



THE LANHAM OUTLOOK

NEWSLETTER OF LANHAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

May 2020 issue – Published April 25, 2020



CANCELLED

Because of the coronavirus, the planned trip to the Sight and Sound Theater on July 21 has been cancelled. We hope it can be rescheduled later when conditions are better.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please have all news, pictures, and articles submitted no later than noon on Saturday, May 29 for inclusion in the June issue, which will be the last one until September. Items may be emailed to the editor at jhmegonigal@gmail.com or given to Sally Megonigal in person.

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BROKENNESS



The only solution for being broken is ... brokenness. By brokenness, I mean the acknowledgment of it, the full and unflinching acceptance that we are bankrupt, poor in spirit and have nothing to offer. In our culture, that's a hard sell. Brokenness is not trending on Twitter. It's not written on anyone's resume, and it's no business strategy at all. It is, however, the one hope Jesus holds out for us, the inside-out, upside-down way that is somehow the only path that ultimately is right side up. Embrace the paradox: brokenness is the way to wholeness.

■ Kyle Idleman, "The End of Me"

FROM THE PASTOR

God Is With Us

by Rev. Dr. K. A. Slayton, Sr.

Mark 4:38

Scripture teaches us that we should place our hopes and cares in a power much higher than our own. The demonstration of such power can be most identifiable in one's individual faith. The current climate of uncertainty in which we find ourselves as a human race demands that we find our hope in God and in each other. These truly are "the times which try men's souls," as they also test our faith. Together as a community of faith we must be the light of the world. By working together and showing love for one another and the church we are the living examples of God's power on earth.

In light of the enormous amount of loss we've experienced, be it financial, emotional or personal, we now have taken center stage in the eyes of so many lost souls. Those souls can only be salvaged through the reassuring confidence of that which is spiritual. A spiritual connection to a God who loves us all is what the world needs. With each passing decade, our world has become less and less desiring of the things of God. We have increased our wealth, our health, our technology, and our intellect to the point that we feel we can make it on our own. For the past several years, I've encountered many people, including a great number who are believers in the Christian faith, who proudly proclaimed that they were "more spiritual than religious." I've always sensed that these individuals were in some way or another demonstrating a very casual protest against organized religion. Maybe that's why I never engaged them in any detailed debate or further discussion. As far as I'm concerned, it's an individual choice. But there is another choice that stands to be made in times such as these that requires a certainty about what we believe.

With death so very close to us all, it is important that we take our faith very seriously. What we believe in times of uncertainty is what others are looking to

see expressed. In essence, those who have taken a timid approach to salvation are watching those of us who profess a strong belief in God, to see if we are still confident during the time of the storm. Have we anchored ourselves in the hope that we will not be shaken or overtaken by a spirit of fear or defeat? Will we be courageous and steadfast in our reverence and affinity for the things of God? Or will we respond from a position of desperation and disorientation?



In many ways, we are riding the sea of life with others who will wonder how it is that we are able to sleep with comfort and zero stress, while the ship is being tossed about. Much like Jesus on the boat with the disciples, we must rest assured in the promises of God. What we must convey in our living during this time is that we know that we are not going through this alone. We can live confidently knowing that God is with us, and that He has promised to never leave us alone. I want to encourage us all to continue to walk in faith and live lives that make God proud. This too shall pass and we know that God is in control.

LANHAM'S NEW WEBSITE AND ONLINE GIVING

from Barbara Hutchinson, our Church Treasurer

Our new website is up and running. Please visit at lumcmd.org. We have added links to Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to increase our communication with each other. We have also added Online Giving.



Your offerings may be done electronically. Go to the website and click on the "GIVE" button.

The Giving portal will open and you will see how to donate amounts. The default category is the General Fund, but you can select other categories too, such as Building Fund, Memorials, Altar Guild, and the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. You can decide the amount and categories you want. You can select to give by credit card or bank account. There is a processing fee which the Church absorbs. Your gift is credited 100%. So if you donate \$100.00 and the processing fee is deducted, you will receive credit for your \$100.00 gift. If you elect to add the processing fee to your gift, you will be given credit for the extra donation for your offering.

Sunday sermons are being held through Google Hangout. The Pastor sends out an email on Friday or Saturday. If you have not been receiving the Sunday sermon emails, send an email to info@lumcmd.org, so that we can add you to our email list. As always, we miss coming together, but the new website and online sermons have been a blessing.

"Where flowers bloom, so does hope."

■ Lady Bird Johnson

MAY BIRTHDAYS

1 – Phillip Ohaka

6 – Dallison Pierce

12 – Brook Hubbard

19 – Janet Merkel

20 – Darryl Anthony



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

PECAN COOKIES

From Faye Ellwood

Would you like to bake some easy cookies while you're "social distancing" at home? This recipe sounds good, and doesn't use much flour, which is in short supply these days.

1 cup flour	1/3 cup brown sugar
¼ tsp salt	1/3 cup granulated sugar
¼ tsp cinnamon	½ cup chopped pecans
½ cup unsalted butter	

Heat oven to 300 degrees. Combine the flour, salt and cinnamon in a small bowl. In a large bowl, cream the butter and sugars with a mixer or a spoon. Stir in flour mixture and then the pecans. Drop batter by teaspoonfuls onto an ungreased baking sheet; flatten slightly with the tines of a fork. Bake at 300 degrees until lightly browned and set, about 20-25 minutes. Cool on wire racks and enjoy!

"Solutions are not found by pointing fingers; they are reached by extending hands."

■ Aysha Taryam in "The Newsletter Newsletter"

CROP WALK NEWS

It's time once again for the Hyattsville Area CROP Hunger Walk, and this year the walk is "virtual" because of the covid pandemic! We'll be walking socially distant with each walker choosing where and when they walk.



The Walk Date of Sunday, May 3, is still being used so that we can coordinate collecting funds. The Hyattsville Area

CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) Hunger Walk raises funds to fight hunger by providing self-help development and emergency assistance. If you'd like to give online, please go to:

<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/hyattsvillemd/LUMC>

Lanham has four walkers and has raised \$1200 toward our goal of \$4000.

It's also possible to specify a particular agency to receive your online contribution by entering the name under "alternate agency." Just look on the web site to see how to specify your agency: <https://resources.crophungerwalk.org/sponsor-option/>.

If you would prefer to write a check, please make it out to "CWS/CROP" and mail it to get to Suzanne by May 3:

Suzanne Hubbard
9607 Franklin Ave.
Lanham, MD 20706-2313

Also, if you're in the DC area on Monday, May 11, a CROP Walk fundraiser is being held at [Franklin's Restaurant, Brewery, and General Store](#) in Hyattsville, MD, from opening at 11 am until close at 9 pm. See <http://www.franklinbrewery.com/franklins-restaurant-menu/> for the shortened pandemic menu. Call 301-927-2740 to place and pick up your order. In-restaurant pickup is still at the carry-out counter, and curbside pick-up is also an option. Make sure you let Franklin's know that you are part of the Hyattsville CROP Hunger Walk fundraiser so that a percentage of your bill (usually 15%) will be donated to sponsor CROP Walk operational costs. Franklin's is located at 123 Baltimore Ave., Hyattsville, MD 20781.

Thanks for your past donations and your continued support!

A NOTE FROM MARILYN

Our Financial Secretary, Marilyn Smith, reports that giving has been down during the month the church has been closed. Salaries, utilities and maintenance are all fixed expenses which still need to be paid. If you are behind in your pledge giving, please try to keep up your donations either by mailing your check to the church: LUMC, 5512 Whitfield Chapel Rd., Lanham, MD 20706 or by donating online via the web site. Thank you!