



September 2024

W E L C O M E T O The Point



A Letter from Reverend Carissa

Do you live in a "red" or "blue" household?

With the 2024 presidential election just two months away, we all know that this question is about more than your favorite color. Our world seems more divided than ever into ideological silos - and too many of us hunker down into our own 'side,' hoping that we can simply talk about something else until this all 'blows over.'

The only problem is...it won't blow over. No single election can answer the heart-question: How can we stay in relationship with people who don't think like us?

This fall, our church is joining congregations across the country in a "Do Unto Others" Campaign for Kindness. Instead of staying in our "red" and "blue" zones, we will make Hunt's Church into a "purple" zone: a place where we can do common good even when we don't share much common ground.

When we follow the example of Jesus, our witness in Ruxton-Riderwood rises higher than any single issue or election. By performing daily acts of kindness, compassion, humility, respect, and love, we live out our prayers and become a balm for a world so desperately in need of healing. This is the most important way you can share your faith in this challenging political season.

This fall, you're invited to join the Campaign for Kindness. We'll have free yard signs available here at the church, allowing you to campaign in your neighborhood - not for any political issue or individual, but for the kind of world Jesus taught us to create in his name.

Our nation's problems are deeper than any single election - but we are blessed with a Savior greater than any single candidate. May we be faithful followers of Jesus, showing the world what 'heaven on earth' can be when we *Do Unto Others* together.

grace & peace,

Rev. Carissa



Welcome to Hunt's Church!

If this is your first time reading The Point, welcome! We are thrilled that you have come to Hunt's Church, where we believe in the welcoming love of God for all people.

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New Worship Series: Do Unto Others

Our world seems to be consumed with division—often typified in the colors red and blue. Rather than stay in our monochromatic silos, the Golden Rule in scripture challenges us to engage in conversation and seek to create whatever common good we can with our relatives, friends, and neighbors who we might consider to be on the “other side” politically and ideologically. As we attempt to come together, the idea is not that we are obliterating either one or trying to change

each other, but rather we discover the beauty that can be created when we work together to make the world a better place. The “purple space” is where we cultivate kindness, compassion, humility, respect, and love for one another and for the good of all the world, no matter what.



September 8 Red & Blue Make Purple: Kindness

September 15 The Polarization Within: Compassion

September 22 Listen More, Speak Less: Humility

September 29 Living Together on Uncommon Ground: Respect

Invitation to Sing

The Hunt’s Memorial UMC Chancel Choir will be resuming weekly rehearsals and singing in Sunday morning worship at the 10am Traditional Service. The first rehearsal for the fall season will be Thursday, September 5th from 7:30pm to 9pm in the Sanctuary. The Hunt’s Chancel Choir is a welcoming and fun community where singers of all ability and experience levels are welcome. If you are curious about singing with the choir this fall, please feel encouraged to attend a rehearsal and try it out! If you have any questions about the choir, you are encouraged to chat with, or email, Chase Simpson, our Music Director, at chase@huntschurch.org. We are looking forward to a new season of song this fall, and hope that you will consider joining us!

Fall Schedule

Rally Day is September 8! This is our first Sunday returning to our fall worship schedule, with Contemporary Worship (band-led) at 8:30am and Traditional Worship (choir-led) at 10am. Online worship and Christian Education will continue during the 10am service each week.

Columbarium Dedication

After the 10am service concludes on **Sunday, September 22**, you’re invited to join us for a special outdoors dedication of the Columbarium. It will be a time to bless this sacred space and celebrate it as a community. Rain or shine!



Community Life

Hunt's Church is for all! We pride ourselves on being a community of friends, where all are welcome. Here are a few ways we're gathering in September. Read through Page 6 to learn about the Cub Scout kick-off event of the season, which takes place at the church on September 6!

Funhunters

Excitedly looking forward to Funhunters on Friday, September 13, at the Crazy Tuna Restaurant on the water in Middle River. We can meet at Hunt's Church at 10:45am to leave by 11am. If you are going to meet us at the restaurant, the address is 203 Nanticoke Road. Please let Lynn know as soon as possible if you are planning to attend: (443) 600-2325

Women's Fellowship

Summer has gone by very fast as always and it is time to get back into the Fall activities!! The Women's Fellowship Group will begin meeting again on SEPTEMBER 14th at 10AM. Due to the ongoing renovations in the church building, we will be meeting in the AGAPE HOUSE. Looking forward to catching up with everyone and having a time to share what exciting things everyone did this summer!

