Hello Dear Ones,

Easter is only two and a half weeks away! Can you believe how fast the time has gone? In the time of Jesus and his disciples, they are making the journey now towards Jerusalem from Capernaum where in about 10 days’ time, Jesus will enter Jerusalem riding on a donkey. I imagine he was quite a spectacle! This will be very different for Jesus. The last three years, Jesus has healed, saved, forgiven, challenged, comforted, and been faithful to his mission and in EVERY circumstance, he told those who were impacted by his ministry not to share with others what he, the Lord, had done for them. He tried to stay out of the limelight. However, when he comes into Jerusalem, he wants everyone to see. Not for his glory of course, but to glorify God and to draw his line in the sand before the Pharisees and the Teachers of the Law. On the Day we call Palm Sunday, Jesus goes ALL IN. Friends, we still have time before that event in our Lenten journey. I wonder, are we ALL IN yet for Jesus? There is still time. Have you given over all the things that hinder you to the one who came to save you? Have I, through the spiritual disciplines and other specific ways, denied myself and followed Christ? This is the season of Transformation, friends. May that transformation prepare us for the Entrance into Jerusalem and beyond.

His...and Yours,
Pastor Susan

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Kid’s Church in April - NEW by Carol Sorenson

April’s Kid’s church will meet the 1st Sunday as usual, but this month, we are meeting on 2nd Sunday also! We will have a special showing of the motion picture “The Star A Tale of Faith and Friendship,” it is Dove approved for all ages! Since the movie is an hour and 10 minutes we will divide it between the two Sundays. The second Sunday, the choir will be performing their Easter Cantata! Please send your children to Kid’s Church!

Easter Cantata – NEW

On Palm Sunday, April 14 at the 11:00 worship service we will be blessed by the Chancel Choir’s presentation of their Easter Cantata entitled, “Covenant of Grace,” by Joseph M. Martin, directed by Pat Day and accompanied by Linda Dent Mitchell. We will enjoy the beautiful work of music which glorifies God and tells the Easter story.
BREAKING NEWS!!

Announcing the presentation of “The Other Twelve Disciples”

On Thursday, April 18, 2019, 7:30 pm, La Plata United Methodist Church will present this chancel drama for our church and community. Rehearsals are in progress for this dynamic, moving depiction of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus as seen through the eyes of twelve women who knew and followed Him. Women such as Mary and Martha, Salome, The Woman with the Alabaster Flask, and Mary, the mother of Jesus, will be brought to life through this presentation. The program includes special music and open communion uniquely presented.

Maundy Thursday, also known as Holy Thursday, is the day we commemorate the Last Supper which was shared by Jesus and His apostles. This is an appropriate time for each of us to reflect on our personal response to the events of Holy Week and prepare our hearts for the enormity of Christ’s sacrifice and the triumph of His resurrection.

You will not want to miss this event!! Please invite everyone you know to come and share with us.

PHOTO:
Left to right rear: Sherri Bowser, Sue Carns (narrator), Kelly Boyce, Becky Katt
Left to right front: Linda Badgley, Randi McWilliams, Tena Branstetter, Debbie Lucas, Rita Riley, Alyssa Wheeler, Tina McCormick, Carol Sorenson, Wilmeta Chance

Coming Soon: Good Friday Pilgrimage—NEW

On Friday, April 19, we will continue our tradition of participating in the Ecumenical Good Friday Pilgrimage which begins at noon at Grace Lutheran Church on Charles Street at MD Rte. 488. After a brief 25-minute service led by their Pastor, we will all travel to Christ Church on Charles Street where Rev. Kate Heichler, will lead the second brief worship time. Finally, we will walk down the hill from Christ Church to La Plata UMC, were Pastor Susan will lead the concluding portion of this experience. At the end, we share in a time of fellowship and conversation with our fellow Christians from several different traditions, many...
Birthdays and Anniversaries

of whom are our friends already. For those who cannot walk the distances, bus service will be provided between each stop of the journey by Compton Bus Service. Then during the fellowship time, a bus will make four or five continuous loops transporting worshipers back to their cars at Grace Lutheran Church.

