



## Camp Chapel United Methodist Church

Carol L. Pazdersky  
Pastor

Gary Lushbaugh  
Music Director

Courtnee S. Cirri  
Church Administrator

P.O. Box 15  
White Marsh, MD 21162

Office: (410) 256-5561

Email

[office@campchapel.org](mailto:office@campchapel.org)

Acorn Submissions

[acorn@campchapel.org](mailto:acorn@campchapel.org)

Website

[www.campchapel.org](http://www.campchapel.org)



## Lent, Part Two

Lent began February 18 and will continue through the month of March, ending with Easter Sunday on April 5. Lent is one of the great seasons of the Christian calendar. It is a time of preparation leading up to our remembrance of the end of Jesus's life on earth, when he was arrested, brought to trial, tortured, condemned to death, crucified, buried, and ultimately rose from the grave. Lent lasts for forty days, traditionally commemorating the forty days of preparation that Jesus spent fasting and praying in the desert before he began his public ministry. Christians are reminded to use this time in a similar way, in reflection and contemplation of the sacrifice that Jesus made.

There are two aspects of a Christian spiritual life that manifest themselves during Lent. One of these is the external side, and it can be exemplified by spreading the Gospel and by acts of charity and good works. Giving money for disaster relief, aiding the homeless, repairing houses in North Carolina – all of these are fine examples of the external spirituality that members of our church have been doing just in the past month. These efforts to engage people in the Christian life and to comfort strangers in time of need are wonderful. They bring help in the name of Christ to those who need help, and they glorify God in tangible ways that serve as a magnificent witness to the best of what Christianity is all about.

But the equally important internal aspect of a Christian spiritual life is often given short shrift. Examples of internal spirituality are prayer and self-denial, and that is what fasting or giving up chocolate or a favorite TV show for Lent is all about. Denial of self works on several levels if it is done correctly. First, the sacrifice of self-denial disciplines the spirit, much the same way that wearing the uniform, close-order drill, and the manual of arms disciplines a military recruit. Second, each time we crave what we are giving up, we remember why we made that sacrifice and focus our thoughts on who we are and whose we are. Third, it becomes natural at those times to meditate and to pray, which brings us closer to God daily. Finally, each time we refuse to allow ourselves to partake of something that we enjoy, it reminds us that we are in the season of Lent and moves us to embrace the spirit of Lent. For these reasons, Lent becomes a state of mind in which we dwell throughout all forty days, not just when we are reminded on six Sundays. So, fasting one day a week or giving up something one enjoys during Lent is much more than just some quaint and curious religious behavior; it is rather an intense form of spiritual exercise that feeds and strengthens our inner Christian selves.

Reminder: March 29, Palm/Passion Sunday, is a major observance in Lent.

---

# CAMP CHAPEL NEWS

---

## PASTOR MCNEAL APPOINTED TO CAMP CHAPEL

It is my joy to share with you that Bishop LaTrelle Easterling has appointed Pastor Laurel McNeal as the new pastor of our congregation. Pastor Laurel will begin her new responsibilities on July 1 of this year. As a United Methodist Church we are a part of an appointment system. Our congregation's staff parish relations committee has met with the district superintendent to relay our congregation's needs and the skills needed in a pastor. We have also met with Pastor Laurel to get to know her and to ask questions.

Pastor Laurel received her Bachelor of Science in Psychology at Towson University and then attended Wesley Theological Seminary and was commissioned as a provisional elder in the UMC. For the past three years, Pastor Laurel has been appointed to serve the Community Parish of Northern Baltimore County, which has six churches united as one community. There she has had the opportunity to be involved in the life of the various congregations and the community.

Pastor Laurel grew up attending a United Methodist Church in Baltimore County and it was there at summer camp where her faith grew. She was involved in many small groups and Bible studies, and it was these experiences that helped her to discover that God's love and compassion was all encompassing and was still alive today.

