



Camp Chapel United Methodist Church

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Christmas Events

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1:

Christmas Card Exchange box is now available details on page 3

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7:

Film Seminar Holiday Movie: Mixed Nuts, Plus Short Subject, *Tango Argentine* – details on page 5

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8:

- Music of the Holidays details on page 6
- Last Day to Order Poinsettias details on page 6
- Last Day for Contributions to Gifts of Love details on page 4
- Last Day for Contributions to Christmas Food Baskets - details on page 2

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14:

Gingerbread House Event – details on page 7

SATURDAY. DECEMBER 21:

Live Nativity Drive-Through – details on page 7

CHRISTMAS EVE, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24:

- Family Service – 4:00 pm
- Music begins – 8:30 pm
- Candlelight Service – 9:00 pm

CAMP CHAPEL NEWS

FOOD PANTRY NEWS





Just some of the food collected for the Thanksgiving Food Baskets

The Thanksgiving Food Basket collection was a huge success, and again, the generosity of our congregation was inspiring! Now, we move ahead with the collection for the Christmas Food Baskets which will be distributed to 50 families on Saturday, December 14. Once again, each basket will include the following 13 items:

- A \$15 Walmart gift card for a turkey/ham/entree of their choice
- Boxed mashed potatoes
- Box of muffin mix
- Box of brownie or cake mix with icing
- Canned gravy

- Canned cranberry sauce
- Canned vegetables
- Box of stuffing mix
- Canned mixed fruit

A box will be available at the front of the chapel and sanctuary for the collection of these items.

If you prefer to make a financial donation, you may do so by submitting cash or a check (made payable to Camp Chapel UMC) in an envelope in the offering plate. Please mark your donation as "Holiday Basket". You may also use Bill Pay.

The deadline for food or monetary donations is Sunday, December 8.

CAMP CHAPEL FALL TEA IS A SUCCESS

The Fall Tea was held Saturday, October 12, in Fellowship Hall. Jackie Brawn organized the event, and with the help of many others, made the afternoon a huge success. The menu consisted of a selection of four aromatic and flavorful teas, accompanied by an assortment of delicacies, including butternut squash soup, vanilla and lemon curd scones, and varieties of savories and sweets. 64 women attended with Kathy Whitson, Lula Gray, Kathy Martin, Katie Klemm, and Barb Thompson setting their own tables. Lula Gray brought her very own silver tea set to display. It was gorgeous and added just the right touch to the event.

Jackie Brawn



CAMP CHAPEL NEWS

CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE

Christmas 2024 is rapidly approaching, and it is time to think about sending cards to our church friends. Once again, a Christmas card box will be available at the front entrance of the main church and the chapel for those who would like to send Christmas cards to other members of Camp Chapel. Simply write their name on the envelope and place the card in the box. The cards will be sorted, alphabetized and bundled. The bundles will be placed next to the box for the recipients to pick up. You may send cards beginning Sunday, December 1. The last day to send cards will be Christmas Eve.

We ask that you donate the money you would have spent on postage to Camp Chapel's mission projects. There will be envelopes marked "Mission Projects" by the box for your check (made payable to Camp Chapel) or for a cash donation. Please place the donation envelope in the card box.

Sue Garrison

REMEMBER TO PICK UP YOUR CARDS!

CROP HUNGER WALK





Camp Chapel's CROP Hunger Walk team gets in their steps.

Again this year, a team from Camp Chapel participated in the CROP Hunger Walk. The walk was held on October 27, raising \$728 for food pantries, both local and around the world. Overall, it was a great experience to get outside, get some exercise, enjoy conversation with church friends, and raise funds for a good cause.

Elizabeth McDonold



CAMP CHAPEL NEWS

GIFTS OF LOVE



Our church will again sponsor Camp Chapel's "Gifts of Love" campaign. With your generous help, the Circle of Sisters will work to provide Christmas gifts for needy local children. We will be working with several schools in our community to bring Christmas blessings to identified families.

The "wish tags" will be posted on church bulletin boards November 24. If you would like to purchase a gift or two, choose a tag, buy the gift and return it **UNWRAPPED** to the church by **Sunday, December 8th**. Please attach the original "wish tag" to the gifts.

This will ensure that each child will receive the proper gift. Also, return a gift receipt if possible.

Some tags ask for gift cards. Any amount is acceptable. Please write the amount on the card. This will help the committee or local school counselors provide additional gifts as needed.

Please leave your gifts in the bins in Fellowship Hall by December 8. Thank you for supporting this important ministry! Contact Karen Knauer at 410-440-2293 or knauergemail.com if you have any questions. Thank you for your interest and generosity!

Karen Knauer

CERTIFIED FOOD SERVICE MANAGERS NEEDED!

To continue to hold public dinners, Camp Chapel needs to have more people trained as Certified Food Service Managers, Level II. A Certified Food Service Manager (CFSM) is someone who has been trained in the safe handling of food. Baltimore County requires that for any dinner open to the public, a CFSM must be present. CFSMs are not required to do the actual cooking of the food (although there is nothing that prohibits them from cooking if they are so inclined); their job is to make sure the food is cooked, handled, and stored safely.

CFSM, Level II certification is specifically designed for volunteer fire companies or bona fide non-profit civic, fraternal, veteran, religious, or charitable organizations that operate a high or medium priority food service facility three days or fewer per week, and Camp Chapel falls under that umbrella. Training is provided at no cost to individuals who wish to perform this service for their organization. Please prayerfully consider filling this essential role for Camp Chapel.

Those who wish to become a Certified Food Service Manager must pre-register and have computer access to participate in the free, virtual Webex training, which is offered on a first-come, first-served basis. To register for the training, visit the Baltimore County web page. Click **HERE** or scan the QR code ▶



Upcoming Events

J.O.Y. (Just Older Youth)

Wednesday, December 6, 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!



Camp Chapel Film Seminar Presents Movies About Angels

This Month: Saturday, December 7, 6 to 9 pm Via Zoom

MEDNUTS

On Christmas Eve, while one group of misfits tries to keep their nonprofit afloat, they find themselves enmeshed in the problems of several other misfits in this modern screwball comedy.



Mixed Nuts (1994), directed by Nora Ephron, stars an ensemble cast including Steve Martin, Madeline Kahn, Robert Klein, Rita Wilson, Anthony LaPaglia, Juliet Lewis, Liev Schreiber, Garry Shandling, Rob Reiner, and Adam Sandler, and has a running time of 97 minutes.

Plus a delightful holiday short film, Tango Argentine

To check the flyer on our web site, click this link: MIXED NUTS or scan the QR code ▶



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



Upcoming Events (Continued)

Red Poinsettias for Christmas Eve



\$10 Each

Last Day to Order:

Sunday, December 8



These beautiful potted flowers will decorate our sanctuary on Christmas Eve. You can take home your flowers after either the Family Service or the Candlelight Service. The dedication booklet will be distributed on Christmas Eve at both services.

Submit your dedication and place your order by clicking HERE or scan the QR code ▶





Music of the Holidays Concert

Sunday, December 8 – 4 pm



Camp Chapel's Chancel Choir, with added guest artists, and the Chapel Bells will be presenting a "Music of the Holidays" concert on December 8th at 4:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Included in the program will be new and wonderful arrangements of familiar carols and also some fun secular songs. We will also include music from our talented instrumental musicians at CCUMC.

The concert is free and open to the public, so spread the word and invite your friends and neighbors to the event. It is always uplifting to perform with a full house.

Gingerbread House Event

Saturday December 14, 2 pm - 4 pm

Cost: \$20 for 1 house \$18 per house for 2 or more houses



We will have light refreshments with elf punch, photo spots for some nice Christmas photos, plus holiday music to get you into the Christmas spirit. The deadline for registering is December 8 and space is limited so please sign up soon! To register, click HERE or scan the QR code ▶



HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE.





SATURDAY DECEMBER 21, 2024 6 PM TO 8 PM

The actors have been selected. The costumes have been sewn. The electrical work has begun. And the display is looking great! IT'S ALMOST SHOW TIME! We are so excited about this event! Please put it on your calendar and don't forget to invite your family and friends.

This will be a true drive-through. Directions:

- Enter from Honeygo Blvd. and leave via the Joppa Rd. exit.
- Do not exit your vehicle.
- Church members will direct the flow of cars.
- You will have ample time to enjoy the tableau from the comfort of your vehicle.

What a beautiful way to celebrate the birth of Jesus!

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



Bits and Pieces

Pavane for a Silent Night

Christmas music has a tremendous range of styles and content. The music of this season is divided into sacred pieces and secular ones. We can enjoy the sublime, like the classics *Silent Night*, *Joy to the World*, and *White Christmas*. And we can put up with the ridiculous, like *Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer* or that local Baltimore favorite, *Crabs for Christmas*. Most Christmas melodies fall between those two extremes, like *Silver Bells*, *Good King Wenceslaus*, *Away in a Manger*, *Rudolph*, *the Red-Nosed Reindeer*, or *The Little Drummer Boy*.



Maurice Ravel around the time he wrote Pavane pour une infante défunte

We – that is, the Camp Chapel Chancel Choir, in which I am one of the basses – have been rehearsing for the last couple of months music for this year's "Music of the Holidays" concert. We will be singing some very cool arrangements of secular and sacred favorites. One of the sacred pieces we are performing that I am most fond of is *Pavane for a Silent Night*, which, for me, is in the sublime category of Christmas music. It is based on an 1899 work for solo piano by Maurice Ravel that might be one of the most moving five minutes or so of music that I have ever heard, *Pavane pour une infante défunte*. *Pavane for a Silent Night* was arranged for chorus by Patrick M. Liebergen with words very appropriate for a sacred Christmas anthem by lyricist Jean Anne Shafferman.

A *pavane* (pronounced pah-VAHN) is dance music that originated in Spain in the early 1500s and was popular in most of Europe until the late 1600s. The dance went out of fashion, but as a musical form the pavane has survived even until now, with musicians like Joe Walsh, The

Strawbs, The Alan Parsons Project, and Eric Clapton composing modern pavanes. Although it originated as a dance, it isn't one you would expect to gyrate to the beat of in a modern club. The tempo of a pavane can best be described as "stately." The only points of bodily contact between the dancers are the hands, and the movements proceed at roughly the pace of a wedding procession, with lots of bows, curtsies, and hesitation steps – definitely not disco material. The moods evoked by a pavane would range from thoughtful to downright sad, and pavanes are often written to honor someone who has died. Ravel's *Pavane pour une infante défunte* in English is *Pavane for a Dead Princess*, and Clapton's *Pavane for Jay A*. honors Jay Adams, a pioneer in the sport of skateboarding who died of a heart attack in 2014.

It is interesting to me that this slow, sad piece of music should seem to be so moving for me at this joyous time of year. It's not the only slow Christmas piece, for sure. Think of *Silent Night*. *Silent Night*, though, evokes quiet, reverent joy in the pace at which it moves. There are lots of other slow sacred pieces, but they all sing of the holy delight of the birth of our savior. I can't

think of another one off the top of my head that expresses both the happiness of Jesus' birth and simultaneously the sad nuances that *Pavane for a Silent Night* conveys.

The happiness is in the beautiful lyrics. They are full of Christus natus est! (Christ is born!) and multiple Alleluias, descriptions of the silent, starry night, and glad tidings and the singing of the angels. At the same time, though, the melody is mournful and sorrowful. The piano is accompanied by the plaintive notes of an oboe. We sing of that happiest of all nights as we shed a tear or two in mourning. It is ineffably beautiful to me. As I sing it, I find myself feeling as if I were there on that first Christmas observing Mary and Joseph, so proud, so exhausted, so incredibly ecstatic at the most wonderful moment of their lives; the baby, innocent, perfect, asleep; the angels and the shepherds, in complete awe, praising God for this, God's greatest gift.

I see all of this and rejoice, but even as I sing "Gloria!" and "Alleluia!" I know the rest of the story, as all of us, but none of them could possibly know, and I mourn. I'm not grieving for the baby, who is destined to die on the cross one day. This was his purpose for being born, for becoming one of us: to become our salvation. I mourn for the mother, who, given the joyous gift of a child this night, not so very long from now will feel pain and sadness and loss such as I doubt I could survive as she watches that gift, her son, cruelly and violently taken from her.

Pavane for a Silent Night is a work with beautiful lyrics, sublime music, and a complicated tangle of tensions between the wonder of Jesus' birth, the anguish of his death, and a third element that will be the ultimate surprise ending: Jesus' triumphant return from the grave (like I said, as we listen to the words and music, we know the rest of the story).

Bill Smith

Author's note: Pavane for a Silent Night is just one of the selections that will be presented on Sunday, December 8, at 4 pm. I hope all of you reading this can attend the Music of the Holidays concert to hear the Bell Choir, the Chancel Choir, guest artists and members of our congregation entertain you with all categories of Christmas music!



The Nativity by Gari Melchers, circa 1891



Departed

Robert Leonard Hess April 19, 1941 – November 12, 2024



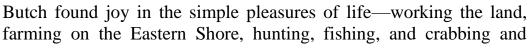
We regret to inform you of the passing of Robert (Bob) Hess on November 12, 2024. Bob was not only a dedicated veteran of the Air Force, but he also continued to serve in his community in the Coast Guard. Robert was the beloved husband of the late Linda Ruth Hess, cherished father of Robert Franklin Hess and MaryRose Ruthanna Hess, dear brother of Michael Hess, Diane Smith, Gina Carruthers, the late Clifton Hess, and was a loving grandfather to Ashley Ann Spurgeon, Mariah Elizabeth Hess, and the late Robbie Lee Hess and four great-grandchildren: Landon Spurgeon, Sophia Spurgeon, Liam Hess, and Harleigh Sandruck. He is also survived by his dear partner Patricia Fish.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to Boys and Girls Club of Harford County.



NORMAN JOHN "BUTCH" KAHL July 27, 1949 - November 19, 2024

We regret to inform you of the passing of Cindy Kahl's husband, Butch Kahl. Butch was a devoted husband to Cynthia "Cindy" Jean (nee Gyr) Kahl. He was a loving brother to Angela Orem (and her late husband, Cliff), Helen Winkler (and her husband, Link), Tom Kahl (and his wife, Joy), Linda Soistman (and her husband, Kris), and Mike Kahl (and his wife, Sharon). He was also a treasured brother-in-law to Marvin Gyr, Jr. (and his wife Beverly) and Terri Gyr, as well as a beloved uncle to numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.





enjoyed his work with Gray & Son. He was a proud member of Ducks Unlimited and cherished the beauty and serenity of nature. Butch and Cindy shared a passion for traveling, embarking on cruises to explore breathtaking destinations and create lasting memories together.

In lieu of flowers, the family invites memorial contributions to be made to the American Cancer Society (www.cancer.org) or the ALS Association (www.als.org).



Thank You from Ed Mathus

Thank you all for being so supportive of my open heart/bypass surgery. I truly appreciate all the cards, prayers, kind words, and shared experiences - every one of you helped me get through this, and I thank you!

Thanks, Ed



Thank You from Mike Ryan

I would like to thank everyone for their kind words, cards, and expressions of sympathy upon the recent death of my mother, Joan. To have such support during a difficult time helped to give me comfort and peace and meant so very much to me and to my family.

> With a grateful heart, Mike Ryan



THANK YOU, CAMP CHAPEL, FOR ALL YOU DO!

I would like to thank everyone that attended the Fall Tea on October 12. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we enjoyed preparing it for you.

I could not have done this event without the help of so many wonderful volunteers. A very special thank you to Karen Warren, Katie Klemm, Lisa Djiuk, Diana Zielinski, Robin Craven, Leah Klemm, Carol Ann Ruth, Barb Thompson, Cathy Zink, Mary Ann Plummer, Keith Klemm, Ethan Morrow, Josh Klemm, Allen Zink, and Don Stipek.

Thank you again, Jackie Brawn



Birthdays

December Birthdays

January Birthdays

December 12	Barbara Thompson	January 3
December 13	John Olcott	January 4
December 13	Debra Kalendek	January 8
December 13	Winston Bain	January 13
December 14	Anita Obinger	January 15
December 16	Hannah Warren	January 15
December 19	Betty Day	January 21
December 21	John Amador	January 22
December 22	Ryan Gaskin	January 25
December 26	Joyce Williams-Joiner	January 25
December 27	Angela Gaskin	January 26
	Elly Delkoon	January 28
	Kellie Smith	January 28
	Jackie Brawn	January 30
	David Dziuk	January 31
	David Whitson	January 31
	December 13 December 13 December 13 December 14 December 16 December 19 December 21 December 22 December 26	December 13 Debra Kalendek December 13 Debra Kalendek December 14 December 14 December 16 December 19 December 19 December 21 December 21 December 22 Ryan Gaskin December 26 December 27 Angela Gaskin Elly Delkoon Kellie Smith Jackie Brawn David Dziuk



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

December

December 1: 1st Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16 Psalm 25:1-10 (UMH 756)

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Luke 21:25-36

December 8: 2nd Sunday of Advent

Malachi 3:1-4

Luke 1:68-79 (UMH 208)

Philemon 1:3-11

Luke 3:1-6

December 15: 3rd Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Isaiah 12:2-6

Philemon 4:4-7

Luke 3:7-18

December 22: 4th Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:2-5a

Luke 1:46b-55 (UMH 199)

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-45

December 24: Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalm 96 (UMH 815)

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-20

December 29: Sunday after Christmas

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Psalm 148 (UMH 861)

Colossians 3:12-17

Luke 2:41-52

January

January 5: Epiphany Sunday

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 (UMH 795)

Ephesians 3:1-12

Matthew 2:1-12

January 12: Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalm 29 (UMH 761)

Acts 8:14-17

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 19: 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm 36:5-10 (UMH 771)

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

John 2:1-11

January 26: 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10, 30

Psalm 19 (UMH 750)

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21



The Holy Bible Is the Word of God



Alert: Protect Yourself from Disinformation

Disinformation is false information deliberately spread with the intent to misinform and mislead others. Protecting yourself from being deceived by and from spreading false information is a challenge these days, but here are some steps you can take:

Check Where the Information Comes From

Never take anything you read on social media at face value. Check the original source if possible. When people share something on Twitter or Facebook or Instagram, it's not too difficult to find where the item originated, so take a moment to check where it came from. Is the source reliable? If you can't verify the source, don't trust what comes from it.

Check When It Originated

It's not uncommon for someone with bad intentions to resurrect old news and try to pass it off as current events. Recent examples you might encounter include an old video of a gas station explosion in Russia that claims to be an attack by Hezbollah in Israel or photos from Hurricane Ian (in 2022) passed off as evidence of the destruction from Hurricane Milton just last month.

Cross Check It and Fact Check It

Is the information being reported from several different reliable sources? If so, then it's probably legitimate; if not, be very skeptical. Also, fact checking shouldn't be a bad thing. There are several non-partisan organizations that check the truth or falsehood of Internet hoaxes, political claims, rumors, health and medical claims, science, technology, etc. Among the best are:

- Politifact
- FactCheck.org
- Lead Stories

- Science Feedback
- AP Fact Check
- APF Fact Check
- Snopes.com
- Reuters Fact Check
- <u>Poynter</u>

Click the names, or if you are reading the print version of the *Acorn*, use a search engine such as Google or Bing to locate their web sites. When checking, don't rely on a single fact checker, but try two or three to be sure you get the most accurate and unbiased information available.

Read All the Information, Not Just the Headline

The purpose of a headline is not to inform you, it's to get you to read the article, so headlines are often constructed to sensationalize and sometimes even to mislead. Read the whole thing.

Ask Yourself, Was the Information Emotionally Charged?

The goals of misinformation are to make you afraid or angry. If in reading or hearing something you begin to feel the speaker or author is manipulating you to feel anger or fear by using inflammatory language or images, that's a red flag. Real news should be, and usually is delivered dispassionately. If the information makes you mad or scared, fine, but that reaction should come from within you, not from someone who's unscrupulously trying to maneuver you.

It's Important to Note

There is a distinction between <u>dis</u>information and <u>mis</u>information. Misinformation is the <u>unintentional</u> spreading of false information, but misinformation can cause just as much damage as disinformation. If you do encounter misinformation or disinformation, the thing to do is, at the very least, NOT pass it along.

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.



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:

<u>https://campchapel.org/prayer-request/</u> 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 December?

Among other observances, December is National Cat Lovers Month, Universal Human Rights Month, Spiritual Literacy

Month, World HIV/AIDS Month,



December 1 First Sunday of Advent World AIDS Day December 1 December 1 Rosa Parks Day December 5 Sacher-Torte Day December 6 St. Nicholas Day

December 7 National Pearl Harbor Day of Remembrance

December 8 Second Sunday of Advent

December 9 International Day of Veterinary Medicine

International Animal Rights Day December 10

National Poinsettia Day December 12 December 14 National Bouillabaisse Day Third Sunday of Advent December 15

December 16 Las Posadas

December 17 Wright Brothers Day – First Powered

Heavier-Than-Air Flight

December 18 Charles Wesley's Birthday (1707) December 20 National Ugly Christmas Sweater Day

December 20 Sacajawea Day

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 21

Kwanzaa

Winter Solstice – Shortest Day of the Year December 21

December 23 **Festivus**

December 24 Christmas Eve

December 25 Christmas Day

December 25-Hanukkah

January 2

December 26-

January 1

December 31











