



The Webster Word

March 2019

Webster Congregational Christian Church

Volume 19, Issue 3

March 2019

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
24	25	26	27	28	1	2
						Mardi Gras Karaoke 6p
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Communion Sunday, Coffee Talk 10:30a Living Water 12:15-3:15p Jr GS Troop 5963 5:45-8p GS Troop 2814 6-7:30p Cub Pack Parent Mtg 6-7p	Bible Study 12p	Grace Place 10:30a	Think Group 5:30-6:30p Living Water 7-9p	Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30p		BS Spaghetti Diner Level Fire hall 4-7p
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Sunday Service, Spring Ahead Brunch 10:30a Living Water 12:15-3:15p SR GS Troop 2816 6-7:30p	Bible Study 1p	Official Board Meeting 7p	Think Group 5:30-6:30p Living Water 7-9p	Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30p		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Sunday Service, Coffee Talk 10:30a Living Water 12:15-3:15p JR GS 5963 5:45-8p Cadette GS 2814 6-8p CS Pack 965 6-8p (Soc. Hall)	Bible Study 12p SCCWTBA		Think Group 5:30-6:30p Living Water 7-9p	Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30p		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Sunday Service, Coffee Talk 10:30a Living Water 12:15-3:15p Cub Pack Parent Mtg 6-7p SR GS Troop 2816 6-7:30p	Bible Study 12p		Think Group 5:30-6:30p Living Water 7-9p	Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30p		
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
Birthday Sunday, Coffee Talk 10:30a Living Water 12:15-3:15p Jr GS Troop 5963 5:45-8p						

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**Coffee Talk reception is held after every Sunday Service.*

**Note: Bible Study meets on Monday's at noon in the Pastor's office.*

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 around the scripture reading) each week. Please watch the bulletin for meeting locations. You can always call the church office (410) 939-1884. Rides are available!

PASTOR

"Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart, in-a my heart. Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart, in-a my heart." The first time I heard the words and music to this haunting African-American spiritual, I was in first grade, and I distinctly remember noticing how much my Sunday school teachers loved it and were comforted by it. We would read the hymn lyrics from a giant flip chart in the front of our Worship Center and because we were little, we only sang the first verse. I also remember wondering why we sang "in-a my" heart instead of plain old "in my" heart. By the time I was in junior high school this old chestnut of a hymn was replaced by the oh so trendy and cool, "They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love." And my know-it-all eight-grade confident self-thought that "Lord, I want to be a Christian" was totally "jive." Of course, my friends and I considered all music to be jive unless it was recorded by the Beatles, Simon and Garfunkel, Aretha Franklin, and/or Diana Ross and the Supremes. I thought, "Just be a Christian already! Don't want to be one." My Dad could no more make me believe that wanting to be a Christian was a life-long process any more than he could make me believe that when he was my age "jive" meant "cool." Because in my eyes, my Dad was jive.

"Lord, I want to be more loving in-a my heart, in-a my heart." Flash forward about fifty years later and I cannot tell you how happy I was to find both hymns in our Webster Church Hymnal. Whoever you are, if you were on the Committee to select our current Hymnal, you did an outstanding job. I'm not sure if you've

noticed, but so far, I've never had to search for a hymn from another hymnal to meet our worship needs. What I'm usually looking for in a hymn: the old and the new; the borrowed and the blue, is always right there in *Worship and Rejoice*. "Lord, I want to be more holy in-a my heart, in-a my heart." The Book of Leviticus is also called "The Holiness Code." The people of God wanted to be Holy because God is Holy. But it's a life-long process. Almost every day we start the process over. This now brings me to the season of Lent, and the daily process of *wanting* to be a Christian. The season of Lent is the forty days, excluding Sundays, between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday, when Christians follow Jesus to the cross and prepare for Easter, often through fasting and penitence. And although we don't offer a traditional Ash Wednesday Service here at Webster Church, Ash Wednesday might be the perfect time to visit one of our church neighbors in Historic Havre de Grace. Many of us may also decide to revisit our New Year's resolution we somehow broke during these past seven weeks of Epiphany. Lent is the perfect time to retry that New Year's resolution because it's only for forty days and you can break it on Sundays. So, if you've decided to eat healthier foods, or to exercise again, or pray more often, or worship more regularly, just remember hymn number 457, "Lord, I want to be like Jesus in-a my heart, in-a my heart." But whatever you decide to give up for Lent, don't let it make you so grumpy that you cannot confidently sing hymn number 595, "They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love."

