

THE SADDLEBAG

February 2019

WALKERSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

22 Main Street

Walkersville, MD 21793

301-845-9860 (Office)

301-845-9863 (FAX)

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

walkersvilleumc.org

Pastor Mike Henning

revmikehenning@gmail.com (e-mail)

240-313-8861 (cell)

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Altar Flowers: Contact: Marcia Andrews at 301-668-9219 or Kim Slawter at 301-304-0181.

Altar Guild: Contact: Lois Kauffman at 301-845-6690 or Kitty Crum at 301-898-5782.

Bereavement Committee: Contact: Nancy Denlinger at 301-695-4740,
Kathy Barrett at 301-606-3119 or Linda Goodman at 301-644-3321.

Blood Drive: Contact: Betty George at 301-682-7255 or Donna Swanson at 301-845-6024.

Hospitality Committee: Contact: Leslie Baker at 301-606-6418.

Meal Ministry: Contact: Kim Slawter at 301-304-0181.

Missions and Outreach: Contact: Julie Zebroski at 240-440-9841 or julie@frederick.com.

Prayer Ministry /Prayer Chain: Contact: Rita Roberson at 301-845-8246 or
Nancy Duncan at 301-845-2169.

Shawl Ministry: Contact: Helene Klemanski at 301-845-2572.

Visitation Ministry & Caring Committee: Contact: Janie Piper at, Debbie Butler at

Website: Contact: John Grimes at webmaster@walkersvilleumc.org.



The Wonder and Beauty of God's Creation

The recent snow fall we experienced caused me to reflect upon the wonder and beauty of God's creation in winter in particular, but in all seasons generally. I have always had a curiosity/fascination about all types of weather and like all four seasons we experience in this part of the world. On that wintry, snowy Sunday afternoon as I watched the snow falling and accumulating on everything outside. The thought came to mind how each snowflake is unique, different, no two exactly alike. Which is amazing in itself because of the countless number of snowflakes it takes to make even one inch of snow. For me, the beauty of newly fallen snow is how everything is so clean looking. And there is a special quietness that occurs while it is snowing (at least in the country). Before moving on to my main point, I share this one silly thought concerning weather. It is probably the most talked about topic of conversations – but it is the least thing any of us can do something about.

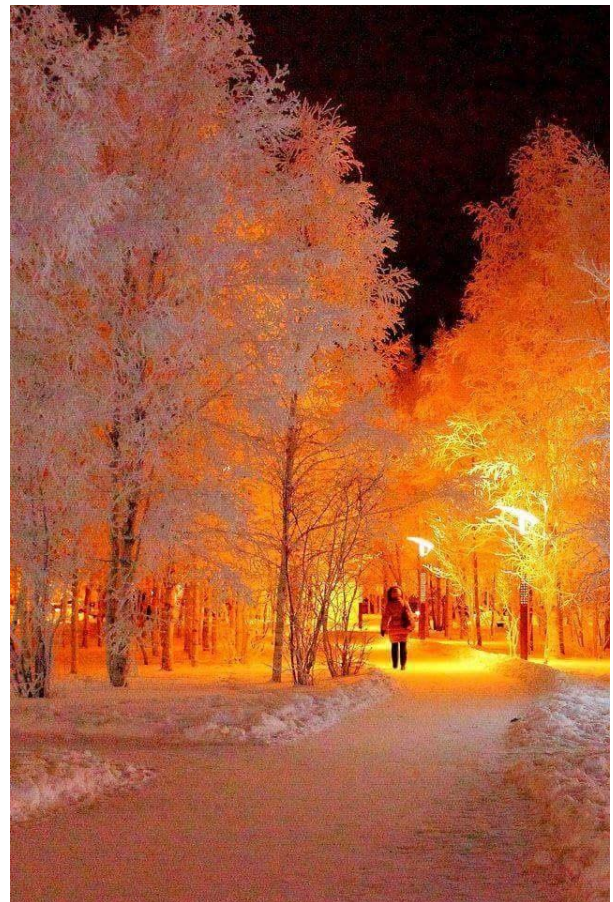
With all of that being said, what I really want to talk about is the wonder and beauty of God's creation of each one of us. Like snowflakes, we are all unique, different from each other. Even identical twins are not exactly the same in every aspect of their lives, each has their own personality. Psalm 139:13-14 tells us; *"For it was you [God] who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well."* God knew exactly what He was doing when He 'formed us...and knit us together in our mother's womb.' Since everyone is created in God's image, each of us is very special, each having a soul of worth. Remember

