



Camp Chapel
United Methodist
Church

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CAMP CHAPEL NEWS

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION SUNDAY

WE  **OUR VOLUNTEERS!**

Sunday, September 8 was Volunteer Appreciation Day at Camp Chapel. Anyone who contributed in any way to the mission and purpose of our congregation was invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall for a celebration of their work.

A hearty and delicious lunch was served buffet style, consisting of Mary Smith's barbecue, potato salad and coleslaw. Dessert consisted of make-your-own ice cream sundaes. The tables were set up Friday evening by members of the AA group, and were beautifully decorated with rose bud centerpieces donated by Susan Wallace. At each place setting, volunteers found a special remembrance card and a notebook and pen gift set as a thank you gift for their efforts on behalf of our church and its missions.

During the meal, Pastor Carol visited each table and personally thanked every volunteer for their efforts on behalf of our church and our community.

Judy Homberg

2024 CHURCH CONFERENCE CONVENES OCTOBER 8 VIA ZOOM

Camp Chapel UMC will hold its Church Conference virtually via Zoom this year on October 8 at 6:30 pm. The Zoom invitation will be sent automatically to administrative leaders. The Church Conference is open to all members of Camp Chapel UMC, and all are encouraged to attend. If you wish to receive an invitation to join us at our Church Conference, please email Pastor Carol (carol.pazdersky@gmail.com).

CAMP CHAPEL NEWS

VEGETABLE GARDEN NEWS

For a few years, we've had vegetable garden plots adopted by folks for their use. This year Tammy and Don Stipek, responded to the call to expand the garden to grow and share fresh produce with the community.

We first thought of Streets of Hope who runs an overnight shelter from November through April. We found that they offer 2 free community meals per week during the summer.

Realizing Streets of Hope might be able to use our summer produce, we pursued a '*meal match made in heaven*'. Susan Wallace, our coordinator with Streets of Hope, connected with them on their interest. They were excited.

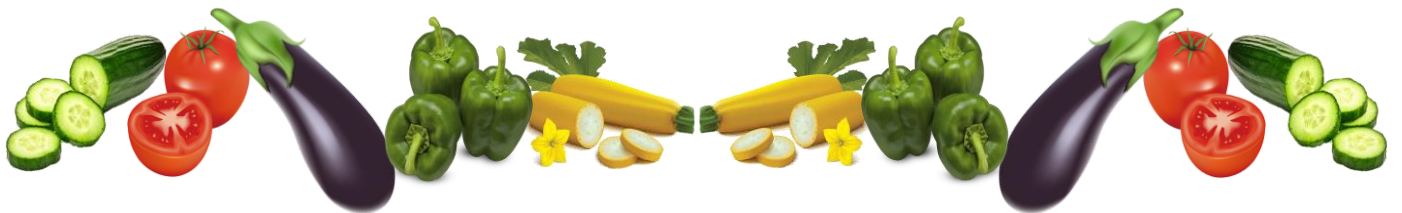
Tammy and Don started to plan how to improve the garden as well as what and when to plant. A few helpers stepped in to build a new garden wall, add dirt, water during vacations, and such other activities needed to maintain growing vegetables.

The garden was a great success such that by August 25, we provided the following:

- Lettuce – 5 one-gallon bags
- 20 zucchini
- 20 cucumbers
- 7 yellow squash
- 7 acorn squash
- 5 eggplants
- 11 green peppers
- 6 spicy red peppers
- 5 dozen tomatoes
- 6 containers of sweet and sour cucumbers
- 10 loaves zucchini bread
- 1 cheesy vegetable casserole

Garden work is hot, tiring, dirty and blessed work. To grow such a tremendous harvest with a bit of elbow grease, some soil, water, sun and a few seeds is truly God's gift to us from a healthy earth. Now, we've had such a fabulous harvest that we were able to share, there are new ideas growing for next year's garden.

Though the garden is winding down, please take some time to check out the garden, say a prayer for the work done and plans being considered. If you have ideas on vegetable gardening, please let one of us know. Meals always taste better and are healthier with fresh produce, tended and harvested with blessings by blessed hands.