MODERATOR

On February 2, 2019, almost one year since his arrival at Webster Church the Reverend Jim Sterner was occasionally installed as our Pastor. It was a glorious and happy event especially since Rev. Ellen Witko delivered the homily and Reverend Freeman Palmer, our new Conference Minister, were able to join us. The music, the menages and the reception all seemed to praise the special day. Jim has brought vitality and a modern-day ménage to use while making the Bible live-large for both adults and children.

Sorry if you missed Soup and Games night because the soups were warming, the children were competing in their games and the adults enjoyed each other's company and a glass of wine. Such a great way to socialize during the cold winter months.

We now begin the planning for events that lead to the Cross and Resurrection-Lent and Easter hold special meaning to our body of Christians. Our Diaconate is busy,

with Pastor Jim, putting together our worshipping and celebrating services. You will soon receive a calendar-of-events.

Good news! The electric chair lift has been repaired and all parts are wholly operational. Please review the operating instructions posted at both the top and bottom of the staircase. You will need to know how to properly and safely operate the lift, even if you have already used the chair.

God's natural beauty is present in all the seasons, but we eagerly await Spring!

Ann Helton
Moderator

DIACONATE

Lent and Easter are late this year, but it is time to mark Webster Church Dates on our calendars. The deacons are busy preparing for both March and April, therefore I am including the dates for March and April happenings at Webster so you can plan to be with us. Our Webster service schedule includes:

- March 3rd Worship with Communion and Coffee Talk
- March 10th Worship and Spring Ahead Brunch
- March 17th Worship and Coffee Talk
- March 24th Worship and Coffee Talk
- March 31st Worship and Coffee Talk

Moving on to April:

- April 7th Worship with Communion and Coffee Talk
- April 14th Palm Sunday Worship, Egg Hunt and Coffee Talk
- April 18th Maundy Thursday Worship Sedar Meal 6PM
- April 21st Easter Sunday Worship (Easter Breakfast 8:30AM-10:00AM)
- April 28th Worship and Easter Cantata

We look forward to sharing these services with you.

The diaconate will soon be sharing with the members and friends of Webster the Shepherd's List. This list will provide you with the name of the deacon that is assigned to keep in contact with you and to contact you if we hear there is illness in your family or if we have not seen you in church for a while. This deacon can also serve as your first contact if you have a concern or need some help from Webster. Please never hesitate to contact your deacon.

Don't forget to turn you clocks ahead late on March 9th. so you won't be late for services on the tenth.

Tony Dooley,
Deacon

Blessings in a Backpack – Support a Child

The 2018-2019 school year continues. Webster Congregational Christian Church continues to pack backpacks of nonperishable food to deliver to students at Havre de Grace Elementary School each week for 75 students. Two rotating menus were created with each child receiving 6 of the following items each week: pop tart, applesauce, fruit cup, pudding cup, Ravioli, macaroni 'n' cheese, for weekend consumption. Over longer weekends and long vacations as Easter break, additional items are included. The children are very grateful for these items as for some, this may be the only food they have for the weekend. Through the National Headquarters of Blessings in a Backpack, Wester Church has a special account at Sysco, Walmart and Wegmans which is used to purchase the items for the backpacks. Doris and Gary Lyttle shop for the food and Heidi Pensell, Jocelyn Greimel, or Gary and Doris Lyttle deliver the backpacks to the school. \$100 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.