Pastor Laurel lived in Essex with her two brothers, Jacob and Jonathan along with her parents, George and Michele. They enjoyed camping as a family in Lewes, Delaware. There they would fly kites, swim on the beach, and sit around the fire. This is where Pastor Laurel's love for the beach and camping was born. Pastor Laurel is engaged and will be married to her fiancé, Chris, later this year. She loves animals and enjoys spending time with her two cats, Meg and Melody.

I know Camp Chapel will warmly welcome Pastor Laurel and surround her in Christian love.

Lisa Dziuk  
Chair, Staff Parish Relations Committee

---

## INTRODUCING OUR FURNITURE COORDINATOR

Robert "Cal" Calahan Jr is the new coordinator of Camp Chapel's furniture ministry. He has been a member of Camp Chapel for roughly two years. When moving from homelessness into a new home, families can often end up living in a nearly empty house. Our furniture ministry provides gently used, donated furniture to recently relocated homeless families and individuals in the Baltimore and Baltimore County areas. Cal would like to get more people involved in helping to move the furniture. If you are interested in helping with this vital part of Camp Chapel's outreach ministries, you may call Cal at 443-326-5283.

---

# CAMP CHAPEL NEWS

---

## CAMP CHAPEL MAKES A DIFFERENCE

God tells us not only to hear his word but to act on it.

A young woman was in a horrible domestic violence situation. Her husband was a good man – that is, until he drank. Loud shouts of obscenities turned into broken glass and eventually broken bones. She and her three children were rescued by the House of Ruth and eventually she was situated in an apartment with her kids. Camp Chapel's furniture ministry was able to give her what she needed to equip their home. She was a hard worker, and her salary covered her rent, but then the government shut down last year. Her employer cut her position from full to part time. Faced with a severely diminished income, she got behind in her rent. Her rental office served her with an eviction notice that said on February 18 she would be removed from her home, and if she couldn't afford to get her things into a rental unit they would be put on the street too.

She reached out to Alan Smith-Hicks of our furniture ministry, since he had helped her previously. He provided her with contact information for several resources that might help, but when she contacted them, two of the phone numbers were discontinued and the third agency had no funds available. Susan Wallace was made aware of her situation and contacted Camp Chapel's case manager at Streets of Hope Community Care Center, a ministry supported by Camp Chapel, but she could not find financial help for this woman either.

Susan contacted the woman's rental office in an effort to help stave off the eviction. She also contacted Sharon Ward and Winston Bain of the Finance Committee. With their help we were able to give the rental office funds from Camp Chapel's domestic missions account.

This family is now warm and safe in their home because of the help of our congregation. Thank you for supporting the ministries that enable us to do God's work.

Donations to any of our outreach missions can be placed in the offering plate on Sunday (please include a note or indicate on the memo line of your check which mission you want the money to support. You can also donate online at our church web site: <https://campchapel.org/giving/>, or scan the QR code ►



BE YE DOERS OF THE WORD,  
NOT HEARERS ONLY

James 1:22



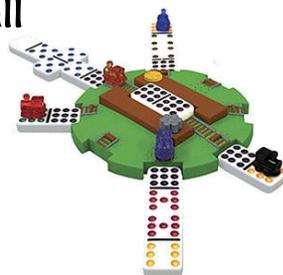
## Coming Events

### J.O.Y. (Just Older Youth)

Wednesday, March 4, 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. **All Are Welcome!**



## 36<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL TALENT AUCTION



Saturday, March 7  
4:30 - 7:30 pm  
Dinner 4:30 – 5:30, \$5 per person  
The auction begins at 5:30 pm



The auction is always a fun evening of fellowship. All church members and their guests are invited, and we'd love to see new faces!

Contact Elizabeth McDonold at 301-704-0893 or  
[elizabeth.mcdonold@gmail.com](mailto:elizabeth.mcdonold@gmail.com) for additional information



## Easter Tulips

\$8.00

This year's tulips are a grower's choice in a variety of colors.

The flowers will decorate the altar on Easter Sunday. Take home your flowers after whichever worship service you attend.



