



Tidings September and October 2014

TRAPPE/FAITH CHAPEL NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2014



GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR

My name is Mary Catherine Miller, and on July 1 we began a journey together. For those who may not know, the Trappe/Bruceville Charge (TBC) is in a time of transition from being served by a full-time pastor to being served by a part-timer. I have come and joined this community as a part-time pastor whose ministry specialty is Transitional Intentional Interim Ministry. As all of us know, transitions of any kind, and the invited or uninvited changes that they bring, can cause anxiety and stress. For some of us this journey may be one that we wish we did not have to take or are taking somewhat begrudgingly. For others, the leaders of the Trappe/Bruceville Charge in particular, it is a journey that we are embracing as we seek to discern and live into how God is calling us to be “church” together in the here and now.

The first part of our journey together has included beginning to get to know one another. I have enjoyed meeting and hearing the stories of many of the members of TBC and look forward to having the opportunity to meet those I haven’t met yet over the next month or so. Keep an eye out on your email and the website calendar for announcements about upcoming small group “meet and greet” opportunities with me.

A little bit about me. I am, as they say, “not from around here.” I am an ordained elder in full connection with the Eastern Pa Conference of the UMC. However, I was born and raised in upstate Pennsylvania. I was a townie in an area known for its dairy farms. Dad worked in a local plant that made television screens and such. Mom worked as the office administrator for the local RC Church. My mom’s parents owned 100 acres on a mountain about five miles from town. My grandparents farmed just enough of the land to provide for fresh veggies in the summer and canned goods for them and us through the winter. They kept a small herd of Black Angus cows, and each year our freezer was filled with fresh beef. My family spent almost every Sunday evening on what we called “the farm.” It was there I spent the vast majority of my free time as a kid wandering around the woods, digging for worms in the cow yard, and swimming and fishing in a pond filled with blue gills, bass and bull frog eggs. It was there that I learned to drive a tractor, to maintain a dirt road, and to cut and bring in hay. I sold sweet corn to earn money for school supplies. “The farm” was the center of my life and life was good.

When I was around thirteen my world was turned up-side down. My grandpa had a stroke. That summer, instead of spending my days surrounded by the sounds of birds and the smell of pine trees I spent many hours surrounded by the sounds of hospital call bells and the smell of antiseptic as I sat with my grandmother by my grandfather’s bed. Over time grandpa was moved to the county, full-time care facility, and the farm was sold. After that my grandma moved into a trailer in a town at the foot of the mountain where the farm had been, and I began spending many of my free weekends with her there. I have many fond memories of our time together. (I was reminded of all this recently when the Trappe fire siren sounded in the wee hours one Sunday morning. Her trailer was about the same distance from the local fire department/siren as the parsonage is here in Trappe.)

Continued on p. 2

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 Meeting

UMM Meeting

3rd Thursdays

Administrative Council

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It was during this season of my life that I learned something about transitions. I learned that fruitful transitions take intentionality. Yes, it is possible to just sit passively back and watch as things unfold over time as they might (and will). Life, as they say, will indeed go on. However, as a people of faith gathered in the name of Jesus, we are called to be people of action, not passivity. We are a gifted people. We are also a people of light." (Matthew 5:14-16) I invite **all** of us in our time together to be intentionally involved in the life of TBC, to freely share the gifts we have been given for the building up of this part of the body of Christ. (See Ephesians 4:12) I encourage us to let the light of Christ within us shine unabashedly forth. May we do all we do prayerfully as we seek to discern God's will for us as individuals and as members of Christ's body called the Trappe/Bruceville Charge. The good news is that we are not journeying alone. We have each other and a God who is faithful. "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28 NIV)

May God bless our time together!

Your Sister In Christ,
Pastor Mary Catherine Miller



PASTOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Please don't hesitate to call or email: **cell phone** (410) 476-7569

email pastortrappebruceville@yahoo.com

(If I miss your call, please leave a message so I can call you back)

Office schedule: Saturday and Sunday
 Second and fourth Fridays
 (Call to schedule pastoral visits)

WELCOME FROM THE TRAPPE/BRUCEVILLE CHARGE

The congregations of Trappe UMC and Faith Chapel welcome Pastor Mary Catherine Miller. We look forward to our time together, strengthening the churches and reaching out to our communities!

Welcome!

OUT OF THE DARKNESS WALK

Many of us have family or friends whose lives have been tragically impacted by suicide. It is the tenth leading cause of death overall in the United States, the third leading cause of death among 15- to 24-year-olds, and the second leading cause of death among 24- to 34-year-olds.

