

A community of faith in Havre de Grace

August 2026

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

26	27	28	29	30	31	1
• 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		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
• Communion, Coffee Talk 10:30 AM • Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 PM -3 PM	• Emmanuel Baptist Ladies Bible Study 6:30 PM	• NO BIBLE STUDY Grace Place 9:30 AM (dessert)	• Think Group 5:30-6:30 PM • Emmanuel Baptist 7 PM	• Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30 PM	• Pie Baking 8 AM • Festival Set Up 4 PM 	• Pivot Peach Festival 9 AM • Emmanuel Baptist Outreach 10:30 AM -12 PM
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
• Sunday Service, Coffee Talk, 10:30 AM • Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 PM- 3 PM		• Bible Study 11 AM 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		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
• Sunday Service, Coffee Talk, 10:30 AM • Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 PM- 3 PM • VBS at Helton Home 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM	• VBS at Helton Home 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM	• Bible Study 11 AM on Zoom • VBS rain date at Helton Home 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM	• Think Group 5:30-6:30 PM • Emmanuel Baptist 7 PM	• Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30 PM		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
• Sunday Service, 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		
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
• Birthday Sunday, Blessing of Backpacks, Coffee Talk, 10:30 AM • Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 PM- 3 PM • Church Picnic at the Helton Home 3 PM – 6 PM		• NO BIBLE STUDY Grace Place 9:30 AM (meal)	• 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 Tuesdays. *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 joining us so you can get the contact information.

A Recipe for Disaster from Pastor Jim

So, what if Webster Church held a Peach Festival and there were no peaches? I first heard that an early April frost destroyed this year's peach crop at our Webster Official Board Meeting on July 14, and that there would be no peaches and probably no apples available for pie baking this year. And I suddenly realized that the \$3.00 price for a single peach at our neighborhood grocery store wasn't just a New York problem. But when Doris and Heidi explained that we were going ahead with a Peach Pivot, I thought to myself, "Surely this is a recipe for disaster." We normally sell over one hundred delicious homemade peach crumb and crust pies, cobblers, and crisps. How can we ever replace them with a single baked goods table and some orders for cherry and coconut cream pies? And then I remembered four things.

First, all four gospels tell us that Jesus fed five thousand men, not including women and children, with five loaves and two fish. Now it's possible that the people had thought to pack a picnic lunch before they followed Jesus to a deserted place and that they shared what they had with one another. It's also possible that Jesus performed the miracle himself as he looked up to the heavens and blessed and broke the bread. But I think the biggest miracle of all is that Jesus ordered the crowd to sit down on the grass and convinced total strangers to engage in conversation with one another. And that's what we do at Webster Church. We invite our neighbors to sit down and engage in conversation with one another and with total strangers.

Second, I remembered how worried we were before this year's Conference of Biblical Storytellers because we only had registered half the number of attendees we usually do. We thought "Surely this is a recipe for disaster." Yet miraculously, everyone had a great time and were able to tell more stories than usual. The first timers received lots of attention and many of them promised to come back next year. And lastly, everyone got what they came for.

Third, the ladies of the SCCW were hosting a Peach Festival long before I even heard of Webster Church and they know what they're doing. If they're willing to stick their necks out and take a risk, then we need not be afraid to join them.

And fourth, I've been waiting for one of our SCCW ladies to bake me a coconut cream pie for nine years and now the time has come. I've already placed my order and I'm going to enjoy every single bite. See you on Saturday, August 8th at the Peach Pivot Festival!

MODERATOR

You could have knocked me over with a pin when I heard the news from Lohr's Orchards that the peach and apple crops had been virtually wiped out by an early frost in April of this year. It was very bad news for the Lohr's and for Webster Church because of the loss of revenue we expect from using these crops. The Webster budget shows an expectation of \$7,000 in revenue from the Peach Festival, the Fall Bazaar and Thanksgiving pies. So, you can easily see what a blow this is to our operational needs.

After catching our collective breath Heidi, Doris and I put our heads together and proposed what we hope will help breach this loss and move us toward recovery. That involves continuing to make cherry pies, relying on our talented bakers in the congregation for supplying a new kind of bake table and promoting our AYCE breakfast and lunch. The White Elephant sale will be alive and well! I am in awe of the response from our members who have agreed to fire up their home ovens on the Friday we would normally peel peaches and bring their best desserts to the event. Everyone rallied to the cause without hesitation. Libby and Jean will make the peach preserves with whatever peaches they can find.

Doris has readied the sign-up sheets so we know what to expect in the way of baked goods and other kinds of help that will be needed. Gary and his crew will be on hand with their delicious breakfast. Others will be setting up the sale in the Scout Room.

I cannot tell you how amazed I am at the response from all of you when it became necessary to reinvent this event. Your positive attitudes are the backbone of this Congregation. What a blessing!

Ann Helton, Moderator

NOTES FROM THE DEACONS

July was the hottest month according to me. I had more trouble with the 3 digit days then I ever remember. Yet I am not ready for the rush of the Fall to begin. To tell the truth I am thankful for each day God has given me and I find JOY in each of them.

