



# The Challenger

Glyndon United Methodist Church

September 2024

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## Moving Forward in Faith

*“Faith makes us sure of what we hope for and gives us proof of what we cannot see.”*  
*Hebrews 11:1*

Friends,

I came across a quote written by Renata Adler which says, “Fear is forward. No one is afraid of yesterday.”

Like most quotes, however, this quote conveys only partial truth. Let’s take the latter part of the quote which says, “No one is afraid of yesterday.” I think the author is making the point that we are not afraid of yesterday because there is no unknown aspect to the past -- what has happened has happened. Yet, we know that those who suffer from PTSD (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder) have great anxiety and stress about their present and future because of what has happened to them in the past. In this case, yesterday is the source of their fear. Untold numbers of people today are in long-term counseling because they need to deal with anxieties which have their root cause in past events. So, we can say that yesterday does arouse fear and anxiety in many folks.

Now let’s take the first part of the quote which says, “Fear is forward.” We certainly can experience fear when we begin to think about the future. The fear of the unknown manifests itself in many ways; waiting for the results of a medical exam, worrying about our economic security after retirement, feeling anxious about the birth of child and wondering about the best way to parent, and the list can go on and on. And yet fear is only one component of how one faces the future. For if fear is the only approach, then the present becomes so anxiety-ridden that we become immobilized and unable to plan and work towards future goals. I remember the words of President Franklin Roosevelt to the nation when facing a crippling economic crash called the Great Depression. He said, “The only thing we have to fear is fear itself.” Roosevelt was telling the nation that if fear is the dominant approach to the future then things will only get worse.

Personally I believe “Faith is forward.” The writer of the book of Hebrews writes about the importance of faith in the well-known eleventh chapter often referred to as the “Roll Call of the Faithful.” Among those faithful ones listed are the names of Noah, Abraham, Sarah, and Moses. Before the author begins his list, he opens with these words: “It was their faith that made our ancestors pleasing to God.” It was faith and not fear which enabled them to move into the unknown future.

As we begin a busy fall season here at Glyndon, let us move into the future with faith. Let us involve ourselves in learning about God, celebrating worship, participating in missions, and sharing our story and gifts by the power of faith. While fear often makes a molehill into a mountain, Jesus wants us to have faith - for *“faith can move mountains.”*

I like this well-known quote, *“I don’t know what the future holds but I do know who holds the future.”* Now that’s a quote I’m willing to rest my faith on today, tomorrow and beyond.

Grace and Peace,  
 Gary

# Announcements/Events

## **First Fruits Farm**

GUMC's next visit to First Fruits Farm will be on **Saturday, September 7th**. Volunteers will depart from church at 8:00 a.m. and will return at about 1:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Volunteers of all ages are welcome and no experience is necessary. Volunteers must complete a liability waiver **beforehand** using the link below.

## **Liability Waiver**

## **Are You Interested in Joining GUMC's Chancel Choir?**

After a summer hiatus, the GUMC Chancel Choir will be back in action beginning on **Sunday, September 8th**. Some Glyndon Choir members have been singing in church choir(s) for many years but this should not discourage people who are new to GUMC or lacking years of experience from giving GUMC's Chancel Choir a try. (Our choir members are friendly folks and they have lots of fun making music together.) Choir rehearsals are held on Sunday mornings beginning at 9:00 a.m. If you want to learn more about the Chancel Choir, please speak to Kathy Anderson or email her at [kanderson@boyslatinmd.com](mailto:kanderson@boyslatinmd.com).

## **Rally Day**

Rally Day begins our church's Sunday School activities for each school year. This year, Rally Day will take place on **Sunday, September 8th**. On Rally Day, the younger members of our church family will gather in the sanctuary and be welcomed back to their Sunday School classes by our faithful Sunday School teachers. Please contact our Christian Education Director, Ashley Silcott, at [AshleySilcott89@gmail.com](mailto:AshleySilcott89@gmail.com) if you have a child you would like to enroll in GUMC's Sunday School program. Ashley can help your child get into the appropriate class and acclimate to Sunday School.

