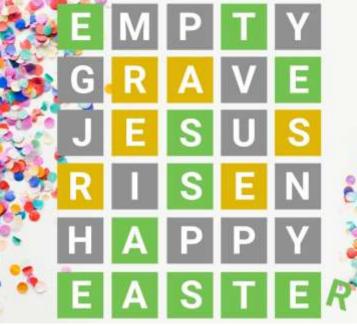


North Bethesda United Methodist Church

> Pentecost & Summer Issue 2022 Volume 51 Issue 2



CHRIST IS RISEN!



HE IS RISEN INDEED

The Tulip Tree Grove

The tulip tree grove marches in procession down the steep hill through Wildwood Baptist's Old, old graveyard, rustling through brush into The county's un-tended, boggy right of way, Ravine home and highway for fox and deer, And then back up the bank to the north field of North Bethesda United Methodist Church.

The tulip trees stand straight as plumb lines dropped from heaven. Silver-gray bark flows sixty feet or more, upward to their gently curving crowns. In bloom, flower petals tapered like the namesake tulip, glow a golden salute to spring's high azure sky. By fall, tightened to conelike husks they flare open to explode a tight-packed volley of whirling, winged seeds like those that grew this grove.

A queen Tulip tree holds court for visitors. Aromatic pine and fir that Angelo sells at Christmas, pumpkins Arrayed in glory, bought to glow on Halloween night, or left to sag and then implode in hot October sun. Montessori school children meander past, braided in Their crocodile. Easter Sunrise worshipers shiver by in darkness and return in dawn-light. Christian and Jew wed under no sectarian roof, but in the tulip tree's sweet shade.

Tulip trees live long. They see a lot. They see Busy people scurry by, with downcast eyes fixed on cell phone, or fearing fall on uneven ground.

Look up, and see the tall spires sprung from earth, Silent witness to our hurried, unaware passage.

- Carol Malmi

Photo Credits: Sara Barakat, Michele Bernot, Trevor Hammond, Ardoth Hassler, Ken Ow, Jim Short, Linda Thompson, Diane Walsh-Barberesi. Cover graphic: Rev. Kara Scroggins. <u>CokesburyVBS.com,</u> <u>riseagainsthunger.org</u>. Photos of children shared with parents' permission.

North Bethesda United Methodist Church

10100 Old Georgetown Road Bethesda MD 20814 Phone: (301) 530–4342

E-mail: office at northbethesdaumc.com Website: www.NorthBethesdaumc.org Office Manager: Chris Lee Office Hours: Tuesday -Thursday 8:30AM- 3:00PM Pastor: Rev. Kara Scroggins cell: 202-618-1078 Minister of Visitation: Linda Thompson Music Director: Tony Ashur Coordinator of Education: Renee Newman Contact Newsletter Editors: Ardoth Hassler-Short, Carol Malmi Contact Newsletter Publisher: Chris Lee

NBUMC Contributes to UMCOR for Ukrainian Relief

In response to an appeal from Rev. Kara and Lay Leader Gordon Cragg, numerous donations were received from members. NBUMC contributed \$3,405 in March to UMCOR's Advance #14053A for Ukrainian Relief efforts.

A heartfelt THANK YOU to all who contributed!



New NBUMC Directory is available and can be picked up after worship on Sunday. Or, contact the office to have one mailed to you.

Please notify the Office if you have any corrections.

Thank you, Mary Lou Griffin and Chris Lee for this.

Contact Deadline for Fall Issue:

Message from the Pastor's Desk

At Easter, we proclaim with joy and relief that Christ is alive; that, despite the powers of death and despair that seem to loom so prominently, God is indeed still present and active in the world, transforming us through all-powerful love. It's always a joyful, heartening feeling to come to church on Easter, to see the flowers, hear the music, and watch the church fill up and come to life with people of all ages. This year was especially wonderful, as it was my first Easter as your pastor and, for many of us, the first Easter in a Sanctuary since 2019.