The following worship experiences are planned for August at WEBSTER CHURCH;

- 8/2 Communion/Coffee Talk
- 8/9 Worship/Coffee Talk
- 8/16 Worship/Coffee Talk
- 8/23 Worship/Coffee Talk
- 8/30 Worship/Birthday Sunday/Coffee Talk

For those of you that have saved time in August for your vacation time we wish you safe travel to your destination and as always we welcome you back as you return to worship at WEBSTER CHURCH.

Always remember if you have any suggestions or concerns about Webster services share them with any deacon and we will discuss them at our next meeting.

Tony Dooley, Deacon

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR AUGUST:

August 2 –Genesis 32:22-31 and Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Isaiah 55:1-5 and Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

August 9 – **Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28** and Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; 1 Kings 19:9-18 and Psalm 85:8-13; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

August 16 – **Genesis 45:1-15** and Psalm 133; Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 and Psalm 67; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28

August 23 – **Exodus 1:8-2:10** and Psalm 124; Isaiah 51:1-6 and Psalm 138; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

August 30 – Exodus 3:1-15 and Psalm 105:1-6, 23-25, 45b; Jeremiah 15:15-21 and Psalm 26:1-8

Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

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Service Attendants:

DATE	READER	GREETER	USHER
August 2	Communion – Brad Miller	Beth Jackson	Carol Greimel
August 9	Ann Helton	Linda Placzankis	Ann Helton
August 16	Marge Joseph	Christina Miller	Brad Miller
August 23	Gary Lyttle	Gary Lyttle	Doris Lyttle
August 30	Victoria DeVoe	Mark DeVoe	Tony Dooley

Society of Congregational Christian Women (SCCW)

Hopefully, you are surviving the summer weather and enjoying the summer activities. The ladies finalized plans for the Peach Festival, now Pivot Peach Festival since peaches aren't available. We will continue with the usual activities except for our usual baked peach items.

Cherry pies are available for \$15 each, Coconut Cream pies are \$13, and Peach Preserves are \$8. Additional items will be available on the Bake Table. People can pick up their pies between 9 and 2 on Saturday, August 8th. The all-you-can-eat breakfast will be served from 9 till 11. Cherry pie, and cherry pie a la mode as well as other lunch items will be available.

The setup will be on Friday, August 7th starting at 3:30 PM. Bake Table items can be dropped off on Friday between 3:30 and 6 PM. Your help would be greatly appreciated on Saturday, August 8th. Help will be needed in the kitchen and other areas.

Set up for the White Elephant room is Monday, August 3rd at 10 AM. Bring items to church and place in the Scout Room. Let Doris know if you need to schedule a time to drop off items.

Preorder pies and preserves by emailing Doris at dlyttle@comcast.net or calling Doris at 410-937-9054.

The next SCCW meeting will be Monday, September 21st at 11:30 at Webster Church. All ladies are welcome.

Doris Lyttle, President



Those celebrating August birthdays are:

**Gary Lyttle
Lauren Dooley
Monica Pederson**

**Lisa Jennings
Donna Brinegar**

WEBSTER CHURCH PICNIC

The church picnic for all ages has been scheduled for Sunday, August 30th from 3 – 6 PM. The meat, drinks, and paper items will be supplied. Side dishes, salads, and desserts will be accepted. Contact Ann Helton if you are attending the pool party/picnic so we know how many to prepare for and let her know what dish you will contribute. Everyone is invited to attend.

CLERK'S REPORT

Things Happening at Webster Church

- VBS is scheduled for Sunday, August 16th and Monday, August 17th. See more information below.
- The church picnic is Sunday, August 30, 2026. See more information above.
- The August meeting of the Official Board is Tuesday, August 11th at 7 PM.

Anyone from Webster Church may attend the Official Board meeting and copies of the minutes are available upon request. Contact Doris Lyttle

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS will be held at the Helton home between 5:30 and 7:30 on Sunday, August 16th and Monday, August 17th with a rain date on Tuesday, August 18th. It is a time for swimming, eating, craft, and a lesson. Please let Heidi know if your child/children plan to attend.

Blessings in a Backpack – Support a Child

The 2026-2027 school year begins on Monday, August 31st in Harford County. Our goal is to continue feeding 75 students at Havre de Grace Elementary School on the weekends. This past school year \$11,444 was spent. At least that amount will be needed for the next school year to continue to feed 75 students.

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>



WEBSTER CHURCH'S PEACH FESTIVAL

PIVOT

Due to the April frost, our local peaches won't be available. Our bakers are pivoting to fill the Bake Table with delicious pies, cookies, and treats! Cherry Pies can be preordered, but Bake Table will be First Come First Served.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8 ~ 9AM TO 2PM

**ALL YOU CAN EAT
BREAKFAST \$12
9 - 11 AM**

**Bake Table
Crafters
White Elephant**

**LUNCH - hot dogs, sloppy joes,
chips, drinks, desserts**

**Please pray for our local farmers that they too
can make the most of this season.**

**Call Doris @ 410-937-9054 to preorder Cherry pies
Webster Church - 4100 Webster Road, HdG 21078**



Special Notes



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Havre de Grace, MD 21078
410-939-1884
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AUGUST

