



# **The Webster Word**

October 2024

Webster Congregational Christian Church

Volume 24, Issue 10

# A community of faith in Havre de Grace

# October 2024

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

29	30	1	2	3	4	5
• Birthday Sunday, Coffee Talk 10:30AM • Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 PM-3:15 PM		<ul> <li>Grace Place</li> <li>9:30 AM (Desert)</li> <li>Bible Study 11:00 AM on Zoom</li> </ul>	Think Group 5:30-6:30PM	Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30PM		Bay Pride Concord Point Lighthouse Park 2-6PM
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
World Communion Sunday, Soup & Bread Meal 10:30AM Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 PM-3:15 PM Cub Pack 6 PM-7 PM		<ul> <li>Bible Study 11:00 AM on Zoom</li> <li>Official Board Meeting 7PM</li> </ul>	Think Group 5:30-6:30PM	• Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30PM		Emmanuel Baptist 10 AM
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<ul> <li>Sunday Service, Coffee Talk 10:30AM</li> <li>Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 PM- 3:15 PM</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Bible Study 11:00 AM on Zoom</li> <li>Deacons Meeting 7PM (Zoom)</li> </ul>	Think Group 5:30-6:30PM	• Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30PM		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Sunday Service, Coffee Talk 10:30AM Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 PM-3:15 PM	<ul> <li>SCCW meeting 7 PM Webster Church</li> </ul>	Bible Study     11:00 AM on Zoom	Think Group 5:30-6:30PM	Just Us Guys 5:30-6:30PM	Emmanuel Baptis 8PM	t
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
Birthday Sunday, Coffee Talk 10:30AM Emmanuel Baptist 12:15 PM-3:15 PM Cub Pack 6 PM-7 PM		Bible Study 11:00     AM on Zoom	Think Group 5:30-6:30PM	<ul> <li>Just Us Guys</li> <li>5:30-6:30PM</li> <li>Bazaar &amp; Craft Show Set up</li> </ul>	Bazaar bake pies and peel apples 8AM	FALL BAZAAR 9 AM – 2PM

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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

## A Message from Rev. Freeman Palmer

If you could not join us for our 100th Anniversary Celebration, please read this greeting from Reverend Freeman Palmer, our Central Atlantic Conference Minister, who also could not attend because he was recovering from surgery.

September 28, 2024

"And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. (Matthew 16:18, New Revised Standard Version)

Dear members and friends of Webster Congregational Christian Church of the United Church of Christ,

It is with great joy that I write this for the occasion of your 100th anniversary! I so wish I could be at the celebration in person, but I am recuperating from knee surgery. However, I could not let this moment pass in the life of your congregation without celebrating this milestone in your ministry. Statistically, the average lifespan of congregations is roughly eighty years. You have exceeded that, and with the leadership of your very able Pastor Jim Sterner, you show no signs of slowing down. You have much to celebrate, and there is ample reason to give thanks and praise to God for all that God has done in your midst!

According to your website, Webster Congregational Christian Church of the United Church of Christ, is an inclusive community, united by our faith in God and our call to be disciples of Jesus Christ." That statement summarizes well my view of your ministry and witness. I appreciate the ways you are present in and around the Havre De Grace community through your participation in Grace Place, your partnership with Havre de Grace Elementary School, and your support of Earl's Place, a ministry dear to many churches in the Chesapeake Association, As an Open and Affirming congregation, I applaud your courageous witness in Harford county to the boundless love of God for all people. "In such a time as this (Esther 4:14)", a time diseased by epidemics of systemic racism, "Christian" nationalism, mass shootings, war, deep

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cultural, political, and religious divides, and yet another tumultuous Election Year, we need the healing and unifying presence of Webster, where people come together not only 'talking the talk' but 'walking the walk', bringing forth God's reign on earth as it is In heaven. As you celebrate this milestone in the life of this branch of Zion, I hope that you will take a moment to honor those on whose shoulders you stand, and with your witness today have touched countless lives. For your legacy and ongoing witness of love, compassion, and service, as well as your commitment to justice, I am deeply grateful.

It is customary at occasions such as these to wish the celebrants Many Happy Returns. Your over 150 sister congregations of the Central Atlantic Conference join with me in thanksgiving and praise to God for the faithfulness of the servants, past, present, and future, of the Webster Congregational Christian Church of the United Church of Christ. Together, we wish you Many Happy Returns, and pray that we will be blessed by your ministry in Havre De Grace and beyond for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Freeman L. Palmer

The Rev. Freeman L. Palmer Conference Minister Central Atlantic Conference United Church of Christ

#### **LECTIONARY READINGS FOR October:**

October 6 – Mark 10:2-16; Job 1:1, 2:1-10 and Psalm 26 or Genesis 2:18-24 and Psalm 8
Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12
October 13 – Job 23:1-9, 16-17 and Psalm 22:1-15 or Amos 5:6-7, 10-15 and Psalm 90:12-17
Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-31
October 20 – Job 38:1-7, (34-41) and Psalm 104;1-9, 24, 35c or Isaiah 53:4-12 and Psalm 91:9-16
Mark 10:35-45; Hebrews 5:1-10
October 27 – Job 42:1-6, 10-17 and Psalm 34:1-8, (19-22) or Jeremiah 31:7-9 and Psalm 126
Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52

