

The Point



Summer 2025 Release

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As summer begins, we often welcome a change of pace: a little more breathing room, a little less pressure. But alongside lighter schedules and warmer evenings, summer also offers a spiritual opportunity: to listen again for the quiet work of God in our lives.

This summer, our worship series will explore the stories of three Old Testament figures. These ancient narratives might seem far removed from our day-to-day lives, set in distant cultures and times. But these stories actually offer something profoundly relevant: a view of what God is like in the midst of uncertain, messy, and even resistant human lives.

If you grew up with these stories, you might remember the versions aimed at children: Ruth was loyal, Jonah disobedient, Esther brave. These interpretations are tidy, teachable moments - but they often leave us asking, "What do I actually do with this story now?" Meredith Miller, in her book *Woven*, puts words to that disconnect: "Kids don't need a faith full of heroes to copy and villains to avoid. They need a faith that helps them notice God."



That's the heart of our summer series. Instead of asking, "What's the moral of the story?" we're asking, **"Where is God in this story? And what does that tell us about who God is today?"**

These aren't just tales of extraordinary people; they're **glimpses into how God works in ordinary lives**. Ruth is not just loyal - she's a grieving outsider who takes a risk on love and belonging, and in doing so becomes part of God's redemptive story. Jonah isn't just a runaway prophet - he's a complicated man who meets God's mercy even when he doesn't want to. Esther isn't simply brave - she's placed in a terrifying position and has to decide whether to trust a God whose name is never even mentioned in her story.

Miller says that "when we tell kids Bible stories, we are shaping their picture of God." That's just as true for adults. If we approach Scripture only looking for models of exemplary behavior, we risk creating a version of faith that's about performance.

But if we **read to discover who God is** - how God acts, where God shows up, what God cares about - then we begin to build a faith rooted in relationship and trust, not just rules.

That's what I hope this summer will offer: not just insights about Ruth, Jonah, and Esther, but a clearer vision of the God who guided them - and who is still guiding us. A God who redeems our losses, who doesn't give up on us when we resist, and who works even through quiet acts of courage.

You don't need to have it all figured out to join this journey. Whether you're away on vacation, watching online, or sitting in a pew on Sunday morning, you're invited to step into these stories with curiosity. Look not just for what the people do, but for what God does. Because these are more than old stories. They are testimonies of a living God who still moves in love and faithfulness today.

As Meredith Miller says so wisely: "The whole point is not, 'Look what they did.' **The whole point is, 'Look what God is like.'**"

This summer, let's discover again the God who still speaks, still calls, still saves - and still shows up in the middle of real lives like yours and mine.

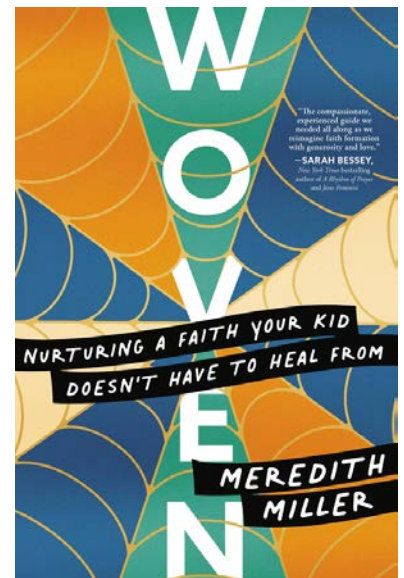
grace & peace,

Rev. Carissa

From the Pastor's Shelf:

This summer, Rev. Carissa is reading *Woven: Nurturing a Faith Your Kid Doesn't Have to Heal From* by Meredith Miller. Let her know if you decide to read it too!

This is a great book to help anyone raising kids to think about how to share their faith in a way that matters.



Easter Eggstravaganza

From 9:00 a.m. to noon, our campus was filled with fun and festive energy. The egg hunt hopped off at 11:00 a.m., with more than 1,500 colorful eggs tucked around our church grounds! To ensure every child had a great experience, we divided the hunt into three age groups: Birth-Age 3, Ages 4-7, & Ages 8 and up. This inclusive approach made for a fair, safe, and exciting egg hunt that everyone could enjoy.

Alongside the egg hunt, we hosted a vibrant plant sale and a wide variety of hands-on activities that brought families together, including: Painting sun-catchers, Coloring pages, Moon bounce fun, Lawn games, generously provided by our Preschool—thank you!



Heartfelt Thanks

This event would not have been possible without the dedication and support of so many individuals. We'd like to offer special thanks to:

- Our amazing Outreach Committee & our volunteers Paul & Kyle, for your creativity, planning, and hands-on help.
- John Davis, for setting up the sound system and ensuring we had music throughout the morning—it truly lifted the atmosphere!
- Beth Woody, for helping us stay organized and on track from start to finish.
- Our wonderful Preschool, for allowing us to borrow games that brought so much joy to the children.
- And of course, Pastor Carissa, for your support and for offering a beautiful Easter message and blessing that reminded us of the hope we share in Christ

Thank you to everyone who participated and made this year's Easter Egg Extravaganza such a meaningful and joy-filled success. We can't wait to see you at future events at Hunt's Memorial Church!

— Sarah Kintner Brown

Summer Sunday School

At Hunt's, students approximately aged 4 - 5th grade are invited to come downstairs to Sunday School after the children's message in the 10 o'clock service. We do some activities, like songs and games, all together, and often break into an older group and a younger group for lessons or crafts.

Our usual Sunday School area is the "clubhouse" room between the choir room and the hallway with the children's bathroom. This summer, with all the exciting construction going on, Sunday School's location will move around. It will be an adventure.

Our summer Sunday School lessons will relate to the scriptures used in the worship series Reverend Carissa is doing upstairs in the sanctuary. For the rest of May we will study Noah. In June we will learn about Pentecost, and about Ruth and Naomi. In July we will learn about Jonah, and in August we will learn about Esther.

Are you interested in joining our Sunday School teaching team? We would love to hear from you. Text Lisa McMillan at 443-904-4171. Sunday School teachers must complete the online Safe Sanctuaries training. Looking forward to this summer@ Hunt's Church.



Nursery Care

Every Sunday at 10am

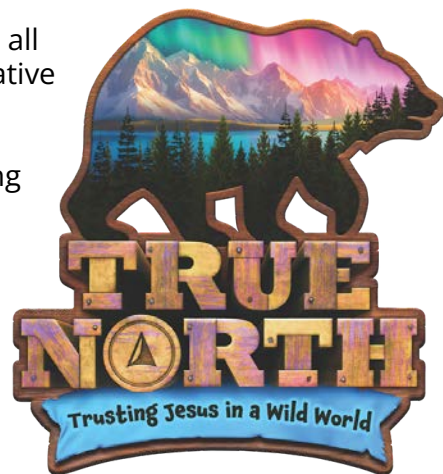
Each Sunday, we provide a joyful and safe space for our youngest guests to play during the 10AM service. Children approximately 3 and under are welcome to be in the Nursery each Sunday! If you would like to volunteer in this ministry, contact Jules Slaysman at (443) 285-2423 or juliannaslaysman@gmail.com to learn more.



Vacation Bible School | August 4 - 8

This year's Vacation Bible School is from August 4th-8th from 9am-12pm. Here, we will guide kids on the ultimate Alaskan adventure where northern lights glow over majestic mountains, racing rivers, and glistening glaciers. As kids trek the tundra, they'll explore how easy it is to lose sight of what's true in our wild world today. Pointing them toward Jesus, True North VBS shows them that he is a faithful friend we can always trust. He's our True North!

This summer's VBS is all about the Alaskan Native Language, Tlingit phrase, "Wooch een" which means "working together!" Everyone has a place in VBS, and we need everyone's help!



Everyone Has a Place at VBS!

Volunteer

Volunteers are needed as we find our "True North" and learn to "Trust Jesus in the Wild World!" We specifically need more adult station and crew leaders. [Register HERE to volunteer!](#)

Pray

Last but not least, keep us in our prayers as we venture through the week with little ones. May we be blessed by their presence, May they grow in God's love, and May the parents be blessed by a loving church!

Donate

Thank you for generously committing to donate supplies for VBS! Please remember to bring in the items you selected. If we find we need anything else, we may reach back out to the congregation for help.

Make Decorations

If you can't commit to volunteering during the week of VBS, please consider serving for a few hours by making decorations for VBS. Join us in the Agape House Conference Room for the "Alaskan Scenery Sessions" at 10 AM on:

Monday, June 9

Monday, June 16

Friday, June 27

Monday, July 14

Monday, July 28

Decorating the rooms for VBS will take place from 9:30 AM - 12 PM on:

Friday, August 1

Saturday, August 2

Cub Scouts – Pack 319

We would like to thank all of Hunt's Church for their support of our Pack 319 car wash on Sunday, April 27th. It was a tremendous success!

Jason Seabreeze

(Pack 319 Cubmaster)

Hunt's Church Preschool

A Note from Kelley Unger, Preschool Director

It is hard to believe that this is the last newsletter for the school year! We have had an amazing year and we are all ready to enjoy the beautiful weather and summer vacation!

The month of May was packed with a lot of fun activities! We had our Kindergarten Huddle, where our new Kindergarten students got to meet their teacher and new friends. We enjoyed: our butterflies and ladybugs hatching process, Field Day, Date Night, Art Show, Spring Sing Along, Graduation, and so much more.

We started a special tradition this year to celebrate our moms, dads and grandparents. Each age group celebrated moms, dads, or grandparents by having a party for them. We had Moms or special friend and Muffins, Dads or special friend and Donuts and Grand Grandparents! The classes made a special craft, learned a new song to perform and enjoyed treats with their special person.

The moms and grandparents also received cut flowers and the dads participated in competitive games of Corn Hole, Croquet and a soccer match. It was so much fun!

Our Parent Volunteer Group planned a fun Field Day for the students on May 12 and 13. It consisted of obstacle courses, hula hoops, contests, bubbles, tattoos, popsicles, and more! Look at our facebook for pictures!

Our Art Show and Spring Sing Along was on May 14. Our theme for the Art Show this year was "Under the Ocean". VanMeter Hall was be decorated like an ocean and the children's "Ocean Art" was hung all around. Families gathered in the chapel to enjoy The Spring Sing Along. We appreciated having so many families and friends join us!



Middle High Youth

Mid-high hosted "Coffee Hour" on March 23rd in an effort to kick off more Coffee Hours each month in hopes of bringing the congregation together monthly for treats, coffee & conversation!

In April, mid-high worked together at the cool kids campaign headquarters in Towson making crafts and cards for the cool kids movie night. The cool kids campaign brings children with cancer and their families together, and helps the children and their families socially, emotionally and financially during cancer treatment, and afterwards.

Senior High Youth

Thank you to everyone who came to worship with us on May 4th!

Congratulations to our graduating seniors, Marco Ochs, Jack Anecharico, Sadie Ewell, and Brytt Coulter!

We've had a fantastic year and look forward to starting back up this fall!



Graduates

May and June are always full of High School and College graduations. If you have a family member who is graduating this year, please send the following information to Beth, our Administrative Assistant (beth@huntsumc.org): *Name of Graduate, Name of School, Type of degree, Date of Graduation, & Plans following graduation.* Thank you!

- Casey Kuhn – Graduated from Villanova University on May 17, with his Masters Degree in History.
- Sabrina Kuhn – Graduated from St. Mary's College of Maryland on May 10, with a Master's Degree in Teaching. She will begin teaching high school or middle school Math in the fall.
- Marco Ochs – Graduating from McDonogh School this June and will be attending the University of Colorado Boulder in the fall to study Civil Engineering.
- Miranda Parrish – Graduated from Washington College in May with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science & Communications & Media Studies. – Future Plans: Work or Graduate School



2025 Hunt's Preschool Graduates!

Scholarship Application Information

The Kidder-Thomas Scholarship Fund resulted from generous bequests under the wills of Sam Kidder and Jean Thomas. The sum has been invested along with subsequent donations, and the income earned from this investment is for scholarships for "worthy students who are members of Hunt's Church."

Trustees of the Fund will consider applications for scholarship aid each year. There are three trustees that oversee the fund: Chair of the Church Council (Becky Pauliny), Chair of the Finance Committee (Ted Ochs), and Co-Chairs of the Board of Trustees (Kelly Heubeck & Rusty Erdman).

Applications must be received by June 30, 2025. Additional applications are available at the Church Office. The completed application should be submitted along with an "unofficial" transcript of high school or college grades, preferably through the spring of the current year.

Scholarships are for Hunt's congregation members who are undergraduate students enrolled full-time (12 credits or more per semester), and graduate students enrolled part-time or full-time (6 credits or more per semester), in an accredited college or university in the United States.

In awarding scholarships, the Scholarship Trustees will primarily consider the applicants':

- Academic merit
- Financial need
- Church involvement and activities
- Community involvement and leadership

Recently, the awards have been in the range of \$800 to \$1,000. It is the Scholarship Trustees goal to meet and make their decisions in the month of July.

Applicants must apply annually to be considered for a scholarship. Awards are for one year only.

Adult Ministry

Men's Fellowship | Fridays 8AM

Gentlemen: Are you looking for a change of pace, especially towards the end of the week? Then join us on Friday mornings, at 8 AM in the Agape House. We discuss various topics from sports to a wide range of other topics as well. If you would like more information, please contact Robert Sparks. However, they will not meet during the months of July and August. Their meetings will resume on Friday, September 12, at 8am.

Women's Fellowship | June 14

We had a great time in April learning some new ways to tie scarves from Harriett Schwarzkopf. In May, some of us went to hear the National Christians Choir "2nd Edition" perform at the First English Lutheran Church in Baltimore.

June 14th, we will have our regular gathering in Agape House at 10AM. We take a break during the summer and we don't meet during July and August. We will meet again in September on the 13th. Have a wonderful and safe summer, everyone!

Funhunter's Luncheons | June 17

The Ashland Cafe has been our "go-to" restaurant for many months. The restaurant is lovely, always accommodating for the varying number of people who attend our luncheons, and the food is consistently delicious. – Recently, a different restaurant was suggested and highly recommended by Linda Flavin, so that is where we will have our next luncheon. Do you like lobster? The Funhunters group is going to Buon Appetito Restaurant (405 Mace Avenue; Essex, MD 21221) for our June 17 luncheon at 11:30am.



Father's Day | June 15

Bring dad to church! We'll gather for one service on June 15. All the men of the church are invited to stay for a photo after worship.



We are going on a Tuesday because they have a special 1 1/4 pound lobster with 2 large sides for \$21.99. They also have a great large menu, if lobster is not your thing. If this is your first time with the Funhunters group, welcome; if you are a regular, come and bring a guest. If you want to carpool, we need to meet at Hunt's at 10:45am. Please let Lynn Henss know. 433-600-2325 or lbhenss@icloud.com. This will be our last meeting until September 12 at Ashland Cafe at 11:30am.



Congregational Care

New Life

Jessica & Christopher Hamamoto welcomed the arrival of their third daughter, **Harper Leigh**, on April 10, 2025. Harper's two big sisters are Kiko and Nellie. Beckett & Erin Carroll (grandson of Barbara Green) welcomed their first child, **Paige James Carroll**, on May 19, 2025.

Baptism

Brynn White - Baptized on May 18, 2025

- Parents: Andrea & Matthew White
- Grandparents: Tim & Robin Bosley and Ken & Cheryl White
- Sponsors: Laura Lindsey & Thomas White



New Members



Kathy Shoaf
Joined Hunt's on May 11, 2025



Dave Biser
Joined Hunt's on May 25, 2025



Steve & Emily Bloom
Joined Hunt's on May 25, 2025

Present with the Lord

Our prayers are with the families of all who have died in the past season, including:

- George Owen Tracey (January 16, 2025)
- Al Kaestner's son, Brian Guy Kaestner (April 8, 2025)
- Jackie Ennis's mother, Ethel Blanche Humphreys (April 21, 2025)
- Elizabeth McDonald's father, Claiborne Watkins Terry (April 22, 2025)



Rick Heyman
March 6, 2025



Gerry McMillan
March 27, 2025

Birthdays in June

Amy England (6/3); Dave McMillan (6/3); James Anastasion, IV (6/4); Sadie Ewell (6/4); Isaac Shannon (6/4); Trace Childs (6/5); Lucy Hudson (6/5); Maggie Shannon (6/8); Bennett Erdman, III (6/8); Parker Davis (6/9); Beth Smith (6/9); Carol Bacon (6/10); Bill Schlott (6/10); Megan Anecharico (6/11); Kate Cooper (6/11); Pam Melera (6/13); Jocelyn Bayne (6/14); Andy Anders (6/15); Jenny Donoghue (6/15); Dawn Lippy Childs (6/16); Bill Band (6/17); Ham Whiteford (6/18); Paige Carins (6/19); Emma Carey (6/19); Kathy Davis (6/19); Grace Anastasion (6/20); Monica Starleper (6/20); John Whieford (9/20); Matthew Surber (6/21); Eric Davis (6/23); Sofia DeHaven (6/24); Nancy Powers (6/25); Tucker Carey (6/27); Bettie Dunkin (6/29); Bill England (6/29); Avery Laziuck (6/30)

Birthdays in July

Annie Smith (7/1); Elinore Davidson (7/1); Merle Bayne (7/2); Dave Biser (7/5); Meredith Boyle (7/6); Bonnie Ochs (7/7); Dave Junkin (7/7); Todd Pauliny (7/9); Abigail Gartrell (7/9); Julie Cooper (7/10); Janice Cooper (7/10); Kyle DeHaven (7/11); Sarah Kintner Brown (7/11); Andy Voter (7/12); Travis (Band) Williamson (7/13); Phil Kennedy (7/15); Emily Laziuck (7/16)

Birthdays in August

Shirley Cook (8/2); Bruce Lippy (8/2); Kathy Shoaf (8/3); Brett Laziuck (8/6); Sara Howard (8/7); Ron Peterson (8/9); Dolores Olson (8/9); Charlotte Douglas (8/10); Kathy Lang (8/11); Cheryl Warren (8/11); Jody Waters (8/12); Nicole Garbarino (8/14); Robert Cook (8/14); Greg Muth (8/16); Linda ("Lee") Davis (8/17); Melissa Regan (8/17); Glenn Keatts (8/17); Tyler Marvel (8/18); Quinn Marvel (8/18); Tommy Permison (8/20); Quinlan Miller (8/22); Peter Boyle (8/23); Sue Turner (8/24); Owen Peske (8/24); Susan Meyers (8/25); Hunter Muth (8/25); Mike Cooper (8/26); Jeremy Davis (8/26); Tom Dunkin (8/26); Stacie DeHaven (8/27); Benjamin England (8/30); Rhett Mitchell (8/31)

Anniversaries in June

Christy & Chris O'Brien (6/2); Candy & Jim Shaffer (6/3); Bettie & Tom Dunkin (6/6); Rev. Carissa & Matthew Surber (6/9); Kathy & Rev. Robb Shoaf (6/9); Jo & Chester Jennings (6/10); Margaret & Ken Strubler (6/10); Suzanne & David Young (6/11); Katie & Colin Forsyth (6/15); Amy & Bill England (6/19); Jennifer & Rusty Erdman (6/20); Carol & Andy Anders (6/21); Lisa & Todd Hudson (6/22); Hope & John Pollard (6/25); Cara & Rick Ehrlich (6/26); Lynn & Walter Henss (6/26); Donna & Bob Sibley (6/26); Jody & Burns Waters (6/27); Barbara & Allan Fenselau (6/28); Lone & Marty Azola (6/29)

Anniversaries in July

Sue & Bob Dey (7/1); Cheryl & Doug Eisenhower (7/5); Kristina & Matt Bayne (7/17); Lisa & Dave McMillan (7/20); Cathy & Dave Junkin (7/20); Megan & Jeremy Davis (7/24); Merilee & David Peske (7/28); Pat & Glenn Lieske (7/29); Meg & Tom Whiteford (7/31)

Anniversaries in August

Tori & Chase Simpson (8/1); Tammy & Bill Band (8/2); Pam & Bill Forester (8/3); Shirley & Howard Lin (8/12); Pam & Bill Schlott (8/15); Katie & Greg Permison (8/18); Jessica & Chris Hamamoto (8/21); Kathy & John Davis (8/22); Becky & John Pauliny (8/22); Jan & Roger Wittenbach (8/22); Jackie & Joe Stigall (8/22); Robin & Tim Bosley (8/23); Charlotte & Bruce Douglas (8/24); Kerri & Ben Martin (8/31)

Mother's Day 2025



Easter



Summer Worship Series:

We all know the Bible stories we learned in Sunday School, right? But when we meet them beyond the classroom, each character has something new to teach us about our life with God.

June



Ruth shows us how to embody faithfulness in everyday life. God works through the everyday decisions of people like Ruth – and people like us – to bring redemption and hope. Join us as we seek to be bold and faithful, trusting in God's promises to provide and restore.

- June 29: Where You Lead (Ruth 1)
- July 6: LovingKindness (Ruth 2) – outdoor worship
- July 13: Wholly Redeemed (Ruth 3-4)

July

Jonah shows us the complexity and depths of God's grace. Even though Jonah disobeyed God, failed in his mission, and clung to resentments – God still used him to turn lives around. Join us as we discover the depths of God's compassion, forgiveness, and love.

- July 20: Running from God (Jonah 1)
- July 27: In the Belly of a Whale (Jonah 2)
- Aug. 3: Transformed Lives (Jonah 3)
- Aug. 10: Getting Some Perspective (Jonah 4)



August

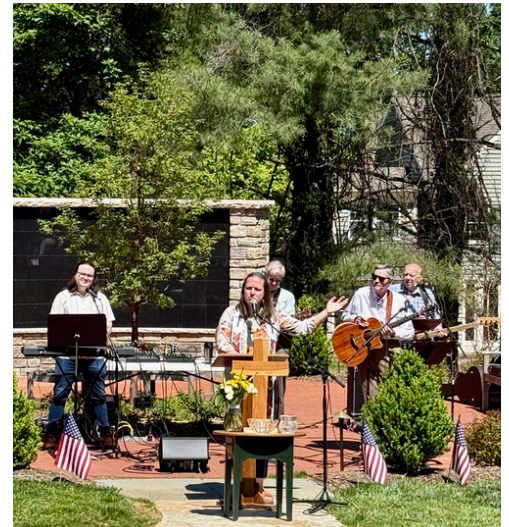


Esther shows us how to have courage in dangerous times. Even when her Jewish identity put her life at risk, Esther advocated for people who needed help. Through a tale of queens and power, we'll discover God's mysterious way of working through each of us.

- August 17: The Tale of Two Queens (Esther 1-2)
- August 24: For Just Such a Time as This (Esther 3-4)
- August 31: Speaking Truth to Power (Esther 7-8) – outdoor worship

Summer Worship

Throughout the summer, we'll hold one unified worship service each Sunday. Join us for 10am worship with a variety of musical styles throughout the summer. We're looking forward to hearing from guest preachers Pegg Melfa and Rev. Terri Dotterer while Rev. Carissa is on vacation (June 15 and 22). This worship schedule will be in effect through Labor Day weekend.



Outdoor Worship

Let's kick off summer with outdoor worship! Bring your lawn chair and your sweet tea for a joyful start to the season on Sundays July 6 and August 31. In the event of inclement weather, worship will move inside.

Reconciling Ministries

God made us all, exactly as we are! The month of June is a month for LGBTQ+ people and their allies to celebrate the beauty of God's diversity, as it's expressed through our many different orientations and identities. Join the Reconciling Ministries Team for a time of coffee and fellowship after worship on Sunday, June 8 as Baltimore kicks off Pride Month.



Missions Overview

Hope everyone enjoyed their on and off again Baltimore spring. Now that it is almost summer I hope you can have a relaxing time with family and friends. Missions will be busy as always.

Many thanks to everyone who brought food to church for the Assistance Center of Towson Churches (ACTC). It was very helpful to have a list of needs. Thanks for Joe and the rest of the McMillan family for all of their hard work.

Unfortunately, Camp Hope is folding. It is very sad for the Senior High and counselors. Hunt's has been going to Camp Hope for many years. The Senior High is looking for new ministry projects for next year. Hopefully some of them can help with Baltimore County Christian Work Camp this summer.

Our thanks goes out to Suzanne and David Young for supplying the wonderful casserole recipes and delivering them to Earl's Place. Over the past four years we have supplied 647+ casseroles and many other items for the needs of the men. On May 22 several people made a great meal of chili, corn bread, salad and dessert. The guys loved it. They call us the "casserole people" and look forward to the day they arrive.

Thanks to Beth Smith for contacting the Women's Helping Up Mission Choir and arranging for them to come to Hunt's on May 18th. Carissa coordinated with the choir director to have a wonderfully inspirational service.



The concert on May 18 was fantastic and well attended. They were so inspiring with their music and testimonials. Thanks to everyone who helped with the breakfast, luncheon and donated clothing, it was greatly appreciated.

Wilma Lippy and her family are encouraging people from Hunt's to volunteer to help with Maryland's COPS (Concern of Police Survivors) with some of their upcoming events. They support the children of police officers that died in the line of duty. Bruce and Wilma's son, Mickey C. Lippy, died on September 28, 2008 in the line of duty. There is a scholarship in his name, which Carroll's-Gill's Endowment Fund has supported for years.

Look for information for Mulligans for Missions golf outing in the fall. David McMillan is looking for golfers and volunteers.

Planning meetings for the 42nd BCCW (Sunday July 20-Saturday July 26) were held on March 4, April 1, and May 13. Now, volunteers are needed, as well as referrals for possible BCCW work sites. BCCW's online registration is now active. As in past years, Glenn Keatts is hopeful for having one or more ramp projects. Since the Senior High Youth are not going to Camp Hope this summer, there is a possibility that they may decide to take a BCCW site. The Carroll's-Gill's Permanent Endowment Fund donated \$2,000 to BCCW; the donations raised from Hunt's March special BCCW offering was \$490.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations.

baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

Matthew 28:19-20

Baltimore County Christian Workcamp (BCCW)

42nd Annual BCCW: July 20-26, 2025

Planning is underway; referrals are being submitted; potential work sites are being visited and identified. Since the last Point article, there have been virtual BCCW planning meetings on March 4, April 1, and May 13, with the next one scheduled for June 10. BCCW, though "based" at Hunt's, is composed of volunteers from throughout the County (and beyond) and needs volunteers of all skill levels; the more who volunteer, the more people we can help.

Glenn Keatts has agreed to be a crew chief again; therefore, there will be a "Hunt's team" again, hopefully working on some ramp building projects, as there are at least seven possible ramp sites so far. However, any volunteers from Hunt's do not have to work on the "Hunt's team," e.g., if there are other work sites that are more conveniently located to your home or other sites have tasks that you would be more comfortable in doing or you do not like working outside on ramps. You can volunteer one or more days, whether consecutive or not.

There are also optional social activities:

- Sunday, July 20: Kick-off dinner and orientation meeting at Towson UMC
- Tuesday, July 22: Evening dinner at Catonsville UMC
- Thursday, July 24: Evening dinner at Mt. Carmel UMC (Mt. Carmel Road in Parkton)
- Saturday, July 26: Closing lunch with slide presentation and communion service at Epworth UMC

All who volunteer need to register online at <https://forms.gle/KXV4vAQisnYmbD9B6>; also, please let Glenn, Howard, or Steve know if you wish to be on "Hunt's team." If there are not sufficient volunteers from Hunt's, then we will need to try to supplement our crew with volunteers who are looking for a work site. The registration deadline for attending any meal events is July 13; there is no registration deadline per se for volunteering to work.

BCCW is waiving registration fees again this year due to the sufficient ongoing financial support of many churches, including Hunt's.

One-half of Hunt's

2024 Advent offering and 100% of the special March 2025 BCCW offering will be used to further the mission of BCCW. **We thank all those who contributed to these two special offerings, as well as thanks to the Carroll's-Gill's Permanent Endowment Fund for once again supporting Hunt's participation with BCCW.**

Please promote volunteering for BCCW to anyone or any organization which may be looking to participate in some local hands-on mission work. (Also, BCCW is looking for a volunteer who could work from the comfort of their home at their computer on their schedule. BCCW needs a "social media coordinator" who would post forwarded items about BCCW on the various social platforms, including FaceBook. This person could even be a skilled youth needing service-learning hours for graduation. Contact info@bcchristianworkcamp.org if interested or with the name of a possible candidate.)

