

Dec 2022/Jan 2023

The Messenger



Pastor

Rev. Kenneth McDonald

Music Director

Kathi Hiatt

Song Leader

Jeff Thompson

Office Staff

Debi Vaeth

Custodian

Ron

Sunday Service

9:00 – Contemporary –
Social Room

11:00 a.m.

Traditional-Sanctuary

Communion 1st Sunday

Facebook

Livestreaming
Service 11:00am

YouTube

Taped Service

Radio

11:00 a.m. WFBR
1590AM or
www.1590WFBR.com

Contact Us

5 Second Avenue, SE
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Children's Christmas Program

12/11 at 10:00 am

Jesus Birthday Celebration Dinner

12/11 at 4:56 pm

Christmas Cantata

12/18 at 11:00 am

Christmas Eve Services

12/24 at 3:00 pm, 8:00 pm

Lessons and Carols

12/25 at 10:00 am

Heaven Touches the Earth

The Apostle John states an incredible, startling fact unheard of in his first century world: the word-the power, the dynamic, the reason that orders and controls the universe “has become flesh and dwells among us.” John goes on to say that “we have seen with our eyes...and touched with our hands...the word of life” (1 John 1:1-2). John’s message is that this Word has come to the earth in human form. God, who was so distant, is now near. John is saying that if you want to see what this creating word, this dynamic power, this controlling reason looks like – look at Jesus. Indeed, look where heavenly glory touches the earth. It happened in the birth of a child on the outskirts of a remote Judean village called Bethlehem.

Through Jesus, God is Emmanuel, who comes to us in the normal, daily events of everyday life. Sometimes, I think, it is difficult for us to accept the fact that God is so down-to-earth, that God should come to us on such human and ordinary terms. We are astonished at God’s availability. Christ comes to us right where we are, amid all of our human entanglements.

Leo Tolstoy tells the story of a cobbler, whose name was Martin, a godly man who made shoes in his humble shop. One night the cobbler dreamed that the next day Jesus was coming to his shop. He got up early the next morning and went to the woods to gather green boughs to decorate his shop in order to receive so great a guest.

He waited all morning and the only thing that happened was that an old man shuffled up, asking to rest. Martin saw that his shoes were worn through, so he brought the man in. “I’ll give you a new pair of shoes,” he said and put on the old man the sturdiest shoes in the shop before sending him on his way.

He waited through the afternoon and the only happening was that an old woman under a heavy load of firewood came by. She was weary and, out of compassion, Martin brought her in and gave her some of the food he had prepared for his special, anticipated guest. She ate with relish, for she was hungry. Refreshed, she went on her way.

As night came a lost child, crying bitterly, came into his shop. The cobbler felt pity for the child. He was also annoyed by the child’s presence, because he felt it necessary to leave his shop and take the child to his home. As he returned to his shop he was convinced that he had missed the Lord.

Sadly, he sat down, and in his imagination he lived through the moments with Jesus as he imagined they might have been. He thought to himself, “What a great time it could have been.”

Martin cried, “Why is it, Lord, that your feet have delayed in coming? Have you forgotten that this was the day?” Then softly in the silence a voice was heard:

*“Lift up your heart for I kept my word.
Three times I came to your friendly door;
Three times my shadow was on your floor.
I was a beggar with bruised feet;
I was the woman you have to eat;
I was the child on the homeless street.”*

How are things with you this Holy Season? Is it possible that you are so overwhelmed by all the busyness, that you have no sense of the nearness and presence of God? Maybe you are having a hard time really catching the spirit of the season. It could be that you have been looking the in wrong place. It is not found in what you receive but what you give.

Martin of Tours was a Roman soldier and a deeply committed Christian who lived in France in the fourth century. The story has it that early one winter morning he was met by a beggar who was shivering and blue from the cold. Without hesitation Martin took off his army cloak and wrapped it around the beggar’s shoulders. That night he had a dream. In it he saw a vast multitude gathered in heaven and Jesus stood among them, clad in a Roman army cloak. One of the angels asked, “Lord, where did you get that army cloak?” Jesus answered softly, “My servant Martin gave it to me.”

May you give love to all because you never know when Heaven will touch earth again. Kim, our children and grandchildren and I, extend our love to you this Christmas.

Merry Christmas,

Pastor Ken

Guest Preacher

On Sunday, December 4, 2022, the Reverend Sarah Schlieckert will be preaching at both the 9:00am & 11:00 am worship services. Reverend Sarah is a life long United Methodist, the fourth generation of clergy in her family, and serves as the District Superintendent of the Annapolis District.

She and her husband, Chris, are parents to two daughters, Anna and Mary.