Sometimes the "high" of Easter can last a week, or even two, but soon we all seem to come down and get back to our routine lives: we tolerate mild stress and dreariness; we celebrate momentary joys; we grapple with the deeper, harder struggles. So often, we forget to live through all of this in the light of Easter. We sail on into May and forget to bring the hope and the promise of Resurrection with us. The challenge, I think, is to consider what it



Rev. Kara celebrated our first in-person communion in the sanctuary since February 2020 on Sunday, April 3rd.

means to be Easter people all year round. This doesn't mean that we have to be at a joyous, vibrant "10 out of 10" all the time (that might actually get pretty annoying to the people around us). Rather, it means that we are constantly on the lookout for God's grace, love, and wonder to appear, especially on the hardest days. We always have an ear to the ground, trusting that the footsteps of hope are quiet, but steadily making their presence known.

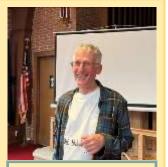
One of the ways that the presence of a Resurrection God is made real to me is in Creation. When I spend time outside, I experience renewal and promise; I witness resilience; I hear a call to participate in God's love-filled handiwork. The story of God's enduring love is written all over Creation. And so, as part of our challenge to continue looking for signs of the living Christ in our midst well after Easter, we are going to spend the next several weeks in a worship series called "Holy Ground." We'll explore scriptures from Genesis, Exodus, Psalms, Proverbs, Isaiah, Mark, Luke, Acts and Romans and talk about what it means to honor God's physical presence in the created world. How might our behavior change if we consider ourselves to be on "Holy Ground" all the time? What might we learn from looking at the story of Jesus' baptism through the lens of contemporary water shortages and pollution? Wouldn't it be great to celebrate Pentecost together by taking a prophetic act of Creation-oriented service together? I'm looking forward to this Eastertide journey with you, and welcome your thoughts and ideas along the way!

Peace, Rev. Kara

BENEFIT CONCERT

Sterling Scroggins (Baritone), Rev. Kara's dad, performed a wonderful voice recital entitled "Walkin' the Talk" in our sanctuary on Sunday, April 3. Sections of the concert were about Walking Alone and Walking Together with selections in German and English from Franz Schubert, Hugo Wolk, Charles Ives, Samuel Barber, and Georg Frederick Handel. Paula Chipman (Soprano and Rev. Kara's mom), offered a beautiful rendition of "I Wonder as I Wander" *a cappella*.

The second portion of the program was a "Lent Lamentation on the Abuse of Creation," which featured a slideshow of humanity's effects on the environment in companion to Sterling's vocal selections from the above and Antonio Caldara, Henri Duparc and George Gershwin. David Holovac sang Bob Dylan's "The Times They are-a-Changin'," inviting the audience to join in on the chorus.



Sterling Scroggins, after the concert

The program closed with an invitation to the audience to join in singing Richard Rodgers' "You'll Never Walk Alone."

A freewill-offering was taken to support NBUMC's effort to pack 10,000 (or more) meals for *Rise Against Hunger* on May 7th.

WORSHIP THEMES

Eastertide Sermon Series "Holy Ground: Celebration and Responsibility for a Creation in Peril"

Worship series, Bible study, and graphics adapted from Church in the Wild.

May 8 – Holy Gift: God Creates, We Steward

Psalm 8 All of Creation glorifies God

Genesis 1:26-3 God creates humanity and puts us in charge of caring for the world

May 15 – Holy Ground: Finding the Sacred in the Ordinary

Isaiah 52:6-7 "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of a messenger" Exodus 3:1-6 Moses encounters God in the burning bush

May 22 - Holy Water: How We Relate to Creation is How We Relate to the Creator

Proverbs 8:1-3, 22-31 Lady Wisdom's account of creation

Mark 1:4-12 Jesus is baptized in the Jordan River

May 29 – Holy Flesh: Honoring Created Bodies

Romans 12:4-6 We're all parts of the Body of Christ

Luke 24:44-53 Jesus ascends into Heaven

June 5 – Holy Responsibility: The Church as Witness

Young Adults

Our young adult group got rolling during Lent with a weekly study that loosely followed the themes in Kathy Escobar's book, *Faith Shift*. We met via Zoom on Sundays, and at the end of Lent we came together to lead the Maundy Thursday service as readers of Janet Replogle's spoken-word piece. We have been on a post-Easter break, but will pick up again in May with another weekly conversation group on Zoom. We're also looking to plan some early-summer hikes and ice cream meetups, so contact Rev. Kara know if you know of someone in their 20s or 30s who might like to join us!

