

Nov/Dec 2023 & Jan 2024

The Messenger



Pastor

Rev. Kenneth McDonald

Music Director

Kathi Hiatt

Song Leader

Jeff Thompson

Office Staff

Debi Vaeth

Custodian

Ron Hensley

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
Glen Burnie, MD 21061
410-761-4381

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www.gbumchurch.org



Thank God for Christmas

I know that some of you are going to spend your first Christmas without a loved one who died this past year. Your hearts are broken and you may even feel that you will never again know the joy of Christmas. I have been there as some of the most significant people in my life have graduated to glory, and I know it's not easy. However, the Christmas story reminds us that Christ was born for times such as these.

I am thankful for Christmas. Knowing that I still get to celebrate Christmas on earth with all of those I love makes this the most wonderful time of the year.

Christmas still comes to us, there is no hurt deep enough, no atrocity too terrible to stop it, no Herod strong enough; for someone on earth will see the star, someone will hear the angel voices, someone will run to Bethlehem, someone will know peace and goodwill, for some people, Jesus Christ will be born.

We must be the ones to listen for the brush of angel wings and look for a star above a little stable. We must be the ones to kneel beside some other

shepherd in the hope of catching a glimpse of eternity in a baby's smile. We must be the ones to thank God for the memories of Christmases past and ask Him to keep them alive not in painful regret but in joyful recollection.

We must keep hope alive that in a few or many more Christmases we will be together again and with our loved ones on the other side; that instead of listening to the Mormon Tabernacle Choir we will hear the choirs of heaven, that instead of Christmas lights that decorate our homes and streets, we will live eternally in the light of God's presence and glory, that instead of the Christmas tree, we will behold the Tree of Life and live forever under its branches.

Christmas comes but once a year but Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us. What does this mean for us...that God is with us always? It means... He is with us in our hardship, pain, crying, doubt, fear, and struggles... He is with us in our temptations, sin, thoughts, and every action...He is with us when we're alone, in a crowd, with a friend, or an enemy... He is with us in our joy, achievements, laughter, and blessings. He is with us always.

Yes, during this holiday season there are going to be people all around us who are struggling through life, without the only One who can truly give them life. They need to know that Jesus didn't only come on Christmas, but that He's here, and that they can go to Him. Invite them to church with you this holy time of year, so that they may come to experience Emmanuel for themselves. Thank God for Christmas, and the promises it brings.

Have a thankful Christmas,

Pastor Ken

*Merry
Christmas
AND
Happy
New Year*

*from the
Church Staff*



Local Churches Unite for a Week of Service in Windsor, North Carolina

By Paul Shaffer, Glen Burnie UMC VIM Representative

In a heartwarming display of community spirit, 15 dedicated members from local churches recently banded together from October 7th to 14th to serve on the Linthicum Heights and Friends Volunteer in Mission (VIM) team in Windsor, North Carolina. This benevolent collaboration with the Carolina Rebuilding Ministry (CRM) seeks to transform lives by preserving, creating, and sustaining affordable homeownership for low-income families in the historic Albemarle region of northeastern North Carolina.

At the core of CRM's mission is a compelling vision: "A safe and healthy home for every person." In the pursuit of this noble goal, the focus of this year's VIM mission was not centered on hurricane or storm damage, although some residual storm damage may have been encountered along the way.

The VIM team was divided into two sub-teams, each comprised of volunteers with varying skills, and they diligently worked on two homes in the Windsor community. Their projects encompassed the installation of floating laminated flooring in the laundry and bathroom areas, the removal and replacement of wall and door trim, and a fresh coat of paint to rejuvenate the homes.

In the spirit of spiritual renewal, the VIM teams engaged in evening devotions that served to recharge their spiritual batteries for the challenges of each new day. These devotional sessions were not only a highlight of their Christian mission but also a vital presence throughout their journey. Volunteers took turns leading and coordinating these evening devotions, sharing ideas and materials suitable for short devotionals lasting less than ten minutes. The evenings also featured the sharing of "God-sightings," meaningful experiences from the day's work, as well as the uplifting sounds of guitarists and musicians.

The objective was to keep the devotions concise, typically lasting around an hour, encompassing lessons, prayers, devotionals, music, and shared experiences. It was a chance for the team to come together, strengthen their bonds, and find inspiration in their collective faith.

