



MILLVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE DOVE

NOVEMBER 2017

Message From Pastor Brad

Planning and Expectations

What do you think of when you hear the phrase "the holidays"? Is it a certain time of the year, specific holidays, or something more like a feeling or mentality? It could be a combination of them all. Have you started thinking about the holiday season and your preparations for it? When I was younger it seemed like the holidays was considered the time between just before Thanksgiving until a little after New Year's Day.

If you've looked at your local department or drug store recently, you may have noticed that things have become a bit more ongoing and all-encompassing regarding the holidays. Anymore there are at least half a year's worth of holidays spanning a few aisles year-round. Our household is still remaining strong and withstanding cultural influence mainly because Erin's birthday is at the end of November and Christmas isn't allowed to be fully acknowledged until after that.

I don't bring all this up just to gripe about another way society may have gone awry because we are close to some exciting times in the life of the church also. This is the end of October and many pastors and churches, including ours, are already beginning to talk about Christmas and Advent. It feels like summer just ended and Advent is basically a month away. I'm confident most of you reading this have a good handle on what Christmas is and means, but how much do you know about Advent? It isn't just the season before Christmas where we light candles.

Advent is a season of intentional waiting and expectation. We are called to be excruciatingly patient and not jump right to Christmas, but prepare

ourselves for the coming of the Messiah. This reminds me of Jesus' words about watchfulness in Luke 12 where he says, "Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes (35-37a). We are called to be expectant, waiting, and ready for the coming of the master. This requires some beforehand work on our part.

The season of Advent is also the start of the liturgical year for the church. The liturgical calendar is what most of Christianity follows for church holidays, days of remembrance, and seasons of worship. In a sense the start of Advent is like New Year's Day for the church. We all know about the tradition of making resolutions to try to be better and grow at the start of a new year on January 1st. In this month before Advent I encourage you to adopt this tradition in your individual faith life and as part of our church.

What do you need to expect from the Messiah, God who made Godself incarnate in the form of a helpless baby for you? What is your heart yearning for from your faith and relationship with Christ? Take this time to prepare yourself so we can, as Jesus said in the passage above, be ready for service with our lamps burning. Making this month a time of discernment and vulnerability can allow us to begin Advent ready to do the work on our hearts and spirits so that we can open the door to Christ when he comes into our world once again. May we as the people of God prepare ourselves and get ready to receive God who makes all things new.

With Hopeful Expectations
Pastor Brad

Pastor Brad is normally in the office on Tuesdays from 10:30am-4:30pm

Appointments can be made with him Monday through Thursday

Pastor Brad's e-mail: umcpastorbrad@outlook.com

Pastor Brad's cell phone: 302-249-2337 (You Can Call or Text

Pastor Brad's Communion Study

Starting on Sunday, November 5th Pastor Brad will be leading a 4-week study on Holy Communion at Coffee with the Pastor at around 10:30am. We will be studying and discussing our understanding and practices relating to Holy Communion as United Methodists and the spiritual descendants of John and Charles Wesley. You don't need to have extensive knowledge of the Bible, church practice, or Methodism to join in. This is also a part of Pastor Brad's work for ordination. He will be submitting this study and all the materials relating to it as part of his ordination paperwork, including reviews filled out by everyone who participates. If you plan on attending this study, please e-mail Pastor Brad or sign up in the sanctuary. See you there!

UM101 – An Introduction and Refresher to United Methodism

Starting on Sunday, November 12th Pastor Brad will be leading a 3-week study on United Methodism for new members and anyone interested in a refresher on who we are as United Methodists. This will be an overview of our denomination's history, structure, beliefs, current status, and other related issues. Again, new members of our church are strongly encouraged to attend these sessions and longstanding members are invited to learn more about Methodism and get to know our new members. Each session will begin at 2:00PM and end around 3:30PM. If you plan on attending this study, please e-mail Pastor Brad or sign up in the sanctuary. See you there!

FYI

Matthew 26 (NIV)

44 *"They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison and did not help you?'"*

45 *"He answered 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me!'"*

Yes, our Lord calls upon all of us to help feed the people. Our church has always been very active with the Food Bank that is housed in Salem United Methodist church in Selbyville. This food bank has been feeding folks in need for over 25 years now. They feed over 900 families monthly and with the new Medicare cutbacks, many seniors will be feeling the pinch more than ever.

It is up to us to pitch in all we can. The holidays are coming up fast. A big plant in Selbyville donates whole chickens for each family for Thanksgiving. Another Company has taken care of the cranberry sauce. Veggies and other staples are needed. Everything from cereals, tuna fish, peanut butter and jelly and canned goods are always needed. Winter will soon be here!! Thank you for all you already do. We are blessed to be able to lend a hand. We have God to thank that we are not the ones in need.

God Bless

Marianne Smith



Our Financial Health:Doing Better

Here we are with two months to go in our budget year, and we are doing better. The margin between what we budgeted for worship giving and actual giving is encouraging. Our worship giving exceeds our budget estimate by about \$8,100, and our expenses are less than our budgeted amount by about \$2,750.