- Linda Flavin (Co-Chair) | l.flavin@verizon.net | (410) 746-3433

Men's Fellowship

Looking for a way to get out of the house on Friday morning? – Join the Hunt's men's group on Friday mornings. We meet in the Agape House from 8 to 9am. We cover a wide range of topics in our meetings. We will resume our meetings on Friday, September 13th.

- Robert Sparts | 3405sparts@gmail.com | (410) 802-1118

Shepherd's Ministry 2.0

As of the publication of this newsletter, we have successfully filled all the openings for new shepherds in our "retooled" Shepherd Program. I would like to thank all of you who have said yes whether you are a first-time shepherd or a continuing shepherd. One of the main goals of this program is to be/stay connected.

Our next step will be to have an informative session for the shepherds where they will receive names, addresses (both email and post office) and phone numbers. The shepherds will then reach out to their people with an initial letter introducing themselves. (Shepherds, if you are reading this, you will have help with that letter, not to worry!). The shepherds may reach out with a phone call, a letter or card, a text or an email. Options abound. 😊

Please remember that this program is a two-way street – while the shepherds will be reaching out to their people, it's perfectly okay for the people to reach back out to the shepherd. Whether it's a greeting or asking for some kind of help, don't be shy.

FOR ALL MEMBERS OF OUR CONGREGATION: If you are willing to make a meal or part of a meal when the need arises, please let me know! (cont)

I want to provide the shepherds a list of people who are willing to help out in this way (think the old Hospital and Home model). I will be emailing members but if you are reading this, are willing to help and haven't heard from me, please get in touch with me.

Thank you for saying yes – to any and all of the above ask
- *Becky Pauliny* | rebeccapauliny@comcast.net | (410) 252-9107

Caring Visitors

Share God's love by volunteering to visit a member of the Hunt's Church family who can't leave their home. We're looking for loving people who would be willing to deliver communion and stay to chat with one of our homebound members on a monthly basis. Your presence will demonstrate the love of God in person! If you're interested, email Rev. Carissa: carissa@huntsumc.org

Celebrations

Births: Congratulations to Britt & Tim Carey on the birth of their son, Tucker Jameson Carey. He was born on June 27, 2024. Tucker has two big sisters: Emma and Maggie. Congratulations to Shelley and Will Walton on the birth of their son, Davis Milton Walton. He was born on August 1, 2024. Davis has two big brothers: William and George.

Birthdays: Tori Simpson (9/1); Burns Waters (9/1); Ken Parrish (9/2); Lizzy McMillan (9/3); Callie Bent (9/4); Jo Jennings (9/4); Steve Lippy (9/4); John S. Anecharico (9/4); Bill Forester (Sr.) (9/5); Casey Kuhn (9/5); Evan White (9/8); Julia A. Wilhelm (9/8); Matthew Bayne (9/9); Bob Dey (9/9); Margaret Strubler (9/9); Barbara Cox (9/12); Kevin Permison (9/12); Trish Funderburk (9/15); Cooper Waters (9/17); Cathy Field (9/18); Nell Kirby (9/18); Kyle Waters (9/18); Tammy Band (9/19); Pippa Barringer (9/20); Ann Bayne (9/21); Ashley Forester (9/21); Elise Barringer (9/22); Victoria Garbarino (9/22); Ainsley Shannon (9/22); Mylers Brush (9/23); Rich Goodale (9/23); David Young (9/23); Krista McMillan (9/24); Billy Forester (9/25); Meredith Kimtis (9/25); Ryan Permison (9/28); Kaitlyn Woody (9/29); Bill England (9/29); Quinn DeHaven (9/30); John Pauliny (9/30); Mackenzie Walsh (9/30)

Anniversaries: Monica & Patrick Starleper (9/18); Denise & Terry Brennan (9/24); Bonnie & Ted Ochs (9/24); Heather & Brett Laziuck (9/26)

Cub Scout Pack 319

Our kickoff event this year is our **Tiger Roundup** on Friday Sept. 6th at Hunts Church from 6:00-8:00pm. Boys and Girls in 1st through 5th grade are invited to attend to build character while having fun with friends! Bring the family for our 1st Pack Meeting and Open House. We will have games, campfire, parent information and registration available. Complimentary hot dogs, chips and refreshments will be served. No RSVP/reservation required. Contact our Cubmaster with any questions: Jason Seabrease, Jason.Seabrease@gmail.com.

