



The Webster Word

April 2023⁴

Webster Congregational Christian Church

Volume 24, Issue 4

A community of faith in Havre de Grace

April 2024

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

31	1	2	3	4	5	6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter, Communion, Birthday Sunday 10:30AM 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bible Study 10:30 AM (dessert) Bible Study 11:00 AM (Zoom) 	Think Group 5:30-6:30PM	Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30PM		Emmanuel Baptist 10 AM -12 PM (Social Hall)
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communion Sunday, Coffee 10:30AM 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bible Study 11:00 AM (Zoom) Official Board Meeting 7PM 	Think Group 5:30-6:30PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30PM Emmanuel Baptist 7-8 PM (Social Hall) 		Emmanuel Baptist 1:30 PM
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunday Service, Coffee Talk 10:30AM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SCCW meeting 7 PM Webster Church 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bible Study 11:00 AM Zoom Emmanuel Baptist 7-8 PM (Social Hall) 	Think Group 5:30-6:30PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30PM Boy Scout Court of Honor 7:15 PM 		Emmanuel Baptist 10 AM -12 PM
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunday Service, Coffee Talk 10:30AM Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 – 3:15 PM 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bible Study 11:00 AM Zoom 	Think Group 5:30-6:30PM	Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30PM		
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Birthday Sunday, Coffee Talk 10:30AM Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 – 3:15 PM 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bible Study 11:00 AM Zoom 	Think Group 5:30-6:30PM	Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30PM		Church Dinner/ Mother's Day, 6 PM

INDEX

Moderator.....2
Lectionary Readings2
Diaconate.....3
SCCW3
Birthdays4
Clerk’s Report.....4
Service Assistants.....4
100th Anniversary.....5
Outreach6

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.

MODERATOR

We have just heard the glorious Easter story and it always fills us with hope! I think the same can be said about our Church. We have many stories of hope to tell and sometimes we don't think about how to spread our good news to the community-at-large. The fact that we are celebrating our 100th Anniversary, that we are an Open-and-Affirming church, that all are welcome at our Communion table, and we have important community missions gets lost in our daily message. Yes, we have a web site and a Facebook page. Yes, we send out emails to a group larger than our membership and we occasionally talk about Webster to our friends and neighbors. Yes, we regularly invite the community to visit us for our Festivals and Bazaars. These are some of the ways we communicate with others. But we can do more!

We are currently reflecting on what is undone and unsaid about the Webster message of hope. We have plans to revamp and improve our web site. We are looking for a professional website designer who will be in our price range and know how church stories can best be told. But we need you, our members, to give us your thoughts on spreading the message. Remember Jesus spent his short life training the Disciples to carry on when he was no longer on earth. They had to tell the story well or the faith would die out. This is still part of our creed to spread the Word.

So, give us your thoughts and ideas. Talk to any of our Board members if you have ideas. What would Jesus do today with all the forms of media at our disposal? Think about it...

Ann Helton, Moderator

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR APRIL:

April 7 – Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1-2-2; **John 20:19-31**

April 14 – Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 3:1-7; **Luke 24:36b-48**

April 21 – Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; **John 10:11-18**

April 28 – Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; **John 15:1-8**

NOTES FROM THE DEACONS

Recently I visited in Delaware, and I could not get over the abundance Forsythias in bloom in their bright yellow color. It reminds me that we are so lucky to see the colors of spring *busting out all over*. Lenten Services, Palm Sunday, and Easter are now over, hopefully the spirit of these special events of our church's calendar year will help us enjoy the beauty all around our area.

The deacons with the guidance of Pastor Jim have planned for April worship on the following Sundays:

- 4/7 Communion/ Worship/Coffee Talk
- 4/14 Worship/Coffee Talk
- 4/21 Worship/Coffee Talk
- 4/28 Worship/Birthday Sunday\Coffee Talk

Hope to see you at worship!!

Please remember the deacons as well as Pastor Jim are ready to help you in any way we can, and we welcome suggestions at any time.

Enjoy the beauty that is April-rain or shine!!!!

Tony Dooley, Deacon

Society of Congregational Christian Women (SCCW)

The March meeting was held at 7 PM at Webster Church. The ladies learned more about Grace Place, one of our community outreach programs, from Tina Mike. At the April meeting we will learn about the Harford Family House from Heather Volk.

Delicious food was prepared and provided for Coffee Talk after the Cantata on Palm Sunday.