For a complete list of upcoming events, please visit our website! To contact key BCCW volunteers, please reach out to:

Steve Lippy: s.lippy@verizon.net (410) 296-9150
Howard Lin: howlin0812@gmail.com (410) 825-2011



Clothing Shed

Located on the Agape House parking lot and “open” 24/7 is a clothing shed, managed by a for-profit company, Turnkey Enterprises. The following items, if placed in plastic bags, are accepted: Clothing, Shoes, Sneakers, Belts, Purses, Linens, Blankets, Curtains, (Note: No rags or fabric scraps)

Hunt's receives a very nominal price for the items that are collected, based upon the number of plastic bags and an average weight per bag. (Therefore, two smaller bags are “better” than one humongous one, plus they are easier to get into the chute.) Along with community participation, an estimated 10.8 tons was collected in 2024, generating approximately \$1,500, which is used for Hunt's operating budget.

Another way to increase Hunt's revenues from Turnkey is to contact someone you know involved with another non-profit in MD, NJ, or PA (preferably not in Ruxton/Riderwood/east Towson/etc. which would be in competition with Hunt's). If the other organization were to apply (stating that they were referred by Hunt's) and get a shed too, then Hunt's would get a referral fee, which is presently \$200. Alternatively, if someone did not want to apply, but wanted to have Turnkey contact them directly, then Hunt's could submit their contact information to Turnkey. The application is quite short and can be found on their website <https://clothingsheds.com/install/>. (“Hunt's Memorial UMC” would be placed on the second to last line as the “Name of Referral” and, on the last line, highlight “referred by an active sponsor.”

Contact Steve Lippy (s.lippy@verizon.net) if you have any questions about Hunt's clothing shed.

HOWEVER, if your donated items are in good to excellent quality, then you may wish to consider donating them to one of the following local charities where their value would be more appreciated. (Hunt's clothing shed items are shipped overseas to be sold.)

Hunt's supports two local charities which often have a need for certain clothing items:

- Earl's Place/Cornerstone Community Housing: <https://cchbaltimore.org/wish-lists/>
- Helping Up Mission (HUM) Men's Program, and Women's and Children's Program:

www.helpingupmission.org

In addition, during the year, Hunt's may have special clothing drives. Also, there are other charities which may be a “better” recipient of your items, such as Salvation Army and Goodwill, as well as a myriad of other local charities listed in the County.

Reuse Directory:

https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/files/Documents/Public_Works/solidwastemanagement/reusedirectory.pdf

Earl's Place

On Thursday, May 22, a team from Hunt's Church served dinner to the men of Earl's Place. They send their thanks! To learn more about supporting this great mission, contact Suzanne Young at (410) 828-8051 or docandsuz@comcast.net.



Financial Update

Stewardship Campaign Recap

Our 2025 stewardship wrapped up recently, so I wanted to share the results with you. But first, I want to thank all of you who made a pledge to support the church this year in a meaningful way. Though the campaign is focused on financial giving, it is important to note that all forms of support are included. Many of you noted the desire to increase your volunteering to church ministries and missions. Some listed a desire to increase worship attendance and spending more time in prayer as goals for this year. Thank you for responding so thoughtfully to our campaign. I hope it leads to a deeper relationship with God and increased joy in your life.

In terms of the financial aspect of this campaign, 34 people submitted pledges this year versus 28 last year. Of note, 12 people submitted pledges for the first time. A total of \$227,000 was pledged. About 2/3 of the pledges were in the range of \$0-\$5,000 with almost all of the rest in the \$5,000-\$10,000 range. It was gratifying to see 11 people increase their pledge from last year. With inflation and the increase in activities planned for this year, our expenses will increase, so our offering needs to as well.

It is not too late to make a pledge. Beth Woody has pledge cards if you need one. Regardless of whether you make a pledge or not, please keep Hunt's in mind as you budget your spending. Operating a thriving church is challenging. Our operating budget this year forecasts a shortfall of \$75,000, so please do what you can to help us exceed our offering budget to minimize the actual shortfall in 2025.

Again, thank you for your ongoing and faithful support of Hunt's Church and all of its ministries and missions.

Did You Know?

Although the **250th Anniversary celebrations** wrapped up in 2023, the final accounting for all the activities was just completed. As a result of the generosity of the congregation and the careful management of expenses by the Anniversary committee, we were able to add almost \$10,000 to the undesignated mission fund in April. When the anniversary celebration was announced, the committee thought it was important that the church's long tradition of being active in mission work be represented. With the Church Council's support, they announced that any funds received in excess of expenses would be given to the missions committee to help with the important work they do. Thank you for showing up in such a big way and helping Hunt's provide support and relief to so many.



How Are We Doing So Far?

Here is our operating fund performance through the end of April:

	2025 YTD Actual	2025 YTD Budget	Difference (Actual – Budget)	2025 Budget
Income	\$211,120	\$199,159	\$11,961 😊	\$466,966
Expense	\$188,620	\$190,579	-\$1,959 😐	\$542,292
Difference	\$22,500	\$8,580	\$13,920 😊	-\$75,526

Although offering through April is 6.4% greater than what was budgeted, it is slightly trailing last year at this time. April's offering was below budget and last year, which hurt the momentum we saw through March. As we move into what is traditionally a low period for offering, I would ask everyone to consider making an extra gift in June and to establish or increase their online giving. We have a difficult budget for the year, so outperforming it is critical. Please help if you can.

Overall, expenses are in line with the budget with some accounts being a little higher and some a little lower. No significant concerns at this time. Church roof repairs were made recently with funds from the Building Improvement Fund covering the expense. If you can make a gift designated to this fund, that would be great as we need to build it back up.