PENTECOST JUNE 5th

Remember to wear **RED** as we celebrate the Birth of the Church.

Our scripture reading is Acts 2:1-21. If you speak a language other than English, please let Rev. Kara know if you would like to participate in the simultaneous reading of these passages.

Vacation Bible School

We are thrilled to partner with Bethesda UMC in order to be able to offer Vacation Bible School programming this summer. We are sending roughly ten youth and adult volunteers from our congregation, and have opened registration up to all the children in our church and community. If you know of someone who would like to participate, there is still room!



The theme this year is Cokesbury's "Food Truck Party: On a Roll with God." Children ages 4 through fifth grade will move through arts & crafts, games, Bible story, and music stations every morning, with time for snacks and a rousing song & dance time to start and end the day. Contact Ms. Renee if you have questions or would like to register a child. **Here are the important details:**

Dates: Monday-Friday, June 20-24, 9am to noon Location: Bethesda UMC 8300 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD.







Join us on Saturday, May 7th, for a church-wide morning of service. Thanks to the facilitation of a nonprofit called Rise Against Hunger, we

will come together in Johnson Hall to pack more than 10,000 emergency meal kits to send to people experiencing hunger crises around the world. This is an activity that is great for members, guests, and friends of all ages! We'll use an assembly-line process to fill bags with rice, soy protein, dehydrated vegetables, and a spice/vitamin mix, and then weigh, seal, and box the packets. Rise Against Hunger will send all of the ingredients and supplies, hair nets, a representative to direct us, and some great music. Thanks to your generous donations, we have raised \$4,104.10 so far to cover the cost of the meals. Once we complete our packing and the meals are shipped. RAH will let us know where in the world our meals ended up being delivered. You can register for a volunteer shift (set-up shift is 8:30-10am; actual packing will be 10am-noon; clean up shift is 12-12:45) at

http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/NorthBethesda2022

JUNE IS PRIDE MONTH

Have a Pride Scarf? Wear it! Need one? They will be available starting in June.



On Saturday, June 11, we will join with United Methodists from DC, Maryland, WV and Virginia to march in the Capital Pride Parade in the Dupont Circle area of Washington, DC. The Pride Parade is a great opportunity to provide witness to God's love for all people. NBUMC will have an "official" sign, and you can make or bring other signs as well. Times for line-up and information on the parade route will be shared as soon as they are available. We have also been invited to help host a Pride Festival table the next day (Sunday, June 12), so stay tuned for details about that as well! If you want to be kept in the loop, email Rev. Kara.

NBUMC TO PROVIDE MEALS FOR THE WOMEN'S SHELTER JULY 10 THROUGH 16

(Gordon and Jacqui Cragg)

NBUMC is scheduled to provide meals to the Interfaith Works (IFW) Women's Homeless Shelter during the week of July 10th through 16th

As far as we are aware as we go to press, COVID restrictions still apply. We will be providing meals for 35 residents. Dinner teams (usually 4-6 members) will prepare the dinners (salad, main course, vegetables, dessert) for a particular night, and drop them off at the shelter for the staff to serve. We will buy the supplies for the lunches, as well as supplies for the breakfasts. We will need volunteers to help prepare bagged lunches at NBUMC for transfer to the shelter, usually on Sunday, Wednesday and Friday.

Circumstances may change in the coming months. We will be in contact with the IFW volunteer coordinator closer to the time, and will let you know of their current needs. The dates are firm, however, so please mark your calendars. If you wish to provide dinner dishes on a particular night or help with lunch preparation, please let Gordon & Jacqui Cragg know (email <u>Gordon</u>; email <u>Jacqui</u>), or our number in the church directory and please leave a message.

AS ALWAYS, THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMPASSION.

Service and Outreach



The Service and Outreach Committee's March food drive to benefit Bethesda Help netted 280+ pounds of food. Thank you to Sara Barakat, Michele Bernot and everyone who contributed.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Checks were sent to the following charities:

Local

Bethesda Cares Capital Area Food Bank Cornerstone Montgomery Primary Care for Kids National Bread for the World Henderson Settlement Intermountain Children's Home

Global

AHEAD, Inc French Medical Institute Institute of Grace Samburu School, Kenya I AM ZIMBABWE

Thank you for your generous support!