Easter Sunrise Service – NEW

Many of us have a tradition of getting up early and going to an Easter Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday. So please join us at 6:30 AM out at the pavilion at Gilbert Run Park. A favorite tradition among many members, we will have another chance to watch the sun rise up over the water, as we worship and remember the faithfulness of this special day. And remember, we will be having breakfast back at the church from 7:30 to 8:30 AM thanks to Bill & Rita Riley and others.

Easter Family Fun Day– NEW

On Easter, we invite all Sunday School children, their friends/neighbors and parents to please join us from 9:45 AM until 10:45 AM in Fellowship Hall 2 for our Easter Family Fun Day. We will have “Minute-to-Win-it” games, a snack, lawn games (weather permitting) and an Easter Egg Hunt. All ages are welcome. This event is in place of Sunday School and is NOT a drop-off event. Please invite your family and friends to join us for some Easter Fun!

Silent Auction

The 2019 LPUMC Silent Auction plans are underway and we need your support. This year our Silent Auction will be held on Saturday, April 27. Make plans to come out to enjoy fun and fellowship while you bid on your favorite treasures. If you have any items that are of good quality, that are antiques, collectibles, baked goods, vacations, like new or new items, or if you wish to donate your services, please fill out the insert in your bulletin or call the church office at 301-934-2288. All donations are due no later than Sunday, April 14 at 12:00 noon.

Tickets will be on sale after worship services, beginning this Sunday, April 7. So plan to stop by the table and pick up yours. The cost is $10 in advance and $15 at the door. This is a major fundraiser for the church, so each person must have a ticket to enter the auction. Buy one for yourself and one for your neighbor, it’s a wonderful way to introduce them to all your friends at church.

HOUSEKEEPING NOTES AND PRAISES:

Holiday Flowers

If you would like to order a Lily or Azalea for Easter, please use the envelopes you will find in your bulletin on Sunday. The cost is $15 for each flower.
Summer Camp!
It is time to register for summer camp through the Baltimore Washington Conference! Week long camps are offered at West River and Manidokan. Check out: bwccampsandretreats.com for information about camps, dates and pricing. La Plata UMC offers camperships, talk with Corrie Roberts if you need financial assistance to allow your kids to go to camp. We have some youth headed to Manidokan the week of August 4 - 9 and have a 2nd/3rd grader who is interested in West River but would love to have someone go with them. This is a great opportunity for our young people to explore God’s creation, try out a new ‘sport’ like hiking, canoeing or rock wall climbing and be in Christian fellowship. Think about it, sign up online at the website listed above.

BASIC LAY SERVANT CLASS
Introduction to Lay Ministry: The Basic Course will be offered at Calvary UMC in Waldorf on Tuesdays, April 30 - May 28 from 7:00 - 9:00 PM. This course is foundational for all courses in Lay Servant Ministries. Participants are encouraged to discover and employ personal spiritual gifts as God intended and to consider the importance of exercising servant leadership, developing future leaders, remaining rooted in consistent spiritual practices, and being part of a group that holds members accountable in their discipleship. You can register at www.bwcumc.org and click on events. There is an $35.00 fee.

Take a load off of your heart: Stress Reduction Seminar
The Charles Regional Medical Center is offering a free Seminar about reducing stress on Wednesday, April 10 from 5-7 PM in the Nagula Conference Room of the Medical Center. During this seminar we will define stress and identify its causes, provide a stress evaluation tool to gauge your individual stress level and discuss exactly how stress affects your heart health. To finish up we will provide coping tools and practice a stress reduction exercise. Call (301) 609-4132 to register or go online to www.umms.org/charles/community/classes-events to learn more. Refreshments will be served.

Our People:
Prayer Requests:
Keep Jesse Combs and family in your prays as they mourn the loss of Jesse’s son, Roger.
Be in prayer for Otis Elmwood, Lynn Elmwood’s brother who is in the hospital following an accident.
Please continue to pray for: Karyl Beveridge, Dave Hollar and Robin Boswell.
Be sure to call the office if you, a loved one, a neighbor, or a co-worker are in need of prayer. The Bible tells us, “ For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”