Submit your dedication/place your order online at:

<https://campchapel.org/easter-flowers-2025/> Or scan the QR code ►

**The last day to order is Sunday, March 15**

For additional information contact **Cathy Zink 410-652-3713**





## The Deadline for Submitting Articles for the April Acorn Is Wednesday, March 18



### Camp Chapel Film Seminar Presents: Saturday, March 21, 6 pm Via Zoom

Sean comes to Ireland, his birthplace, and buys back his family farm. He meets and falls in love with Mary Kate, but Mary Kate's brother intended to buy the land himself, and now he's furious with Sean.

*The Quiet Man* (1952), directed by John Ford and starring John Wayne, Maureen O'Hara, Victor McLaglen, Barry Fitzgerald, Ward Bond, and Mildred Natwick, has a running time of 129 minutes.

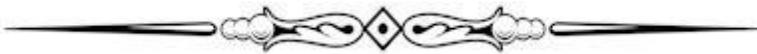
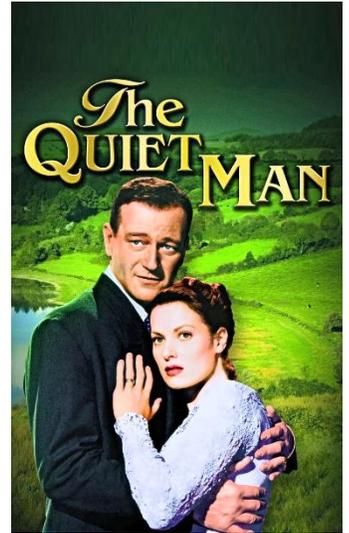
Check the flyer on our website:

[campchapel.org/event/film-seminar-the-quiet-man/](http://campchapel.org/event/film-seminar-the-quiet-man/)

Or scan the QR code ►.

**You must be 18 years or older.**

Zoom invitation will be sent via email



### Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday March 28, 10 am - 12 pm



**This is a free event for children and families, including crafts, games, prizes, and of course, the Easter Egg Hunt.**



Register online: <https://campchapel.org/event/easter-egg-hunt-2/>

Or scan the QR code ►

### Easter Candy and Donations Needed

Donations of individually wrapped candy, stickers, toys, (small enough to fit in eggs) are welcome as well as drinks and snacks. Please leave all donations in the box inside the side entrance to the church, and thank you.

### Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to help fill eggs, hide the eggs, manage crafts, serve the food, etc. If you can help, please contact **Kellie Smith, 443-691-2677** or [kellie.smith99@gmail.com](mailto:kellie.smith99@gmail.com)

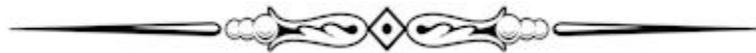




# SAVE THESE DATES!



March 3	Trustees (Zoom)	April 1	Band of Brothers
March 3	Circle of Sisters	April 7	Trustees (Zoom)
March 4	Band of Brothers	April 7	Circle of Sisters
March 9	SPRC (Zoom)	April 14	Finance Committee (Zoom)
March 10	Finance Committee (Zoom)	April 15	Band of Brothers
March 17	Circle of Sisters	April 21	Circle of Sisters
March 18	Band of Brothers	April 28	Church Council (Zoom)
March 24	Church Council (Zoom)		



## AND ALSO SAVE THESE...



Choir Appreciation Sunday  
 Sunday, May 24, Noon

Pastor Carol's Retirement Party:  
 Sunday, June 14, Noon



Gary Lushbaugh's 40th anniversary celebration:  
 Sunday, September 6, Noon



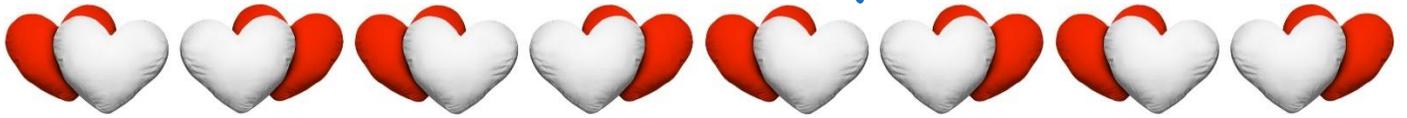
## Snow and Ice Policy

In the event of inclement winter weather (snow or ice), we may have to close the church. During the week, any time Baltimore County schools close for winter weather, all activities at the church are cancelled. Saturday events are cancelled if a snow emergency is in effect. Sunday worship will be cancelled to protect our members' safety if our parking lot and walks cannot be safely cleared. The decision about cancellation of worship is made the evening before based on information we have at that time. Safety is always a priority. Announcements of closure will be posted on our website and on the church office answering machine.



# HELP WANTED

## Pillow Ministry



The Pillow Ministry is in need of volunteers to do the initial sewing of the heart shaped and/or rectangular shaped pillows, which would be done in your home at your convenience.

We are also looking for a volunteer to deliver pillows to Union Memorial Hospital for the month of April. The pillows are normally delivered the first week of each month and we would bring the pillows to your home, church, or meet you wherever it may be convenient for you prior to that time.

If you are interested or have any questions, please reach out to Joyce Williams at the following: 410-218-5690 or [joyce.a.williams0125@gmail.com](mailto:joyce.a.williams0125@gmail.com)

Thank you for considering!  
Joyce Williams and Debbie Kalendek



## Summer Sunday School Teachers Appeal



This year, our Summer Sunday School will run from **June 7 through August 30**. To make this program possible, we are seeking adults to serve as teachers and assistant teachers so that we can fully uphold our **Safe Gatherings** requirements.

Safe Gatherings is our child-safety system that ensures a secure environment by requiring **two unrelated adults** in the classroom at all times. It

includes an online application, abuse-prevention training, and background checks. The certification is valid for two years, so some returning volunteers may need to recertify. All new volunteers will need to complete the training and background check process.

If we have enough volunteers, each adult will serve **one Sunday per month** – just three Sundays for the entire summer – and we can easily work around vacation schedules. We will have one classroom with two adults and approximately 6-10 children, using a simple format of a Bible story, a related video, and a craft or game.

If you are available to help, please contact **Angela Gaskin at [agaskin5525@gmail.com](mailto:agaskin5525@gmail.com)** by **Sunday, April 26, 2026**, so we have enough time to complete Safe Gatherings certification.

Thank you in advance for considering being part of this important ministry!



## Bits and Pieces

### The Lord's Prayer: "Thy Kingdom Come"

I have long contended that most Christians don't say the Lord's Prayer properly. We tend to say it in short bursts, like we're on one side of a wall trying to teach it to a friend on the other side who is bouncing on a trampoline. Our Father (bounce), who art in heaven (bounce), hallowed be thy name (bounce). Thy kingdom come (bounce again), thy will be done (and bounce) on earth (and bounce) as it is in heaven (and bounce)... you get the idea. For me, saying the Lord's Prayer like that destroys all its grace, poetry, and, most importantly, its meaning. It becomes not a prayer, but more a long incantation.

From time to time, I will be breaking down the prayer that Jesus taught us – pulling it apart and seeing what layers of meaning we can discern.

We say this prayer pretty much just as it appears in the New Testament Gospel of Matthew, the King James Version (KJV), with a few minor adjustments. A more succinct version can be found in the Gospel of Luke.

We have already covered "Our father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name." This time, let's look at the next bit: "Thy kingdom come..."

"Thy kingdom come" is an expression of an intense desire. Jesus, during his earthly ministry, spoke often of the coming of God's kingdom (Jesus calls it the kingdom of heaven mostly, but I'm pretty sure they're the same). We Christians believe this was one of the other reasons why Jesus took human form and came to earth: so that he could teach people about the kingdom of God, as well as prepare the way for its coming, as well as do what was needed to bring about its coming. Jesus was so committed to the prospect of reestablishing the kingdom of God on earth that he was willing to sacrifice everything, including his life, to see that come about.