Holiday Events

After prayerful consideration and discussion, our church has decided to not continue our annual Turkey Dinner tradition. We look forward to gathering for our third annual Christmas Cookie Bazaar, coordinated by Kathy Davis, on Saturday, December 7.



HUNT'S FALL FEST

26 OCTOBER

Trunk-or-Treat/ Games/ Moon Bounce/ Free Raffle

4:00pm



Food, Music, and More
with a Rain Date of 27 October

Hunt's Fall Fest

**Cub Scout
Pack 319**

**CALLING ALL ADVENTUROUS BOYS &
GIRLS!!! JOIN CUB SCOUTS PACK 319!!**



WHO: Boys and Girls in 1st - 5th grade
WHEN: Friday, September 6th 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
WHERE: Hunt's Memorial Church Parking Lot, 1912 Old Court Road
WHY: BUILD CHARACTER WHILE HAVING FUN WITH FRIENDS

Bring the family for our 1st Pack Meeting and Open House. We will have games, campfire, parent information and registration available. Complimentary hot dogs, chips and refreshments will be served. No RSVP/reservation required.

VISIT US ON THE WEB: WWW.TOWSON319.MYPACK.US

Or Contact Jason Seabrease at (410) 596-7966 or
Jason.Seabrease@gmail.com

*NOTE: WE WILL HOLD ALL ACTIVITIES IN THE CHURCH HALL IF INCLEMENT WEATHER



Reconciling Ministries

Why it still matters

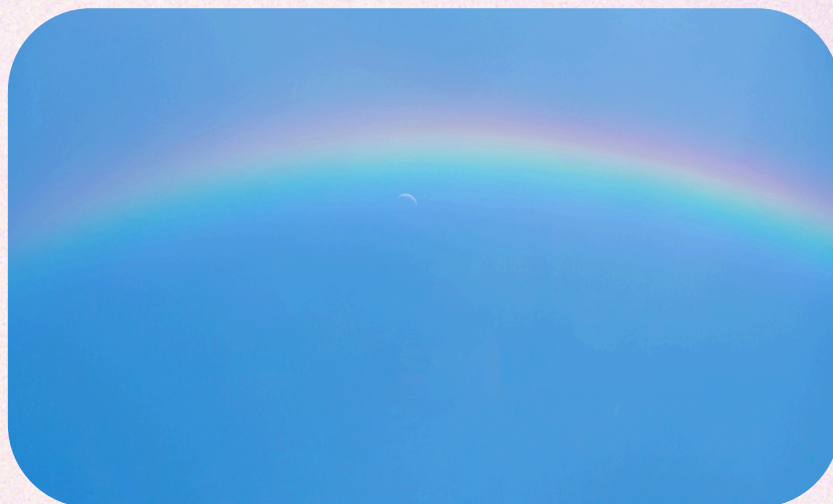
When the 2024 General Conference recently voted to change UMC policies and end overt discrimination against LGBTQ+ people, many thought that the work of the Reconciling Ministries Network was done. While this was a major accomplishment, it is really just one big step on our journey to become a truly welcoming and inclusive community.

Equally important to policy change is our need to change our hearts and our minds, and to change our practice, so that we live out our stated values. When we make a commitment to change our hearts and minds, we are just following the vision of John Wesley that we can “love alike” even if we do not “think alike.” When we change our practices, we are following our baptismal covenant to show love and support to everyone.

There are many steps big and small that we can take to fulfill these critical components. Some of the possible steps we may consider are:

- Creating a dialogue with the congregation to build a better understanding of LGBTQ+ congregants and potential congregants.
- Developing a welcoming spirit at our Church for all who might walk through our doors.
- Creating support groups and being a “safe place” for LGBTQ+ groups to meet.
- Focusing outreach efforts toward members of the LGBTQ+ community to let them know that our Church is a welcoming Church.
- Committing to using inclusive language and respectfully recognizing the diverse approaches to our scripture, reason, and experience of our congregation and community
- Addressing our often unconscious bias against people who are different
- Helping to spread the message of inclusion to all, both inside and outside our Church

As a Church we need to be committed to a long-term process of reconciliation that leads to the healing of communities harmed by anti-LGBTQ+ policies, transforming animosity into loving relationships amongst all God’s children. When we accomplish that, we will have a Church where all people get to thrive in the care of God’s love.