The Camp Chapel Green Team

CAMP CHAPEL NEWS

CREATION CARE TABLE

A Creation Care table has been set up in Fellowship Hall and all are invited to stop by each week between services (9:20 to 11 am) to check out some valuable 'green' tips and information.

Our September topic is *Leave the Leaves, Fall Garden and Lawn Beneficial Practices*. We would love to hear your thoughts and questions.

Frank and Kathy

SUNDAY HOSPITALITY IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

Please join us in our Fellowship Hall between services (9:20 to 11 am) for a snack and chat! The hospitality team invites anyone who is interested to sign up to help host one Sunday.

Barbara, Carrie, and Kathy

AN UPDATE FROM STREETS OF HOPE



The Streets of Hope Community Center has been open to the community since April when the men's cold weather shelter season ended. Every Monday and Friday the center supplies meals, showers and laundry facilities to the homeless families who are currently living in tents. Camp Chapel has supported the community center in many ways.

Fresh vegetables from our garden were delivered to the shelter weekly by Tammy and Don Stipek. We have supplied and served meals twice monthly this summer. Some evenings we had 40 men, women and children to feed. Thank you to our newest meal team, Rachel Stein and her family!

I also have had an amazing amount of clothing donations from the Camp Chapel congregation. I recently put out an emergency plea for underwear, and it appeared magically from the Camp Chapel gang!

Donations of toilet paper, paper products and canned food continue to be left for me in my car, Sunday School room and Fellowship Hall.

There have been monetary donations made by the congregation so I can buy twenty new pillows and pillowcases for the upcoming opening of the cold weather men's shelter!

YOU HAVE MADE A HUGE DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF THESE PEOPLE!

Susan Wallace

Upcoming Events

J.O.Y. (Just Older Youth)

Wednesday, October 2, 11 am in Fellowship Hall

Join us and enjoy an afternoon of lunch, games, and fellowship with other Camp Chapel members. Bring a sandwich and a drink for lunch (dessert will be provided). Feel free to bring your favorite board game, cards, or dominos. We meet on the first Wednesday of each month.



All Are Welcome!



Fall Tea

Saturday October 12
2 pm to 4 pm
Fellowship Hall
\$25 per person



Please let us know if you would like to set your own table.

Tables can be set for a minimum of 6 guests up to a maximum of 8 guests.

Additional tables will be pre-set to accommodate individual guests or smaller groups.

For tickets (paid by check or cash), or if you need additional information, please reach out to Jackie Brawn at 410-652-2776 or jackiebrawn@gmail.com

Come and enjoy a lovely afternoon filled with delicious food and relaxing conversation.

Camp Chapel Film Seminar Presents Movies About Angels
This Month: Saturday, October 19, 6 to 9 pm Via Zoom

Stagecoach

A Western with angels? *Stagecoach* (1939) is one of the greatest Westerns ever and the movie that made John Wayne a star! It was directed by John Ford and stars, alongside John Wayne, Claire Trevor, Thomas Mitchell, Andy Devine, and Donald Meek. Check the flyer on our web site:

<https://campchapel.org/event/film-seminar-stagecoach/>

Or scan the QR code ►



Join us for a classic movie and discussion! Zoom information will be sent via email



FREE EVENT FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

ALL SUPPLIES PROVIDED



REFRESHMENTS TOO!

**DON'T MISS OUT! REGISTER ON OUR WEBSITE STARTING OCTOBER 1st.
LIMITED NUMBER OF SPACES AVAILABLE SO REGISTER EARLY!**

Upcoming Events (Continued)

HOLIDAY BAZAAR



Saturday November 16

9 am to 2 pm

Fellowship Hall

White Elephant Table  BakeTable  Your Favorite Vendors
Plus a Delicious Luncheon – BBQ Sandwich and Hot Soups

BRING YOUR FRIENDS! HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



Contribute to the Holiday Bazaar's White Elephant Table

We ask you to consider donating any unwanted items to the Holiday Bazaar's White Elephant Table. These items would include handbags, jewelry, accessories, tablecloths, placemats, Christmas things, and general household items – all in good condition for the bazaar on **November 16**. If you have anything you would like to donate, please put items in a bag or box and label them **WHITE ELEPHANT**. You can put them outside the craft room door OR contact Jackie Brawn at 410-652-2776 to arrange for pick up. Proceeds from the bazaar benefit our Children and Youth programs.



