



Tidings

TRAPPE/FAITH CHAPEL NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY/MARCH 2016



MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Members and Friends,

We are transitioning from the Christmas Season to Lent on Ash Wednesday. We will meet with our Methodist brothers and sisters at Scott's Church for a joint Bible Study on the Gospel of John by Adam Hamilton. The six sessions will begin **Ash Wednesday, February 10 at 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm**. Please mark your calendar for those Wednesday evenings.

During the Season of Lent it is customary to quote "give something up". This absence of something we value can be used as a way to focus our thinking and praying to God that we might not do otherwise.

Another way to observe Lent is to intentionally do something that helps us focus more on God's grace and presence. Here are some suggestions: Read one or all four Gospels; volunteer to help someone; give 10% of one pay period to a worthy cause; be available to do whatever someone asks you to do without asking 'why'; read a new devotional; spend time praying about unsolvable problems in the world; memorize a verse of Scripture and quote it throughout your day; invite someone to worship with you; write a thank you letter to someone who has made a difference in your life; express an apology to someone with whom there needs to be reconciliation; and whatever the Lord leads us to do. See You in Church!

Rev. Gary L. Moore

Jobs Well Done!

To **Earlene Foster** for her housekeeping of the church for many, many years! She was a good and faithful servant who readied the church for the worship of our Lord.

To **Gary Fairbanks** of Fairbanks Environmental (fairbankenviro@aol.com/410-310-1558) for cleaning the Sanctuary of mold. He did this as an offering to our Lord. If you know of someone who has a mold problem in their home, he did an excellent job for us as you can tell when you enter the Sanctuary.

MISC:

On January 12 Rev. Moore was introduced to the Trappe Fire Company as its new Chaplain. We want to support all these brave fire fighters and EMTs who serve us well!

Watch for more information on Holy Week. We will have palms for Palm Sunday (March 20). Maundy Thursday Communion is March 24. I would like to do a time of prayer at Noon in the Trappe UMC Sanctuary.

Please invite family and friends to Easter Services at Faith Chapel at 8:45 and Trappe at 11:00 a.m.

*ONGOING CALENDAR

1st, 2nd & 4th Thurs

Senior Choir Practice

2nd & 4th Saturdays

Breakfast and Yard Sale

2nd Saturdays

Youth Group 6:30

2nd Sundays

Fellowship following 11:00

Worship

2nd Wednesdays

UMW/UMM Meeting

and Bible Study

3rd Thursdays:

Every other month

Administrative Council

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Pastor's Office Hours

The Pastor's Office is inside Trappe Church. When you enter the side door into the Education Unit, it is immediately on your left.

Here are the hours I am planning to be in the Office:

*Tuesdays: 10:00 – Noon *Wednesdays: 9:30 – Noon *Thursdays: 10:00 – Noon

If you need to meet with me at other times, please call me at 410-714-2004.



A PRAYER FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH

A MORNING PRAYER

Having risen from sleep, I thank You, O Holy Trinity, because through Your great goodness and longsuffering You have not been angry with me, an idler and a sinner, nor have You destroyed me in my iniquities. But rather You have shown me Your customary love for humankind and roused me, as I lay in despair, to rise in the morning to glorify Your might. And now, enlighten the eyes of my mind and open my mouth to meditate on Your words, to understand Your commandments, and to do Your will, to sing to You with confession of heart, and to praise Your all-holy name, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever, and to the ages of ages. Amen.

NEW PRAYER CALENDAR

As a way to focus our prayers, the charge is initiating a Prayer Calendar, which you will find at the end of each issue of the **Tidings**.

On the Prayer Calendar, specific people and situations will be listed to pray for each day of the month. We will also pray for church members. Please let us know if you give permission to include your name on the calendar, and if you have someone you want us to pray for, please ask their permission to include their name in print.

The Prayer Corner on the back of the bulletin will continue to list short-term prayer needs, while the Prayer Calendar will include ongoing prayer concerns. And of course the Prayer Chain will continue its mission of prayer. If there is a prayer concern and the person does not want to be included in a printed list, then the Prayer Chain will keep the request confidential. The Prayer Chain can be reached at 410-822-5095.