too, God doesn't make mistakes. There was a popular slogan many years ago. Although it didn't use proper grammar, it stated an absolute truth – 'God don't make no junk.' Everything and every person God created is good (check out Genesis chapter 1). And it isn't called the *Good News* of Jesus Christ by coincidence!

When we learn to live together in harmony and understand each person has a soul of worth (which we do). God is pleased, and there is no greater or more wonderful and beautiful tapestry in all of God's creation when this occurs.

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor Mike



"Committee Corner." Each month Committee Chair people will be submitting articles about what is happening in and around our Church Community.

MISSIONS OUTREACH

Over the past month:

- WUMC has supported the Alan Linton Emergency Shelter, GVCS Food Bank, and Petros Zoe Initiative.
- Coordinated the GVCS Toy Shop and ARC Christmas trees. The congregation once again responded very generously, and the presents were delivered in early December.
- Sold cookies to help raise funds for ASP.
- Coordinated used clothing drive for Frederick Rescue Missions.
- Coordinated drive for needed supplies for the Alan Linton Emergency Shelter.
- As part of our objective to sponsor missionary efforts, we invited Erin Hogan to speak on behalf of the Petros Zoe Initiative in Uganda. WUMC contributed over \$1,000 through the Giving Bucket and from the Missions budget.

The Extra Mile Giving Bucket Format:

2nd Sunday of the month- donations go to Missions

4th Sunday of the month- donations go to a cause TBD

1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays- Bucket will not be passed unless there is an emergency we'd like to contribute to

Reminder - the Bucket is an "Extra Mile Giving Bucket", and not intended to take away from church offering.

Upcoming items for discussion:

- Scheduling another Centennial Supper to serve
- Providing more outreach opportunities to take part in

**Interested in being a part of Missions?
We'd love to have your help.
Contact Julie Zebroski.**

2018 GIVING STATEMENTS:

Mailed Jan 31st OR if we have your Email on file, Emailed on Jan 31st, please check your email inbox and spam box, comes from

finance@walkersvilleumc.org. Any questions, contact Nancy Jones, finance@walkersvilleumc.org.

A NOTE OF FAREWELL

I want to express my mixed feelings about my upcoming move to Texas. While I am excited to be going back home, I will miss the new friends I have made in Maryland. I thank the church family of Walkersville UMC for accepting me so readily and also for accepting my hugs. As most of you know hugs are very important to me since my entire childhood was totally devoid of affection. I wish you all well as you continue to grow your church family and my hope for you is that you will continue to give the same unconditional love that I received from my first day with you. May God truly bless you all.



HUGS, Louise Lutz

The Kitchen Committee wants to thank everyone for their efforts in keeping our refrigerators and freezer so much nicer. Keeping them cleared out really helps limit waste, clutter, as well as possible Health Department concerns. So if you use those appliances, please continue to:

- Use a sticky dot to label the group you're associated with. These dots can be found in top drawer to the right of the refrigerator.
- Put on a date on the sticker.
- If you had altar flowers, please remove them from refrigerator within two days.

Unlabeled items will be thrown away.

Questions? Contact Lee Frazier, Committee Chair, (301-606-4255)

Thank you!

FREE 2018 Income Tax Assistance at Walkersville Town Hall

Glade Valley Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) – Appointments for **free assistance** to prepare 2018 income tax returns at **Walkersville Town Hall**, primarily on Wednesdays (9:30am – 4:00pm), will begin on Monday, January 28, 2019. Appointments are required. Call 301-845-0042, Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm. Assistance will be provided by experienced, IRS-certified volunteers. Photo ID and Social Security documents are mandatory to verify identification. Income and other restrictions apply. Call for details, available dates and times, direction and information on what documents to bring, including 2018 income and deduction documents, and your 2017 tax return.



Small Groups Announcement! SoulShift is in the planning stages.

This is an eight-week ALL-CHURCH Transformation! There is a program for children, youth, and adults so ALL generations will be able to participate in the same study! We anticipate Sunday groups and Wednesday evening groups during March & April, with Wednesday evenings groups enjoying a light meal and fellowship beforehand. We'll also explore a new SoulShift each Sunday in worship. Please see the various bulletin boards around the church and watch your bulletin and email for ongoing information and updates, and please share with family, friends and neighbors too! We are seeking volunteers to help with various tasks. ***Maybe you have been looking for a new way to try sharing your gifts and talents?*** This could be it! Please consider helping out. Contact Wendy Jones at 301-639-7395 or wendy.jones@rocketmail.com or during Sunday fellowship time in Georgetown Hall if you are interested in helping in any way - leading or hosting a group, co-leading or co-hosting a group, promotional activities, administrative tasks....there will be lots of opportunities to help!

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IS GOING TO BE IN THE NEWS IN FEBRUARY – HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

A Commission on a Way Forward was formed at the 2016 General Conference¹ in Portland to propose a path forward regarding issues surrounding same-sex marriage, the ordination of LGBTQ clergy, and related topics. These are issues that have continued to be obstacles to unity for our denomination.

The Commission's final report on a Way Forward will be received and acted on by a special session of the General Conference in St. Louis, Missouri, February 23 – 26, 2019. This General Conference will gather over 800 delegates from around the world for discussion, debate and voting on these proposals. This work will help shape the future of the United Methodist Church. The final report of the Commission on a Way Forward presents three potential plans for the path forward as well as other legislation related to homosexuality that respects the different theological understandings of these issues and with as much unity as possible.

The Traditional Plan preserves the church's current teaching on marriage and sexuality. The current language in the Book of Discipline which bans "self-avowed and practicing" gay clergy and the blessing of same sex unions would be maintained. However, there would also be a mechanism for churches and Annual Conferences² that disagree with strict enforcement to set up self-governing or "autonomous, affiliated or concordant" churches or conferences.

The One Church Plan would eliminate the current language in the Book of Discipline ("The United Methodist Church does not condone the practice of homosexuality and considers this practice incompatible with Christian teaching") and would delete the requirement that ordained clergy cannot be "self-avowed practicing homosexuals". Each Annual Conference² may develop their own standards related to human sexuality. Clergy would be allowed (but not required) to perform same-sex marriages and churches can vote on whether to allow same-sex marriages in their building. Clergy would be free to transfer to other conferences or churches with standards that are consistent with their personal views on these topics.

The Connectional Conference Plan would replace the five U.S. jurisdictions with three connectional conferences that are "values-based" rather than geographic in nature. Each connectional conference would create its own Book of Discipline that includes items "commonly agreed upon by United Methodists," with the authority to adapt other items not included in a General Book of Discipline.

It is possible that there will be:

- consensus around one of the proposed plans,
- none of the proposed plans,
- a new plan, or
- some combination of elements of plans.

More information can be found at <https://www.bwcumc.org/resources/commission-on-a-way-forward/>.

We expect these proceedings to be covered by secular news agencies and we wanted our congregation to be aware what is taking place. WUMC has not been asked to take a position on this action but to pray for discernment for the delegates participating in these proceedings.

