



The Challenger

Glyndon United Methodist Church

May 2026

Friends:

On Sunday, May 24th, we will celebrate Pentecost Sunday. Most scholars tell us that around the fourth century, the church observed Pentecost as the time to celebrate both the Ascension of Jesus and the gift of the Holy Spirit. In time, however, these two events came to be celebrated on separate Sundays. Pentecost comes from the Greek word 'penetekoste' which literally means fiftieth day. If you count 50 days from Easter Sunday, which we celebrated on April 5 of this year, then we would come to May 24 on the calendar.

This is called Pentecost Sunday; often referred to simply as the birthday of the church. Before Jesus ascended in heaven, he told his disciples to go to Jerusalem and to prepare themselves to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, the advocate that would enable them to continue the ministry he started. Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would fill them with such power and boldness that they would do even 'greater works' than him. That's a pretty bold statement by Jesus!

My father-in-law was a retired United Methodist minister and served 50 years in the local church. Early in my own ministry, he would often share bits of wisdom he amassed over the years. One time he said to me, "Gary, if I were asked to serve a church and given the opportunity to choose between two offers; the one church that has a great structure and administration but without any Spirit and the other church that has a so-so structure but with lots of Spirit, I would without hesitation take the church that is full of Spirit."

Of course, you and I know that the ideal church would be one that has a well-oiled structure and also consists of people empowered by the Holy Spirit. Yet it's important to keep in mind that structure alone, by itself, will never grow a church.

So how does one receive and grow in God's Spirit? Here we need to remember that Jesus told his disciples to go and prepare themselves to receive the gift of God's Spirit; that it would take intentionality and receptivity on their part.

Continued on next page

Pastor's Article continued

And so it does with us as well. Today when you and I take our wireless device to our friend's house, we will ask them if we can have their "Router Code" so that we can type it in our device into order to hook up to the internet. We know that God doesn't give us an external access code to receive God's Spirit. The 'point of contact' to receive the Holy Spirit is inside the human heart, a heart that is open and receptive.

I hope to see you on Pentecost Sunday. You don't need to bring your wireless device and nor will we be providing you a router code. I invite you to just come with an open and receptive heart and we have Jesus' promise that the Holy Spirit will connect us to a power that changes the world.

Grace & Peace,

Gary

Announcements/Events

Your Helping Hands Are Needed!

Please help us get our church looking beautiful for the spring and summer months. Join the Church Trustees and other members of GUMC at the next clean-up day at church: **Saturday, May 9th beginning at 8:00 am.** Come for an hour or come for the whole morning, whatever suits your schedule. There are lots of tasks that need to be done. Your time and effort would be most appreciated!

Glyndon UMC's Annual Flower Sale

GUMC's Annual Flower Sale will take place on **Saturday, June 13th** this year **to coincide with the Glyndon Home and Garden Tour** that will be held the same day. As you plan your gardens for this summer, please keep GUMC's Flower Sale in mind.

We need lots of help to plan and carry out this event. If you would like to help, please contact Jan Bradley to find out how you can help. The Flower Sale is an event that allows members to work together to raise funds for the church and get to know other church members better at the same time. Please put this year's Flower Sale on your calendar!

Announcements/Events continued

Office Hours: Clarice is in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:30-3:30 pm.

Flower Sale: This year our GUMC annual flower sale will take place on Saturday, June 13th from 11am to 5pm on the church front and side lawns. We have been invited by Historic Glyndon Inc. (HGI) to have our flower sale in conjunction with their **Glyndon -Doorways to the Past- Home and Garden Tour**. Glyndon UM Church will be set up as the only ticket pickup site and our parking lot will be available for the public during the event. The church will be designated as one of the special Glyndon community buildings to visit, so we will have our church doors open for the approximate 400 tour guests expected on June 13th! And we will be prepared to sell lots of flowers on that day, with lots of congregational participation. We need your help to set-up and man the flower sale and additionally, to act as greeters/ hosts as we welcome the guests and share a bit of the history of our beautiful sanctuary and surrounding structure.

Look for a signup sheet, to be placed on the lobby table very soon to indicate that you will help. You may contact Joanna Clements or Jan Bradley to help with the flower sale and Lee Wroe to help with Church Hospitality / Greeters. Remember, June 13 should be a very memorable and unique day, as the community showcases the special Glyndon historic homes and gardens, and several community buildings, as well as our Glyndon United Methodist Church. Come and enjoy this big event!

See the Flower Sale Flyer on the next page.

Jan Bradley

Announcements/Events continued



**Flower
&
Plant Sale**

at
Glyndon United Methodist Church
Front Lawn

Saturday
June 13, time: 11-5

**Joining with House & Garden Tour
(HGI)**



Announcements/Events continued

Glyndon



Doorways to the Past
Home and Garden Tour

Location: Glyndon, Maryland 21071

Date: Saturday, June 13, 2026

Time: 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Rain or Shine

Tickets & Information

\$35 in advance; \$40 day of

What You'll Experience

Self-guided tours of historic homes in Baltimore County's
first Historic District

Visits to charming gardens and outdoor spaces

Insights into local history, architecture, and preservation

Plenty of inspiration for home, garden, and history lovers



Tickets limited!
May sell out before
the event

A Project of
Historic Glyndon Inc

Announcements/Events continued

BALTIMORE COUNTY COUNCIL CANDIDATES FORUM

On Thursday, May 7 from 5 to 8 pm, at the Owings Mills Baltimore County Public Library, an open forum will take place with the Baltimore County Council Candidates for Councilmanic Districts 2 and 3. With the recent boundary changes to the Districts, this forum provides an introduction to the candidates and to hear directly from them on certain issues. This opportunity is designed to be a fair, respectful and informative event for all. All of the qualified candidates have been invited to attend and will be given equal speaking time, addressing the audience only; not each other directly. The goal of the forum is to promote civic engagement, informed decision-making, and to prepare for voting in your District.