Hunt's Church Preschool

School bells are ringing! We are ready to start another school year! There has been a lot going on around the preschool and church and things are looking amazing! Several classrooms have been painted, flooring replaced, bathrooms are being installed and we have created a new "Afterschool Clubhouse!" Teachers have been busy cleaning and organizing their classrooms, sand and mulch are being replenished and the sound of children's laughter is right around the corner.

We will start off the school year with orientation on September 4. Families are invited in to sneak a peek at their classroom, meet the teachers and assistants and get familiar with what is ahead. The first day of school will be on September 5. Our Afterschool Clubhouse will also begin on the 5th.

Our Parent Volunteer Group has been meeting this summer to plan activities for the preschool and organize fund raisers. It is a great group this year and it is always so beneficial to the preschool! Our PVG presidents from last year have moved on and have left some big shoes to fill, but they left lots of notes and our new PVG has already stepped up to make it another great school year.

We are looking forward to our Fall Fest/Trunk or Treat. The preschool will be working with the church and Outreach Committee again this year to make it a fun event. I hope we see lots of you there on October 26th! More details to come but start thinking about how you could decorate your car for the event. The families get such a kick out of seeing how creative everyone is with decorating their cars and the children love to "trick or treat". There will be a moon bounce, food, DJ Blake Unger and so much more!

We are looking forward to having Chapel again this year with Reverend Carissa and Ms. Pegg. The children will learn Bible stories and many new songs.

I would like to thank Pegg Melfa for ALL of her help this summer. As you know, she is the Preschool Committee president and wow has she done a lot to help get the school ready! I like to say she is a machine! She has made numerous trips to the dump, helped clean out many closets, organized the new flooring, helped create the Afterschool Clubhouse and the list goes on! Oh, and I can't forget the marvelous baked goods that show up with her often!

Please stop by at any time during the year to see what wonderful things are happening! There is a check-in binder in the preschool office for you to sign-in so we are familiar with who is in the building at all times. I would love to have you sign-up to be a "Mystery Reader" for the children. We always love showing off our preschool!

I hope you all had a restful, fun-filled summer. I enjoyed the beach with my family and friends, gave lots of swimming lessons, read a few good books and enjoyed the simple living of summer! Now it is time to hit the ground running! I look forward to seeing you all this year!

Kelley Unger

Director: Hunt's Church Preschool

Community Paper Shred Event

A huge thank you to our volunteers: Steve Lippy, Tom Flavin, PJ Boyle, Pat Barkdoll, Ellie and DeWitt Lott, Walter Henss, Shirley Lin, Kelley Unger, and Mary Roddy who helped with the Community Paper Shred event on Saturday, August 17. Additional thanks to Lauren and Pegg Melfa and Shirley Lin who helped with affixing labels with a message of "You are welcome here at Hunt's Church" to 280 bottled waters which were given to patrons as a thank you for their support and donations.



Blood Drive

The Blood Drive hosted by Hunt's who partnered with The American Red Cross was held on Wednesday, August 7. There were 39 individuals who registered to donate their blood. The American Red Cross collected 26 units of whole Blood and 6 Power Red donations giving a total of 32 Blood units. Did you know one unit can save up to three lives or 96 patients, (32x 3), and there were also 12 first time donors. A huge thank you to Ellie Lott, Linda Keatts, Jan Petri, and Shirley Lin who volunteered to help by checking-in donors and handing out Red Cross tee shirts, snacks and water/juice to donors. Thanks to all who registered and donated blood.



Missions Corner

It seems like the summer has flown by. There have been so many mission projects that have impacted so many people. Once again, thanks to the Camp Hope Team and Baltimore County Christian Workcamp's hard workers.

Many thanks to everyone who donated financially to the Christmas Project Fund and to the School Supplies Fund. Heartfelt thanks for the multiple boxes of school supplies that were donated for the less fortunate kids in Baltimore County. Thank you Beth and Officer Crystal, for all of your hard work coordinating this project.

We are working on how to coordinate our Christmas projects. Stay tuned for some exciting changes that will allow more people to be involved.

Howard Lin has been so busy this August. Paper Shredder Day, on August 17, was very successful. We were able to help our neighbors and also collect more school supplies. Many thanks to Howard and to all of his team.

Looking forward to the fall season and to many more chances to make a difference.

– Lynn Henss

Mulligans for Missions

Emory L. Brown III Memorial Golf Tournament otherwise known as *Mulligans for Missions* – the golf tournament is fast approaching, and it is time to sign-up as a golfer or a tee sponsor! Every year, the tournament provides an important contribution to the Hunt's missions budget that can be used to support a variety of missions programs. Last year the tournament raised \$9,244 (net) for the missions budget.