#### Scripture Readers, Greeters and Ushers:

DATE	<b>READER</b>	<b>GREETER</b>	<b>USHER</b>
October 6	Lonna Smith (Communion)	Lisa Taylor	Seiken Taylor
October 13	Bonnie Burden	Lonna Smith	Carol Greimel
October 20	Linda Placzankis	Gary Lyttle	Doris Lyttle
Octobre 27	Doris Lyttle	Linda Placzankis	Jean Cook

## NOTES FROM THE DEACONS

As we start the 101<sup>st</sup> year of service as a congregation we must keep Webster Church as a vital congregation in the greater Havre de Grace Community. The deacons hope you will continue to support the activities we have been dedicated to in the past. We hope you will start by attending as many October Worship Services as you can. These services are as follows:

- 10/6 Communion/Soup and Bread Coffee Talk (World Communion Sunday)
- 10/13 Worship/Coffee Talk
- 10/20 Worship/Coffee Talk
- 10/27 Worship/ Coffee Talk

The Deacons are here to serve our members in many ways. We assist Pastor Jim in preparing worship services. We make every effort to keep in contact with our members and friends at worship services and those on Zoom on a Sunday Morning. The deacons welcome any concerns and suggestions you may have, just express those to any deacon and the deacons will share your concerns and suggestions in our meeting on the third Tuesday of each month.

Hope to see you at worship in October!!

#### **Tony Dooley, Deacon**

## Society of Congregational Christian Women (SCCW)

The SCCW October meeting is on Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, at 7 PM at Webster Church. We will prepare for the bazaar on Saturday, November 2, 2024.

The bazaar will feature an all-you-can-eat breakfast, lunch items, white elephant, 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 starting on Sunday, October 20, 2024

Plan what you can bake for the bake table or put in the general store/craft table. Plan when you can help us peel apples and bake pies on Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> between 8 AM and 5 PM.

If you have any questions, see Doris Lyttle.

#### Doris Lyttle, President

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Those celebrating October birthdays are:

Lindsay Cohen 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

- The new tenant is moving into the Parish House this month.
- Webster Church has a new red front door.
- The trash bins and a recycle bin have been delivered to the church.
- Plans are being made for the Webster Church Bazaar and Craft Show on Nov 2, 2024.
- Official Board meeting Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

## **Did you Know:**

In the 1960's the church had 2 teams in the Men's Church Bowling League.

The official 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary birthday was celebrated with the theme "A Time to Rejoice". The congregation assembled on the front lawn, the choir on the front steps, and the ministers rang the bell forming an unbroken circle. The bell was rung, the people joined together in song, and everyone proceeded into the sanctuary in a spirit of rededication.

There is a wooden replica of Webster Church from the company Cats Meow that you can purchase for \$25. Contact Doris at <u>dlyttle@comcast.net</u> to purchase.

## **100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee**

This month we will share a letter written to the Webster congregation by a longtime member who has moved to Ohio but remains in our thoughts and prayers – Vilma Duffy

### **Anniversary Reminiscences**

Hello Webster Church!

Let me begin by saying how much I miss all of you and sorry I cannot be with you on this very special day of the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary.

Jim and I joined Webster UCC on March 8, 1987, under the spiritual leadership of Rev. Richard Yates. We enjoyed the congregation very much and of course Jim got right away recruited as usher and greeter. For myself, I joined the SCCW. It was always fun to be with a wonderful group of ladies who do so much Christian work. I still miss it very much!

It was not long before my hubby, Jim became the treasurer of our church and faithfully did his duty for 18 years all in handwriting before the computer specialist Graham Silsby took over. "God bless him!" My loving husband passed away on March 4, 2021, at the age of 86, and I moved to Columbus, Ohio to be with my daughter.

There are so many things to remember, and I miss all of it! You have a great pastor right now with Pastor Jim and the Moderator Ann Helton are doing a wonderful job of holding everything together. Also, all the hard-working members of our church are devoting their time to make it just right!

God bless you all. With love, Vilma Duffy



Pastors

Our cake



The choir

The new quilt and memorabilia

## FEED A CHILD FOR A YEAR

The children are back in school. Webster Church is continuing to support Blessings in a Backpack by providing food for 75 children at Havre de Grace Elementary School over the weekends. To continue feeding 75 students, \$10,000 needs to be raised for the 2024-2025 school year. We would like to feed more of the eligible 200 students, but more funds are needed. Due to the increase in food items \$130 feeds a child for a school year, but we are accepting donations in any amount in hope of providing more food to more children. Any support you can give will be greatly appreciated.

All gifts to Havre De Grace Elementary School for the remainder of 2024 will be matched up to \$2,000. That means double the impact! This matching gift is made possible by a gift from the Hankin Family Charitable Foundation.

Address for Blessings in a Backpack

Blessing 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

Bay Pride is Saturday, October 5th from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM. And Webster Church will be at Booth 6 at the Concord Park in Havre de Garce!



## **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 <u>websterucc@comcast.net</u> <u>www.websterucc.org</u>





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