On January 17, Rev. Moore's sermon entitled "Why Pray?" talked about the benefits of prayer. Certainly those who are prayed for receive many benefits, but the one who prays benefits, too. Prayer develops and feeds our souls. Prayer gives clarity to our lives as we gain a sense of God's direction for us. Prayer gives us confidence, and it moves our center of thought from ourselves to God and others.

Please join us on this journey of prayer by calling the Prayer Chain, noting and praying for whoever is in the Prayer Corner, and using the Prayer Calendar daily to focus your prayers. Your input on who and what to include is always welcome. Lets see what prayer can do!

Matthew 6:9
**After this manner there-
fore pray ye: Our Father
which art in heaven, Hal-
lowed be thy name.**



**And all things
whatsoever ye shall
ask in prayer
believing,
ye shall receive.**

FAITH NEWS by Diana Bojko

The little wooden church at Bruceville known as Faith Chapel has never been more beautiful than it was on the early evening of December 20. On that evening Reverend Gary Moore led those who attended through a service of Light and Love.

It has been many years since a candlelight service was held at Faith, but Rev. Moore thought it could happen and it did. Several weeks of planning were carried out beginning with Rev. Moore asking the church members to sign up on a list of things that needed to be done. All were eager to comply. Signs were put up after Thanksgiving at the intersection and church informing any who drove by that there would be a service.

Beginning with the decoration of the church, Darlene McNeal and Debbie Asmussen did a really beautiful job of trimming a tree and decorating the altar, organ and piano with greens and votive candles. A church neighbor gave ten poinsettias to further add to the décor. Single candles that graced every window added more candlelight. Outdoors the same neighbor lined the intersection leading to the church with luminaries while Dan and Anne Gustafson placed luminaries up the sidewalk. Shirley Adams set up the pretty advent wreath.

As people arrived, Dan Gustafson and Paul Bojko greeted them with flashlights to assure everyone would get indoors safely. After the service, they again walked everyone to the cars as the darkness was a concern.

Bobby Crosswell had all the lovely Christmas carols programmed into his computer, so music filled the chapel. What a blessing Bobby and his computer knowledge are at Faith. Jerry Adams sang *O Holy Night* with his wonderful voice. Darlene, Diana, and Dan shared the Christmas story from the Gospel of Luke, leading into Rev. Moore's delivery of a heart-filled message of Love and Light.

In closing, the candles were lit from person to person, the lights were dimmed, and *Silent Night* was sung by all. I was not the only person there with tears through that song. Never did it feel so special to me.

Thank you Rev. Moore for your insight, your planning, and your wonderful message that made the service and night so special with God's love reigning over those 55 people who attended.

THE CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE AT TRAPPE



The Christmas Eve Altar at Trappe

Photo by Elizabeth Myers

WOMEN OF MUSIC by Jane Brooks

Trappe United Methodist Church is blessed with women who bring music to the congregation. Have you seen the ladies sitting on the front row of the choir corner?

Sarah Sewell sits by the wall, and then Wilma Miller is next. They both add their talent with good soprano voices and at times sing solos or duets with the men in the choir. Sarah is also a reader, and Wilma has become a reader during the service. In addition to singing, when it is their turn, they lead us through the Gathering, Call to Worship, Invocation, and Scripture.

For over a year the choir members prayed for an alto voice to be added to the choir. Then late last summer Janice Oakhill joined the choir and sits next to Wilma. Guess what—Janice has a lovely alto voice. Elena Murphy sits next to Janice. Not only does she sing, she enjoys being involved in many other church activities and makes great sloppy joes for the fellowship lunches after church. This lets you know the lady choir members.

Sarah can also play the piano or organ, and Dr. Dorothy Nave is always the organist for the 11 o'clock service on the last Sunday of each month. I accompany these "Women of Music" on the other Sundays, as well as at special services, weddings, and funerals.

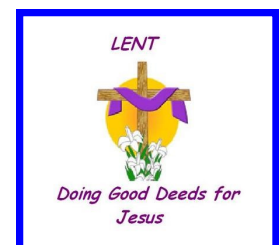
P.S.