## **First Sunday Fellowship Update**

Our next five dates for First Sunday Fellowship are posted! Please consider volunteering to host one of these special gatherings for our church. You can team up with a friend or sign up as a family. If you have never hosted before, please email Julie Romeo at [romeo586@comcast.net](mailto:romeo586@comcast.net) for some basic information and training. Thank you to everyone who has hosted already this year, and thank you in advance to our upcoming volunteers! Please use the link below to select a date and sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E49AAAB28AB9-first#/>

**Just an FYI** - Due to the Labor Day holiday weekend, **First Sunday Fellowship** for the month of September will take place on **Sunday, September 8th**, in Dew Hall following the Rally Day service.

# **Announcements/Events continued**

## **Hosts Are Still Needed for Upcoming "Get to Know You" Gatherings**

Pastor Gary wants to meet everyone in the congregation and we are helping him do this with small group gatherings. Several gatherings have already taken place and Pastor Gary has met **56** GUMC folks. We still need more hosts to organize a group of about 12, to take place in homes or in the church parlor. The hosts will contact members to participate in an hour meeting, starting at 7:00 p.m., if on a weekday evening. If a Sunday afternoon is wanted, Pastor Gary will coordinate with the host for a starting time. As far as any food, please just do an easy, simple food preparation, such as a snack or dessert.

Please consider hosting a group; make it simple for yourself so it can be fun! There are sign-up sheets in the lobby on the bulletin board to indicate your interest in hosting. More dates will be available from Pastor Gary soon. Contact Jan Bradley for more information and

Thank you,  
Jan Bradley

## **A New School Year and A Renovated Space**

The congregation of Glyndon United Methodist Church enthusiastically welcomes back all the children and their families, teachers, staff and administrators of the Glyndon Christian School, to a new and exciting year of learning and growing. The church community joins Glyndon Christian School in celebrating the Fall Opening with preschool and kindergarten classes, and now, a new First Grade class! The expansion of the school has been lovingly created, and will also occupy the charmingly renovated historic, brown-shingled building next to the main entrance of the school. Since 1930, for almost 100 years, this building housed the inter-denominational Community Men's Bible Class, which was founded in 1924. With the inclusion of women in its classes, its revised name has been, The Community Bible Class. Now it is the home of the school's kindergarten and First Grade schoolchildren and teachers! A great new beginning for a beloved and historical building. GUMC is so very happy to join in greeting and welcoming all the children, parents and teachers of the expanded Glyndon Christian School.

Congratulations to the many people who have played a part in establishing this unique Christian private elementary school in partnership with Glyndon United Methodist Church. The Church warmly and most sincerely expresses its gratefulness and appreciation especially, to Ashley Silcott, School Principal, who is the visionary, creator, teacher and leader of the Glyndon Christian School. Our joyful congratulations to you, Ashley, and the school, with our heartfelt prayers for a wonderful school year!

With Thankful Praise to God,  
Jan Bradley, Lay Leader, on behalf of the GUMC Congregation

# Announcements/Events continued

## **Women's Fellowship Lunch**

Ladies - Please join the women of GUMC for fellowship and lunch at Alfeo's Italian Kitchen on the second Sunday of each month at 11:15 a.m. **beginning in October.** Their first gathering for the season will be **Sunday, October 13th.**

## **Don't Forget to Read the Weekly Highlights!**

GUMC's **Weekly Highlights** are now being sent out via email to members of our congregation each **Thursday afternoon.** Check the Highlights to get the most up-to-date information about our church services, programs, and activities as well as updates on our members and friends.

## **Kiwanis Club**

Kiwanis International is a global organization of volunteers with the shared goal of "improving the world one child and one community at a time." Kiwanis seeks to provide help to children in the areas of health and nutrition, education and literacy, and youth leadership development. The Reisterstown Kiwanis Chapter meets at Glyndon Church on the **first Tuesday and third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor.** All those who are interested in learning about Kiwanis and getting involved are welcome. If you have questions, please contact Ron Heffner.