The Administrative Council approved a 2018 budget of \$155,780. This budget is about 4% greater than 2017, and represents the confidence the council has in your continued generosity. Copies of the budget are available at the rear of the sanctuary for your information. Please contact me with any questions you may have regarding our finances.

Rich Spina, Finance Chairman

Wesley Hall Mortgage Monthly Status

Balance on 9/30/2017.....\$130,708.71
Special Donation by Members.....\$300.00
Budgeted Payment (less interest).....\$940.90
Balance on 10/22/2017.....\$129,467.81

You can help reduce the mortgage balance and avoid interest in several ways: by special donation using a pew envelope, or by placing your donation in a basket at the rear of the sanctuary marked "Mortgage Reduction." Some of our members have made a special donation in honor of, or in memory of someone special in their lives. Thank you in advance for your support.

Rich Spina, Finance Chairman

Our Commitment to Missions

In the past, our commitment to missions, especially local, has been very strong for a church our size. In fact, at times we have approached \$28,000. Our missions outreach includes cash support for a local church, local food pantry, Samaritan's Purse, and a number of other very worthy causes. Over the past several years, our missions' disbursements averaged \$14,000.

At the last Administrative Council meeting, it came to our attention that with the then-current balance in the missions account, we would **not** be able to fulfil certain commitments we had made. As

it stands today, our total contribution to 2017 missions will end up around \$7,500.

We do not provide for any missions needs through normal worship giving to the General Fund. We depend on other sources including special fundraisers, communion baskets, and specified individual donations.

I think we would all agree that if we fail to give whole-hearted support to missions, we are not meeting God's call to take care of those in need.

Please prayerfully consider how you can help.
Marilyn Ferry

Special Events

REVIVAL IS HERE AT MUMC! Join us in the Sanctuary tonight for our final Revival service. You will be blessed with great music, a message from the Scriptures that will touch your heart, and warm fellowship with your Church Family.

**Sunday, October 29, 7:00 PM
Pastor Andy Ehlers, Message
Danita Robinson, Music**

**Potluck Dinner
NOVEMBER 5th 4:30 PM**

Potlucks are back! Bring your favorite dish and a friend!

Call Elizabeth Skinner at 302-732-9684 for further information.

UMW Christmas Bazaar And Bake Sale

Our ladies are hard at work planning this year's Christmas Bazaar to be held on November 11, 2017 at 8 am.

We hope to offer our Bake Sale, Crafts, 2nd Time Around Treasures, and new this year, Silent Auction.

Your donation of any lightly used and no longer needed Christmas items, would be greatly appreciated. Please check with family and friends to see if they would like to donate any Christmas

items. We will be accepting CHRISTMAS items through Wednesday, November 8th.

This year's Bazaar will again offer lunch. Our menu will include chili and vegetable beef soup.

We will be having one more work day, Wednesday, November 1st @ 9 am. Any and all help is welcome. There will be many ways of helping, from sewing to ironing, to making bows.

Our focus from now until November 11th will be on the bazaar. If you have any questions or comments, please call Sharon Graham @ 302-537-0772.

Dear Lord, Please guide us and give us kind hearts. Amen

Cookie Bingo

Tuesday, November 14, 10:00 AM

Don't forget – the second Tuesday of the month is time for Cookie BINGO in Wesley Hall at 10:00 AM. Come have some donuts and coffee and win some good treats. Bring a friend, too! See you there!

Fit for Life

Every Tuesday at 9:00 a group of energetic ladies attend the Fit for Life class with instructor Carol Gorden. This class improves balance, strength and flexibility. Laughter is also an added element in the class when games are played.

Weekly Happenings at Millville

UMC

Pastor Brad's Schedule

Pastor Brad is normally in the office on Tuesdays from 10:30am-4:30pm, but he is available by appointment Monday through Thursday. He will still be in the office on those days at various times. If you would like to stop by and see Pastor Brad on any of those days please call or e-mail in advance so he can prepare accordingly and give you his undivided attention. If you would like pastoral visit or need help, or to talk to him for any other reason you can email him at:

umcpastorbrad@outlook.com and call or text him at 302-249-2337.

Monday	Bible Study	10:00 AM
Tuesday	Fit for Life	9:00 AM
Wednesday	Prayer on the Beach	8:30 AM
Wesley Bible Study		11:00 AM
Choir Rehearsal		6:30 PM
Thursday	Bible Study	9:00 AM
Saturday	Praise Service	6:00 PM
Sunday	Worship Service	9:00 AM
	Coffee/Bible Study	
	With Pastor Brad	10:30 AM
Sunday - Nov. 12, 19, 26	- 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	
Introduction & Refresher to United Methodism		

Monthly Meetings

Finance	Monday Nov 13th	7:00 PM
Admin. Coun.	Monday Nov 20th	7:00 PM
UMW	Tuesday Nov 7 th	10:00 AM

Small Groups -Weekly

Coffee with Pastor Brad - Sunday at 10:30 AM in Wesley Hall. We read scripture and discuss topics of faith.

Wesley Wednesday Group – Wednesday, 11:00 AM in Wesley Hall, led by Pastor Brad. Each week we will look at a sermon of John Wesley, so you can join any time and not be behind!

Thursday Bible Study – Meets at 9:00 AM in Wesley Hall, led by Donald Maebly



Sunday morning, November 5
remember to turn your clocks back 1 hour

Missions

Instructions to Donate to UMCOR:

Make check payable to: Millville United Methodist Church and note UMCOR on memo line.

**NOTE: US Disaster Response
Advance # 901670**

**NOTE: Relief for Refugees in
Europe Disaster
Response, International
Advance # 982450**

Remember To Bring Donations For:

Salem UMC Food Pantry

**Lord Baltimore Elementary School
Student Assistance**

Items needed:

- soup mixes, fruit cups
- small packets of peanut butter and jelly,
- paper towels, ziplock bags (quart size),
- #2 wooden pencils

Ministries

To activate the Prayer Chain

Call Nancy Bowers at 1-410-598-5600
Or email nanbowers4@comcast.net

“Loving Care”

If you need a helping hand, please contact Nancy Bowers 1-410-598-5600 or email nanbowers4@comcast.net

Feed My Sheep - Soup Kitchen

Thursday, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM at Mariner’s Bethel UMC

Volunteers for ACTS are needed!

Fill out an Application at 34634 Atlantic Ave., Ocean View (Phone 539-3513).

Prayer at the Beach! Every Wednesday at 8:30 AM

Join us at Bethany Beach, Campbell Place for an informal time of fellowship and worship.



Saturday Praise And Worship Service 6:00 PM At Wesley Hall

Every Saturday evening there is an informal fellowship here at Millville UMC. We open our service with singing - both hymns and praise music. Our service continues with a special time of sharing our joys and concerns, followed by prayer.

Each week we are blessed with a message from the scriptures and from the heart by one of our speakers:

- Week 1 – Janet Smith
- Week 2 – Pastor Brad
- Week 3 – Lori Ciccanti
- Week 4 – Pastor Brad
- Week 5 – As needed:
Janet Smith
Donald Maeby
Lou Ciccanti

Following the service, we visit and enjoy coffee and dessert together. It’s a relaxing way to finish the end of the week with our Brothers and Sisters in Christ. Join us and invite a friend or neighbor to come along. You’ll be blessed!

~Special Notes ~

If you have questions regarding:

Scheduling Requests for use of Wesley Hall
Flowers on the Altar
Prayer List Additions or Correction

Please contact Marilyn Ferry (539-9598) or
email wingferry@aol.com

Missing You Cards!

There are note cards in each pew. If you notice someone absent who usually sits near you, take the time to send them a note. Please put your cards in the basket on the table at the rear of the church if you would like me to mail them. Thanks!

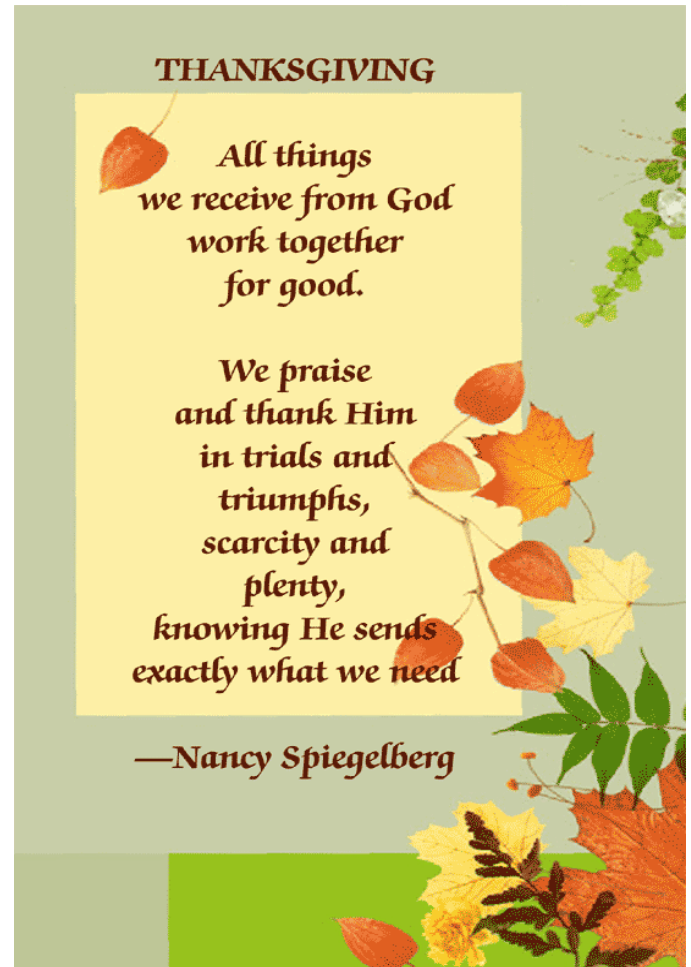


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Pastor Brad Schutt (302) 249-2337

*Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his love endures forever. Let them give
thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love
and his wonderful deeds for mankind, for
he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry
with good things. (Psalm 107:1, 8-9, NIV)*



**HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO OUR
CHURCH FAMILY AND OUR LOVED
ONES NEAR AND FAR**