The date of the upcoming tournament is Saturday, September 28, 2024. The course will be Oakmont Green in Hampstead. Check-in and provided lunch (burger or hot dog with chips) will begin at 12:00 with a shotgun start at 1:00. The price per golfer is \$100 with the additional option of purchasing mulligans for \$5 for one or \$10 for three. If you don't have a full foursome, let us know and we will help you find one. All registration forms with payment should be mailed to Hunt's Church (1912 Old Court Road, Towson, MD 21204) or brought to the Agape House. All information must be provided to Oakmont Green a few days in advance, so please try to get your registration in early.

The price for tee markers is \$100 and can display your group/company name or can be as an honorarium or memorial. The tee marker forms with payment should be mailed to Hunt's Church (1912 Old Court Road, Towson, MD 21204) or brought to the Agape House. Any new markers will need to be printed before the tournament, so please try to get them in early.

If you have any questions or need help finding a foursome, contact David McMillan, Jr. at davidmcmillan16210@gmail.com.

School Supplies for Baltimore County

The back-to-school collection was fantastic! Officer Crystal picked up 48 backpacks and 12 boxes of school supplies from the Agape House. He was thrilled! Sincere thanks for your generous donations! – Officer Crystal told me (Beth) that approximately 199 fully-equipped backpacks were prepared for distribution to children.-- Because of the loving hearts and overwhelming kindnesses of many individuals, these children will be prepared for this year's educational process. (Officer Crystal also assisted our church by directing traffic during Hunt's Shredder community event on Saturday - August 17.)



BCCW

41st BCCW for September 2024 Point

The 41st annual BCCW is history. Generally, we feel that it was a successful workcamp, albeit we are never able to get to all the sites that we would like. (This year, of a total of 34 possible sites, 22 were completed or had some work done.) We do what we can with the number of volunteers and their levels of experience, as well as the weather conditions, whether thunderstorms or excessive heat and/or humidity.

The "Hunt's" team, led once again by Glenn Keatts, completed its typical two ramps during the week: one in Parkville and one in Randallstown. As it is normal, "Hunt's" had the longest of the five ramps built during the week (48'), plus also the second longest one (32'). The weather forecast was iffy for the entire week; however, except for Monday when it rained, the other four days were fine, albeit somewhat hot and humid, but certainly not the worse which we have endured.

This week was atypical for "Hunt's" team for several reasons:

- Monday saw a rain shower in the morning which was worked through and then a torrential downpour in the afternoon. Due to more rain forecasted to come, we stopped for the day. This was the earliest ever stoppage for us due to rain (around 2:00).
- Except for three "senior citizens" on the team, the rest of the crew were under 35 years old, which was the youngest "Hunt's" team probably ever.
- This year we had five different students from the Elite Core Martial Arts (at which Krista McMillan is the office manager; and David and Lizzie are managers, as well as Masters). Two worked four days, one worked two days, and the other two one day each, for a total of twelve workdays. (One had worked last year and returned!) They were all energetic and willing to help in different ways; at times, they were vying to do the same job.
- Typically, when we build a ramp at a site, for some reason, we always exceed whatever the initial estimate of the length of the ramp; however, in this case we were 2' under the estimate, which created some astonishment from the other teams.
- Our second site had no post holes to be dug.
- To do a field adjustment to improve the ramp slope on the Randallstown ramp after all the treads were in, we jacked up the lower landing and cut about 2" off the posts. (cont)

- This was the first year that a Hunt's pastor has worked all five days during the week, plus Rev. Carissa was a BCCW Rookie. [Note—However, in her previous life, she has had workcamp type of experiences. During the week, she did all sorts of work tasks inherent with ramp building; many of which have been immortalized by photography.]

The "Hunt's" team consisted of Glenn and Linda Keatts, Steve Lippy, the McMillan clan (Dan, David, Joe, and Lizzie), Rev. Carissa Surber, and the Elite Core Martial Arts students [Ravi (12), Shriya (14), Bayan (15), Steven (15), and Ridhima (16)]. Even though not an official member of the "Hunt's" crew, Howard Lin, the BCCW's photographer, gave us preferential treatment (as he should!), plus greatly assisted our efforts by hauling supplies to and from the sites, and disposing of trash, as well as prepping Hunt's for the Sunday activities.