An Italian Church Dinner is being planned for 6 PM on Saturday, May 4th at Webster Church. Food will be ordered from Olive Tree and there will be a fee of \$17 for adults, \$8 for children 4-12, and children younger than 4 are free. The whole family and their friends are welcome.

The April SCCW meeting will be Monday, April 15th at 7 PM Webster Church. All ladies are welcome.

Doris Lytle, President



Those celebrating April birthdays are:

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

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

CLERK’S REPORT

Things Happening at Webster Church

- Emmanuel Baptist Church has signed a rental agreement and will begin on Sunday, April 21st to have Sunday Services at Webster Church after our service.
- The 100th Anniversary Committee of Webster Church with the help of Gwen Stolzenbach is moving forward with constructing the blocks for the quilt.
- Plan to join us at Webster Church to celebrate Passover with a Seder Service and Meal TBA.
- If you want to join the Bible Study group, contact Pastor Jim and he will send you the Zoom connection.
- Did you know: Minutes from the Official Board meetings are available. Contact Doris Lyttle for a copy.
- The April Official Board meeting is Tuesday, April 8th at 7 PM.

Service Attendants:

DATE

April 7
April 14
April 21
April 28

READER

Judi Haverstick Communion
Lauren Dooley
Jessica Long
Beth Jackson

GREETER

Lisa Taylor
Jim Cook
Gary Lyttle
Hugh Nash

USHER

Carol Greimel
Linda Placzankis
Doris Lyttle
Jean Cook

100th Anniversary Committee

Final decisions are being made for a church polo shirt that will be for sale for adults and children. So far it has been decided to make a red polo/golf type shirt with a black embroidered logo on the top left side of the front of the shirt. On May 4th there is an Italian Church Dinner. This month we will share Grace Denis's memories. If you would like to share your thoughts or memories, email them to Doris Lyttle at dlyttle@comcast.net.

Anniversary Reminiscences

Grace Denis

Grace is the daughter of Rowena Harrison, granddaughter of Reece and Grace Gilbert and niece of Rebecca Craig. All these people were past members of the church, and the Gilberts were an important part of the foundation of Webster Church.

Grace Denis was baptized at Webster Church on Christmas Eve, 1944. Her grandfather Reece Gilbert would come every Sunday morning, early to turn on the furnace for Sunday service. He would then return home to milk the cows and return to the service and count the plate and serve as treasurer.

Did you Know:

Did you know how Webster Church began?

May 22, 1923 - Original church, Webster Community Church (Methodist Protestant) was completed. (The church was on land on the opposite side of Webster Rd)

January 4, 1924 – Fire completely destroyed the original church.

January 31, 1924 – A meeting was held to elect a committee to procure ground, make plans and start the task of building.

February 10, 1924 – Ground was broken by John Macklem on land donated by Mr. & Mrs. T.D. Miller and Mr. & Mrs. Robert Tollenger

February 29, 1924 – The congregation decided to withdraw from the Maryland Conference of Methodist Protestant Churches.

March 27, 1924 – Joined the Christian Conference

During rebuilding the congregation met at Wesleyan Chapel Methodist Church.

August 23, 1924 – The cornerstone was laid, the first dinner was served, and the bell was rung for the first time.

August 24, 1924 – The official service of dedication was held.

Blessings in a Backpack – Support a Child

Each Friday 75 students at Havre de Grace Elementary School receive backpacks of nonperishable food for the weekend. For some of the children this may be the only food they have for the weekend. This program is possible through Blessings in a Backpack, one of the outreach programs at Webster Congregational Christian Church.

We are continuing to raise funds for this very important program because students who are well nourished function better academically and socially. \$125 will supply food for a year per child. Around 200 students are eligible for the backpacks, but our funds don't allow us to feed that many students. A special thank you to those you contribute to this outreach program.

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>

Italian Church Dinner

When – Saturday, May 4 at 6 PM

Where – Webster Church Social Hall

***Menu- Chicken Marsala, Baked Rigatoni, Vegetable Penne
(Vegan and Gluten Free), salad, bread sticks, cake, brownies, and drinks***

Cost – adults \$17, children \$8 (4-12), under 4 free

Attendance is by reservation

Reserve your spot by contacting Doris at

dlyttle@comcast.net or 420-937-9054

by Wednesday, May 1, 2024



Special Notes

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Webster Congregational Christian Church
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Havre de Grace, MD 21078
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www.websterucc.org

April