1: General Conference: the denomination's top lawmaking assembly and the only body that speaks for the full church. Every four years, delegates from around the world meet to revise the Book of Discipline and Book of Resolutions. The Book of Discipline is the denomination's book of rules. The Book of Resolutions is not legally binding but serves as a guide for the church for reference, encouragement, study and support. **2: Annual Conference:** The annual conference is a regional body, an organizational unit AND a yearly meeting. In the U.S., the annual conference has a central office and professional staff that coordinate and conduct ministry and the business of the conference. It likely has a director of connectional ministries, treasurer, directors of program areas (such as camping), communications director, and other staff as deemed appropriate for the annual conference and as required by the Book of Discipline. Clergy and laypersons may also serve on conference boards, commissions and committees.



TUNE IN!! Music Notes for February 2018

Thank you to all the wonderful musicians who helped to make our Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany seasons such a blessing. You all make my “job” such a joy. It is my privilege and pleasure to work with and for all of you!! Our children performed A Charlie Brown Christmas, our Adult Choir performed their cantata entitled, “Night of the Father’s Love”, our TSO Ensemble did their concert of Transiberian Orchestra selections on Christmas Eve, our Praise Team performed and led the congregation in some beautiful and moving contemporary selections, and soloists both vocal and instrumental shared their love of Christ through music. We are truly blessed!!

Please share your musical gifts. Contact Nancy Mullins at the church office or by email – music@walkersvilleumc.org if you’d like to serve in worship! We pledge to support the church with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness when we join. An offering of music can qualify as all of these!!

Music In Worship Schedule – Spring 2019

Date	Event	9:00	11:00	Special Info
2/3	Epiphany 4	Adult		Communion
2/10	Epiphany 5	Adult	Junior	Boy Scout Sun
2/17	Epiphany 6	Junior/Adult		
2/24	Epiphany 7			

Youth News

Sunday, February 3rd - Super Bowl Party at Rhonda's House (9640 Stauffer Road, Walkersville) Game time not set-yet. Bring a salty or sweet snack to share. If you are not into the game... that's ok we play other games anyway. All of the family members are invited to this event.



Sunday, Feb. 10th HS Youth Group 6:30-8:30 pm

Monday, Feb. 11th MS Youth Group after school until 5:00 pm

Sunday, Feb. 17th HS Youth Group 6:30-8:30 pm

Sunday, Feb. 24th MS and HS Youth Group 6:30-8:30 pm

Sunday, May 5th will be our **High School Graduation Recognition**. One service at **10:00 pm**. Immediately afterwards we will all go to Georgetown Hall for a nice brunch and a small program. Graduates are welcomed to bring all their family local and distant.

For both Youth Groups I am working on doing some outside of the church activities. Will email and text when things are set. This might change a date or two.

Happy New Year and God Bless

Rhonda Ramsburg
Director of Youth Ministries
Walkersville United Methodist Church
(240) 409-1984

Weekday School



Registration for the 2019-2020 school year will be held on Monday, January 28th at 6pm for returning families and church members and at 6:30 for new families. Information and forms can be found on the WUMC website under the Weekday School tab. Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to schedule a tour.

Vicky Wilson, Director
(301) 845-4282

Email: weekdayschool@walkersvilleumc.org

EMAIL BLAST REMINDERS:

Just a reminder when asking the office to send a church-wide Email Blast for news and information, the email blasts are **only** sent to the family's designated 'Household' email. There is only one Household email per family. If you need to send information to specific individuals, a church-wide email may not reach everyone. For example: emails being sent to committee members should be sent to them directly, not via a church-wide email.

Reminders to all members: Please make sure the office is using the email address you want as your Household email to receive the church-wide Email Blasts. For example: if you are not currently receiving the Saddlebag, your Household email address may need to be updated.

FUTURE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

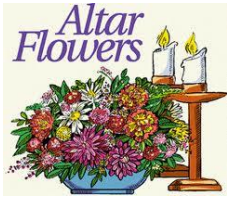
ALL announcements and updates MUST be submitted by email prior to NOON on Tuesdays! Any information received after Tuesday will have to wait until the following week. All announcements should have a **clear ending date**. Email the information to Maryalice at secretary@walkersvilleumc.org.