Pardon me, Bo Nelson, for leaving out the fact that you add so much when you play Prelude each Sunday before the 11 o'clock service. We all look forward to hearing the music as we enter the Sanctuary, and really, if we are quiet, this pretty music helps us begin our worshipping time.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

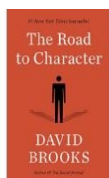
Here are some important dates to note on your calendar:

January 30	2-4 pm	UMW Tea, Fashion Show, and Silent Auction
February 6	9:30 am	Easton District Conference, St. Luke's UMC, Denton, MD
February 10	6:30-8 pm	Ash Wednesday and beginning Lenten Bible Study on the Gospel of John by Adam Hamilton at Scotts UMC (Bible Study will continue on Wednesdays throughout Lent.)
February 13	7:30-10 am	Country Breakfast and Martha's Closet Yard Sale
February 20		Easton District Leadership Training, Centerville UMC
February 27	7:30-10 am	Country Breakfast and Martha's Closet Yard Sale
March 12	7:30-10 am	Country Breakfast and Martha's Closet Yard Sale
March 17	4-6 pm	St. Patrick's Day Dinner
March 20		Palm Sunday
March 24		Maundy Thursday Communion Service
March 26	7:30-10 am	Country Breakfast and Martha's Closet Yard Sale
	Noon	Easter Egg Hunt followed by Easter Parade
March 27		Easter



LIBRARY NEWS by Charlotte Edwards

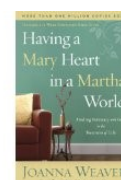
A new year has begun. "Let's make this year worse than last year," said no one ever. Consequently, everyone has probably set goals for improvements in their lives. These are our New Year's Resolutions, and many of them have already fallen by the wayside. We must remember that in our church services and ceremonies all our vows begin or end with the acknowledgement, "With God's help." Our library is packed with books of inspiration and information to help us meet whatever goals we have set. There are daily devotionals and many books to help us enrich our prayer lives. Strengthening our prayer lives is a church-wide goal this year. Prayer is where our resolutions and goals journey needs to begin. We then add the tools to meet specific goals.



A new addition to the library is *The Road to Character* by David Brooks, a *New York Times* columnist. He challenges us to rebalance our lives using the virtues of kindness, honesty, bravery, and faithfulness. Using the examples of great leaders such as Dwight Eisenhower, he shares how they overcame internal struggles and built strong inner character and self-discipline. A must read as we strive to set and meet our own goals.

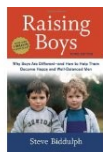
Bill Bright's book, *Christian Maturity*, lists 10 steps to a more abundant life filled with the Holy Spirit.

Having a Mary Heart in A Martha World by Joanna Weaver addresses a universal dilemma.



Joyce Meyer writes books for all challenges. We have *Change your Words—Change Your Life*. Meyer shows us how to say something that will allow God to work good things on our behalf rather than cooperate with the devil's plan for destruction and evil. *Eat and Stay Thin* addresses probably another universal goal. *Be Anxious for Nothing - the Art of Casting your Cares and Trusting in God* will lead us to attack yet another area of concern because we are living in a world of turmoil.

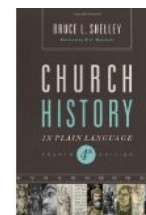
The 36 Hour Day by Mary Moore, M.A. and Peter Rabin MD.,MPA. is a family guide to caring for a patient with Alzheimer's disease.



Dr. James Dobson's books are good ones to start the year as you set goals to improve Christian family life. We have *Dare to Discipline*, *Parenting Isn't for Cowards*, and *Raising Boys*. There are many other books on improving difficult relationships of all kinds.

For the dreary winter days, don't forget some good fiction such as *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamante which reviews the traditions and turmoil of ancient womanhood in the words of Dinah believed to be Joseph's daughter.. Some other authors are Beverly Lewis, Debbie Macomber, Jan Karon, Mitch Albom, Richard Evans, and Jeanette Oke, We also have the *Left Behind* Series and several books of the *Joshua* series, a modern parable published by Guideposts.

A challenging and informative read is *Church History in Plain Language* by Bruce L Shelly. This book covers the Age of Jesus and the Apostles through contemporary phenomenon such as the Religious Right, megachurches, and user friendly worship services. This will occupy some hours with quality reading.



The theme of working on our goals and resolutions continues into the Little Free Library selections for you to keep or share. We certainly have something for everyone.

Spread the word: Happy New Year and Happy Reading.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN AND UNITED METHODIST MEN

The United Methodist Women will be meeting after church during the winter. They invite you to attend their tea, fashion show, and silent auction January 30. The Bible Study begun last fall for both the UMW and the United Methodist Men will resume in April. Everyone is welcome!



