

"If you **ask** me
anything **in my name**,
I will do it."

JOHN 14:14, ESV

UNION CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1012 OLD JOPPA ROAD
JOPPA, MARYLAND 21085

MAY NEWSLETTER
2020

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CHAPEL CHATTER

UNION CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



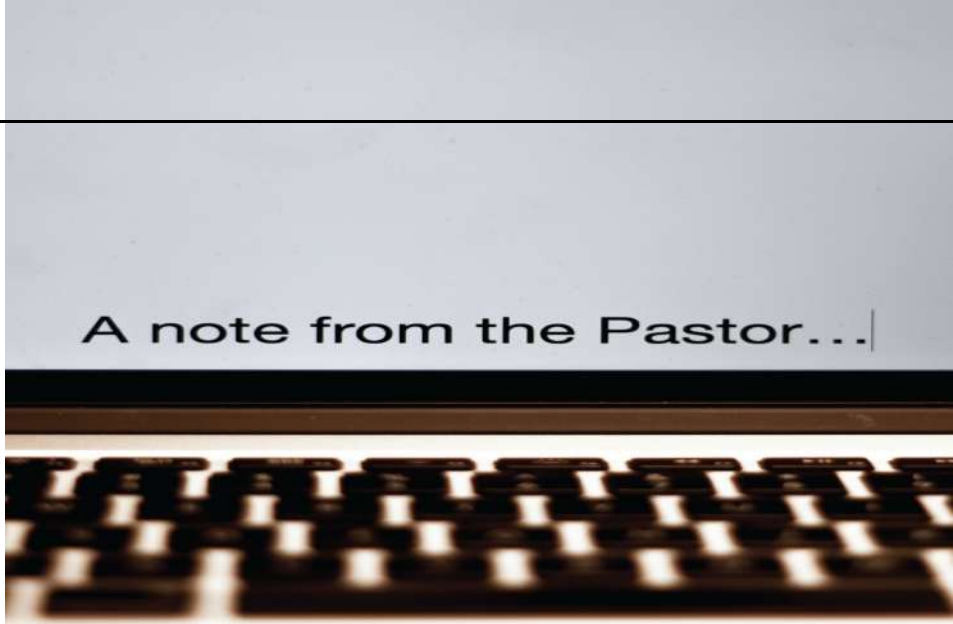
Special Dates

- *National Day of Prayer, May 7, 2020*
 - *Mother's Day, May 10, 2020*
 - *Armed Forces Day, May 16, 2020*
- *Victoria Day (Canada), May 18, 2020*
 - *Ascension Day, May 21, 2020*
 - *Memorial Day, May 25, 2020*
 - *Pentecost, May 31, 2020*

M



MAY 2020



A note from the Pastor...

These past few weeks have been ones we will not soon forget. We have been locked down, shut away, told to wear face-masks, wash our hands and stay away from each other. Schools, churches, playgrounds, malls, restaurants and more have been closed to the public and many among us have lost their jobs and their livelihoods.

Now we have been informed that our church facility at Union Chapel will be unavailable **AT LEAST** until **May 15th**. Our Baltimore/Washington Annual Conference has been postponed to September and reformatted into a one-day session. Our instructions to eventually re-open will be subject to how this terrible pandemic is affecting our communities and our society statewide.

We will not soon forget this time.

But there IS good news! Through all of our trials and tribulations, despite the restrictions placed on our ability to work or travel, and even in our darkest moments (trying to get children to do their Home School Work qualifies) the Lord God has been with us...each of us. We worship a God that is greater than a virus, more powerful than isolation, and able to shine the light of new life upon us all. Our Lenten Study 2020 took us on a journey from Suffering to Salvation...and the personal experiences of many of us has reflected the principles learned in that study.

We are not alone. We have each other. We are not alone. We are surrounded by and upheld by God's loving presence and grace. We are not alone. We live in God's world, we are called to be God's church...to love and serve others in their need...we are given the task to proclaim Jesus Christ...crucified and risen, and to seek justice and resist evil in all we do and say.