The preschool year came to a rousing close with graduation right before Memorial Day. We are blessed to be able to offer this high-quality ministry to our community. This is a testament to the excellent staff who care and nurture each and every child in the program as well as to the preschool committee that oversees it. From a financial perspective, they are on track to generate a surplus this year, which will benefit this and other ministries of the church.

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

Yours in Christ,

Ted Ochs

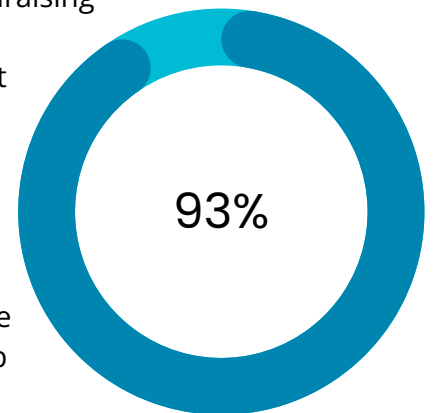
Finance Chair

Campus Renovation Project

Fundraising Update

The Campus Renovation Project is well underway! The area around the columbarium has seen walkways installed and the labyrinth relocated. This area of our campus is really emerging as a peaceful, reflective space. The emergence of Foundation Hall in the church has been amazing. Construction will continue this summer on the rest of the main floor. The focus will turn to the Agape House in 2026, then to the outside in 2027. A lot to look forward to!

I thought it would be a good time to provide you with a brief update on our fundraising efforts. You may recall we estimated the total project would cost \$1,850,000. Of that amount, **\$1,722,000 (or 93%) has been raised and/or pledged**. The largest gift (\$800,000) came from the Carroll's-Gill's Permanent Endowment Fund. Members of the congregation have given or pledged \$725,000. The rest has come from other church resources like the endowment fund. We have approximately **\$128,000 left to raise**. If you can make a gift to help us reach our goal, that would be great. For those giving online, there is a dedicated box for this purpose when you select the "Give" tab from our main website. For those who want to donate appreciated stock or contribute through your IRA, I can help with what needs to be done.



Many of you made a multiyear pledge last year when we introduced this project. If you haven't made your 2025 gift against your pledge, now is a great time to do so. If you aren't sure of the status of your pledge and payments against it, please reach out to me.

I still reflect on our 250th anniversary and am amazed that our little church on the hill has witnessed so much history and has stood strong for so long. God isn't done with us yet, and so we must act now to build a strong foundation for the next generation. Through the everyday actions of the members of the church and the large endeavors like the campus renovation project, I believe we are doing just that. Thank you for your commitment to Hunt's Church and God's mission for it. If you have any questions about this project and our fundraising efforts, please don't hesitate to reach out to me (443-804-4394 or tedochs@msn.com).

Rebuild Update

Over the next few months you will see the finishing touches to the new Foundation Hall area take place. It will showcase the history of Hunt's and be an inviting multi purpose space. Work to the remainder of the first floor of the church building will also take place. By the end of the summer, both areas should be completed! Thank you to everyone for your patience during this time of construction.

Foundation Hall



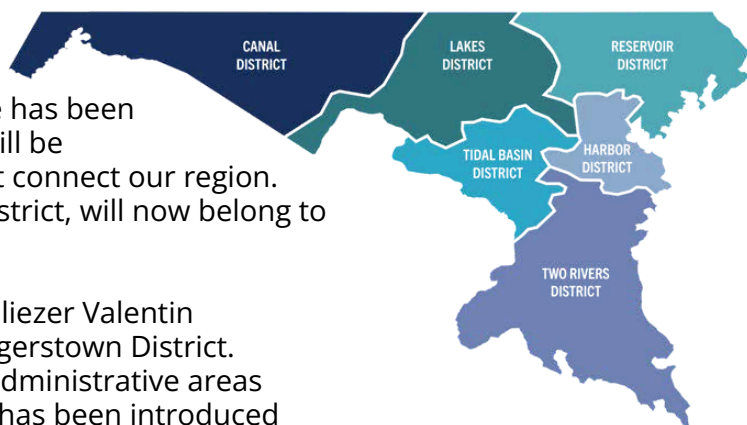
VanMetre Hall & Classroom Demo Has Begun



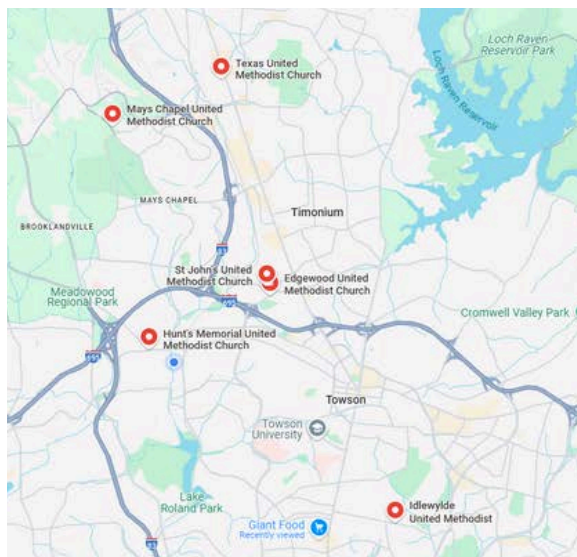
Baltimore-Washington Conference Restructuring

Beginning July 1, our Baltimore-Washington Conference will undergo a significant reorganization aimed at deepening relationships and strengthening local ministry. Historically, the conference has been divided into eight districts. This summer, that number will be streamlined to six, each named after the waterways that connect our region. Our church, formerly part of the Baltimore-Suburban District, will now belong to the newly formed Reservoir District.