"Thy kingdom come" raises two questions: the first is, "What exactly is the kingdom?"; The second is, "If God created everything, why didn't he just give us the kingdom from the start?" Let's tackle the second question first, because I think it will be a little easier to answer. When God created the universe, it was perfect. God placed humans in a garden in that universe, and, according to the book of Genesis, that garden was a place of tranquility, harmony with nature, and the fulfillment of everything that the humans desired. It was the kingdom of heaven here on earth. But humans were not satisfied. They sinned and destroyed the perfection that was the kingdom. In a sense, the entirety of the rest of human history has been an attempt to regain just a part of that perfection that was lost.

The loss of the kingdom necessitated the coming of Jesus Christ to earth. Prior to the birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus, the kingdom was completely unattainable. With Jesus's resurrection, the possibility of regaining the kingdom has been restored for us all.

So, what exactly can we expect when eventually the kingdom has been restored? We know from the book of Genesis that the garden that was humanity's first home, and the first manifestation of the kingdom, was tranquil, harmonious, and fulfilling. In addition, we can infer that humans were able to communicate much more directly with God, their creator. When Jesus began preaching and teaching about the kingdom, it was natural for his listeners to be



curious regarding exactly what to expect when the kingdom did come again. But Jesus never described the kingdom directly and precisely. He spoke rather in similes. His descriptions of the kingdom all begin, "The kingdom of heaven is like..." It's like a mustard seed. It's like a net cast into the sea that catches all kinds of fish. It's like a king who wanted to settle his accounts with his servants. It's like a treasure hidden in a field. It's like yeast. It's like a merchant looking for pearls. It's like a king preparing a wedding feast for his son. It's like a landowner hiring workers for his vineyards. At no time does Jesus ever say, "the kingdom is this," or "the kingdom is that." For those disciples who were hanging on Jesus' every word, it must have been quite frustrating to listen to Jesus speak all around the question of what the kingdom of heaven is and never meet it head on, never provide a direct answer.



*Mustard seeds. They're teeny-tiny.  
They're like the kingdom.*

If the kingdom of God is some kind of physical situation, then one has to guess that it must be so much greater, so far beyond the limits of our human comprehension that the only way Jesus could describe it to us that we could understand was to use those similes and parables, which only give us a taste of what the kingdom of God must be like when it does eventually come.

On the other hand, the kingdom of God may not have a physical component at all. The kingdom of God could be a state of being. It could be a condition of the soul rather than a place. The kingdom of God may be some kind of metaphysical setting where bigotry, ignorance, greed, envy, lust, avarice – all the baser human urges – don't exist and seem to those of us who live in the kingdom to be

nothing more than a bad dream only vaguely remembered from our past. And where the better parts of our beings – generosity, stewardship, kindness, concern for others, energy, and boundless love for one another – have room to grow and flower.

Now, there is another side to the coming of the kingdom that we have to talk about. Jesus makes at least one aspect of the coming of the kingdom very plain: that when the kingdom of God is established, there will be a reckoning, and in that reckoning, everyone who has ever lived will be judged. The judgment will be based on two criteria: one's faith in Jesus Christ, and the deeds that one has performed on earth. And then sheep will be set apart from goats, wheat will be separated from chaff, and those on whom judgment has fallen propitiously will be welcome in the kingdom of God and those on whom judgment has fallen harshly will be banished never to experience whatever the kingdom may be.

Thy kingdom come.

Bill Smith

# Birthdays

## March Birthdays

Emma Gyr  
Anna Delkoon  
Weston Beveridge  
Ron Wernsdorfer  
Kelly Finney  
Joshua Klemm  
Faye Warehime  
Ethan Morrow  
Amy Borgerding  
Sue Ellen Hickman  
John Diggs  
Dar Pendergrass  
Marbara Price  
Jason Taylor  
Doris Tarleton  
Linda Herbert  
Mylene Amador  
Bill Smith  
Grant Wickenheiser  
Mark Yanson  
Nora Boonnoi  
Kathryn Whitson  
Nathan Dziuk

