



The **Shepherd**

Weekly Newsletter
Good Shepherd UMC



May 12, 2024

SAVE THE DATE

May 11 - A Strawberry Ladies' Tea

May 19 - Pentecost/Confirmation Sunday

May 26 - Town Hall and Memorial Day Potluck

June 9 - Youth/Graduate Sunday

July 15-19 - Vacation Bible School

Prayers for our Family and Community

- Sue Norris
- Bruce Graham
- Claudia Sansbury
- Ken McDade
- Nancy Maguire
- Brenda Stanford
- Betty Sellner
- Addie Ward
- Pastor Sandy Taylor
- Janice Reuter
- Frank and Linda Adgate
- John Grove
- Rev. Laurie and her family
- Adelia Cardoso - Home
- Bill and Joanne Van Blarcum - Home
- Mary Welsh - Home
- Mary Calvert - Elkridge, MD
- Helen Riley - Home
- Rachel Magoon - Sagepoint Gardens
- Israel and Palestine
- Ukraine
- The ongoing COVID-19 endemic
- Educators, students, and families
- First responders in all fields
- Leaders throughout our country at all levels
- The wounds of racism in our country

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00	Youth Sunday School for Grades 6-12th Fellowship Time
10:00	In-Person Worship Service Recorded Service is live streamed on Facebook, You Tube + Subsplash + Church App
10:30	Sunday School for Grades Pre-K-5
11:30	Adult Sunday School
5:00	Fellowship at FIVE

Have a Need?

During this time, if you have a need for pastoral care, please reach out to Linda Flanagan (waldorfangel@gmail.com), Rev. Laurie (revlaurie@aol.com) or to another church member to let us know. There are other members willing to talk with you and pray for you.

Good Shepherd May 2024 Birthdays and Anniversaries

May 1

Amy Warren

May 2

Becca Ward

Bonnie Berry

Joshua Alexander

May 3

Susan & Bruce Graham Anniversary

Jim Olsen

May 11

Ray Sealey

May 12

Mark & Theresa Howard Anniversary

May 14

Barbara Richardson

May 15

Mike Carr & Dana Pase-Carr
Anniversary

May 18

Jay Bivens

May 19

Katie Paulsen

Robert & Katie Burdick Anniversary

May 20

Thomas Langrell

Ezra Warner

May 22

Kim & Robert Jameson Anniversary

Jim Winters

May 23

Julie Olsen

Dona Boice

May 24

Joan Johnson

Lisa Boice

May 25

Linda Forrest

Frank & Linda Adgate Anniversary

May 28

Quan Scott

Nancy Crouse

May 30

Jeff Ford

Nancy Maguire

May 31

Kim Sbordone

WE WOULD LOVE TO CELEBRATE YOU!!

*If your Birthday/Anniversary is missing, please contact Priscilla Rollins at 703.727.8667 or email parollins@verizon.net.

CONNECT

LETTER FROM REV. LAURIE GATES-WARD ABOUT GENERAL CONFERENCE DECISION

Dear Good Shepherd Family,

Today the General Conference of the United Methodist Church voted to remove language from our *Book of Discipline* that prohibits homosexual persons from being clergy or from being married by the clergy within our churches. This language that stated that “homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching” was first placed in our *Book of Discipline* in 1972 and additional language was added in following years.

Friends, we have witnessed decades of arguing and pain over the differences that have existed within our denomination regarding the role of LGBTQ persons within our church. There has been damage and pain throughout our beloved UMC. As a lifelong United Methodist of 56 years and as a United Methodist clergy person of 28 years, I have felt that pain keenly and seen the damage it has caused to people of good faith on all sides of this debate. That included the departure of 25% of our United Methodist churches in the last 3 years through a temporary disaffiliation process that was permitted through December of 2023.

As your pastor, I am grateful that we are now being invited to enter a new day where all of God’s children can be embraced and included. I am aware that while some of us celebrate others still have questions and concerns. But I ask two things of all of us at Good Shepherd. First, I ask that we each remember that as we talk about LGBTQ persons that we remember that they are first and foremost **persons** not an ‘issue’ to be discussed. We are called to remember the words of 1 John 4:7, “*Beloved let us love one another because love is from God.*” In all that we do, we are called to offer the love of God in Jesus Christ to all of our siblings. I believe we do that in many ways already.

The second thing that I would ask is that we remember that in many ways we determine who Good Shepherd is as a congregation. Good Shepherd is known as a caring church that reaches out to our community and we can continue to be. As it has always been, discernment about who serves our church and who is offered the gift of holy matrimony within our walls is uniquely ours as pastor and church together. It is my intention as your pastor to engage in conversation with Staff Parish Relations and with our Leadership Team regarding how we will make those decisions together in ways that affirm our sacred life together.

For today, I give thanks for the work of holy conferencing that the delegates to General Conference are engaging in together. They are seeking the best for the spiritual, emotional, and financial health of our denomination. Over and over again in the last week I have heard the phrase “the local church is the foundation of the United Methodist Church.” Decisions are being made to strengthen the local church by reducing financial burdens and increase resources for the work of ministry. We can truly celebrate that.

Please continue to pray for our General Conference as they finish their work this week. If you have questions about anything that you have heard, please feel free to ask me. I will be available after church in fellowship hall for a time to talk with anyone who might want to do so.

Many Blessings,
Rev. Laurie

Through God’s love, we will engage and empower everyone to be living disciples.



JOIN US

CONFIRMATION CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, MAY 19TH, 10AM SERVICE
CAKE IN FELLOWSHIP HALL AFTERWARD



Spring Tea Party

May 11, 2024

12 noon - 3:00 pm

*Please join the
GSUMC United Women in Faith
for an afternoon of
tea, sandwiches, desserts, and games*

CONNECT



Town Hall & Memorial Day Potluck



MAY 26, 2024

Immediately following Worship
Service

All are invited

...and bring a dish to
share

**REGISTER
NOW**



VBS 2024
July 15- July 19

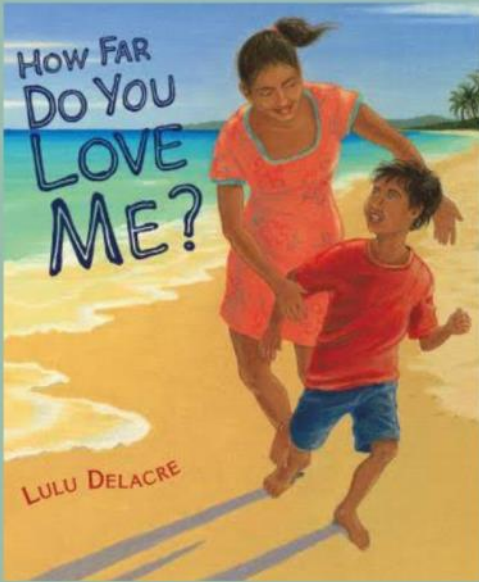


We hope to "sea" you there!

SOUBA

diving into friendship with God

For more information call 301.843.6797 or visit www.gsumc.com



BOOK CLUB

Monday, May 13
6:30pm in the Parlor



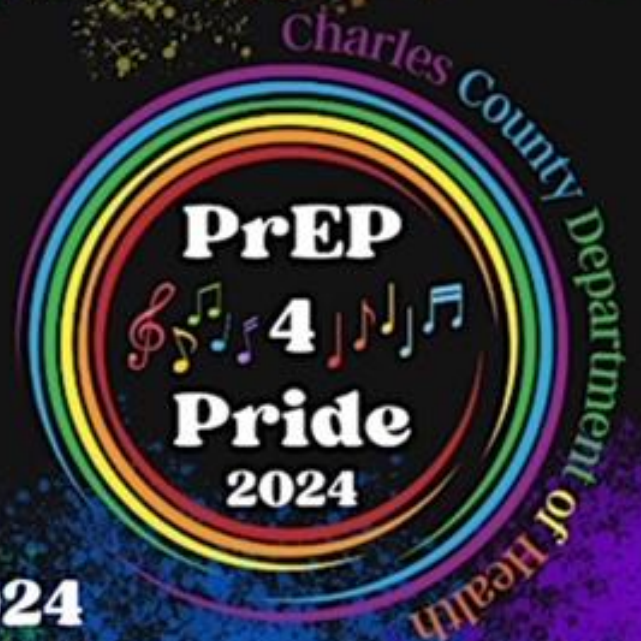
We will discuss
"How Far Do You Love Me?"
by Lulu Delacre.

All are welcome.

Any questions, call: Linda Ford 301-645-6408.

**Pride Walk
Music & Art
Health & Wellness
Food Trucks
Vendors**

**12pm- 6pm
Saturday, May 18th, 2024**



Good Shepherd is looking for volunteers for our table at the Prep 4 Pride event. Please let us know if you're interested in volunteering!

*Join Us for lively
discussion & fellowship*

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

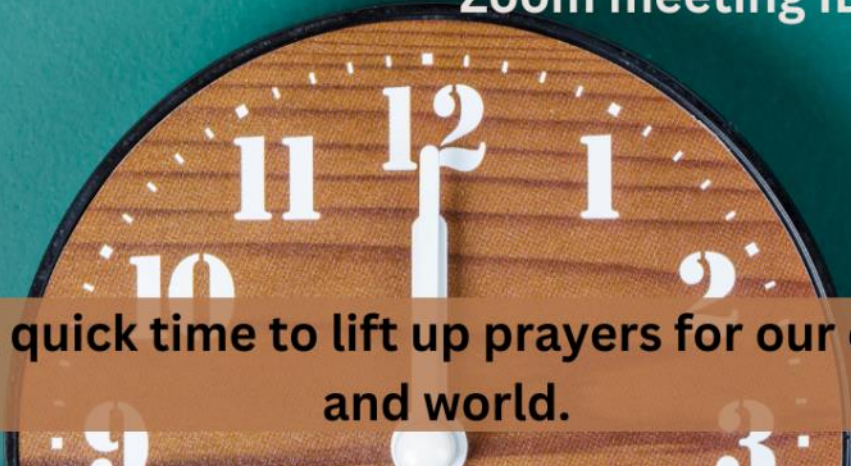
**Every Thursday @ 9:30am
in the Parlor**

Contact Carolyn Sauer or Dottie DiPoli for questions



WEDNESDAY PRAYER NOON ON ZOOM

Zoom meeting ID : 420 015 979



**Join us for a quick time to lift up prayers for our church family
and world.**

HELP WANTED

PART-TIME CARE GIVER



Janice Reuter is looking for a part-time care giver.



If interested please call:
301-645-5665



Congratulations Graduates!

You are invited to submit the name and photo of **any graduates** in your life (including yourself) to the church office by May 31

La Plata United Methodist Church

APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT FUNDRAISER

Please consider buying a planter box, bench or picnic table to support the La Plata UMC ASP team as they prepare for their annual summer mission trip.



- 3 ft planter box \$125
- 6 ft planter box \$200
- 16 inch Square planter box \$100
- 4 ft Bench \$100
- 6 ft Picnic Table \$200

These items are perfect for porches, patios, yards, decks and parks.

CONTACT: John Carns 301-848-0060 carns@comcast.net

Go to asphome.org to learn about the Appalachia Service Project



The United Women in Faith would like to invite you to a baby shower for the Catherine Foundation.

TUESDAY, MAY 21 AT 6:30 PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

THIS IS A POTLUCK DINNER. DESSERT WILL BE PROVIDED. WE ASK EVERYONE TO PLEASE BRING THEIR OWN REUSABLE FLATWARE AND BEVERAGE.

THE CATHERINE FOUNDATION IS IN NEED OF:
onesies/undershirts, bodysuits, pajamas, rompers, hats, socks/booties, pants, and receiving blankets
(sizes newborn to 2T)

We hope you can join us for a time of fellowship while helping a local charity.

NEW BEGINNINGS

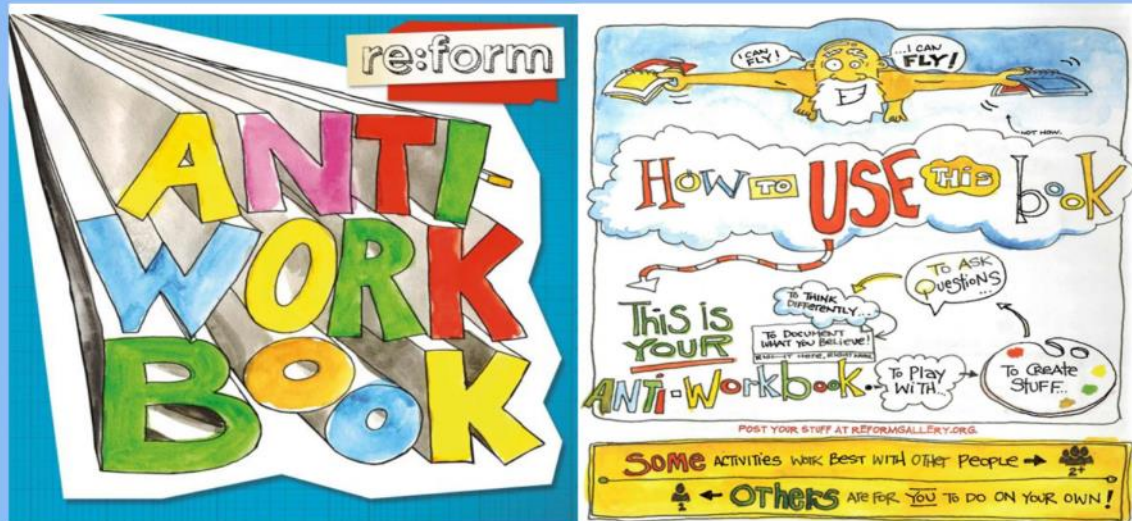
Tuesday, May 14 @ 12:30PM

All retired persons are invited to join us for fellowship and good food.

Location:
IHOP in La Plata
116 Rosewick Road
La Plata, MD

Any questions?
Contact Mary Ellen Huff
at 301-843-9787





Please keep the students in the class in your prayers!



MAY 11TH | 9 - 12PM



REGISTRATION REQUIRED

**CONFIRMATION CLASS FIELD TRIP
OPEN TO ALL**

ASSEMBLY: Youth Room @ 9AM

DESTINATION: Sha'are Shalom

We meet up at church to go attend their 10am service and meet with the Rabbi afterward to learn more. Afterwards, we will return to church to practice for our Confirmation Celebration.

SCHOOL OF THE WEEK

Gale-Bailey Elementary School

Please pray for the students, teachers, & staff



Make Time to Pray for Schools

- ▶▶ MAKE PRAYING FOR SCHOOLS A REGULAR PART OF YOUR DAILY PRAYER TIME
- ▶▶ IF YOU DRIVE BY A SCHOOL, SAY A PRAYER
- ▶▶ IF YOU CAN, STOP IN FRONT OF A SCHOOL BUILDING AND PRAY FROM YOUR CAR
- ▶▶ AFTER SCHOOL HOURS WITHOUT INTERFERING IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES, GO TO A BUILDING AND LAY HANDS ON THE FLAGPOLE OR BUILDING AND PRAY
- ▶▶ PRAY FOR STUDENTS, TEACHERS, STAFF, ADMINISTRATORS
- ▶▶ PRAY FOR SAFETY, PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH, PRODUCTIVE LEARNING, PATIENCE AND RESPECT FOR ALL
- ▶▶ PRAY FOR PARENTS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

WORSHIP

Please make time to pray these individuals all year... maybe one each day.

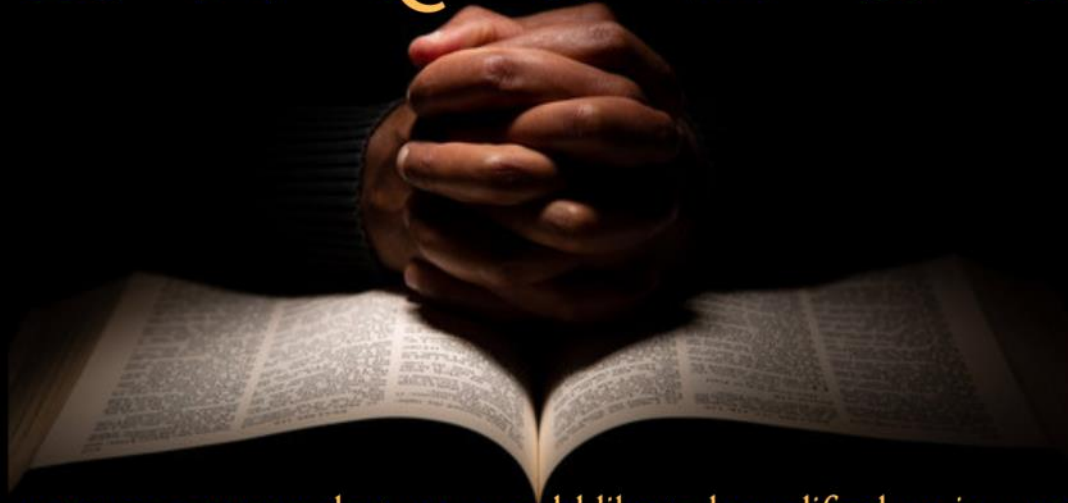
Good Shepherd in the Schools*: A Prayer Ministry

Name	School	Position
Judy Addison	Central Office (Charles County)	Research & Assessment Dept.
Kim Casto	Barnhart ES	Reading
David Cook	Spring Ridge MS, (St. Mary's Co)	Social Studies
Jonathan Cotugno	Thomas Stone HS	Math Teacher/Football Coach
Kim Donnelly	College of Southern Maryland	Professor; English, Communication & Lang
Paul Donnelly	Grace Lutheran School	K-8 Music
Linda Forrest	College of Southern Maryland	Early College Coordinator
Michael Forrest	Matthew Henson MS	Science
Kim Jameson	St. Peter's School	School Nurse
Elliott Lopez	Westlake HS	Science Teacher
Rose Trinidad Lopez	St. Charles HS	Spanish Teacher
Marc Perella	Poe MS (Fairfax County)	Technology/Computers
Rachel Perella	Central Office Fairfax County	Behavior Interventionist
Alana Quiles	Childtime of Waldorf	Assistant Teacher
Kim Sbordone	JC Parks Elementary	Elementary Teacher
Elizabeth Steele	Billingsley ES	Special Ed
Shannon Suban	Milton Somers MS	Math Teacher
Amy Warren	Baden ES (PG County)	Special Ed

*Revised 9/5/23

WORSHIP

PRAYER REQUESTS



If you have a prayer concern that you would like to have lifted up in worship on Sunday, you may submit it to Linda Flanagan by email (waldorfangel@gmail.com) or by phone/text (301-643-0549) by 8pm on Saturday evening.



OUR LIVESTREAM HAS BEGUN

Our worship is now live streamed on Facebook, SubSplash, YouTube, and Our Church app.

Subsplash :

<https://goodshepherdunitedmethod.subspla.sh/p84x2y9>

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/gsumcwaldorf

YouTube:

www.youtube.com/@GSUMC.waldorf/streams

ONLINE GIVING

Scan the QR Code with your phone or tablet's camera to get a link to our online giving.

Thank you for supporting the work of Good Shepherd!



Schedule for the week of May 12, 2024

Sunday, May 12:

GSUMC Worship Service
10AM Worship In-Person & on [Facebook](#),
Youtube, Subsplash, and our Church App
11:30AM Adult Sunday School (P)
11:45 Confirmation Class
5PM Fellowship at Five
1-6PM Korean Church

Monday, May 13:

Church Office

Ameera 9-3

3-7PM Our Place (FH, K, 7)
6:30PM Book Club Meeting (F)

Tuesday, May 14:

Church Office

Linda 9-3

10:30AM Korean Ladies Prayer (P)
12:30PM New Beginnings Retiree Group (IHOP, La Plata)
6PM GSEC Staff Meeting (P)
7:30PM Scouts of America - Troop 1780 Patrol Leader Meeting

Wednesday, May 15:

Church Office

Ameera 9-3

9:40-11AM GSEC Chapel (S)
12PM Midday Prayer
7:30PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 16:

Church Office

Ameera 9-3

9:30AM Morning Bible Study (P)
3-7PM Our Place (FH, K, 7)
6-7PM Women's Emmaus Reunion (Zoom)
<https://zoom.us/j/98727947660> Passcode: BibleStudy
7-8:30PM Ladies Bible Study (Zoom)
<https://zoom.us/j/98727947660> Passcode: BibleStudy
7PM Finance Meeting
7:30-9PM Scouts Troop 1780, 1781 (FH, 7)

Friday, May 17:

Church Office

Ameera 9-3

7PM Korean Church Bible Study

Saturday, May 18:

12PM - PrEP for Pride 2024
7PM & 10:30PM Narcotics Anonymous Meeting (F)

305 Smallwood Dr.
Waldorf, MD 20602
301-843-6797
gsadmin@gsumc.com

Website: www.gsumc.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/gsumc.waldorf
YouTube: www.youtube.com/@GSUMC.waldorf

Lead Pastor	Rev. Laurie Gates-Ward	revlaurie@aol.com
Minister of Connection	Linda Flanagan	waldorfangel@gmail.com
Coordinator, Youth & Children's Ministry	Mars Roberts	mroberts@gsumc.com
Director of Music	Brian Turnmire	brianturnmire@mac.com
Organist	Sue Norris	norrise@hotmail.com
Director, GS Education Center	Cyndy Baker	educationcenter@gsumc.com
Church Administrator	Ameera Andrews	gsadmin@gsumc.com
Multimedia Specialist	Ally Malaquin	gsumc.waldorf@gmail.com