We need your help in our efforts to prevent suicide in our own community. The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) has partnered with Mid-Shore Mental Health Systems, Inc. and the Queen Anne's County Partnership for Suicide Prevention to bring an **Out of the Darkness Walk** to the mid-shore at **5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6 at the Kent Narrows** in Queen Anne's County. It will be followed by a candlelight vigil in memory of loved ones lost by suicide and to mark World Suicide Prevention Day. The Maryland Chapter of AFSP will use funds raised from the walk to bring educational and survivor support programs to our local communities as it increases awareness about mental health and suicide prevention.

Take action today by registering to walk as an individual or a team, becoming a sponsor, or making a donation. Registration is free online at

<http://afsp.donordrive.com/event/midshore>

Contact Patricia Kotzen at 410-643-7674 or pskotzen@atlanticbb.net to learn more, volunteer or become a sponsor.

2014 FALL LAY ACADEMY

October 18 & 25

9:00am - 4:00pm (light lunch provided)

St. Luke's UMC, 100 S. 5th Ave., Denton, MD 21629

New this session is the ability to take a class for **Spiritual Enrichment**. Spiritual Enrichment is defined as a class for your own personal knowledge and interest in a particular subject. **No certification will be given.** You do not need to be a Lay Servant to participate in a class for Spiritual Enrichment. Remember to check the correct box in Part 3 on the Registration Form.

Make sure that you fill out the registration form **completely and clearly**; including your Pastor's signature. Failure to do so will result in your registration being returned to you and may result in missing the deadline.

Please mark your calendar with the date of the Academy and the class you are taking, as there **will not** be a confirmation sent to you.

After completing the registration, enclose a check or money order, made payable to **Easton District Board of Laity** and mail to: **Easton District Board of Laity, PO Box 1754, Easton, MD 21601**

All registrations must be received by the registration deadline of **September 19, 2014**.

For Registration form and Class Descriptions go to <http://www.pen-del.org/pages/detail/864>

MARKS OF A METHODIST

The following is from *The Church News*, 2.2, Trappe, MD, September 1901—which cost 50 cents a year per subscription. Bobby Crosswell shared this, and I thought you might like to contemplate what we see as marks of a Methodist today.

Yes, Methodism is an experience—primarily, essentially, and universally an experience. Every Methodist has a story to tell, a song to sing, a testimony to give. Somewhere, somehow God has touched him [sic], and from that touch his real life has come into being. Varied as are the features, the conditions, the temperaments of individual Methodists, so varied are their experiences. Yet the salient points of these are invariably the same. They have to be. And so Methodists all understand one another. There is such thing [sic] as the communion of saints.

Our forefathers were called “shouting Methodist.” Well, they had something to shout about. The world used the term as one of reproach and ridicule, but that was because the world did not understand—as indeed, it does not understand to this day—what there is in religion to shout about. It is the same world that said of Peter and John at Pentacost, “These men are full of new wine;” the very same world that said of the Master, “He is beside himself.” We used to have the “amen corner” in our old “chapels.” Somehow it did the preachers good to hear those fervent responses from it and to watch those glowing faces in the pews. There was a spiritual rapport between the “amen corner” and the pulpit that increased many a good time and helped through many a hard one. We are not so demonstrative today. We have fewer shouting Methodists and fewer “amen corners.” Have we gained by the change? Perhaps not. One thing is certain—we have not gained but lost, and lost unspeakably, if the joy of the Lord has gone out of the people’s hearts and the zeal for service out of their lives. We have improved in many things without a doubt, but Methodism is not Methodism, and Methodists are not Methodists, without an experience of the power of vital godliness, joyous, abiding and constraining to every good word and work.—Philadelphia Methodist.

KIDS IN CHURCH

A little boy was overheard praying:
'Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it.
I'm having a real good time like I am.'

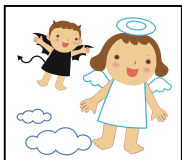


After the christening of his baby brother in church, Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied,
'That preacher said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I wanted to stay with you guys.'

A father was at the beach with his children when the four-year-old son ran up to him, grabbed his hand, and led him to the shore where a seagull lay dead in the sand. 'Daddy, what happened to him?' The son asked. 'He died and went to Heaven,' the Dad replied. The boy thought a moment and then said, 'Did God throw him back down?'

3-year-old Reese :
'Our Father, Who does art in heaven, Harold is His name..
Amen.'

A Sunday school teacher asked her children as they were on the way to church service,
'And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?'
One bright little girl replied,
'Because people are sleeping.'



A wife invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to their six-year-old daughter and said, 'Would you like to say the blessing?' 'I wouldn't know what to say,' the girl replied. 'Just say what you hear Mommy say,' the wife answered. The daughter bowed her head and said, 'Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?'

BOARD OF CHILD CARE

In the spring, our congregations helped the Denton site of the Board of Child Care by donating garden supplies. Several of the residents and staff members attended the 11 am worship service and stayed for the Fellowship luncheon afterwards the day they picked up our gifts. They expressed their appreciation and went to work raising vegetables for their meals.