## April Birthdays

March 2	Nora Delkoon	April 2
March 3	Michele Taylor	April 3
March 4	Sue Garrison	April 6
March 6	Sharon Ward	April 6
March 7	Karen Yanson	April 6
March 7	William Burton	April 7
March 7	Mary Smith	April 9
March 8	Ann Ansel	April 10
March 13	Andy Glorioso	April 10
March 13	Luke McDonold	April 13
March 14	JoAnne Bowers	April 14
March 14	Lisa Zurek	April 15
March 14	David Kalendek	April 25
March 17	Makaela Wickenheiser	April 28
March 18	Gail Mathus	April 29
March 19	Leah Manansala	April 30
March 20		
March 22		
March 23		
March 24		
March 29		
March 30		
March 31		



## Having a Birthday?

The *Acorn* would love to celebrate every single birthday of every member of our congregation. 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](mailto: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

## March

### March 1: 2nd Sunday in Lent

Genesis 12:1-4a  
Psalm 121 (UMH 844)  
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17  
John 3:1-17

### March 8: 3rd Sunday in Lent

Exodus 17:1-7  
Psalm 95 (UMH 814)  
Romans 5:1-11  
John 4:5-42

### March 15: 4th Sunday in Lent

1 Samuel 16:1-13  
Psalm 23 (UMH 754 or 137)  
Ephesians 5:8-14  
John 9:1-41

### March 22: 5th Sunday in Lent

Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Psalm 130 (UMH 848)  
Romans 8:6-11  
John 11:1-45

### March 29: Passion/Palm Sunday

#### Liturgy of the Palms

Matthew 21:1-11  
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (UMH 839)

#### Liturgy of the Passion

Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Psalm 31:9-16 (UMH 764)  
Philippians 2:5-11  
Matthew 26:27-66 or 27:11-54

## April

### April 2: Holy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14  
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 (UMH 837)  
1 Corinthians 11:23-26  
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

### April 3: Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12  
Psalm 22 (UMH 752)  
Hebrews 10:16-25  
John 18:1-19:42

### April 5: Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (UMH 839)  
Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43  
John 20:1-8 or Matthew 28:1-10

### April 12: 2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 22-32  
Psalm 16 (UMH 748)  
1 Peter 1:3-9  
John 20:19-31

### April 19: 3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41  
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 (UMH 837)  
1 Peter 1:17-23  
Luke 24:13-35

### April 26: 4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47  
Psalm 23 (UMH 754 or 137)  
1 Peter 2:19-25  
John 10:1-10

# The Holy Bible Is the Word of God





# What's Happening in March?

Among other observances, March is Women's History Month, Developmental Disability Awareness Month, Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, Endometriosis Awareness Month, Social Work Month, Gender Equality Month, and American Red Cross Month. In addition, the month of March celebrates Irish-American and Greek-American heritage, optimists, reading, dolphins, noodles, cheerleading safety, celery, ideas, and adopting guinea pigs. Here's what else is happening:

- 1 Peace Corps Day
- 3 Caregiver Appreciation Day
- 3 Casimir Pulaski Day
- 3 National Anthem Day
- 3 Holi
- 3 Full Moon (Worm Moon)
- 4 World Day of Fight Against Sexual Exploitation
- 6 World Day of Prayer
- 6 Remember the Alamo!
- 6 National Oreo Day
- 8-14 Girl Scout Week
- 8 Daylight Savings begins **Spring Ahead**
- 10 Harriet Tubman Day
- 11 Johnny Appleseed Day
- 13 National Good Samaritan Day
- 14 Pi Day
- 15-21 National Anonymous Giving Week
- 15 UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) Sunday
- 15 The Ides of March
- 17 Saint Patrick's Day
- 18 Forgive Mom and Dad Day
- 18 Global Recycling Day
- 20 Alien Abduction Day
- 20 Spring Equinox
- 21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
- 21 Rosie the Riveter Day
- 22 Talk Like William Shatner Day
- 23-29 Shakespeare Week
- 26 MLB Opening Day
- 29 National Vietnam War Veterans Day
- 31 Eiffel Tower Day