The Samburu Community School of Kenya

The Service and Outreach Committee (SOC) has led NBUMC's support of the Samburu School for a number of years. In 1994, Janet Jalloul, a professor at Strayer University, was on a bus tour in an area of north-central Kenya inhabited by pastoral peoples, including the Samburu. She saw children playing and asked, "Where is their school?" But there was no school nearby and education was not free in that region. Janet made it her mission to help these children. Traveling to Kenya twice a year, she had to deal with reluctant officials for permits to use the land and provide the curriculum; she oversaw construction in this remote area. She discovered that many of the students were ill and hungry, and it was challenging to get the parents to see the value of schooling, as they themselves had not had an education. The school officially opened in 1996 with three classes.

Our first contact with Janet involved collecting our leftover Halloween candy for her to take with her to Kenya. When Janet decided to dedicate all her time to this

community, she retired in 2008 and moved to Samburu. Those of us who have met

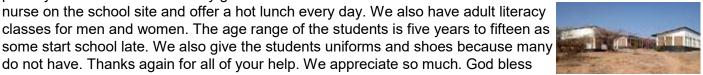
From a recent email from Janet. "We now have 200 children in nursery through primary 6 classes. After that they go to Middle School. We also have a clinic with a nurse on the school site and offer a hot lunch every day. We also have adult literacy

do not have. Thanks again for all of your help. We appreciate so much. God bless

Janet are in awe of her determination and compassion.

Janet Jalloul





you all. Janet and the Kids of the Samburu Community School." Recent donations from NBUMC have helped buy sports equipment and additional textbooks (they were sharing one book among five students). We look forward to seeing what will happen next at this place where so much is done with modest contributions! Thank you to all at NBUMC who have supported the Samburu School over the years. - Jacqui Cragg

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

SHROVE TUESDAY

Pancakes at home with our talented performers. Thanks to Natalie McManus, Brandon Kesselly, Ken Ow and the Arts Committee for a great program.



15 views + 1 hour ago









17 views + 1 hour ago





Anela - "Winter Waltz" 15 views - 1 hour ago

Flora - Jazzercise '22 15 views - 1 bour ago

Noe - "One" 35 views + 1 bour ago

Ikala - "Black Boy Joy" 16 views - 1 hour ago

Ardoth - "You'll Never Walk Alone" 14 views - 1 hour app Dillon - Poetry 17 views - 1 hour ago

15 views + 1 hour age



ASH WEDNESDAY

Many gathered on a clear but chilly March 2nd to observe Ash Wednesday and partake of Holy Communion.



Dr. Irving Williams and Rev. Dawn Wayman, guest preacher, after worship March 27, 2022.



Noe made cupcakes for the reception to welcome our new members on April 3rd.

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY PALM SUNDAY





In person, with palms, readings and music, and special prayer palms.





MAUNDY THURSDAY SOUP SUPPER AND SERVICE



Around 40 people partook of food and fellowship.

Our young adults lead the Maundy Thursday service as readers of Janet Replogle's spoken word piece—*There Was This Guy.* Communion followed.



Rev. Kara. Cheng Sithole and Trevor Hammond

OUR JOURNEY TO EASTER

GOOD FRIDAY: Stations of the Cross in the Church

We walked from place to place to follow the story of Jesus' last day. Each Station was a different place mentioned in the gospel narrative. We returned to some stations several times, gaining new perspectives and experiencing complex emotions .

Act I: Peter moves from one location to the next, moving ever closer to the moment he denies Jesus. We followed his painfully inevitable progress from one Station to the next.

Act II: Pilate paced between locations. He could not decide what to do. We followed his indecision pacing back and forth between Stations.

Act III: Jesus could not move, for he was fixed to the cross. What did he see from there? We stood in place to imagine the Stations from his vantage point.

Act IV: Jesus' body came to its final rest at the reflective silence of the grave. We rested to reflect at this final Station.