Baking Christmas Cheer for Inmates

From left, Libby Slaughter, Janice Oakhill, Pat Harden, Nancy Dunn and others pack cookie bags to be delivered to the Talbot County Detention Center as gifts to the inmates for the holidays. Every year, the women of the Trappe United Methodist Church send the inmates goodies, and each bag also includes a small note with a spiritual message. This year sixteen of the church's most prolific cooks made nine dozen cookies each and created 75 bags for the inmates plus a large platter of cookies for the detention center staff.



2015 Tea and Fashion Show



Tidings

Next deadline for articles, etc., is March 15.
Next issue for April/May available at the end of March.

OUR CHARGE SUPPORTS HOSPICE HOUSE



Leona Schmidt and Mary Rae Adams with Donna Stone, Hospice House Manager, and the items donated from the Trappe-Bruceville Charge

BELLS OF THE BAY START ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

The Bells of the Bay program, tree lighting, and dinner on November 29 were a great success. As you can see from the picture at the right, the event was well-attended. Plans are underway for another program during the next Christmas season. Thank you to Nancy Dunn for making the arrangements, to Jerry Adams and his crew for decorating the tree, and to everyone who helped with donations of lights and food preparation. This event was a lovely opening of the Christmas season.



MARTHA'S CLOSET

Trappe: \$70,641.40

Faith : \$66,417.50

Total 1998 to present \$137,058.90

Tidings

is also available (and in color) on line at
<http://www.tfcumc.org/>

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS by Nancy Dunn

The Annual St. Patrick's Day dinner will be held on Thursday, March 17, from 4 to 6 pm. Please plan to wear green and join the fun!

An Easter Egg Hunt followed by an Easter Parade down Main Street in Trappe is planned for Saturday, March 26. The Egg Hunt will start at Noon for ages 3-12. There will be 3 groups: 3-4 years olds, 5-7 year olds, and 8-12 year olds. One thousand eggs will be hidden along with 3 golden prize eggs per age group. Following the Egg Hunt, everyone is invited to join the Easter Parade. Make Easter bonnets "with all the frills upon" them for each family member to wear as you march down Trappe's "Fifth Avenue" in the Easter Parade. Refreshments will be served.

Plans are underway for Vacation Bible School in the summer. Anyone interested in supporting this great experience for our children please contact Nancy Dunn.

The Red Stocking donations of \$152.30 were sent to the Board of Child Care. Thank you for your generous giving.

GIVING TO THE DENTON CAMPUS OF THE BOARD OF CHILD CARE

The church has received a thank you letter for the items donated to the Christmas store at their Denton Campus. Our donations along with those given by others made it possible for the residents to select nice gifts for their family and friends.

The letter stated:

Your Christmas Store Donation and Christmas Gift List Items are truly an act of love to our Denton Campus. Your support strengthens the social, spiritual, educational, medical, and recreational services our youths receive. For that we are truly grateful. Thank you.

Your support of the children in our care will continue transforming their desire for a better and safer life into a reality. It's not an easy path to be sure, but your generosity tells our youth that someone believes in their dreams for the future, and that is very powerful motivation for them.

Please keep our youths in your thoughts and prayers.

The letter also quoted Mother Teresa, and her words—and observation—are truly why we give: "It is not how much we give but how much love we put into our giving." Let's continue to spread God's love wherever we can.

FROM THE ALTAR GUILD by Ken and Elizabeth Myers

Both church sanctuaries looked beautiful for the Christmas Eve and the following Sunday services with the poinsettias that were placed in the churches. We want to thank everyone who donated poinsettias.

It's almost that time of the year again. Lily orders will be available soon. Easter Sunday will be March 27, 2016. Lilies will be placed in the Church March 27, 2016, and anybody who placed an order will be able to pick up their lily(ies) that day or leave them in the church for the following week(s).

Lily Forms and prices will be available late February or early March. Watch for the insert in the bulletin and check out the website.

LAST DAY TO PLACE EASTER LILY ORDERS WILL BE SUNDAY, MARCH 20, 2016.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



Happy Anniversary!

We would like to include births, weddings, and other celebrations in future editions of **Tidings**, but we need your help. Please send information to the editor, Cathy Sewell, at cswsewell@gmail.com by the 15th of the month to have your information included.