SCCW

Spring officially arrives in about 3 weeks and some flowers are already peeking above the ground. The SCCW officers were nominated, and they were installed at the February meeting by Rev. James Sterner. The officers include: President - Doris Lyttle, Vice President of Devotions - Judith Haverstick, Vice President of Programs - Ann Helton, Treasurer - Lois Dooley, Secretary - Jean Cook, Hospitality/Flower Chairperson - Vilma Duffy, and Official Board Rep - Carol Greimel.

During the month of March, the SCCW hands out the March Calendar of Blessings which helps to raise the money we give to our benevolences and the church fund. Find a jar and designate it as my March Calendar Change. Each day in March read the little direction, do the math, and put the corresponding change in the jar. It is more fun to do it daily, but if your schedule is such that you are unable to add this to your busy day, then any donation will be greatly received. No need to count your change. We can do that for you. Just turn in your donation or check made out to SCCW at the end of the month to Lois Dooley. Thank you for your participation. Calendars will be available in the church narthex.

The March meeting is on Monday, March 18th at 1:30 p.m. at Webster Church. All ladies are welcome.

Doris Lyttle

Clerk's Report
Things Happening at Webster Church

- Young and older enjoyed the soup and games night in February.
- Remember to turn your clocks ahead on Saturday, March 9th. Join us for the Spring Ahead Brunch on Sunday, March 10th after the service.
- Clothing was delivered to the men at Earl's Place.
- Support a child and contribute to Blessings in a Backpack. Include Havre de Grace Elementary in the check memo.
- If anyone has dates for activities and meetings in 2019, contact Doris Lyttle so they can be put on the 2019 calendar posted in the hall downstairs.
- Did you know: Minutes from the Official Board meetings are available. Contact Doris Lyttle for a copy.



Those celebrating March birthdays are:

Hugh Nash	Kyla Placzankis
Bessie Bowman	Henry Pensell
Bonnie Burden	
Tucker Barnes	
Heidi Pensell	
Wendy Richard	
Susan Roeder	

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Date	Usher	Usher	Acolyte	Greeter	Reader
March 3	Graham Silsby	Jim Duffy	Ella Pensell	Vilma Duffy	Heidi Pensell
March 10	Jim Cook	Gary Lyttle	Alex Pedersen	Jean Cook	Bonnie Burden
March 17	Troy Morse	Terry Haverstick	Draiven Morse	Hugh Nash	Ann Helton
March 24	Bill Richard	Graham Silsby	Kyla Placzankis	Doris Lyttle	Graham Silsby
March 31	Tony Dooley	Jim Duffy	Megan Greimel	Lois Dooley	Judi Haverstick

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR March:

March 3 - Ex 34:29-35, Pa 99, 2 Cor 3:12-4:2, **Luke 9:28-36 (37-43a)** 3:12-4:2

March 10 - Deut 26:1-11, Ps 91:1-2, 9-16

March 17 - **Gen 15:1-12, 17-18, Ps 27, Phil 3:17-4:1, Luke 13:31-35 or Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)**

March 24 - **Isa 55:1-9, Ps 63:1-8, 1 Cor 10:1-13, Luke 13:1-9**

Marth 31 - Josh 5:9-12, Ps 32, 2 Cor 5:16-21, **Luke 15:1-3, 11b-22**

DID YOU KNOW - Email Communication – The Official Board established a policy for sending emails from the church address? The Board agreed to the following rules: 1. Secretary or Doris (clerk) should have the clerk, moderator, and pastor review for content and appropriateness before sending. 2. Email should be targeted to best audience of either large list, membership, or Board only.

DID YOU KNOW – If you want to receive a copy of the Official Board minutes, contact Doris Lyttle, Clerk.

Amazon Smiles

Whenever you order from Amazon, you can help Blessings in a Backpack. When you place an order from Amazon, sign into Amazon Smiles. Select Blessings in a Backpack and then select Louisville, Kentucky branch. Then place your order. Blessing in a backpack will receive 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ % of your sale. Thank you for helping feed the children on weekends.



Special Notes



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



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

websterucc@comcast.net

www.websterucc.org



FEBRUARY

Weekly Sunday Service begins at 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school in session during service