EASTER DAY



Early morning



Together, in person for Easter for the first time since 2019.



Our children made quick work of finding over 400 Easter eggs under the watchful eyes of their Bunny Friend.



MEMBER NEWS



We Welcomed New Members April 3rd

L-R (with their sponsors): Rev. Kara, Danielle , (Rose Aehle), Susan Caceres, (Kim Santoro), Kelli & Angela Wells, (Ken Ow), Hilda Smith, Pamela Major, (Pat Hilling), Linda Chappell, and Monica & Bob Dean (Jacqui & Gordon Cragg)

Dr. Williams Honored

On March 26, 2022, the Havre de Grace Colored School Museum and Cultural Center proudly honored six Phenomenal People for their life's accomplishments, integrity and demonstrated commitment to the highest standards of civic and social responsibility. The honorees are all graduates of the Havre de Grace Colored High School and Consolidated School. Our own Irving C. Williams MD, Class of 1949, was among the honorees. A pediatrician, Dr. Williams was recognized for his work in the US, Tanzania and The Gambia. With his wife, Elvira



Felton Williams, they are co-founders of AHEAD (Adventures in Health Education and Agricultural Development) in Tanzania. NBUMC supports AHEAD through Gifts of Caring and Social Outreach.



Village Ambulance donated by NBUMC and AHEAD, Inc. to Kisarawe Hospital



AHEAD's Gift that Heals a Village Maruku Health Center was officially opened on June 26, 2019. Children and adults in Maruku and surrounding villages now have access to quality health care.

MEMBER NEWS

Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant

Jesse Jennings retired as NBUMC's head usher in 2021. For over 30 years, our members and friends became accustomed to his warm greeting as they entered the sanctuary and handed them the weekly bulletin. Jesse started ushering at NBUMC shortly after he and his wife, Vera, joined in 1990.

When I asked when he started ushering, Jesse told me he has ushered "all his life," starting in the Baptist church he grew up in back home in Mississippi. Vera and Jesse attended Asbury UMC in Washington, DC, where he ushered before they came to North Bethesda. When Rev. Jeanne Klauda learned this, she asked Jesse to become an usher. At the time, the late Kal Johnson was head usher. When Kal retired for health reasons in 1995, Jesse became head usher. He says he tried several times to give it up, but no one stepped up. With the pandemic raging in 2021, Jesse told Rev. Jeff Jones he needed to have someone else in place when we resumed in-person worship.

The head usher's duties increased over time. Earlier, Kal and Jesse had a cadre of volunteers–Sonny DeForge, Mike Donigian, Jim George, Leon Scheidt, Jim Short... Earlier, Ron Harbin ran the sound system. David Early always put out the pencils and pew envelopes. Our youth served as acolytes lighting the candles–until they grew out of it. Now, the ushers do almost all these things. Importantly, they tuck away the weekly offering and stow the collection plates for another week.

In the early days, all the volunteer ushers were men. That changed under Rev. Debbie Scott–more and more women began ushering. Now, Rose Aehle has stepped up to serve, not as head usher, but as coordinator of ushers. We have many people who usher, but they don't seem to want the title, according to Jesse.

I asked Jesse about his most memorable moments. Fortunately, he never had to call 911 in an emergency. However, he was there to assist the Rescue Squad on two occasions when others called them. A funny moment was one summer Sunday when the air



conditioning was out in the Sanctuary. A member walked in, learned the AC was out. She turned around and left, saying, "I'll be back when the air is fixed."

Jesse says his most memorable moments were when the sanctuary was full. It was full several times for funerals, sad but celebratory times when ushers' presence was very important.

He cited celebratory events that stand out in his memory–the church's 50th Anniversary concert in 2006 when our choir combined with two other choirs, soloists, and orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Don Armstrong, to perform Mozart's *Requiem.* Jesse marveled at how many we seated, saying, "It was such a good performance." Later, he recalls how we filled the sanctuary again with the inaugural concert for our new organ in 2017 with Maestro Hector Olivera.

Thank you, good and faithful servant. We know you aren't finished yet as we see you helping out when you are able. But still we say, "Well done!" - Ardoth Hassler



Edith Mawoneke visited Sy and Kumbi Kasambira in Zimbabwe.