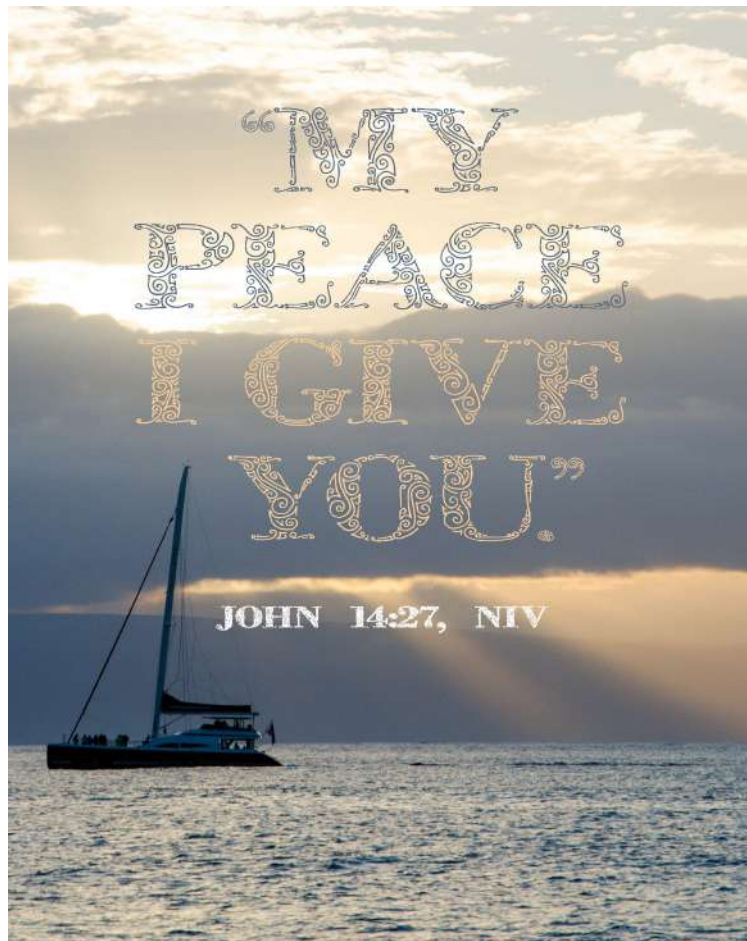
We are not alone.

So, for the sake and well-being of those around you, continue to follow the instructions you have received. Wash your hands, constantly, stay home whenever possible, wear a face-mask in public when you do have to go out, and remember those who are on the front lines... fighting for us, caring for us, and needing us to do our part.

We will never forget these days...and we are never, ever alone! Amen.

PD

Pastor Dave





Birthdays

Happy Birthday to those who celebrate in May 2020

1	Terry Crippen	14	Wyatt Barr
5	Charlotte Johnson	14	Ayla Moon
7	Erin Mallory	19	Skylar Byrne
10	Barbara Herold	19	Jack Burns
13	Robert Capece	26	Paul Smith



Anniversaries

None to report.

NOTES TO THE CHURCH

SAVE-the-DATE

May 2020

COVID-19
UPDATES

- Church Facility will remain Closed until May 15th,
or until further notice from our Bishop!

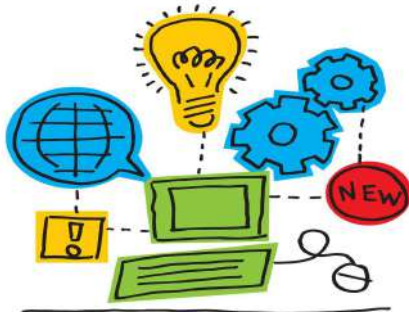


Stay
HOME

- **Stay at HOME** – All Activities are POSTPONED



- Sunday Morning Service is available on Facebook and YouTube



- Updates to our schedule
are posted on our
“**Information Hot-line**” (443-922-9983)

SUNDAY SERVICE

- **Offerings** can be sent directly to the Church;
Union Chapel UMC (1012 old Joppa Road, Joppa, MD 21085)
or to the **Parsonage** (1412 Stockton Road, Joppa, MD 21085)



MAY 7

is

★NATIONAL★
DAY of PRAYER



May my meditation be
pleasing to him,
for I rejoice in the LORD.

Psalm 104:34, ESV

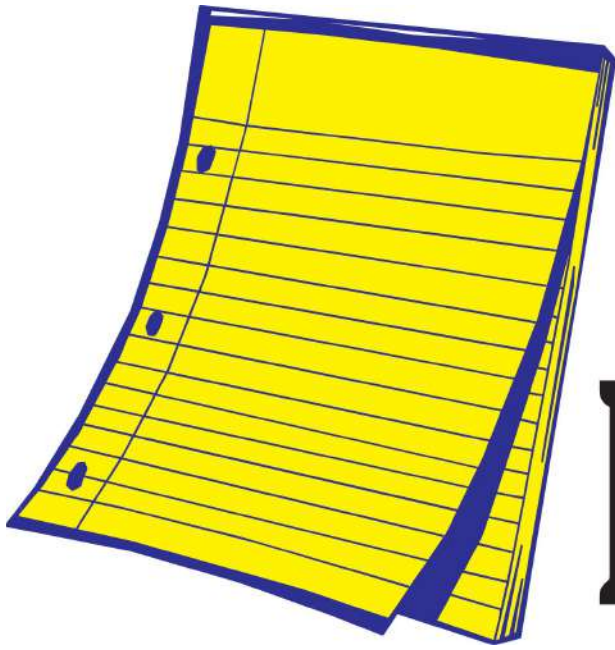
OFFICE NEWS



DEADLINE:

Newsletter Articles

Newsletter Submissions are due the
Second Sunday of each month.