The next Church Work Day is scheduled for **Saturday, September 21st beginning at 8:00 a.m.** Fall is coming and we need to get our church spruced up. Please consider coming out and lending a helping hand. Whether you have an hour or the whole morning, we would appreciate your help. There will be tasks for everyone to do, no matter what the weather is. Look for a sign-up sheet in the lobby with various projects listed so we can plan accordingly. Come on out and join us! Thank you from the Church Trustees.

**Office Schedule:** Clarice will be in the office on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 1:30p - 3:30p.

# Missions Update

Baltimore County Christian Workcamp happens each summer in late July. This year, four volunteers from Glyndon UMC recently joined forces with other volunteers from Reisterstown UMC and Mount Pleasant UMC to help with repairs for an elderly homeowner in Owings Mills. The home had a multitude of plumbing issues that were creating serious quality of life issues for the woman and her granddaughter. A clogged septic line made the bathroom toilets and showers unusable. Leaks in the kitchen made the disposal and washing machine unusable.

Chuck Bradley, Bob Little, Christopher Brittain and Matt Johnson helped to fix the plumbing issues and find a local contractor to find and repair the blockage in the septic piping. Shaneybrook Plumbing was selected to make the septic repairs and Glyndon made a donation to cover a portion of the cost. In addition, wobbly stair rails were repaired, rain gutters were cleaned out and a section of ruined drywall in the ceiling was replaced.



Bob Little fixing the kitchen sink plumbing

# Visitation List

Reach out and share God’s love through a card, call or visit.

**Dottie Meekins**

Acts Fairhaven  
Health Care Room 109  
7200 Third Avenue  
Sykesville MD 21784  
443-609-0048

**Jackie Meixner**

FutureCare Cherrywood  
12020 Reisterstown Road  
Reisterstown MD 21136  
410-517-6530

**June Pearce**

410-804-6646

**Joan S. Poling**

Sunrise Senior Living, Room 232  
3800 Old Court Road  
Pikesville MD 21208  
410-415-0245

**Dora Sabo**

Carroll Lutheran Village  
Health Care Center, Room 401  
200 St Luke Circle  
Westminster MD 21158

*Challengers are mailed to these members each month.*

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## Stay Connected

**What’s up at Glyndon UMC? Our Mission is to: “Love. Pray. Serve.”**

We offer several ways to keep you connected to learn about upcoming worship, fellowship, and service ministries as well as special events for all ages. We encourage you to invite a friend or neighbor to join you. Here’s some op-



- Worship with us on Sundays and read the bulletin insert with a calendar of activities for the week.
- Check out our church website: [glyndonumchurch.org](http://glyndonumchurch.org) .
- Sign up for our church-wide email and receive Friday News & Highlights every week.
- If you sign up for emails, you will also receive our newsletter, The Challenger, the first of each month. It’s chock full of information on the month ahead plus “save-the-date” info on future events, new worship series, fellowship activities and service opportunities.
- Follow us on Facebook and hear about what’s coming up and check out the pictures of our church family in action.
- Check the bulletin boards on the church lobby and along the hallways to Dew Hall for flyers on church an community events, y outh activities, and sign-up sheets.

There is something for everyone—all ages, singles, couples, and families.

Consider deepening your participation by joining one of our volunteer planning committees or leadership teams. Jan Bradley or our committee chairs can provide details to help you find a slot that matches your interests and to select something that will utilize your personal gifts for a more enjoyable experience.

# September 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1 10a Worship— Communion	2 	3 5:15p Ping-Pong 7p Kiwanis	4 5:15p Pickleball	5	6	7 8a Men's Breakfast
8 9a Choir Practice 10a Worship— Rally Day 11a First Sunday Fellowship	9 7p Trustees	10 5:15p Ping-Pong	11 5:15p Pickleball	12 11:30a Franklin Garden Club	13	14
15 9a Choir Practice 10a Worship	16	17 5:15p Ping-Pong	18 5:15p Pickleball 7p Kiwanis	19	20	21
22 9a Choir Practice 10a Worship 11:15a Church Council	23	24 5:15p Ping-Pong	25 5:15p Pickleball	26	27	28
29 9a Choir Practice 10a Worship— Hymn Sing	30					