Communication of Church Events

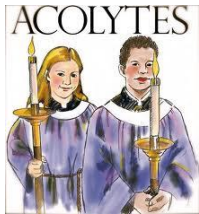
The following protocol was approved by Church Council to communicate church events and building usage:

Any event that affects the body of the church (including events which are taking place outside the facility, such as at someone's home or local restaurant, retreat, etc.) or use of the facilities should be on the church calendar. Every event, meeting, outside contractor, in-house repair that may affect use of the facility or may create a conflict with other events **MUST** be communicated in writing (preferably via email) to the Administrative Assistant. The email should be sent to secretary@walkersvilleumc.org and should include space being requested, date and time of event, any need for prep (decorating, food prep, etc.), any post-event need (such as paint drying time, clean-up, removal of decorations, etc.). This will allow for notification of the appropriate people to assure the facility is clean and available with no conflicts. Your cooperation is appreciated.

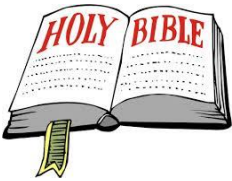
Service Opportunities



Donate flowers for the Sunday worship services. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the front hallway of the church. The average cost is \$35.00 for an arrangement.



Children aged 10 – 17 are needed as acolytes for the 9:30 and 11:00 worship services. To sign up, contact Robin Hirsch at 410-258-7044 or at rphirsch@gmail.com.



Adults and Youth are needed to read the scripture at the 9:30 worship service. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the front hallway of the church.



PRAY FOR OUR YOUTH: we'd like to have a **regular active prayer team** that will promise to pray for all of us – our youth, our leadership, our activities, our mission, and our witness. We would like for you to pray for the youth in the Walkersville area – that they might grow in their relationship with our Lord, no matter where they go to church, or even if they don't. We'd like your prayers that they might find a worshipping community that fits their needs. Of course, we would like to have a chance to be that community!

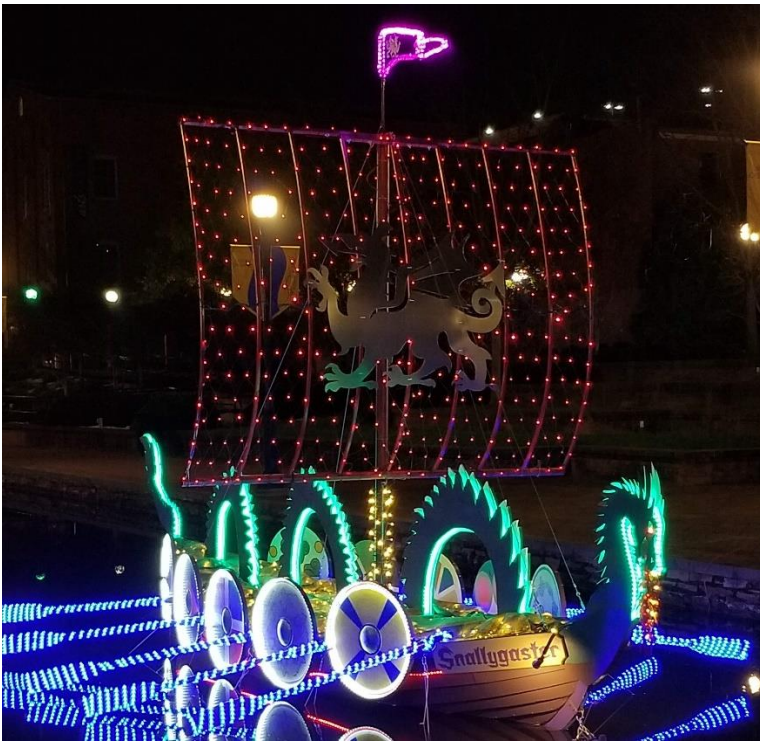


BAKE FOR OUR YOUTH: If you don't have the energy and time to be a hands-on youth worker, you might be able to **share baked goods or snacks** for our fellowship times, **loan us sporting or camping gear** occasionally, maybe even **share your home swimming pool** for an evening activity. **If you might be able to help in any of the above areas**, please contact Rhonda at youthleader@walkersvilleumc.org!!