Parkville site: We started Monday morning, but stopped early. Tuesday was a long day as the three "senior citizens" did not leave until 6:50 pm. This site was completed by noon on Wednesday. The ramp was clocked in at 48'; this included a 9' porch overlay, one landing, and steps and a gate off the porch. There were eleven workers on both Monday and Tuesday, and eight on Wednesday morning.

Randallstown ramp: We left the first site after lunch on Wednesday to go to the second site, and initiated work. On Friday, this ramp was completed by 12:40 pm, which was our "short" day. It was 32' long with a small porch overlay and two landings; the ramp was all on concrete. In addition, a wedge ramp on the front porch was repaired, as well as a ramp into a shed. There were eight volunteers on Wednesday afternoon, ten on Thursday, and eight on Friday.

In addition to the work at sites during the main* BCCW week, the other activities were as follows:

- At Hunt's, a Sunday planning meeting, dinner (bought and prepared by BCCW volunteers), and orientation meeting.
- Tuesday evening dinner by Catonsville UMC at their church.
- Thursday evening dinner by Mt. Carmel UMC at their church.
- Saturday lunch at Epworth UMC (Cockeysville) at their church, followed by awards (Glenn got a BCCW "Wicked Witch of the West" shirt and Rev. Carissa got a BCCW Rookie shirt), and a communion service as a conclusion to the 2024 BCCW.

**We had another church group work the Saturday before and another work the week before, as they could not make it during our official work week.*

In addition to appreciation and thanks to Glenn who undertook responsibility and leadership for "Hunt's" team again, and all of the other volunteers who worked on the "Hunt's" ramps during the week, we thank all who donated to Hunt's Advent and/or Lenten special offerings (as ½ was given to BCCW), those who helped Howard set up Van Metre Hall on Sunday after church, those who helped with serving food on Sunday (Kathleen Haller, Lynn and Walter Henss, and Suzanne and Dave Young), those who supported us with your prayers for a safe and successful week, as well as a general thank you to Hunt's for allowing us to hold our Sunday activities at Hunt's and giving us storage space in the garage. Hunt's website will eventually have photos of our efforts; however, for any who wish to see all of the BCCW activities and all of the work sites for the 41st annual BCCW, albeit without text or explanation, see <https://photos.app.goo.gl/UY3wVN9wQPcndz3Y7>. Contact Howard or me if you have any questions on what the photos show.

TBD--Dates of the 42nd BCCW.

– Steve Lippy (proofing by Glenn & Linda Keatts, Howard Lin)



Baer School Summer Interns

This is the 10th summer that Carroll's-Gill's Permanent Endowment Fund (CGPEF) has supported this program. The CGPEF is the legacy of faithfulness at Carroll's and Gill's UMC and seeks to accomplish increasing the ministry and mission outreach of Hunt's and strengthen Hunt's to continue its ministry in a changing scene. The Baer School provides therapeutic education for students with multiple disabilities.

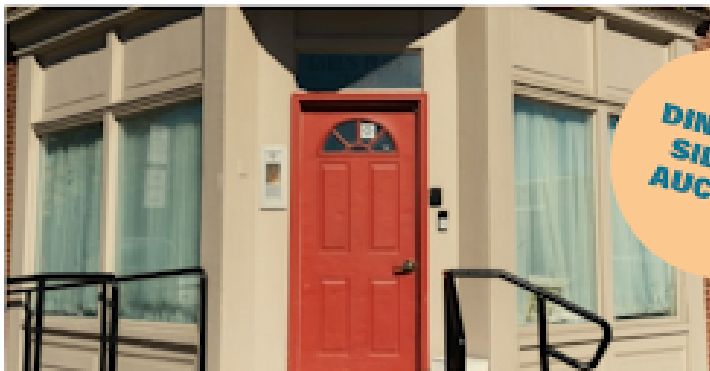
Included is a photo of the summer interns who work at the Wilson S. Baer School in The Mondawmin neighborhood of West Baltimore.



"Opening Doors" Dinner and Auction

Join Cornerstone Community Housing on Thursday, October 10 at 6pm as they celebrate the impact our church's support makes in providing new beginnings for the men of Earl's Place and Prospect Place as they rebuild their lives and move from hopeless and homeless to hopeful and housed. Learn more and register [here](#).

OPENING DOORS



IMPACT

**THURSDAY
OCTOBER 10, 2024
WORLD HOMELESS DAY**

Let's Save a Life

Did you know that someone loses their life to suicide every 40 seconds? Suicide is the second leading cause of death among 15-29 year olds and affects people of all age groups in all countries. By increasing awareness of this issue, we can help to reduce the stigma and let people who are struggling know that they are not alone.