Looking ahead, the 2024 VIM mission to Windsor, North Carolina, is scheduled for October 5th to 12th, 2024. Those interested in joining are encouraged to be prepared for a rewarding and inspiring experience, where they can let God's grace work through them as they serve the community and forge lasting connections with their fellow team members. It promises to be a week filled with service, faith, and the joy of making a positive impact. If interested in joining the VIM Team in 2024, contact Paul Shaffer at pshaff1@verizon.net or call 410-507-3203.



On November 19th is “**Give Thanks, Give a Blanket**” Sunday. This TOOLS & BLANKETS program provides the right tools at the right time, making a difference in the lives of children and families the world over, whether faced with an emergency or struggling to keep food on the table. Your gifts to **BLANKET** Sunday can provide blankets, tents, and other emergency shelter items in the wake of a disaster. Refugees returning home can be helped with tools to rebuild and seeds to replant fields. Families living in drought-plagued areas are helped to dig wells for clean, safe drinking water, and for water to irrigate crops and gardens. **Special envelopes will be in the November 19th Sunday bulletin for your donation.** Thank you for your contribution.

Paul Shaffer, Missions Commission

Feed My People

By the Glen Burnie UMC Missions Team

Under the dedicated leadership of Deaconess Chlar Evangelista, who served as the GBUMC Missions Chair, the congregation of Glen Burnie United Methodist Church and the wider community came together to raise more than \$2,000 for the renowned Mission project, Rise Against Hunger (www.riseagainsthunger.org). This significant fundraising feat was achieved through a heartwarming benefit concert held on August 18th in the church's social hall.



A diverse audience, comprised of church members and their friends, were treated to a memorable evening of music and goodwill. The benefit concert featured the generous contributions of four professional singing groups, each sharing their time and talents for a noble cause. The musical acts that graced the event included Sparks and McCoy, Kim Eaton and a friend, the Back in the Saddle Duo: Pete Mentch and Marilyn Dicus Jacob, and Kevin Chroniger, formerly of the Misbehavin' band.

Rise Against Hunger, a global organization committed to eradicating hunger has been at the forefront of this noble mission since its inception in 1998. Over the years, it has expanded its reach, establishing international offices in the United States, India, Italy, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Africa. All these offices share a common objective: to create a world without hunger. Currently, Rise Against Hunger passionately supports nutrition and education programs in Africa, among other regions, including Zimbabwe.



In the wake of the benefit concert, an impressive demonstration of unity and compassion unfolded on September 16th. More than seventy-five individuals of all ages, including the spirited cheerleaders from Old Mill JV, came together to prepare a remarkable 10,154 meals in less than two hours. These meals, comprising of rice, vitamins, and soy, were carefully packaged, weighed, sealed, and boxed, ready for delivery to families in Zimbabwe. Remarkably, each meal is designed to feed a family of four and requires nothing more than water for preparation. What's even more astonishing is that, in the United States

and globally, the cost of providing these 10,154 meals was only \$4,000, equating to less than forty cents per meal.

This extraordinary feat holds particular significance considering the challenges of inflation faced both in the United States and worldwide. It reflects the enduring commitment to the biblical principle encapsulated in Matthew 25:35 CEV: "*When I was hungry, you gave me something to eat, and when I was thirsty, you gave me something to drink. When I was a stranger, you welcomed me.*"

The efforts of Deaconess Chlar Evangelista and the entire Glen Burnie United Methodist Church community, along with their compassionate friends and supporters, remind us of the profound impact that collective action can have in combating hunger and fostering a world where no one goes to bed hungry.

A United Methodist Men's Invitation

By Dick Campbell, GB UMM Secretary

Calling all men of the Glen Burnie United Methodist community! Make a date on November 11th, and set a standing appointment for the 2nd Saturday of each month at 9:00 am. Join us as we kickstart your day with the warmth of fellowship, a delightful breakfast spread that rivals the Golden Coral, and a morning that concludes with prayer, enriching devotions, and the exploration of new and exciting ideas.

In October, we had the pleasure of hosting one of our own, dedicated member of Glen Burnie UMC. Brad shared an presentation about his captivating hobby of beekeeping, into what it takes to embark on this fascinating journey. hives call Calvin Wade's farm their home. Brad eloquently profound themes found in the world of bees, including their Harmony, their sense of Community and Unity, their innate Industry, their remarkable Service and Sacrifice, and their Resilience and Adaptability.