We welcome Kelli & Angela Wells. Rev. Angela preached on March 13th.

MEMBER NEWS

Update on Jenny Bartholomot

Our own Jenny (Genevieve) Bartholomot is now in a cozy assisted-living place appropriately called Bartholomew House, not far from her home and church family in Bethesda. Her son, Henri, writes that she is doing as well as expected at 95 years old. Jenny is most appreciative of our notes and cards, which Henri takes and reads to her.

Henri, his wife, Lynda, and brothers Claude and Michel are grateful for all our good wishes and outreach to her. If you want to send a card or note, the address is in the new Church Directory. Rev. Kara and Linda Thompson visit her regularly.





SARA GOES TO THE 2022 OLYMPICS!

Through my job with Reuters News, I had the opportunity to go to the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing, China. I was really looking forward to it, as I have always loved the Olympics. However, this trip was very different from what I expected.

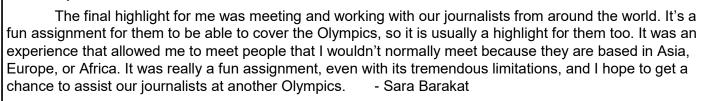
When we first landed in Beijing, we were greeted by everyone wearing full head-to-toe Tyvek suits, with N95 masks and nitrile gloves. Were they protecting themselves from us? Or, us from them? After a PCR test (both a throat swab and nasal swab that felt like it was scratching my brain!!), we were taken by bus to our hotel "in the bubble." We didn't get out of the bubble until we were heading home and boarded our connecting flight in Tokyo.

We were very limited in what we could do while in Beijing – we couldn't even walk outside of our hotel. There was only a little park across from the Press Center where people could walk. We had to wear masks ALL the time, except in our hotel rooms. We boarded a bus from our hotel in the morning to go to the Press Center, then took the bus back to our hotel. The food in our hotel was not good: I ended up eating broccoli, rice, hot and sour soup, and sometimes Kung Pao Chicken. (I haven't had much rice since I've been home, though I love it.)

There were a few highlights: I was able to join an "in the bubble" field trip to the Great Wall – only our group was allowed at the Wall during this time. We walked about a mile up and down the steps to see great views. What I found most interesting was that

the steps varied dramatically in height. There were some steps that were more than a foot high, and some that were only about 4" high. It was more of a workout than I thought it was going to be.

Another highlight for me was the chance to go to an Olympic event-I went to the Pairs Figure Skating Finals. It was so much fun. Some of the athletes came into the stands after their performances (so I actually think I was sitting in the athletes' area-oops!!). I stayed for the Medal Ceremony, which was also great, though I was admittedly on the other side of the rink.







LOOKING BACK

1960s: NBUMC's Growth Was Part of a National Trend

With over 580 adults and children in attendance the first Sunday our church opened at 10100 Old Georgetown Road, March 8, 1959, the need for a larger facility must have been obvious. Since the sanctuary had not yet been built, worship would take place in the auditorium we now call Johnson Hall for the next six years.

Meanwhile, the church Building Committee signed a preliminary agreement with architect A. Hensel Fink in September 1962 to build a sanctuary and additional classrooms.



Fellowship Hall packed with Sunday worshipers.

"We are faced with the responsibility of bringing about a monument to Christ," a report from the Building Committee stated. "The responsibility weighs heavy. May we share this awesome burden with all of our Members?"

Share the members did, at an open house October 7, 1962, that covered everything from color schemes and style of architecture to the location of the choir in the sanctuary. A month later the members embarked on a "Financial Crusade" to greatly expand our church with a sanctuary and narthex, offices, and about double the number of classrooms.

During this time, our church continued to grow by leaps and bounds from a membership of 444 in 1960 to 717 in 1964. The upward trend continued until the mid-1970s when our membership peaked at 850 members.

The growth of our church in the early 1960s was part of a national trend as many middle-class Americans moved from the city to the suburbs. Denominational reports indicate that the Methodist Church could barely keep up with the population shift by building new churches.