This month, we challenge you to honor World Suicide Prevention Day (September 10) by taking 40 seconds to prevent suicide:

- If you are struggling, take 40 seconds to kickstart a conversation with someone you trust about how you are feeling.
- If you know someone who has lost a loved one to suicide, take 40 seconds to start a conversation and ask them how they are doing.
- If you work in media, highlight the 40-second statistic in interviews, articles and blogposts.

If you work in the arts or on digital platforms, interrupt your production or broadcast to transmit a 40-second message about mental health or preventing suicide. (cont)

- If you are an employer or manager, take 40 seconds to formulate a positive message of support to your employees about resources available to them in the workplace or local community in times of mental distress.
- If you want your leaders to hear your request for action, record a 40-second audio clip or video telling them the action you want them to take on suicide prevention and mental health.
- If you have a platform for communicating with a large audience (social media, television, radio), provide 40-second slots for sharing mental health stories and messages.
- If you hold political office, communicate publicly about action you are taking to promote mental health and prevent suicide, highlighting the 40-second statistic.

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS
LIFELINE

Need to talk?

We are here to listen and help with problems like stress, depression, anxiety, or drug and alcohol use. For you or a loved one.

Free and confidential.



Christian Education

Our church is passionate about the spiritual formation of all ages! We have a number of offerings planned for Fall 2024:

Nursery Care

One of our core values at Hunt's Church is loving children well. That's why we provide Nursery Care for children ages 3 and under during the 10am service each week. Volunteers must love babies and children, have a positive attitude, and be willing to complete the Safe Sanctuary process outlined here:

www.huntsumc.org/safe

If you're interested in serving in the Nursery, please reach out to Rev. Carissa. carissa@huntsumc.org

Sunday School

On September 1, the current Sunday School year will wrap up and on September 8, the new Sunday School year will begin! In September, we will learn stories of the prophet Elijah. After the children's message in the 10 o'clock Sunday worship service, children aged approximately 3 through elementary are invited to come down to Sunday School in "The Clubhouse" – previously known as the Adult Education Room. Sunday School is a time to learn more about our relationship with God and to enjoy fellowship with other students. We spend part of the time all together with songs, games, and crafts, and for part of the time we divide into older and younger groups for Bible stories and lessons.

Looking forward to seeing everyone!

- Lisa McMillan



Welcome Back, Mid-High!

We are so excited to start another year of fellowship and service. Any 4th through 8th grader is welcome to join us monthly as we find ways to serve our community, learn about God's love in action, and grow together. We will kick off our year on Sunday, September 15th after the 10am service. Stay tuned for more information on upcoming projects and ways to get involved. If you have any questions or feedback, please pull Sara Howard, Terri Dotterer, or Merrilee aside at church, or email Merrilee at mjpeske@gmail.com.

Senior High

click
Here



For Adults: Faithful and Inclusive Study

Just 5 years ago, our church decided overwhelmingly to become a Reconciling Congregation. This meant an ongoing commitment to support, include, and affirm LGBTQ+ people. As this milestone approaches, we're taking time to go back to the basics.

Join Rev. Carissa this fall for a survey of scripture and theology as we answer the question, "Can we be both faithful and inclusive?" Bring your heart, your faith, and your questions to this important conversation. This 5-week study will be held in VanMetre Hall at 11:30am on Sundays beginning October 13. Look for sign up sheets toward the end of September!

Financial News: Mid-Year Check-Up

Linda Keatts completed the accounting for July, so we can assess how we are doing seven months into the year. Below is our operating fund performance through the end of July:

	2024 YTD Actual	2024 YTD Budget	Difference (Actual-Budget)	Budget
Income	\$289,823	\$282,692	\$7,131	\$459,701
Expense	\$304,547	\$309,094	- \$4,547	\$518,897
Difference	- \$14,724	- \$26,402	\$11,678	- \$59,196

Expenses continue to run modestly below what was budgeted. We are blessed that everyone is very cost conscious and tries to save money when possible. The significant number of volunteer hours also keeps our expenses down. Thank you.

In terms of income, the offering of \$233,596 is running 3.6% ahead of budget (\$225,421) and 5.1% ahead of last year (\$222,323). My hope is that we increase the gap with last year and budget as we enter autumn so we can minimize the projected year-end shortfall. Thank you for faithfully supporting the church and its many ministries and missions.

At its August meeting, the Finance Committee received a proposed budget from the Preschool Committee. It was quite thoughtfully developed and provided us with much detail. If actual enrollment is as expected, then the school appears poised to have another solid year, both programmatically and financially. Our church is blessed by the quality and dedication of all the individuals involved in this ministry – committee members, school leadership, school staff, and volunteers – what a team. The evolution of the after-school program continues this Fall and looks poised to elevate the experience for the kids enrolled in it – almost makes me want to be a kid all over again.

If you ever have questions about our finances, please do not hesitate to contact me at tedochs@msn.com.

Yours in Christ,
Ted Ochs, Finance Chair

Scholarship Committee Update

One very enjoyable task the chairs of the Trustees, Church Council, and the Finance Committee have is to pull double duty as members of the Scholarship Committee. Each year, we review the applications from young members of the church to make awards from the Kidder/Thomas Scholarship Fund. This fund was created from several generous gifts from past members. At the end of June, this fund had a balance of \$84,694.

We are pleased to announce that we approved all eleven applications we received this year and awarded each applicant a scholarship of \$900. The recipients were Sam Bayne, Amelia Derr, Eric Derr, Jake Derr, Casey Kuhn, Sabrina Kuhn, Dan McMillan, Trey Ochs, Miranda Parrish, Sabina Smith, and Sophie Smith. We are pleased to support them as they continue their academic endeavors.

Rusty Erdman, Kelly Heubeck, Cathy Junkin, and Ted Ochs, The Scholarship Committee

Calendar

MONTH <i>September</i> YEAR 2024						
The Month of September at Hunt's						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 10A SUMMER WORSHIP 10A NURSERY CARE 10A SUNDAY SCHOOL	2 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED	3 7PM PRAISE BAND	4 PRESCHOOL'S ORIENTATION VISITS 12:30PM AA MTG	5 PRESCHOOL'S CLASSES START 7:30PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	6 6PM PACK MEETING	7
8 RALLY DAY 8:30A CONTEMPORARY 10A NURSERY CARE 10A SUNDAY SCHOOL 10A TRADITIONAL	9 PRESCHOOL'S WELCOME BACK COFFEE MEET & GREETINGS 8PM LAY LEADERSHIP DEV. COM. MTG	10 7PM PRAISE BAND 7PM COMMUNITY LIFE MTG	11 12:30PM AA MTG 7PM COMMITTEE MTG	12 7:30PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	13 8A MEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP 11:30A FUNHUNTERS	14 9A PROJECT WORK DAY 10A WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP
15 8:30A CONTEMPORARY 10A NURSERY CARE 10A SUNDAY SCHOOL 10A TRADITIONAL 11A MID-HIGH GROUP	16	17 7PM PRAISE BAND	18 12:30P AA MTG 7PM CHURCH COUNCIL MTG	19 7:30PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	20 8A MEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP	21 4PM CUB SCOUTS OVERNIGHT CAMPING 101
22 8:30A CONTEMPORARY 10A NURSERY CARE 10A SUNDAY SCHOOL 10A TRADITIONAL 11:15A COLUMBARIUM DED.	23	24 7PM PRAISE BAND 8PM LAY LEADERSHIP DEV. COM. MTG	25 12:30P AA MTG	26 7:30PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	27	28 1PM MULLIGANS FOR MISSIONS 4PM RAIN DATE FOR CUB SCOUTS CAMPING
29 12A CUB SCOUT RAIN DATE 8:30A CONTEMPORARY 10A NURSERY CARE 10A CAR WASH BY SR. HIGH GROUP 10A SUNDAY SCHOOL 10A TRADITIONAL	30	1 7PM PRAISE BAND	2 12:30P AA MTG 7PM OUTREACH COM. MTG.	3 7:30PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	4 8A MEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP	5

He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

(Matthew 22:37-40)

Talk with Your Pastor

Rev. Carissa would love to spend time with you! If you would like her to visit you, just reach out: call (443) 353-0439 or email carissa@huntsumc.org. You can also schedule a meeting with her at www.calendly.com/revcarissa.

Worship Online

If you or a loved one is unable to come to church on Sunday – or simply not comfortable at this time – then you can connect with your Hunt's Church family by worshipping online! Livestream the 10am Traditional Service each Sunday (or watch it later) at www.youtube.com/c/huntschurch or through the YouTube app on your iPad or smart TV.

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