



The Webster Word

April 2026 Webster Congregational Christian Church Volume 26, Issue 4

A community of faith in Havre de Grace

April 2026

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

29	30	31	1	2	3	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Palm Sunday Cantata, Coffee Talk, Egg Hunt 10:30 AM • Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 PM- 6 PM 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible Study 11 AM on Zoom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think Group 5:30-6:30 PM • Emmanuel Baptist 7 PM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30 PM • Maundy Thursday 6PM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Way of the Cross 12PM 	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emmanuel Baptist 7:30 AM – 9 AM • Easter Sunday, Communion 10:30 AM (NO Coffee Talk) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NO BIBLE STUDY • Grace Place 9:30 AM (Dessert) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think Group 5:30-6:30 PM • Emmanuel Baptist 7 PM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30 PM 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emmanuel Baptist Outreach 10:30 AM -12 PM • Court of Honor 2PM
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday Service, Coffee Talk, 10:30 AM • Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 PM- 3 PM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCCW meeting 11:30AM at Webster Church 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible Study 11 AM on Zoom • Official Board Meeting 7PM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think Group 5:30-6:30 PM • Emmanuel Baptist 7 PM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30 PM • We are America Marchers 6 PM 		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday Service, Coffee Talk, 10:30 AM • Deacons Meeting • Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 PM- 3 PM 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible Study 11 AM on Zoom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think Group 5:30-6:30 PM • Emmanuel Baptist 7 PM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30 PM 		
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birthday Sunday Coffee Talk 10:30 AM • Fireside Chat in Delaware 3PM • Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 PM- 6 PM 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible Study 11 AM on Zoom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think Group 5:30-6:30 PM • Emmanuel Baptist 7 PM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 Message from Pastor Jim

I just want to take a moment to give everyone at Webster United Church of Christ two “Save The Date” notices:

Sunday, April 26, 2026, at 3:00 PM

The Delmarva Congregations which are under the shepherding and leadership of the amazing Rev. Craig Peterson, our Associate Conference Minister, will have a Fireside Chat at the home of Reverend Cynthia Robinson, the pastor of New Ark United Church of Christ in Newark, Delaware. Newark is a thirty-minute drive up I-95, and the event will be similar to the one Heidi and Garrett Pensell hosted for us last September. More particulars will follow. My goal is to have ten members of Webster UCC join me and our fellow congregations for this fellowship gathering.

Saturday, May 2, 2026, at 10:00 AM.

The Chesapeake Association will hold its Annual Spring Meeting at one of the beaches or water front’s near Annapolis, Maryland. Normally the Association asks each congregation to send two delegates and their minister to attend our two-yearly meetings. But this one looks to be as special as the one that we hosted at the Harriet Tubman State Park a year and a half ago. We will be doing a combination of beach clean-up and worship for a couple of hours and then we will have lunch together. Once again, I don’t have the particulars in time for this publication, so more will follow. This will also be a great opportunity for some of our younger folks to roll up their sleeves and help love our planet.

Let’s remember that the two basic principles of the United Church of Christ are *autonomy* and *covenant*. We are doing great at being Webster the *autonomous* Church of Christ, and I am so proud of everything we do together. Your commitment to Webster Church is 100%. But we can always do more to make our promise to our Chesapeake Association, our Central Atlantic Conference, and our General Synod a reality. Because they always have Webster’s back. These two meetings will be a great opportunity to put our covenant with each other into a reality, and to practice what we preach.

MODERATOR

As I write this message for the Webster Word, I am preparing to rehearse and sing in the cantata on Palm Sunday with Hopewell Methodist choir. The Easter and Lent season at Webster church is always special, hopeful and reverential. Traditions are upheld, families are together, and we celebrate Christ's resurrection with hope and joy.

At this time of year, I am reminded of a quote from the French philosopher Simone Weil: "Attention is the purest form of generosity."