Plan to come to this informational forum to be held at the Owings Mills Public Library which is located in the Owings Mills Metro Center at 10302 Grand Central Avenue. There is parking in the adjacent garage, with an accessible entrance directly into the Library.

The Co- Sponsoring and Hosting organizations are :
The Woman's Club of Glyndon
St. Luke's United Methodist Church
NAACP Baltimore County

They are providing this forum as a public service for voter education and do not endorse any candidate.

Please see the attached flyer on the next page.

Announcements/Events continued



**BALTIMORE COUNTY COUNCIL
CANDIDATE FORUM
COUNCILMANIC DISTRICTS 2 AND 3**

**BALTIMORE COUNTY OWINGS MILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY
10302 GRAND CENTRAL AVE, OWINGS MILLS, MD 21117**

**THURSDAY MAY 7TH, 2026
5:00 PM – 8:00 PM**


**ROLAND PATTERSON JR., MODERATOR
PRESIDENT NAACP BALTIMORE COUNTY**

**MEET THE CANDIDATES. HEAR WHERE THEY STAND ON
THE ISSUES OF EDUCATION, AFFORDABLE HOUSING,
AND PUBLIC SAFETY.**

**VOTER EDUCATION INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE
ADMISSION IS FREE TO THE COMMUNITY**

CO-SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

**WOMAN'S CLUB OF GLYNDON
ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
NAACP BALTIMORE COUNTY**



Announcements/Events continued

Project Namayani: **Let's build a church in Tanzania!**

Two of my wonderful ministry colleagues have already planted more than fifteen Christian communities among the Maasai people. Many of these faithful believers still worship outdoors, under the shade of a tree. They lovingly call it their "Tree Church." Their faith and perseverance have deeply inspired me, and I feel called to help them build a place of worship that reflects their hope and devotion.

This project has a total goal of \$80,000, which will cover the cost of constructing a church building, a kitchen to serve meals and community gatherings, and a school building for the children. These spaces will provide not only a spiritual home but also a foundation for education, nourishment, and fellowship.

I invite you to join me in this mission. Your prayer, encouragement, and financial support — whatever amount you are able to give — will make a real difference. Together, we can help build a sacred space where faith will continue to grow, children will learn, and the love of Christ will be shared for generations to come.

"Namayani" is a **Maasai word meaning 'the one who is blessed.'** It is also the name of a beloved local missionary who has devoted her life to sharing God's love among the Maasai people. This project carries her spirit and continues her mission — to bless others as we have been blessed.

Thank you for your generosity and for being part of this ministry for the Kingdom of God.

Steven Cho
Pastorstevencho@gmail.com
<https://bible101stevencho.com/project-namayani/>
202-680-2394



Visitation List

Reach out and share God's love through a card, call or visit.
(Always call ahead first to set up a time to visit.)

Zeenie & Dean Burns The Terraces at Westminster 45 Washington Rd, Apt 221 Westminster MD 21157 410-967-2589 (C)	Jackie Meixner FutureCare Cherrywood 12020 Reisterstown Rd Reisterstown MD 21136 410-517-6530	June Pearce 410-804-6646
Kathy Rittler 3413 Buttonwood Court Reisterstown MD 21136 410-239-8147 (H)		

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 are a few:

- Worship with us on Sundays and read the bulletin insert with a calendar of activities for the week.
- Check out our church website: <http://www.glyndonumchurch.org>
- Sign up for our church-wide email to receive the Weekly Highlights and the monthly newsletter, The Challenger.
- 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 in the church lobby and along the hallways to Dew Hall for flyers on church and community events, youth 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 more details.



May 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 8a Men's Breakfast
3 9a Choir Practice 10a Worship 11:15a First Sunday Fellowship (Dew) 11:15a Steering Comm. (Parlor)	4	5 7:00p Ping- Pong (Dew) 7:00 Kiwanis (Parlor)	6 5:30p Pickleball (Dew)	7	8	9 8a Church Clean-up
10 Mother's Day 9a Choir Practice 10a Worship 11:15a Women's Lunch at Alfeo's	11 7p Trustees (Parlor)	12 7:00p Ping- Pong	13 5:30p Pickleball	14 11:00a Franklin Garden Club (Dew)	15	16
17 9a Choir Practice 10a Worship 11:15a Finance (Parlor)	18 7p Kiwanis (Parlor)	19 7:00p Ping- Pong	20 5:30p Pickleball	21	22	23
24 Pentecost 9a Choir Prac. 10a Worship ----- 10a Worship – Hymn Sing 31	25	26 7:00p Ping- Pong	27 5:30p Pickleball	28	29	30

Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference