



Tidings

TRAPPE/FAITH CHAPEL NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER, DECEMBER JANUARY 2014-2015



NOVEMBER MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

It's an easy thing to get so caught up in the hustle and bustle of life that we forget to stop working, to cease bouncing from point A to point B, to halt moving from one task to another. It is an easy thing to forget to **or** to choose not to stop one day a week to remember to keep it holy. I am certain it has been a problem for people from the earliest of times. I am convinced that if stopping, resting, honoring God was something humanity would do automatically without reminding, God would not have included the reminder to remember in God's directions to God's people as they were traversing the wilderness. You know the reminder I am talking about, right? It's the longest of God's ordinances found in Exodus 20:

⁸ Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹For six days you shall labour and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

Even with this direction at our disposal we modern folk with our jam-packed calendars still face the weekly challenge of setting aside one day or even a few hours of one day of a seven day week where we put on hold our desire to be in constant motion. When challenged about the Sabbath practices of himself and his disciples, Jesus reminded those present that "the Sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the Sabbath" When we fail to remember, honor and keep holy a time of Sabbath, we deprive ourselves of one of God's greatest gifts to us, a time of rest and rejuvenation in the arms of our Lord and Savior.

Things for us to consider this month include asking ourselves: "Has Sunday become something other than a day of Sabbath rest in our lives?" "Has attending worship become an item to be left off the schedule because the weekend is coming to an end and we believe that we have fifty other things to accomplish before bedtime, and if we take time for worship, there is no way we will accomplish all of them?" "How might we transform Sunday so that it may be the God given agent of transformation that it is meant to be in our lives?" "How might we set as our number one priority the fulfilling of our need for Sabbath rest and rejuvenation in the arms of our Lord and Savior Jesus?"

As we move into November and as school, work and holiday activities begin to expand and fill our calendars, I invite each of us to remember what God has done for us and to embrace and receive God's gift of Sabbath with grateful hearts. May we keep Sunday holy by coming together in community to sing God's praises and to seek God's blessing for the week to come.

Pastor Mary Catherine

Recommended Scriptures: Exodus 20:8-11, Mark 12:28-34, and Mark 2:23-28

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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DECEMBER MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Have you ever had the feeling in the middle of a conversation that somehow something got lost in the translation? You know, a time when one thing is said and another thing has been heard altogether? There are times when something can literally get lost in the translation. Such a thing can occur when a writing is translated from one language into another. For example, Psalm 119 and 145 lose their literary base when translated from Hebrew to English. The base of the psalms in their original language of Hebrew is a poetic device known as an acrostic. In the case of these two psalms their base is made up of an acrostic of the Hebrew alphabet. When we read the psalms in English, the acrostic gets lost in the translation.

When the religious seasons of **Advent**, **Christmas** and **Epiphany** are translated into the language of the secular world something or someone often gets lost in the translation. **Advent** is a four week season of spiritual preparation and renewal in the church. Secular advent is a time of hurried running from store to store (or frantic last-minute internet searches and purchases), meal planning, travel arranging, party attending, school pageants, and overspending that extends over a period of close to two months. **Christmas** and **Epiphany** are seasons of celebration and joy in which Christians recount through worship and fellowship with friends and family God's coming into the world as an innocent baby so that we might know the depth of God's love for us by God's actual presence with us. The secular season of Christmas, on the other hand, can get twisted and turned into a time where more is better, and securing the latest gadget justifies any and all actions along the way. During **Epiphany**, while Christians are still celebrating God incarnate with us, the secular world is celebrating its season of post-holiday returns and sales. Somehow, somewhere in all of this, Jesus can and does get lost in the translation.

As disciples of Jesus our lives are ones in which we are challenged to balance the secular and the religious understandings of this most holy time of year. May nothing get lost in the translation for us this **Advent**, **Christmas** and **Epiphany**. May we know and experience the joy and true love of God, Emmanuel-God with us, as we remember the birth of our risen Lord, Jesus the Christ.