Take Note!

Union Chapel UMC – 2020 Holidays

Church Office Closed on the following dates below:

- Monday – May 25; **Memorial Day (observed)**
- Friday – July 3; **Independence Day Holiday**
(7/4 on a *Saturday*)
 - Monday – September 7; **Labor Day**
 - Monday – October 12; **“America’s” Day**
 - Wednesday – November 11; **Veteran’s Day**
- Thursday – November 26: **Thanksgiving Day**
 - Friday – December 25; **Christmas Day**

FINANCE

Financial Update

While contemplating the serious challenges we are facing daily, one nagging question keeps troubling me. How did it get to be May already? Have we allowed all of the warm, sunny weather to distract us? Maybe it has been the relentlessly upbeat, optimistic tone from the media that has **masked** the passage of time? (Sorry, I couldn't resist!) Whatever the cause, here we are and thus begins what you have all been waiting for- a church financial update!

The best way to begin is with a thank you! A lot of folks have been sending in their offerings, which is encouraging. If you haven't done so and are financially able, please do what you can. For the most part, the church's expenses are fixed or nearly so. Whether we are open or not, the bills need to be paid. Through the end of March, we were about \$3,000 behind plan with receipts. April numbers aren't finalized as of this writing, but it appears that the trend is continuing. We anticipate having some expense relief in the second quarter, but our offering remains the primary focus. Your contributions can be mailed either to the church or to the parsonage. The mail is checked regularly and your offerings are being counted and deposited in a timely fashion. A big thank you goes to those individuals who are quietly working behind the scenes making sure all of this, and more, is being taken care of!

You may have heard some talk already about electronic giving. Well, it is almost here! We have entered into an agreement with Shelby Systems, a firm that is providing this service to many churches in the B/W Conference. We have just begun the testing phase, where a small group of us will be participating prior to rolling it out to the entire congregation. This arrangement will enable folks to be able to contribute electronically from checking accounts or bank cards and also includes a text-to-give option. It will be an attractive option to some and not to others. Think of it as just being another arrow in the quiver.

There is one last thing for your consideration. Again, if you are able, consider giving some or all of your Economic Impact Payment (stimulus check) to Union Chapel. Any additional amount from this source will help to put us on firmer financial ground.

On behalf of the finance committee, (I call them the finance warriors!) we thank you for your support in every form, we pray for your health and well-being and we look forward to seeing everyone soon!!



David Stauffer

PRAYER CONCERNS

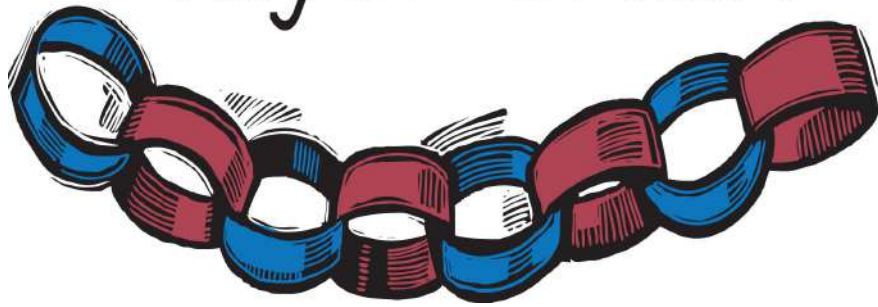
Steve Mallory, Jeanette Bond,

Kaisen and Family

&

Global Health Concerns

Prayer Chain



“The mere whisper of the Holy Spirit can drown out the thundering noise of an entire world.”

- David Jeremiah



HOW you can HELP

Here is a list of the **UMCOR** Advance Special Numbers that people will need to be able to mark their checks when giving to disasters around the world.

They are:

U.S. Disaster Relief - **#901670**

International Disaster relief - **#982450**

Most Urgent Disaster Relief (as determined by UMCOR) - **#999895**



MAY CALENDAR

All Church Programs are **CANCELED** until **MAY 15th**

- Updates available on Union Chapel Information Hot-line:

443-922-9983

- Sunday Morning Messages available via e-mail, regular mail and online.



June 2020 Calendar...(preview)

*see calendar in Breezeway for time(s)/updates.