The Challenger

Glyndon United Methodist Church October 2026

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law." - Galatians 5:22-23

Friends,

I grew up in Martinsburg, West Virginia and in my neighborhood, there was an apple processing plant. Each fall the plant would begin its applesauce making in full force. Suddenly the sweet aroma of apples would permeate the entire neighborhood. I can still recall the times of playing sandlot football and how the physical exertion heightened my sense of smell to the point of calling out to my taste buds – '*A nice juicy red apple would taste delicious right now!*'

I believe that's what happens when we cultivate the fruits of God's blessings and gifts. Fruit that remains on the tree over ripens, withers and dies. The full benefit of fruit only comes about when harvested. Here, when the fruit is ripe, it is picked, harvested, and distributed. The same is true of our gifts in a spiritual sense. Cultivating our fruit means sharing the sweet blessings that God has granted us.

This past summer, our sermon series was based on Galatians 5:22-23, a passage where the Apostle Paul writes about the Fruit of the Spirit. Every Sunday, we emphasized the importance of the nine fruits of God's Spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self- control. When we leave from the sanctuary, we go to share the fruits of God's grace with others.

A story is told of factory workers in a small village in northern France. It seems that they worked in a place that made lavender for use in perfumes.

Every evening as the workers would leave work, they would walk down the streets of the little village and the whole community would be filled with the sweet aroma of lavender that had clung to the workers while they labored in the lavender plant. (Clyde Lee Herring, "*Why Psalm 23 Is For More than Funerals.*")

So it is with our journey of faith! You and I gather together as a church to learn about our faith and to celebrate God's grace during worship but our journey doesn't end there. We take with us the fragrance of God's love to share with those we find in the places we live, work and play. The true sense of the church only comes to fruition when the church gathered becomes the church scattered.

Grace and Peace,
Gary

Announcements/Events

Office Hours:

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

Glyndon Christian School Notes:

Just a reminder that during the school year, from 8:15-9:30, no one can use the parking spots in the top lot as we use that for our car line drop off.

First Sunday Fellowship

Hello GUMC Friends -
Fall is here and new dates have been added for First Sunday Fellowship. Please consider participating as a host to provide a special time of fellowship for our congregation. Dates have been added for September, October, and November. November is our next Team Hosted event when you can volunteer for a hosting role or just bring an item to share. Please view the posted volunteer opportunities using the sign-up link below. Thank you to our First Sunday Fellowship volunteers!
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E49AAAB28AB9-first#/

GUMC Steering Committee

The GUMC Steering Committee will meet after the service **this Sunday, October 4th** in Dew Hall. Please come and enjoy some refreshments and then stay to attend the meeting. All are welcome to participate in these meetings. Feel free to come and share your ideas for events, projects, and activities for fundraising, community outreach, fellowship and **FUN**!

Women's Fellowship Lunch

The "Girlfriends" will gather for lunch and fellowship **at Bucatini in Owings Mills on Sunday, October 11th at Noon**. Please plan to join them and check out Bucatini which is owned by GUMC members, Paolo and Julie Romeo. Look for directions in next week's Highlights.

Announcements/Events continued

Church Clean-Up Days
Thank you to all the folks who came to help at the Church Clean-Up Day this past Saturday. In preparation for colder weather to come, there will be another Clean-Up Day on **Saturday, October 24th.** There will be both indoor and outdoor tasks to be done. Please plan to come and help if you can! The work will begin at about 8:00 am.

Coming Up on Sunday, October 25th - Family Worship Service
Please join us for our second Family Worship Service on **Sunday, October 25th at 10:00 am**. All are welcome to come and participate!

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)	**June Pearce** 410-804-6646	**Kathy Rittler** 3413 Buttonwood Court Reisterstown MD 21136 410-239-8147 (H)
	Jean Robinson Woodholme Spring Assisted Living 101 Woodholme Ave., Rm 6B Pikesville MD 21208 410-484-0694	

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.

October 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3 8a Men's Breakfast (Dew)
4 10a Worship 11:15a First Sunday F. (Dew) 11:15a Steering Comm. (Parlor)	5	6 7 p Kiwanis 7 p Ping-Pong (Dew)	7 5:30p Pickleball (Dew)	8 11:00a Franklin Garden Club (Dew)	9	10
11 9a Choir Practice 10a Worship 12p - Women's Lunch at Bucatini's	12 7p HGI mtg.- (Dew) 7p Trustees (Parlor)	13 7:00p Ping-Pong (Dew)	14 5:30p Pickleball (Dew)	15 6:30p Free State VCCA mtg. (Dew)	16	17 9a First Fruits Farm
18 9a Choir Practice 10a Worship 11:15 Finance (Parlor)	19 7p Kiwanis (Parlor)	20 7:00p Ping-Pong (Dew)	21 5:30p Pickleball (Dew)	22	23	24
25 9a Choir Practice 10a Worship – Family Service	26	27 7:00p Ping-Pong (Dew)	28 5:30p Pickleball (Dew)	29	30	31