Pastor Mary Catherine

Recommended Scriptures: Psalm 119 and 145; Luke 1 and 2.

Trappe/Faith Chapel 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)

THE UPPER ROOM by Jane Brooks

The Upper Room is a small booklet that is placed in the sanctuary by the United Methodist Women for the congregation. It is a collection of daily devotional material, which includes suggested Scripture readings, as well as a selected Bible verse or two. Also a brief discussion or highlight is the main part, which can be an explanation of the Bible verse, a current story, or previous experiences of the person writing the material for that day's entry. There are pictures of some of the contributors with a brief biographical sketch included. Each issue covers two months. *The Upper Room* is good to use during your daily devotional time.

The UMW places copies of *The Upper Room* on the wide window sills under the two windows in the back of the Sanctuary. A new issue will soon be out for November and December. They hope you will enjoy reading these inspirational devotional booklets, which are free for the taking.

If you find all the copies are gone, or if you cannot get to church to pick up a copy, you can find a link to *The Upper Room* on the church's web site at <http://www.tfcumc.org/> Click on **Daily Devotional** in the box on the left side of the screen.

ANOTHER SOURCE FOR WEEKLY DEVOTION

The church's website also lists **Scripture Reflection** in the box on the left side of the home page. This reflection is based on the lectionary Scripture selections for the week and Pastor Mary Catherine's sermon. John Sewell writes the reflection and includes it in the card that is sent to anyone who has missed the Sunday service. Web Master Bob Croswell then posts the reflection on the web site. It is the message "in a nutshell" and helps keep people in tune with the Scripture and the sermon.

Visitors to the web site are encouraged to read the complete Scripture selections, contemplate the thought, and pray about the meaning God has for them in the words of both.

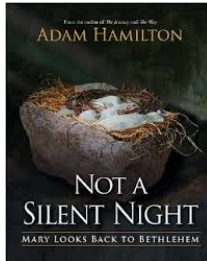
We are fortunate to have these devotional aids at our fingertips, either in print or electronically. Strengthen your connection to God and deepen your understanding of His will for you through your personal daily and weekly devotion time.



IN SEARCH OF

Bob Croswell is researching the beginnings of Methodism in Trappe and is especially interested in any information pertaining to "*The Church at Bolingbroke*," *Bolingbroke ME Church*, "*Emory Chapple ME Church, Bolingbroke*", or the Methodist Protestant (MP) church [name unknown] that was on south Main Street in Trappe until around 1900. He needs pictures, locations, stories, recollections, and any old documents, clippings, or news articles that mention any of these churches. Jim Dawson is assisting in this research. Look for an article about the history of Methodism in this area in the next edition of *Tidings*.

Advent Adult Study
Tuesday Evenings
November 18-December 16
7:00 P.M.-8:00 P.M.
Wesley Hall



This year, we are invited to experience Advent and Christmas with Mary. Imagine Jesus from Mary's point of view—proud of her son, in awe of his gifts and mission, guided by love for him as a person and so much more. In this book, Adam Hamilton begins at the end, with Mary at the crucifixion and resurrection; travels back in time as she witnesses his life and ministry; and ends at the beginning, with the Christ child born in a stable, Mary's beautiful baby.

The five sessions are:

1. Beginning with the End (November 18)
2. The Piercing of Mary's Soul (November 25)
3. Amazed, Astounded, and Astonished (December 2)
4. Mary, Full of Grace (December 9)
5. It Was Not a Silent Night (December 16)

The study includes a book study and video. We will watch the video together. To help facilitate discussion participants are asked to read the corresponding chapter of the book **before** each week's session. The book can be purchased through Amazon and Cokesbury and comes in both print and e-reader forms. A sign-up sheet is in the back of both Faith Chapel and Trappe UMC. Questions? Call Pastor Mary or email her at pastortrappebruceville@yahoo.com. This study is open to **all** who might like to attend.

Thanksgiving Windows

Be sure to note the decorations in the windows in the Sanctuary on November 16 and 23. You will learn what we are thankful for and see some beautiful arrangements—all for the glory of God!



Thank you. Lord, for blessing us!

The "Valuable Trash" Collection Continues!

The Box Tops for Education were taken to White Marsh Elementary School on Oct. 10. The Labels for Education were mailed to BCCES in Denton on Oct. 14.

Thank you for supporting this project of the Trappe/Faith Chapel UMW. The next distribution will be in April 2015. Keep saving that
VALUABLE TRASH!!

WORSHIP NOTES

November Worship

November 2, 2014

All Saints Sunday (Communion and Candle lighting)
1 Thess 2:9-13 and Matt 23:1-12

Come out and join in as we unite in remembering the saints, with the New Testament meaning of all Christian people of every time and place. We will celebrate the communion of saints by remembering the dead, both of the Church universal and of our local congregation.

Our Sunday worship will include a time during which we will remember our brothers and sisters in Christ from this congregation who have gone onto glory in the past year by reading their names aloud, ringing a bell and lighting a candle.

Each worshiper will also have the opportunity to light candles as a way to give thanks to God for the light of God's love that shown in the lives of their departed loved ones. We will sing "For All the Saints" as we do so.

November 9, 2014

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

1 Thess 4:13-18 and Matt 25:1-13

November 16, 2014

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

1 Thess 5:1-11 and Matt 25:14-30

November 23, 2014

Thanksgiving Sunday

Deuteronomy 8:7-18 and Luke 17:11-19

Mark your calendar now so that you don't miss out on this Sunday and the opportunity it offers us as individuals and as a community of faith to unabashedly give thanks to God for the plentiful harvest of God's blessings in our lives.

December Worship

Advent Sermon Series 2014

(Based upon igniting Worship Series: Advent and Christmas by Dottie Escobendo-Frank and Spirit Films)

Where Christmas Kisses Culture

All of our services will include traditional worship music and some secular based songs as well. Why secular songs? They are being intentionally included as a way to touch culture and transform it. Once we have sung a secular song in worship we will never experience it quite the same when we are out and about in the world. Once sung in worship a new meaning is attached allowing the song to then serve as a touch point from culture to Christ.

November 30

Christmas at the Mall

Mark 13:24-27

"Silver Bells" and "The Most Wonderful Day of the Year"

December 7

Christmas at the Kitchen Table

2 Peter 3:8-15a

"The Christmas Song"

Mark 1:1-8

December 14

Christmas at the Office Party

1 Thess 5:16-24

"Feliz Navidad"

John 1:6-8, 19-28

"We Wish You a Merry Christmas"

December 21

Dreamin' of a White Christmas

Matt 1:18-25; 2:13-15, 19-23

"White Christmas"

Christmas Eve 2014: December 24, 2014

7:00 P.M.

"A Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols"
Trappe United Methodist Church



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN AND UNITED METHODIST MEN NEWS

The United Methodist Women and Men meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 6 pm for a dinner, followed by their separate meetings. Everyone is welcome.

The UMW had a successful fundraiser during the Trappe-Tober Fest. They had lots of baked goods and a silent auction, and Martha's Closet was open at the church. Thank you to everyone who donated baked goods or yard sale items and helped in any way.

The UMW discussed further fund raisers to help with missions and obligations to the church. They pay for the cleaning of the church weekly and the cleaning of Wesley Hall monthly. Some ideas included a tea/fashion show in January, a dinner, and a soup day.

Everyone's Birthday is in the planning stages. More information will appear in the bulletins and newsletter.

On December 10 the UMW and UMM will have a light dinner and then package cookies for the prisoners in the Talbot County Detention Center. Each person is requested to supply 10 dozen cookies. Rev. Lee Roberts, chaplain at the Detention Center, will deliver the cookies.

The women have been saving pennies, nickels, dimes, etc., any time they have something to be thankful for. The money will be collected at the November meeting and sent to the Easton District UMW for Missions to the World Thank Offering.