DISTRICTS OF THE BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON CONFERENCE



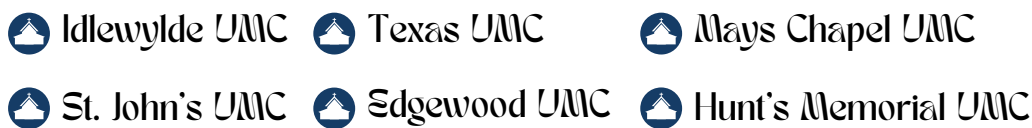
This change brings a new District Superintendent, Rev. Eliezer Valentin Castanon, who previously served in the Cumberland-Hagerstown District. While fewer districts could raise concerns about larger administrative areas and less local connection, a new structure called “hubs” has been introduced to keep relationships strong and ministry collaborative at the local level.



Our New Hub

Our new hub includes six congregations: Texas UMC, Mays Chapel UMC, Edgewood UMC, Hunt's Memorial UMC, St. John's UMC, and Idlewylde UMC. Each church brings its own strengths and gifts to the table. Hunt's Church has been named the Connecting Church for the hub, meaning our own Rev. Carissa Surber will serve as the Connecting Pastor, helping convene and guide shared gatherings.

The goal of this reorganization is not merely to increase attendance, but to build vitality across our churches through four core commitments: seeing all the people, deepening discipleship, living and loving like Jesus, and multiplying our impact.



Our first phase of hub work will focus on rebuilding relationships among churches and leaders. This means time spent in fellowship, conversation, and mutual learning before launching into joint ministries. A group of representatives from each church will meet regularly, along with the pastors, to discern next steps.

This change is a return to connectional roots, something our congregation has been part of in the past and is now invited to renew.

It is a time for prayer, listening, and preparation, to build a sustainable foundation for long-term ministry together.

If you are interested in participating in the hub process or simply want to learn more, reach out after worship. And please continue to lift this transition in prayer, asking for God's wisdom and grace as we move into this new season.

Annual Conference

I attended Annual Conference with Reverend Carissa, and it was packed with much information, starting with the Creation of Collaborative Hubs, whereby Churches that are in the same geographic area collaborate with each other on various missions and activities. Hunt's district is referred to as Reservoir.

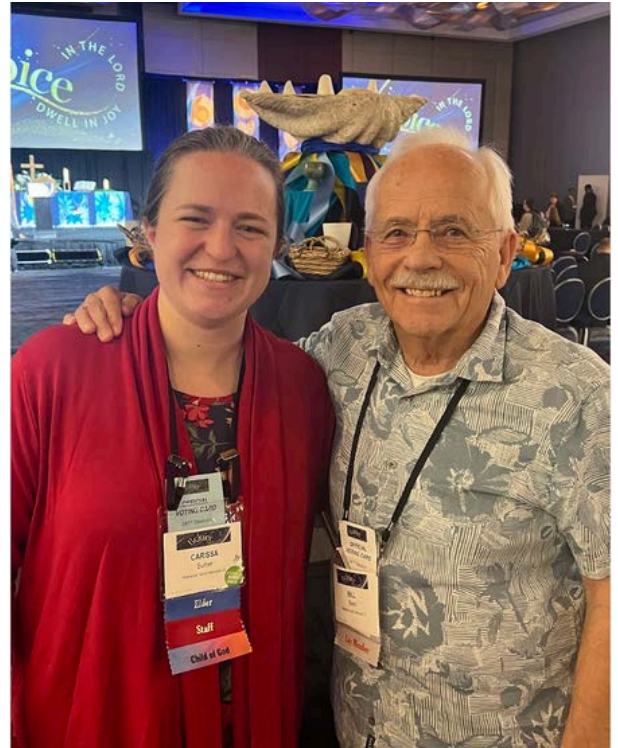
Voting concerned:

Four Constitutional Amendments: Results of this voting will be revealed in November 2025 following other Conference meetings.

- Regionalization – Global spheres for the Church, which are: USA, Africa, Europe, Philippines
- Inclusion in Membership – adding “gender” and “ability” to the list of characteristics that do not bar people from participation. All persons are welcome to attend worship services.
- Racial Justice – focusing on all are created equal.
- Educational Requirements for Clergy – clarifying previously unclear requirements.

Resolutions:

- Adoption of an African American Statement of Worship as a worship resource joining the Korean, Canadian and Native American Creeds.
- Discussions concerning wages, parental leave, and other issues concerning clergy.
- AI – acknowledging the risk of improper use of Artificial Intelligence.
- Sudan – acknowledging the desperate situation in Sudan, war and poverty.
- Religious Nationalism – raising an awareness of the threat upon society of violent or exclusionary nationalism.



Looking Ahead... Concert

Get ready to party! After a summer of completing the renovations to the main level of the church, there will be A Big Thank You Celebration! On **Saturday, September 20th from 5-7 PM**. The very talented Mayo Family Band will be playing their spirited bluegrass music and, of course, there will be food. For the adults - chili, salad and corn muffins and for the little ones - pizza. And for everyone, cookies from Hunt's bakers.



The church family has been so generous at funding these much needed upgrades. This is a chance to say "Thank You!" to the congregation and a chance to enjoy the new, wide open VanMetre Hall. We chose early hours in hopes young families will bring their little ones to dance to the music.

Tickets are required to attend but they are free. Please contact Pegg Melfa at peggm@aol.com or 410-746-1827 if you are interested in tickets. It will be first come/first served. It's going to be great!

Fall Begins

Our new program year begins on Sunday, September 7 as we change our worship schedule and kick off our new fall worship series. Make plans to join us and stay tuned for more details!

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

Get Weekly Emails

Each week, we send out a digital newsletter with announcements, inspiration, and helpful links. Make sure you're signed up to receive this timely content! Visit <https://huntsumc.org/> to get on the email list.

Worship Online

If you or a loved one is unable to come to church on Sunday 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.

Follow @HuntsChurch

Stay connected with your church wherever you live online!

Just search for @huntschurch on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. Make sure to click "like" and share our posts whenever you're inspired!



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