Thank you!



Saturday December 21
6 pm to 8 pm (rain or shine)
Live Nativity Scene

Camp Chapel will be staging a **Live Nativity Scene** to celebrate the birth of our Savior! A committee is being formed to make this event a SUCCESS! We will need actors, singers, parking lot attendants, stage crew, etc. If you would like to participate, please reach out to Jackie Brawn at 410-652-2776 or jackiebrawn@gmail.com

Thank You, Pillow Project Team!

Dear Camp Chapel Pillow Project Volunteer Team,

We are deeply grateful for your generous donation of 75 pillows to the Northwell Cancer Institute. Your kindness, time, effort and talent will bring comfort and relief to many patients during a challenging journey.

The work you do has such long-lasting impacts. My sister Kai received a heart pillow after her surgery for uterine cancer almost 5 years ago and still has that pillow. She has appreciated the comfort it brought and the beauty it displayed, that she later wanted to bless other cancer patients with the same experience. Together we coordinated with the Northwell Cancer Center's administrative director Angela Palacios and with Debbie Kalendek to bring this to fruition.



Kai Alexander (left) and Camille Adams-Bain (center) and friends with Camp Chapel Heart Hugs pillows at the Northwell Cancer Center.

Angela has sent a donation to the pillow project and a note that states, "Thank you for your kindness. We love the pillows and so do our patients."

Please know that your volunteerism and thoughtfulness are a beacon of hope and care, making a tangible difference in the lives of those affected by cancer. The pillows will be cherished by many patients, providing physical comfort and emotional solace.

Your contribution is valued and appreciated. You are an integral part of our Camp Chapel mission to provide exceptional care and support to our community, and through this project you are doing that for many patients and their families.

Thank you all. You and the work you do are appreciated.

Sincerely,
Camille Adams-Bain & Kai Alexander

Notes on an Afterlife

One of my oldest and dearest friends passed away a few days ago. We met in grade school. She was the first girl I ever asked out on a real date. She gave me my first official kiss. You know what they say about that first kiss – you never forget it, and you never forget the one that you kissed. We inevitably broke up and lost touch with one another, but decades later our paths crossed again, and we reconnected and became close friends. Her passing had an unexpected effect on me. I grieve, of course, but there was more to it than that. She reinforced my faith in an afterlife. I won't go into the details of how that came about – it's too private and too raw right now – just trust me when I say that my faith and my hope have been renewed and bolstered.

Something in me has always insisted that consciousness, self-awareness, soul, whatever we choose to call it, is more than just chemicals and electric impulses interacting in our brains, and it must surely transcend the barrier of death, but I have been unable to rationalize how that might conceivably work. Because I can't explain it, it has become for me a matter of faith.

If you have read my essays over the years, you are likely aware that that I come back to some concepts again and again, and that one of these is my belief that faith is an act of the will. We make a conscious decision to embrace the truth of an idea when there is no evidence either for or against that idea, or in some cases when there is plenty of evidence, but it all says the idea is wrong. Take the story of Noah in the Bible. The theory that two of every kind of living creature could be gathered onto one boat for forty days and nights is absurd! How ginormous would that boat need to be? How much bigger would the boat need to be to hold forty days' worth of feed and fresh water for them all? There would need to be extra prey animals to keep the carnivores fed – Noah would have had to round up vast herds of them! And how many people would be required to manage the feeding and dispose of all the excretions? And another thing: how much water would it take to drown the entire earth to a depth that would cover Mount Everest? Where would it all come from? Where did it all disappear to? Yet millions of people believe that it happened exactly as it is written in the Book of Genesis even though the evidence says that's just impossible! You may be one of those millions of people, and if you are, I say, "Bravo!" Your faith is far stronger than mine, and I envy you for that. I honestly do. Me, I'm skeptical.

It doesn't take such a powerful faith to believe in an afterlife. There's no evidence that a part of us will carry on after we die, but then again, there's no evidence that we won't live either. Okay, okay, Christians believe in an afterlife based on the testimony that Jesus died and rose from the dead three days later. But there's no evidence for that testimony – maybe he did rise from the dead, maybe he didn't. Okay, okay, Christians believe that the New Testament record of Jesus's resurrection is fact because the Bible is the Word of God. But there's no evidence for that assertion – maybe it is the Word of God, maybe it isn't. Okay, okay, that doctrine rests on the conviction that there is a God. But there's no evidence for that either – maybe God exists, maybe God doesn't. Trust in life after we die is a 50-50 proposition that may or may not be supported by a second 50-50 proposition that Jesus rose from the dead, which may or may not be supported



by a third 50-50 proposition that the Bible is the Word of God, which may or may not be supported by a fourth 50-50 proposition that God exists. That's pretty shaky if you ask me!

Here's something that I do know: whether we believe in it or not, humans have thought and written about the afterlife a lot! Every religion that's ever existed has had its own mythology that includes some definite ideas about what a life after death would be like; for instance...

The Afterlife Is Nothing

Nothing, nothing, nothing. Just nothing. Our bodies return to the elements they were made of. As for our souls... we never had souls in the first place, so... nothing.

The Afterlife Is a Blissful Place

We end up existing among clouds and light. We live with God. We enjoy reunion with loved ones. There are pearly gates, mansions, streets paved with gold, singing, halos, we play harps, and we all have wings. There could be virgins waiting breathlessly for us if we're martyrs. We may deserve this happiness, but some religions have held that everybody gets this. We may have physical bodies, or else we may be joyful spirits. If we do have physical bodies, they're perfect!

The Afterlife Is an Awful Place

We end up existing in fire, darkness, and ceaseless torment. We may deserve this punishment, but some religions have held that everybody gets this. We may have physical bodies, or else we may be tortured spirits. If we do have physical bodies, they're disgusting!

The Afterlife Is Meh

We end up existing in a dull, colorless place. There's no pain, but no pleasure either. Our souls wander aimlessly, relationships forgotten. Maybe we have bodies, maybe not, but whichever, we don't care. We may lament, "I was young and strong. I worked, played, ate tasty meals, loved and was loved. Those were the good old days!" Or we may lament, "I was old. I had constant aches and pains. I had lost my hair, my teeth, my appetites. Those were the good old days!"

The Afterlife Is Another Life

It's reincarnation. If at first you don't succeed, try, try again. Or maybe it doesn't matter whether you succeeded or not – try again anyway.

The Afterlife Is Oneness

We end up merging into a single powerful energy. If indeed there is a God, we become God.

I believe there is a life after death, but, being a skeptic, I acknowledge that I could be wrong. If my belief is correct, though, I am positive that what we have been told about what our afterlives

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

will be like is, best-case scenario, only partly true. I trust in and share the belief that Paul expressed in his first letter to the church at Corinth. He was expounding about a bunch of stuff, including prophecies of our future with God, “For now all we can see are puzzling reflections in a mirror; then, face to face. I know in part now; but then I’ll know completely, even as I’m completely known.” Paul is trying to tell us that the afterlife is going to be much better than anything we read in the rest of the Bible. Or if not better, then at least much different.

So as I give thanks to God for the privilege of having been part of the life of my good friend, I also give thanks that in her living and in her dying, she passed along to me an extra measure of the strength that I need to believe I might be seeing her again someday.

Bill Smith



Thank You

I cannot express enough how grateful I am for all the support I've received from my Camp Chapel family. Thank you for all the prayers, cards, calls, and food that has been overwhelming. I have been so blessed.

I have finished my chemo and radiation treatments and hope to get back to work soon. I can't tell you how much I have missed being at Church on Sundays.

A special shout out to Kathy Whitson for being my guardian angel.

Thank you everyone,
Gary

From the Church Historian

Part Seven: The Education Building (Fellowship Hall)



To provide more space for Sunday school and other activities, a shelter for horses and carriages was converted into the first education building.

In the early history of Camp Chapel, Sunday school was held in the chapel. Curtains were drawn across the sanctuary to create individual classrooms. When there was a need for more space, the horse shed that had been used to house horses and carriages was converted into a hall by enclosing the front, adding hard maple floors and installing a kerosene stove for heat. A kitchen was added at one end and a stage at the other end of the building. The building was used for Sunday school, church suppers, and the Epworth League (forerunner of the Methodist Youth

Fellowship), as well as other church social events such as plays and pageants. There was no running water in the building so water had to be brought in when suppers were held. Sunday school picnics were held in the grove of trees and were free to the public. Ice cream, cake, candy and soft drinks were sold.

The need for expansion of the church school began to be addressed officially in November of 1953. The Board of Trustees, which included: Carville G. Akehurst, chairman, G. B. Moore, Raymond Akehurst, E. Scott Moore, Dallas Beall, G. Clarence Eck, Wilbur Grover, Blaine Lewis and the Reverend John A. Lovejoy, pastor of the church, began planning for the construction of a new education building. The plans accepted by the congregation were for a brick structure 40 ft. by 80 ft. which included a kitchen and restrooms. The plans also included provisions for adding a second story later. Mr. J. Clifton Kidd was awarded the contract to build the hall in December of 1953 at the cost of \$21,982.72. Construction started later that month, and the building was officially completed on April 25, 1954, with the laying of the cornerstone and a service of dedication at 3:30 pm. The Reverend Luther Neff, Methodist District Superintendent, Pastor Lovejoy, the Reverend Gibbs McKenney, former pastor of the church and J Clifton Kidd, the builder, officiated at the service. But there was still a need for more space for Sunday school classes, so the old wooden building remained in use with a roof constructed to connect the old with the new buildings.

In 1954, the Board of Education of Baltimore County rented the new building as an annex while a new school at the corner of Joppa and Belair Roads was being built. Two fourth grade classes were held in the building. I was a student in one of those classes. The hall was divided in half

(Continued on page 12)



(Continued from page 11)

by an accordion curtain. One of my many memories of being in the hall for school was when my class had to practice the maypole dance to be performed in the Perry Hall Elementary May Festival held each year at the school building on Belair Road next to the present Fire House. We would push all the desks out of the way and line up in the kitchen to go out and practice around a support column to which crepe paper streamers were taped to stand in for the maypole.

In 1966 and 1967, the hall was contracted by the Board of Elections of Baltimore County to be used for both the Primary and General Elections those two years. The hall has been used for many occasions including a nursery school, talent show and plays, Tom Thumb weddings, suppers, etc.

A few years after the new Sanctuary was built, the old wooden building was razed, and Sunday school classes were then held in both the hall and the basement of the church. It was later decided that a second story would not be added to the hall. The stage and auditorium in the basement of the church were eliminated and the basement was converted into individual classrooms, a library and a conference room.



Clifton Kidd lays the cornerstone for the new education building.



The old and new Education Buildings together.

In 2007 renovations were begun on the exterior of what had come to be named Fellowship Hall. After they were completed, Fellowship Hall had extensive damage inside from rainwater leaking into the building from the roof. The hall was closed while repairs were made, including a new roof, new ceilings, painting, and flooring. On Sunday, November 11,

2018, the church held a rededication service for the hall.

During the COVID pandemic that began in 2020, Sunday school classes were suspended along with dinners, fundraisers and in-person meetings, and the hall was closed for the duration.

Today the Hall continues to hold community meetings, Sunday and Monday Bible Study, church suppers, receptions, blood drives, and many other programs.

Next month: The Parsonage.

Doris Akehurst Tarleton
Church Historian

Birthdays

October Birthdays

Camille Bain	October 2
Sandra Boenig	October 4
Chris Yanson	October 4
Florence Littleton	October 5
Fox Swecker	October 8
Darin Daubert	October 10
Gregory Yanson	October 10
Matthew Ansel	October 12
Elizabeth McDonold	October 13
Angeline Howard	October 14
Ali Rezai	October 18
Leah Klemm	October 20
Robert Lentz	October 20
Martha Spero	October 24
Beth Lingner	October 25
Caroline Klemm	October 28
Dane Glisan	October 30
Scott Finney	October 31
Jacob Taylor	October 31

November Birthdays

John Gregory	November 2
Arleen Parcover	November 9
Corine Lewis	November 12
Gary Lushbaugh	November 14
Beverly Gyr	November 15
Peter Gaskin	November 16
Cheryl Kempler	November 17
Susan Wallace	November 20
Russell Lingner	November 27
Zak Kempler	November 29



Having a Birthday?