Brad Stephens, a outstanding offering insights Currently, his bee illuminated the Order and Creativity and undeniable

As we reflect on Brad's presentation, we discover how bees can serve as powerful symbols and metaphors, helping us grasp spiritual and divine concepts related to God and our spirituality.

But the enriching gatherings don't stop there. On Saturday, October 21, 2023, I and men from our community and region had the privilege of being introduced to two remarkable ministries that place a strong emphasis on nurturing the younger generation.

Steve Basht from "Man in the Mirror" unveiled a initiative known as "Ten Thousand Spiritual program is designed to equip men aged 40 and exhibit the fruits of the Spirit and hold a genuine concern for the next generation of men. Their mission is to inspire and empower these men to become spiritual fathers to younger generations, offering close relationships and loving guidance to those who hunger for it.



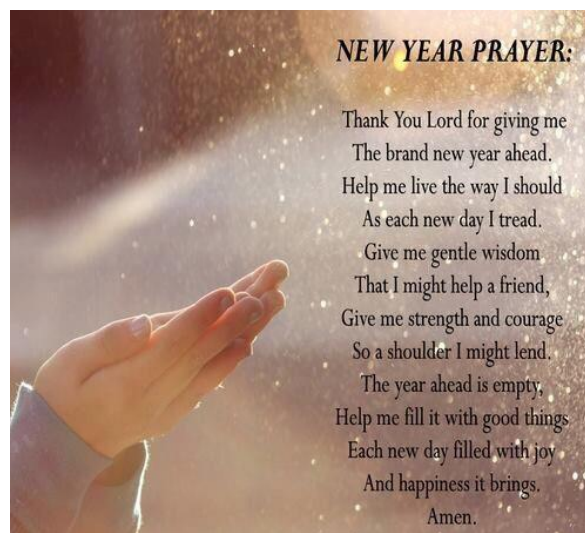
new ministry Fathers." This above who



Additionally, we had the honor of hearing Rev. Sterling Eaton, the newly appointed Director of Men's Ministry at the General Commission for United Methodist Men. He introduced an exciting new tool for men in our churches: the "Direct-to-Church Mobil" app. This app offers continuous access to daily devotionals that address the unique challenges men face in their daily lives. It also provides rotating study materials to delve deeper into spiritual growth. The app includes mission opportunities, podcasts on prayer, video support, and a wealth of additional content.

Rev. Eaton shared his vision for this ministry, emphasizing that it will offer the necessary training and resources to support clergy and men's leadership teams. It's a platform that empowers and equips those who feel called to step up and lead.

These gatherings promise to be moments of growth, fellowship, and enlightenment. We invite you to be a part of this enriching journey at Glen Burnie United Methodist Men as we explore the deeper dimensions of faith and spirituality.



GLEN BURNIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND

In 1992, Glen Burnie UMC established a Permanent Endowment Fund (PEF) to support projects and needs beyond the normal budget. Its purpose is to provide a lasting source of income for church initiatives not covered by the Church's annual operating budget. It allows members and friends to **make charitable gifts for the church's long-term support**. The fund serves various church and community purposes, with funds from an "Outreach" that can be designated for specific categories, such as missions, education, scholarships, worship, capital projects, and more.

Here's how it works: 90% of the net income realized each year goes directly to the "OUTREACH Sub-account," which fuels vital ministries and addresses needs made through grants submitted and approved by the PEF Committee. Thus, your gift touches lives and creates change.

But that's not all - 10% of yearly net income is reinvested back into the fund itself, ensuring we have the resources to do even more good. Your support is a commitment to sustainable giving.