Our congregation is full of generous people who pay attention in so many acts of generosity: You pay attention to each other's needs, the messages of Jim's sermons, help with medical appointments, children who need food, the condition of the church building, the substance of our church services, communication with each other, giving extravagant welcome, the financial needs of a church and sooooo many other ways to "pay attention"

So, at this Easter time I notice most of us are not "giving up" for Lent but most are "giving out" to others. I like this tradition!

Ann Helton, Moderator

NOTES FROM THE DEACONS

During the last few weeks, I have heard several members discussing the number of flowers that had started to appear in their yards and I had nothing to offer in the conversation. My son came in the house this week to tell me, as he put it, "Dad, did you see mom's flowers in the yard by the patio?" When I walked out, I saw what he was talking about I found four blooming purple Hyacinths (his mom's favorite spring flower) that were first placed in Webster Church in memory of his mom/ my wife Lois. For those of you who are new to Webster we abandoned a few years ago individual memorial flowers at Christmas and Easter because many flowers were not claimed and had to be thrown away. But let me tell you a secret, if you walk to the very back of the parking lot at church and look carefully you may just see some spring flowers in bloom among the trees, but I have been told (by a reliable source) that the flowers you see are not from recent years.

Worship services for the month of April are as follows:

- 4/2 Maundy Thursday Dinner 6 PM
- 4/5 Easter/Communion
- 4/12 Worship/Coffee Talk
- 4/19 Worship/Coffee Talk
- 4/26 Worship/Coffee Talk

The deacons hope you have a wonderful Easter season and look forward to sharing worship times with you. Please remember if you have any suggestions or concerns; please share them with any deacon.

Tony Dooley, Deacon

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR APRIL:

April 5 – Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43; **John 20:1-18** or Matthew 28:1-10

April 12 – **John 20:19-31**; Acts:2-14a, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9

April 19 – **Luke 24:13-35**; Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23

April 26 – Acts 2:42-47; **Psalm 23**; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

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Service Attendants:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>READER</u>	<u>GREETER</u>	<u>USHER</u>
April 5	Pat Mengel Communion	Beth Jackson	Carol Greimel
April 12	Christina Miller	Christina Miller	Brad Miller
April 19	Gary Lyttle	Hugh Nash	Barbara Nash
April 26	Judi Haverstick	Libby Copes	Linda Placzankis

Society of Congregational Christian Women (SCCW)

Due to the weather the March SCCW meeting was cancelled. The April meeting will be Monday, April 13th at 11:30 AM. We will have lunch, a business meeting, and then we will give the kitchen its annual cleaning.

The ladies of Webster Church are invited to attend the SCCW meetings.

Doris Lyttle, President

Those celebrating April birthdays are:

**Megan Greimel
James Sterner
Graham Silsby
Jean Cook**

**Ann Helton
Lindsay Weber
Mac Placzankis
Minnie Miller
Jim Cook**



CLERK'S REPORT

Things Happening at Webster Church

- Procedures are being implemented to update the Webster Church directory. We will be collecting pictures of you and your family to put in the directory. Please see Doris about this.

Blessings in a Backpack – Support a Child

Each year the Central Atlantic Conference offers a Trinity Trust Grant that churches can apply for to fund a community outreach program. Webster Congregational Christian Church's Blessings in a Backpack qualified for the grant, and we were awarded \$3,600 for the year 2026. This amount will feed 19 children for a school year. Each quarter our Blessings in a Backpack program will receive \$900. The first quarter's amount was received in March.

We continue to pack backpacks of nonperishable food to deliver to students at Havre de Grace Elementary School each week for 75 students. Once a month a group of people braved the cold scout room this winter to pack several weeks' worth of backpacks. They are very important to the success of the program, and it is a time of fun and fellowship and exercise.

The children are very grateful for these things, as for some, this may be the only food they have for the weekend. \$175 will supply food for a year per child.

If you would like to contribute to the Blessings in a Backpack Webster Church fund, 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>



Special Notes



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April