One report called for the building of 22 new churches in the Baltimore-Washington region alone, plus 50 new "educational units or multi-purpose buildings." An additional 15 church sites were needed "for long-range planning," the report stated. It noted that "most of the cost will be provided through local church financing."

Population changes "have made some communities mushroom and have produced in others an almost complete population turnover," another publication by the Commission on Promotion and Cultivation of the Methodist Church pointed out. "Add to this 'mobility' the rapid growth in population and you begin to see why the churches have not been keeping up."

Good News!

Finance Committee Update

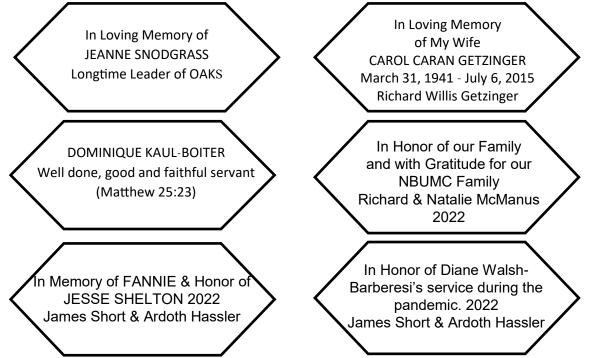
As of March 31, 2022, we have received \$204,133 in Pledges & Identified Offerings. This represents 94.95% of our fiscal year (July 2021 thru June 2022) budget of \$215,000. Total revenue as of March 31, 2022 is \$303,637 which is 80.39% of our fiscal year budget.

Our expenses at the end of March totaled \$299,599 or 76.13% of fiscal year of \$393,535. We currently have a surplus of \$4,038.

The Finance Committee is presently discussing returning to a Calendar year (January - December) budget as opposed to the current fiscal year (July - June) budget. - Jesse Jennings

TREE OF LIFE GROWS IN THE NARTHEX

New engraved leaves have been added recently on the Tree of Life in the Narthex to acknowledge donations and bequests to the Endowment Fund.



NBUMC's Endowment Fund grows through investment of capital and donations, including bequests, made by members and friends. Donors can select from two funds: the Capital Improvements Fund and the Enabling Ministries Fund.

The Capital Improvement Fund supports the costs of maintenance and facility improvements for the church building and property. The Trustees are responsible for managing all maintenance and improvements.

"The purpose of the Enabling Ministries Endowment Fund is to support relatively short-term, well-planned projects to achieve positive outcomes by expanding the discipleship, enabling ministries, and vision of NBUMC." Any committee or group can apply for these funds.

Annually, the Investment Committee releases a portion of investment income to the two Funds. Historically, the Trustees have relied on the annual release for unbudgeted repairs and capital improvements. Since 2006, several groups have used Enabling Ministries Fund releases to support activities in the arts and education.

Any NBUMC member who is considering a donation or bequest to the Endowment can learn more about the options for donating by asking the Investment Committee. - Carol Malmi

Miscellany



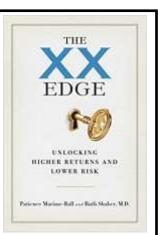
Our Cool Pastor!



The even "cooler" Rev. Joye!

The XX Edge Unlocking Higher Returns and Lower Risk

Our own Patience Ball co-wrote a fantastic new book that clearly articulates what many of us intuitively know, but far too few of us put into action: including more women as decision-makers will enable investors to achieve greater returns and lower risk. While The



XX Edge is primarily targeted towards investment managers, the core principles in this book also apply to business leaders, government agencies, non-profit organizations, and any other entity seeking to improve performance. This book is especially relevant in the current economic environment.



World Traveler Sara Barakat attended Easter Sunday service at a Methodist Church in Poland. She is on assignment, working near the Ukrainian border. Sara said she was able to follow parts of the service, recognized one hymn and the Lord's Prayer, and enjoyed talking with the members, many of whom spoke English, afterwards. Sara has promised an article for the next issue of the *Contact*.





North Bethesda United Methodist Church

10100 Old Georgetown Road Bethesda, MD 20814

Time/Value Dated Material

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage P A I D Permit #7010 Suburban MD

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Also via YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/c/NorthBethesdaUMC

Contact the Church Office for the link to Zoom Worship or to be added to the mailing list for weekly updates.