Prayer Shawl News

Our Prayer Shawl ladies have been extremely busy crocheting/knitting! They have gifted a total of 202 shawls to the elderly and needy this past year and this year's Christmas Gift to Richard Henry Lee Elementary is a total of 75+ hats and scarves for the needy children attending there. To anyone that would like to join these industrious women, they meet the second Tuesday of every month at 10:00a.m. in Room #59.

Calling All Quilters

To the ladies and gentlemen of the church, if you are interested in joining our quilters we are making quilts with our overload of material for our homeless men. If you are interested in learning to quilt or learning to pin or helping out in any way we are inviting you to join us every Wednesday from 10:00-12:00. We meet downstairs in the Ward room. You can call or text me (Jan) on 443-995-9555.



Carson Elsie Hacker-Entwisle

10/16/2022

Jesus Birthday Celebration

Our sixth Annual Jesus Birthday Celebration will be held on **Sunday, December 11, at 4:56 pm**. Each family is invited to bring a favorite Christmas covered dish to share at the supper. Chicken will be provided by the church.

Following our Christmas meal, we will sing a few Christmas Carols. Santa Claus will arrive and join us as we listen to the wonderful story about the first Christmas. Santa will gather the children around a birthday cake and everyone will sing happy birthday to Jesus.

The children will have an opportunity to sit on Santa's lap and share their Christmas wishes. Pictures with Santa can be taken at that time.

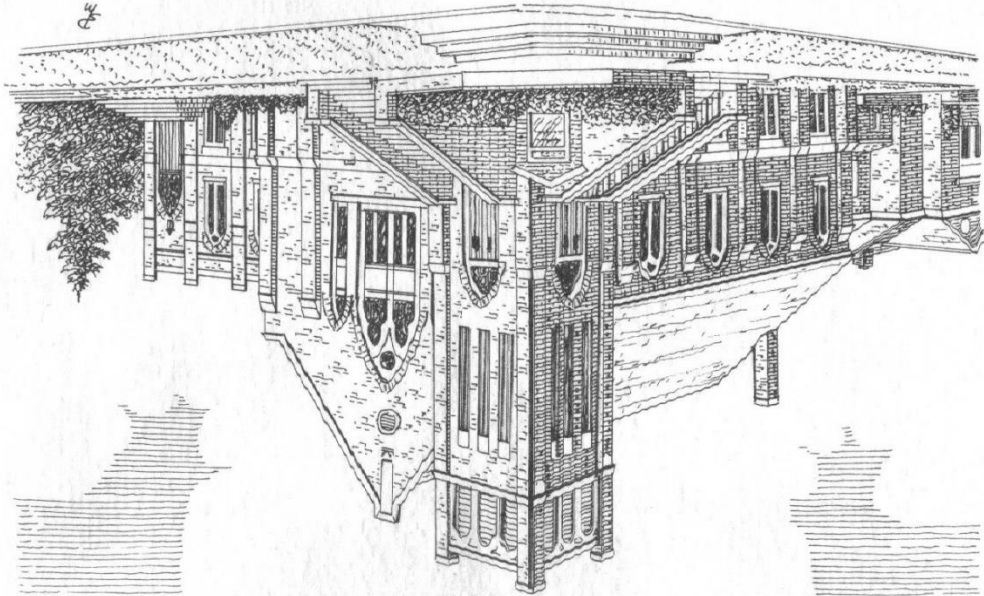
The purpose of this event is to bring the church together for an enjoyable celebration of the Christmas Season.

Upcoming Events

December 6 th	10:00a.m.	United Women in Faith – Social Hall
December 6 th	7:00p.m.	Deborah Circle – Social Hall
December 10 th	9:00a.m.	United Methodist Men Breakfast – Social Hall
December 10 th	10:00a.m.	Youth Christmas Prgrm Rehearsal – Social Hall
December 11 th	10:00a.m.	Children’s Christmas Program – Social Hall
December 11 th	4:56p.m.	Jesus’ Birthday Celebration Dinner – Social Hall
December 13 th	10:00a.m.	Prayer Shawl Meeting – Room #58
December 14 th	10:00a.m.	Quilting Meeting – Ward Room
December 18 th	11:00a.m.	Christmas Cantata – Sanctuary
December 24 th	3:00 & 8:00p.m.	Christmas Eve Services – Sanctuary
December 25 th	10:00a.m.	Lessons and Carols – Sanctuary
January 1 st	9:00a.m.	Worship in Social Hall
January 1 st	11:00a.m.	Worship in Sanctuary
January 11 th	6:30p.m.	Trustees Meeting – Social Hall



Glen Burnie United Methodist Church
Glen Burnie, Maryland



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