Now that fall and school are rapidly approaching, the Board of Child Care could use some more help in the form of school supplies and craft items. If you would like to help out, drop items off to our Easton District Administrative Assistant, Beth. You can drop donated items at the District Office located at St. Mark's UMC in Easton, and she will deliver to Denton. The next Board of Child Care Auxiliary Meeting is September 8 at 1:30pm.



BISHOP'S DAY ON THE DISTRICT: HEALTHY CHURCH INITIATIVE WORKSHOP

Spend the evening with Bishop Peggy A. Johnson as she facilitates a workshop on the Biblical, theological and practical insights into the ministry of stewardship of the earth. As the hands and feet of God, let us be encouraged to do a New Thing by embracing and celebrating the community of believers..... FOR EVERY CHURCH "CAN DO" SOMETHING.

Wednesday, September 24

EASTON DISTRICT: Hurlock UMC, Hurlock, MD

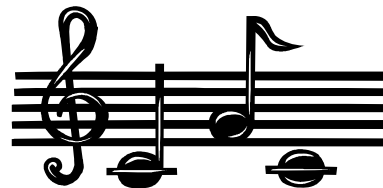
REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED by September 23

Go to <http://www.pen-del.org/events/detail/4098> for more information and the registration form.

CHOIR NEWS

Choir practice will resume on **Thursday, Sept. 4, 2014 at 7 pm**
in the Sanctuary of Trappe Church.

Join us!!



The "Valuable Trash" Collection Continues!

Please continue to turn in your Box Tops for Education for White Marsh Elementary School and Labels for Education for the Board of Child Care. The next distribution will be Fall 2014.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN AND UNITED METHODIST MEN NEWS

September Meeting and Dinner

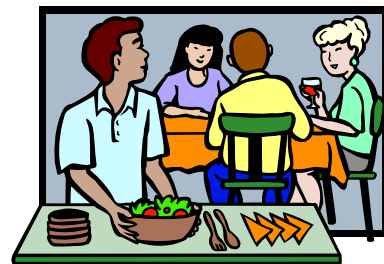
Wednesday, September 10, 2014

6:00 pm

Dinner

Followed by group meetings

Everyone welcome: Join us for good fellowship,
good food, and good works!



TO THE MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH CHARGE

from Kirby Metz, Finance Chairman

Thank you for all your support of the church in the past. I would like to ask for your help in the future in keeping expenses down.

Our water bill for Wesley Hall runs about \$50 a month. Several months ago it was \$180. That was because the toilet in the handicap bathroom ran for a long time. Another month the bill was \$120. A member discovered the faucet was left running in the kitchen. A light was left on in the storage room in Wesley Hall, increasing the electric bill.

I would like to ask people who leave the building after activities to please check bathrooms and kitchens to see that water and lights are off. "A penny saved is a penny earned." Please let me know if you have any suggestions to save or raise money.

Tidings

Next *Tidings* deadline: October 15
Next Edition for November, December, and January
published at the end of October

LIBRARY NEWS by Charlotte Edwards

Access to our Christian books can be difficult if the church is not open, but that is about to change. Look for a Little Free Library somewhere near the sidewalk coming as soon as it gets built. There will be books in there that can be taken by anyone, anytime, and taken anywhere They will not need to be returned. The selections will be a variety of interesting and inspirational books. There will be Bibles, too: another way to share the word and witness to the community. Also, in Wesley Hall there is a table set up for free books. Please peruse that and help yourself whenever you have an opportunity. We have shared many books already.

The church library continues to receive excellent donations. We have great reference books, books for spiritual and family guidance, fiction and non-fiction. The children's selections are good, too. We have a few DVDs but many good VCR tapes which are quickly becoming outdated. The latest recommendations are several books by Max Lucado. All inspirational and have been bestsellers over the years. Visit the library for many hours of Happy Reading!!!



Charlotte preparing the Little Free Library→

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS by Nancy Dunn

On August 8 we met with Rev. Miller. Leona Schmidt, Charles and Mary Rae Adams, Sarah Sewell, and I discussed our Sunday School programs. We looked at the curriculums being used in the different classes. Each week the lessons for all the children's and adults' classes are based on the same scripture, so they can be connected to the sermon that week, as well.

An invitation card will be sent to members and friends in September. Please extend the invitations to others to join us on September 21 at 9:45 am as we start another exciting year. Please share any ideas you have for our Sunday School Program.



□
Ring out for Sunday School!

TRAPPE/FAITH CHAPEL UMC WEBSITE IS BACK!