The (PEF) Committee is now accepting grant applications for 2024. Here are a few examples of grants issued in recent years:

- In 2020, a grant of \$13,937.50 was allocated to upgrade the sound system. The existing sound system, originally designed solely for voice, was replaced with a new system that could handle both voice and music. This upgraded system integrated advanced technology, making it more user-friendly.
- In 2023, the Glen Burnie UMC Scholarship Committee requested a \$ 2,069 grant, which was subsequently approved by the PEF. This grant would match funds raised through a Mother's Day/Father's Day Fundraising Campaign, supporting Glen Burnie Youth in their pursuit of higher education as part of the campaign.
- In 2022, the music ministry director submitted a grant request for \$3,000, which was granted to support the music and professional musicians' performances during the Easter and Christmas Cantatas.
- In 2023, the Missions Committee submitted a request for a \$1,200 grant on behalf of the Women's Care Mary's Center, a faith-based organization in Glen Burnie. The center's primary mission is to provide support to local women in need during their pregnancies. Women's Care Mary's Center offers essential services, including free ultrasounds and pregnancy tests to confirm pregnancy viability. Additionally, they supply crucial items such as clothing, diapers, and pack-n-plays to individuals experiencing pregnancy crises, all made possible through the generous contributions of benefactors.

- In 2020, the trustees requested a \$70,000 grant which was granted to enable the PEF to act as collateral for a Church loan aimed at funding necessary repairs to the church building.

Join us in making a lasting impact through the Glen Burnie United Methodist Church Permanent Endowment Fund. You can make a difference through various opportunities, whether it's estate planning, charitable giving, or individual donations. Every act of generosity counts.

If you wish to make a charitable gift to the Permanent Endowment Fund or have a need for a grant, please contact Paul Shaffer, PEF Chair at 410-507-3203

You are invited to a ***FREE***
hot Thanksgiving Eve meal
on Wednesday, November 22nd
at Glen Burnie UMC
5-2nd Ave SE.

The meal will be served from
4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall.



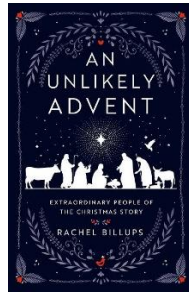
Please join us for our

SUNDAY SCHOOL
*Christmas
Program*

SUNDAY; DECEMBER 10

10 AM





An Unlikely Advent

Extraordinary People of the Christmas Story
By Rachel Billups

A four week Advent Bible Study will be held on Wednesday evenings in the Social Hall at 7:00p.m. starting on November 29 and ending on December 20.

This study focuses on the experiences of four sets of often overlooked characters in the Nativity story. During this Advent season, Rachel Billups guides readers through the themes of hope, love, joy, and peace by sharing the stories of Elizabeth and Zechariah, Herod, the Magi, and the shepherds. Each set of unexpected characters has something to teach about living faithfully on the journey to Christmas.



Christmas Cantata

The Glen Burnie United Methodist Church Chancel Choir and an 8-piece orchestra will present sounds of the Season on Sunday, December 17th at 11:00 a.m. The performance will include contemporary, classic and well-loved carols with narration of the birth of Christ. The music will be conducted by Douglas B. Byerly, who has directed, produced, conducted, acted and performed as lead soloist in many of the AACC productions, as well as having been Music Director at the Cathedral in Baltimore.

Calling all Quilters

To the ladies and men 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 starting on September 6th. We will meet downstairs in the Ward room. You can call or text me (Jan) on 443-995-9555.

Jesus Birthday Celebration

Our seventh Annual Jesus Birthday Celebration will be held on **Sunday, December 3, at 4:59 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.

Deborah Circle

The Deborah Circle, for those who do not know, is a chapter of the Glen Burnie United Women in Faith. They meet the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. They are currently engaged in the Bible study "Revival, Faith as Wesley Lived it" by Adam Hamilton. The next chapter to be delved into is "Necessity of Grace." Any woman of the church is welcome to attend.

Nursing Home Ministry

Anyone interested in working with our nursing home ministry, please contact Jan Hacker (443-995-9555). The ministry visits Morningside House of Friendship every 3rd Sunday and Sunrise Senior Living every 4th Sunday of the month.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry crochets and knits items for school children, the ailing, and shut ins. This season they are going to be concentrating on hats for Elementary children. They meet every 2nd Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in Room #58, starting on September 12th. If you have any questions, please either call the office or Donna Haehl (410) 410-969-0541.



Sunday School News

REHEARSALS FOR THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM WILL START SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD. PLEASE LET HOLLY KNOW IF YOUR CHILD WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE!

No Sunday School on December 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st. It will resume January 7th.

In Loving Memory

Delores Ruth Thompson	8/30/2023
Joseph "Max" Harris, Jr.	10/11/2023
John F. Malone	10/14/2023

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

With the grace of the almighty, we are extremely blessed to welcome with open arms and love fifteen new members to Glen Burnie United Methodist Church. Your presence is truly a blessing.

Brian Hippel
Edward Craver



Jesus Birthday Celebration Dinner

12/03 at 4:56 pm

Children's Christmas Program

12/10 at 10:00 am

Christmas Cantata

12/17 at 11:00 am

Christmas Eve Services

12/24 at 10:00 am, 3:00 pm, 8:00 pm

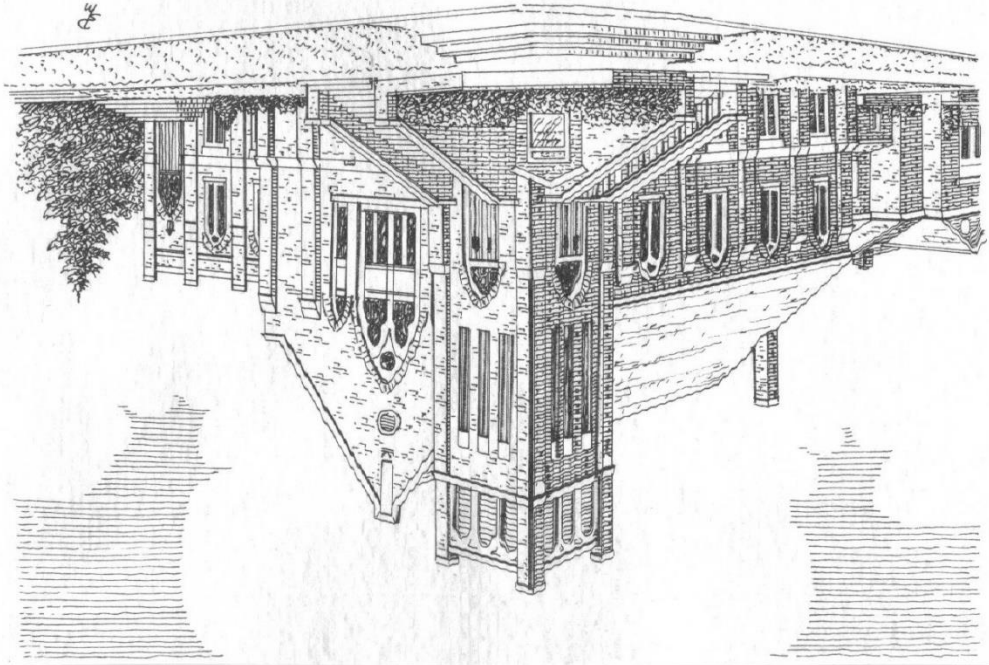


Upcoming Events

Nov 22 nd	4:00-6:00 p.m.	Thanksgiving Eve Meal – Social Hall
Nov 27 th	7:00 p.m.	Administrative Board Meeting – Social Hall
Nov 29 th	6:59 p.m.	Advent Study with Pastor Ken – Social Hall
Dec 1 st	5:00 p.m.	Jesus' Birthday Party
Dec 5 th	10:00 a.m.	United Women in Faith – Social Hall
Dec 5 th	6:30 p.m.	Deborah Circle – Social Hall
Dec 9 th	9:00 a.m.	United Methodist Men's Breakfast – Social Hall
Dec 10 th	10:00 a.m.	Children's Program – Social Hall
Dec 12 th	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministry – Rm #58
Dec 17 th	11:00 a.m.	Christmas Cantata – Sanctuary
Dec 24 th	10:00 a.m.	Christmas Eve Service – Sanctuary
Dec 24 th	3:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service – Sanctuary
Dec 24 th	8:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service – Sanctuary
Jan 2 nd	10:00 a.m.	United Women in Faith – Social Hall
Jan 2 nd	7:00 p.m.	Deborah Circle – Social Hall
Jan 9 th	10:00 a.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministry – Rm #58
Jan 13 th	9:00 a.m.	United Methodist Men's Breakfast – Social Hall

Glen Burnie, Maryland

Glen Burnie United Methodist Church



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Nov/Dec 2023 & Jan 2024

5 Second Avenue, SE

Glen Burnie, MD 21061

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