The *Acorn* would love to celebrate every single birthday of every member of our congregation, but sometimes we do not have that information in our files! Each month, we list the birthdays for this month and the next. If your birthday does not appear, please send an email to acorn@campchapel.org with your name and the month and day you were born. WE DO NOT NEED TO KNOW THE YEAR! Your age can be your secret!

Lectionary Readings



October

October 6: World Communion Sunday

Job 1:1, 2:1-10

Psalm 26 or Psalm 25 (UMH 756)

Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12

Mark 10:2-16

October 13: 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Job 1:1, 2:1-10

Psalm 22:1-15 (UMH 752)

Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31

October 20: Laity Sunday

Job 38:1-7

Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c (UMH 826)

Hebrews 5:1-10

Mark 10:35-45

October 27: Reformation Sunday

Job 42:1-6, 10-17

Psalm 34:1-8 (19-22) (UMH 769)

Hebrews 7:23-28

Mark 10:46-52

November

November 3: All Saints Sunday

Ruth 1:1-18

Psalm 146 (UMH 858)

Hebrews 9:11-14

Mark 12:28-34

November 10: 25th Sunday after Pentecost

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17

Psalm 127 or Psalm 42 (UMH 777)

Hebrews 9:24-28

Mark 10:38-44

November 17: 26th Sunday after Pentecost

1 Samuel 1:4-20

1 Samuel 2:1-10 or Psalm 113 (UMH 834)

Hebrews 10:11-14 (15-18) 19-25

Mark 13:1-8

November 24: Christ the King Sunday

2 Samuel 23:1-7

Psalm 132:1-12 (UMH 849)

Revelation 1:4b-8

John 18:33-37

The Holy Bible Is the Word of God



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Handicap Parking

Because there is such a demand for the limited number of handicap parking spaces, if you are currently accustomed to using one of these spaces and the driver of your vehicle is able, please consider having the driver drop the passenger off, park in one of the regular spaces, and pick up the passenger when the service or the event is over. Thank you for your consideration.



SPRC Message About the Pastor's Work Week

Just as we respect Judy's days off, please respect Pastor Carol's regular days off (Fridays and Saturdays - her "weekend") by not calling or texting her unless it's an emergency. Before you call or text, please pause and think about it: most things can wait until Monday.



Prayer Requests



Cards are available to anyone who wishes to request prayers. The cards are available in the Narthex of the Chapel and in the pews in the Sanctuary. You may place the card in the offering plate, hand it to an usher prior to the service, or give it to the pastor after the service.

Another way to request prayers is through Camp Chapel's Facebook page on which members may post their joys and concerns throughout the week. Other members can respond with an emoji expressing their support or with a comment offering an encouraging word. Yet a third way to request prayers is by using the Prayer Request page on the church web site:

<https://campchapel.org/prayer-request/> or scan the QR code ►



Each week, prayer requests from these sources are collected and lifted up at the worship services.



What's Happening in October?

October is ADHD Awareness Month, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Emotional Wellness Month, and National Animal Safety and Protection Month.

- October 1 International Music Day
- October 2 Rosh Hashana begins
- October 2 International Day of Non-Violence
- October 3 Animal Welfare Week (10/3 – 10/9)
- October 5 World Teachers Day
- October 6 World Cerebral Palsy Day
- October 7 National Child Health Day
- October 9 Leif Erikson Day
- October 11 Yom Kippur begins
- October 14 Indigenous Peoples Day
- October 14 Columbus Day
- October 16 World Food Day
- October 18 National Mammography Day
- October 21 Back to the Future Day
- October 21 National Health Education Week (10/21 – 10/25)
- October 25 National Fine Art Appreciation Day
- October 27 Navy Day
- October 28 National First Responders Day
- October 30 Mischief Night
- October 31 Girl Scout Founder's Day
- October 31 Halloween