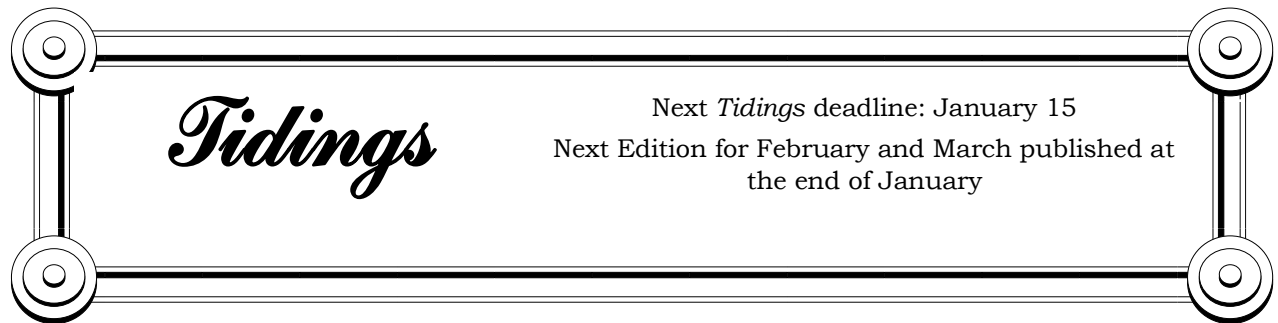
The youth Christmas Party will be December 13 at 6:30 pm. The UMW will be involved, supplying the food for the dinner.

Two new members were welcomed at the October UMW meeting. Thanks to everyone who helped with any of the UMW or UMM activities.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: CHARGE CONFERENCE : JANUARY 21

What is the Charge Conference? It is an annual meeting that includes the Pastor's Report, Committee Reports, Lay Servants Reports, and the church budget for the upcoming year. The District Superintendent, Gary Moore, will conduct the meeting, and new officers will be installed. The Pastor and the Administrative Council work for several months preparing reports and evaluating what has happened in the past year in order to facilitate planning for the next year. They also put together a comprehensive Charge packet of information.

Why should you attend the Charge Conference? Your presence shows support for the hard work of outgoing officers, as well as for incoming officers. You will be informed about what the new year holds, and best of all, you will feel gratified about all that was accomplished in the past year. Plan to come at 7 pm on the evening of January 21. The leaders of your Charge will appreciate your support!



LIBRARY NEWS by Charlotte Edwards

When God Winks at You by Squire Rushnell.

Have you ever heard of a God Wink? Squire Rushnell defines this as "an event or personal experience, often identified as a coincidence, so astonishing that it could only have come from Divine origin." The book tells us that there is no such thing as a coincidence. God communicates with us by making these things happen in our daily lives to help us stop worrying and "Keep the Faith." Mr. Rushnell tells us amazing things that happened in his life and in the lives of many famous people that demonstrate this.

A little God Wink to me was when Pastor Mary Catherine mentioned the School House Rock series in a recent sermon. It was created by the author of this book during his years in television. (I made my kids tape every one of the shows over a period of many Saturdays.) The UMW did really well at the Trappe-Tober Fest. Another God Wink??

While spending our recent Girls Week in Ocean City, two of us were reading this book, and I knew it was a recent addition to our library. During conversations throughout our week, I frequently heard, "That was a God Wink," as we discussed happenings since we last met.

Visit our Library. Read this book and look for all the God Winks in your life. **Happy Reading.**

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Did you receive an invitation card from the Sunday School? The invitation is still open—invite a friend and visit the classes. Sunday School is held at Trappe UMC every Sunday at 9:45 am with classes for all ages. Come learn about God, His Word, and how to live a fulfilling life!

And here is another invitation: Please join us in Wesley Hall on Sunday, December 14, following the 11 am service for

THE RED/GREEN FELLOWSHIP

The Sunday School does a clever job creating a delicious menu of red and green foods to welcome the Christmas season. To find out what will be served, you have to attend, because the menu is a secret until Fellowship time. The hall will be decorated, and you can count on a good time. Best of all, we celebrate the greatest Gift ever given—Jesus! Please mark your calendar and plan to join in the celebration!



OCTOBER FUND RAISER



Thank you to everyone who participated in the **Innisbrook Gift Wrap and Accessories** campaign which ended Sunday, Oct. 26th. The church will receive approximately 50% of the moneys collected. Orders should be delivered around Thanksgiving. Thank you to Libby Slaughter for heading up this campaign.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

October 16

- The Administrative Council members thank Diana Bojko for serving as Council secretary. Anyone interested in filling this position please contact Jane Brooks.
- All Saints Sunday is November 2. Check *Tidings* (p. 5) and the bulletin for details.
- Thanksgiving Sunday is scheduled for November 23.
- The Annual UMW "Cookie Time" is set for Wednesday, December 10 at 6 pm.
- Advent Adult Study will start on November 18 at 7 pm and continue through December 16. All five sessions will be held in Wesley Hall. If at least 5 people want the session repeated on Wednesday mornings, it will also be offered Nov. 19– Dec. 17.
- The "Red and Green Fellowship" will be December 14 in Wesley Hall following the 11 am worship service.
- Contributions to the Emergency Fund will help keep enough money to meet requests during the winter.

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.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Shoeboxes will be collected at the services on November 16. Many thanks to Mary Rae Adams for overseeing the project and to those who help deliver them to the collection center. What a great way to spread the word about Jesus!



TALBOT INTERFAITH SHELTER SUPPLIES: COLLECTION NOV. 16 THROUGH DEC. 7

Coffee, creamer, sugar	Aluminum foil	Napkins	Dishwashing soap (hand washing and machine)
Hot chocolate	Plastic Wrap	Spices (salt, pepper, oregano, parsley, etc.)	
Tea bags	Toilet paper	Individual snacks for bagged lunches (snack bars, small bags of chips/pretzels)	
Honey	Paper towels	nuts/crackers, pudding, jello, etc.)	
Grits	Pop Tarts	Peanut butter (creamy and chunky)	
Jelly/jam/preserves	Muffin Mixes	Cereal (hot and cold)	
Laundry soap (hypo-allergenic)		Dryer sheets (hypo-allergenic)	

Look for grocery bags and this list of items in the back of the Sanctuary. Your support of this fourth quarter project is greatly appreciated and brings hope to the homeless in Talbot County.



GREETERS AND USHERS by Ellen Whitby, Head Usher

I want to thank the greeters and ushers for September and October.

Greeters and Ushers for November: Estelle Slaughter and Jayne Wesley

Greeter and Ushers for December: Libby Slaughter and Charmel Hickman

God bless everyone,
Ellen



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BEST WISHES TO EVERYONE WHO IS CELEBRATING!

Happy Anniversary!



**CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS TO ALL AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR
FROM**

The Tidings

YOUTH GROUP by Christy Edwards

The Methodist Women will be hosting a Christmas party for the Youth Group and their families on the second Saturday of December from 6:30 – 8:00. This will be in place of our regular Youth Group meeting. The invitation has also been extended to all church family and friends. This will be an opportunity to meet members of the community, enjoy some Christmas goodies, sing a few carols, and make a craft. Further or updated information will be placed in the church bulletin or announced to the congregation via Pastor Miller. We look forward to seeing you for a fun-filled evening of fellowship.



Pictures from October's meeting:
The youths' two favorite activities
are eating and ping pong!



I pray frequently for God to please send the children that he is calling. We have several young ladies who juggle a busy schedule and come to youth group when possible. However, the guys always show up. I believe God is bringing up a group of young men to serve him. At times they are a handful, but I believe God has a special plan for this group. I am humbled that he would work through me because I feel inadequate to reach out to teenage boys. So I just pray for the Lord to minister to them despite any inadequacies on my part.

If you would like to use your talents to help out with this group please let us know. We could use a hand with cooking, crafts, outdoor games, music etc. We would love to include you as this ministry begins its third year.



Youths, Their Families, Church Family and Friends

You are invited to the Christmas Party

December 13

6:30-8:00 pm

Thank you to the United Methodist Women!

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

UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL by Charlotte Edwards

I visited a lovely farm on Kate's Point Road. and talked to Earlene Foster. She is the lady who keeps our church sparkling clean and ready to welcome all who come. Earlene has been quietly behind the scene for 27 years.

There is a poster that says, "Maryland's Eastern Shore - Make it part of your story." Earlene has made the Eastern Shore a huge part of her story. She came from Reisterstown to Ridgley at age 10 as a foster child and much later became a FOSTER. They moved to Easton where she attended middle school and high school. On coming to Trappe, she worked at Mitchums Store and also at Shore Stop. When her son attended the nursery school at our church, taught by Dianna Bojko, she was offered the job of cleaning the church. This helped her pay for the school. It was a great job for a young mother as she could bring the kids with her, and that was the beginning of her career with many other jobs. All these years later, she still has many of her original clients, which speaks highly of her skills, and we at TUMC add our praises, also.

Earlene has 3 children and a granddaughter. There is another grandchild on the way. She plans to help with child care and will soon be fitting another little one into her work schedule. We will probably see him or her next spring on some days that she is at the church. She only knows these present generations of her family and wants to keep them close.

Earlene's personal hobby is amazing. She is a member of the Seven Sister's quilting group. We all know that they do incredible work. Over the years they have made "Comfort Quilts" for nursing home patients and donated many quilts to organizations for fundraising. They meet on Friday evenings at The Quilt Vine. Earlene showed me her sewing room. It is truly the workshop of a master. Her sewing machine is a thing of wonder, as are the many quilts she has in her home. It's amazing how she can move the sewing machine over the quilting frame so precisely.

Earlene's travels are often to quilting retreats, but she has also traveled with her husband for Farm Bureau Conventions, visiting Florida and Arizona. She has also been on a Caribbean cruise.

You now know that we have a special person quietly keeping our church in perfect order. She knows every nook and cranny in the church and we appreciate this TLC.

Thank you, Earlene Foster.



January 2015 Worship Notes

January 4: **Epiphany of the Lord Sunday**

Isaiah 60:1-6 and Matt 2:1-12

Did you know---The Epiphany (Manifestation) of the Lord (January 6), an event more ancient celebration among Christians than Christmas, originally focused on the nativity, incarnation, and baptism of Christ. Today we celebrate the coming of the three wise men (magi), who brought gifts to the Christ child. For this reason, in Puerto Rico and in most Latin American countries this day is observed as Three Kings Day or Dia de Los Reyes. It marks the end of the Christmas Cycle, which began the First Sunday of Advent. The Latino culture has preserved and developed this ancient celebration in a way that is a great gift to the whole Church. Within the church service, this day is celebrated with plays and special songs emphasizing the coming of the kings and their gifts for the Christ Child. In the home the children are told to place boxes filled with hay under their beds so that the camels will eat the hay and leave presents for the children. (The United Methodist Book of Worship, p.295)

January 11: **Baptism of the Lord**

Acts 19:1-7 and Mark 1:4-11

On this Sunday the Church traditionally celebrates the baptism of Jesus the Christ by John the Baptist. We will remember and celebrate the oneness we have in Christ through our own baptisms by engaging in A Congregational Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant.

January 18: **Human Relations Day**

1 Sam 3:1-20 and John 1:43-51

Observed on the Sunday before the observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, this day calls the Church to recognize the right of all God's children to realize their potential as human beings in relationship with one another.

January 25: **3rd Sunday after the Epiphany**

1Corin 7:29-31 and Mark 1:14-20