Sailing Through the Winter Solstice

Vote for the *Snallygaster*

*A Fundraiser Benefitting
Glade Valley
Community Services
Hand-Made in Walkersville to
Support GVCS' Programs!*



ALL VOTING PROCEEDS GO TO CHARITY !

\$1 / vote Voting through February 5th, 2019

*See all of the amazing and beautifully lit boats on Carroll Creek in
downtown Frederick but **VOTE** to support GVCS' Snallygaster !*

VOTE ONLINE AT:

COLORONTHECREEK.COM

CLICK ON: **VOTE FOR YOUR BOAT**

OR MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:

COLOR ON THE CREEK

MAIL TO: MARK FLANAGAN, CPA
1509 HOMESTEAD AVE.
FREDERICK, MD 21702

****Be sure to write Snallygaster
on your check's memo line!***





Developing young leaders who follow Jesus



JANUARY 2019

DEAR FRIENDS AND FAMILY,

Seventy-seven kids from six schools came together in December for a Christmas party; it was well worth the coordination of transportation and food to celebrate Christmas with our group! 'Minute to Win It' stations offered games to play and a fried chicken dinner was served. Chick-Fil-A gift cards were given to every child.

During the message, I invited four students to participate in a "Finish That Christmas Tune" game. The goal was to teach students to discern between Christmas fantasy and Truth that comes from the Gospel. I learned something in the process... To my surprise, kids **did not know the typical Christmas songs** like Deck the Halls, Rudolph, and Santa Claus is Coming to Town. **They also did not know Christmas hymns** like Joy to the World. They were familiar with the tune... but not the words.

In the back of the bus on the way home, kids were singing and chanting lyrics to other songs. With muffled voices, I could tell they were carefully editing the song for my benefit. While I tried to present "Know the Message of Jesus at Christmas", kids taught me that they know good lyrics from inappropriate ones. But, they listen and memorize both.

Ministry is never a recipe. It's always changing because there are new cultural shifts in moral values. If we are to be relevant...we need to learn what they learn and as much as we need to teach and love like Jesus. Please pray for all our volunteers. **We need to learn what our students know in order to present Jesus in realistic views that they will understand!** If you are able to offer a gift of time or money, that would also be greatly appreciated!!! It's encouraging to know we are not in this alone.

Cindy



Cindy Williams, Director of Frederick Area Campus Life
cindy.williams.21793@gmail.com
301-606-6762

Central Maryland YFC
PO BOX 3644, Frederick MD 21705
www.yfcm.org

SPAGHETTI DINNER

ITALY

***hosted by WUMC Fellowship Committee**

Saturday, February 23, 2019



**COME JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FELLOWSHIP, FOOD, FUN,
GAMES, PRIZES**

We are going to play the WUMC version of the “Newlywed Game” & are looking for 3-4 couples willing to be contestants. Volunteer & show the rest of us how well you know each other or not?

TO MAKE SURE WE HAVE ENOUGH FOOD FOR ALL PLEASE RSVP BY SUNDAY 2/17/2019

ROBIN HISRCH AT (410)258-7044 or rphirsch58@gmail.com

KRIS WOOLLEY AT (240)674-2883 or kwoolley63@gmail.com

Please contact Robin or Kris for any questions

***Buffet style dinner includes Spaghetti, Sauce, Meatballs, Rolls, Salad & Beverage**

Please bring your favorite dessert to share with everyone

****Free will offering**



www.mapsoopensource.com