The Charge website is back—better than ever! Many thanks to Bob Croswell for all his hard work as webmaster to get it up and running. Check out what is there and look for new features in the future. You will find the website at

<http://www.tfcumc.org>

One new feature is a link to the Upper Room Daily Devotional Guide. Another is Our Photo Albums with pictures of many familiar faces. Explore and see what else is there!

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS: JULY MEETING

July 17

- Trustees were requested to have a meeting about the parsonage.
- Annual Charge Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, January 21, 2015, at 7 pm.
- Rev. Miller asked for names of home-bound members, those in nursing homes, and others who need visits.
- A motion was made and passed that we, as a charge, want to support and help make possible the Community Service on September 14.
- Operation Christmas Child with the shoe boxes will be initiated in August.
- The Council approved re-establishing the church web site.
- The October Fellowship will again be the “Blessing Fellowship,” featuring recipes from the *Cup of Blessings Cookbook*.

Administrative Council Highlights are published monthly in the bulletin on the Sunday following the Council meeting to help members stay current on what is happening in the church. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting. If you have an item for the agenda, get in touch with Jane Brooks, Administrative Council Chairman.

START FILLING THOSE SHOEBOXES!

Again this year we will be filling shoeboxes with goodies as well as necessities for Operation Christmas Child. Please be sure to follow the list of items on the flyer available at the churches—the filled boxes have to travel far in all kinds of temperatures. Your generous support of this project has had an impact around the world, carrying the message of Jesus to children in a very concrete way!



Community Worship Service
Sept. 14 10 am
Veterans Park, Trappe

Box Lunch Following
Service

GREETERS AND USHERS by Ellen Whitby, Head Usher

I want to thank the greeters and ushers for June, July, and August.

Greeters and Ushers for September: Drake and Elizabeth Ferguson

Greeter and Ushers for October: Nancy and Mike Dunn

God bless everyone,
Ellen



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

HAPPY DAY TO ALL WHO ARE CELEBRATING!



Praise & Worship Service

Watch the bulletin and newsletter
for more information.

YOUTH GROUP by Christy Edwards

August 2014

Time is flying by. In November the youth group will have been meeting for two years. A couple of our original middle school members are now in high school. Our regular attendees have pretty much stayed the same group of kids so they are growing older together. We have had a couple new faces show up since this past spring and they have mixed in with the crowd because they know each other from the neighborhood. At our last meeting Pastor Mary Catherine visited us and introduced herself. She volunteered to help us out whenever needed. She fits in perfectly, as she is an avid fantasy football guru and can relate to the kids. She is not afraid of middle or high school aged people and has warmly reached out to us. I am sure we will be calling on her (with much gratitude).



The Methodist Women have voted to donate \$25.00 dollars for each of our monthly meetings to help subsidize the cost. We have been using this to help pay for the groceries. "Feed them and they will come," I say. I pray that the Lord is touching their hearts even if they just stop in for a bite to eat. Thank you for the continued use of the space. The room is always a comfortable escape from the outdoor climate whether it is due to the A. C. or the heat. Special thanks to Ken Myers who always stays on top of things for us. And another special thanks to Charlotte Edwards who lets me use her laptop computer to present the lesson and continues to bake or round up left over desserts from the church functions and gives them to us to enjoy. May God bless everyone who has helped.

The Youth Group meets on the second Saturday of the month at 6:30 pm. Tell your friends they are welcome!

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE: WOMEN OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

Take the test below to see how well you know women of the Old Testament, both commoners and queens.

1. Which aged woman laughed when she heard angels say she would have a baby?
2. Which widow said, "I went out full, and the Lord has brought me home again empty."?
3. Who was the only female judge of Israel?
4. Which woman promised God that if she could give birth to a son, no razor would ever touch his head?
5. Which queen was divorced by her husband because she would not display her beauty before drunken guests?
6. Who hid two spies and then let them down over a wall to make their escape from the king of Jericho?
7. Who stole her father's idols and hid them under a camel's saddle?
8. Which queen fearlessly risked her life by coming unbidden into a king's presence in order to save her people?
9. Which woman, desperately in need of water, had her eyes opened by God and saw a well of water?
10. Which queen was thrown from a window to her death?

French artist James Jacques Joseph Tissot created this work, "Deborah Beneath the Palm Tree" (c. 1896-1902). It's now housed at the Jewish Museum in New York City.

Public Domain



Answers
1. Sarah (Gen. 18: 10-14; 2. Naomi (Ruth 1:21); 3. Deborah (Judges 4:4); 4. Hannah (1Sam. 1:9-11); 5. Vashi (Esther 1: 10-19); 6. Rahab (Josh. 2:1-15); 7. Rachel (Gen. 31:34); 8. Esther (Esther 4: 6-16); 9. Hagar (Gen. 21: 14-19); 10. Jezebel (2Kings 9: 30-33)