



MILLVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

***The Dove* APRIL 2019**

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR BRAD

Fair-Weather Faith

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

Welcome home! This is a month in which we get to say welcome back to many beloved things as we move firmly into Spring. I've been awaiting the return of long sunny days, but I've been anxiously excited to welcome back our brothers and sisters in Christ who have spent the winter months elsewhere. Our church family will soon be whole again and our area will come alive as beach season gets going. Think of all the new friends we have yet to meet and the opportunities to share Christ's love with new neighbors. Amid all this we are blessed to celebrate the unending joy of Easter. Reaching the end of Lent, we can begin to more fully embrace the gift and joy of everlasting life. We can frame all of this through faithfulness.

Having faith in the Lord or putting our faith in God is a familiar idea to almost everyone. Even if a person doesn't agree with it, they have some idea of what it means because many people have that same relationship to other things in their lives. Voting, whether it be for a person, idea, or thing, is an act of putting some amount of faith into what it is or stands for. For the sports fans out there, committing yourself to a certain team is an act of faith. Especially if you do it for years, even decades.

There's a word out there for the people we see wearing our team colors and jerseys when they're winning or in the playoffs--Fair-Weather Fan. And no one wants to be one of those.

I know plenty of people who have stuck with this team or that through some long, long stretches of not winning a championship or even getting close. I'll admit, I know a lot of people who are Philadelphia fans. What do they gain from it? Why wear the colors? Because there is a sense of devotion and community that goes beyond results or performance. They are a part of the Eagles, or the Flyers, even if they live far from the city and are lucky to go to a game once every couple of years. It's unshaking and unyielding. Imagine if we approached God, church, and our faith with that same passion!

There are a lot of things I could say about how our numbers, our team stats, need a lot of help. But I'm not going to approach the empty tomb with my short-term anxieties. Instead, I see this as a time to rally and reclaim the everlasting life of joy that Christ set before us. You are a part of Team Christ; you are on the starting lineup of Millville UMC playing for the glory of God and the spread of the Kingdom in our area. To you, Easter People, I say raise your voices and your spirits.

Go Team Go, Pastor Brad

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM PASTOR BRAD

Dover District Events

Contact Pastor Brad for upcoming Dover District events.

Community Health Fair

On Saturday, April 6th, our church will be co-hosting a community-wide Free Health Fair sponsored by the Southeast Sussex Ministerium from 10am to 2pm. There will be a variety of

vendors, informative displays, speakers, and health screenings available in Wesley Hall, Millville Town Hall, and at the Millville VFC Hall next to the Giant Shopping Center. There will be three presentations at the Town Hall, starting at 10:15, but everything at our church and the fire hall will be available during the whole event. You will get all the information you need at any location, but more can be found in advance on the church's or Southeast Sussex Ministerium Facebook page.

Lenten Soup and Salad Wednesday, 12:00 Noon

You have two more opportunities to join with folks from the community for our ministerium's Lenten Prayer, Soup, and Salad the next two Wednesdays.

**April 3 Bethany Beach Christian Church
7 N. Pennsylvania Ave.
Bethany Beach**

**April 10 St. Ann's Catholic Church
691 Garfield Pkwy., Bethany Beach**

Meet in the sanctuary of each church at 12pm for a brief worship service, followed by lunch and fellowship in their respective halls. These events are free to participate in, but there will be freewill offerings taken each week for the ministries and missions of the Southeast Sussex Ministerium.

Holy Week Services at Millville

Palm Sunday Worship, April 14, 9:00 AM
Living Last Supper, Thurs., April 18, 7:00 PM
Passion Service, Friday, April 19, 6:30 PM
Saturday Praise Service, April 20, 6:00 PM
**Easter Sunday Sunrise Service – Bethany Beach
Bandstand, April 21, 6:00 AM (Rain location –
Ocean View Presbyterian Church)**
Easter Morning Worship, 9:00 AM
**There will be no Coffee & Conversation or
Coffee with Pastor Brad Easter morning.**

Passion Service

Instead of a traditional Good Friday Service, we will be having a Passion Service in Wesley Hall at

7:00pm on Friday, April 19th. We will be remembering and reflecting on the entirety of Jesus' passion through prayers, hymns, preaching, and celebrating Holy Communion in a special way together.

Easter Sunrise Service

The annual community Easter Sunrise Service will be happening this year at 6:00am at the Bethany Beach Bandstand. Pastor Brad will be helping lead this service with other local clergy, which will include live music and a special Easter monologue. There will be a freewill offering taken up to support the ministries and missions of our Southeast Sussex Ministerium. The bandstand area is filled every year for this special service, so come out and start your Easter morning surrounded by many other joyful people of faith.

Receiving New Members

Make sure you are with us in worship on April 7th and April 14th because we will be receiving new members officially into our church family during both of those services. After worship on April 14th we will be having Coffee and Conversation a week early in order to fellowship with and continue to welcome our new brothers and sisters in Christ.

Pastor Brad's Ordination Service

One of the highlights of Annual Conference every year is the Ordination Service, in which folks are commissioned, ordained, and consecrated into different orders and forms of ministry. Pastor Brad will be ordained as an Elder in the United Methodist Church in Full Connection at this year's ceremony. This service is open to the public and anyone can attend. It will be in the evening of Friday, May 31st at the Chase Center on the Riverfront in Wilmington, DE. As more details are released they will be shared with the church for folks to plan accordingly.

Committee Reports

Our Financial Health

.....Gaining Ground

At the end of February, our worship giving was under budget by about \$3,500. As of the fourth

week in March, the shortfall is about \$2,200. This is obviously a good trend, and I know God will continue to bless us by inspiring our very generous church family to support the mission and vision of our wonderful old church.

Rich Spina, Finance Chairman



Wesley Hall Mortgage Monthly Status

Balance on 2/28/2019.....	\$55,041.68
Special Donation by Members.....	\$ 490.00
Budgeted Payment (less interest).....	<u>\$ 1,322.44</u>
Balance on 3/19/2019.....	\$53,229.24

We are doing OK with our plan to reach mortgage payoff by January 2021, but we are not reaching our Special Donation by Members of about \$800 per month. We need to sustain that amount in order to meet our goal. I will be providing weekly updates to keep you informed of our progress.



I am optimistic that we will **Hit The Target**. We are thankful for the generosity of all of our church family who are going the extra mile to remove our indebtedness. Rich Spina

Trustees Report

Sanctuary Security: Trustees are working to choose a date and time for the Response to Active Shooter training to be presented to the church membership. Other initiatives may be considered in the future.

Sanctuary Audio System: Installation is completed. We used the system for the first time on Sunday, March 27th with excellent results. We will be using the system during practices for the Living Last

Supper, to ensure full capability in time for the performance on April 18th.

Parking Lot Street Lights: Installation completed, resulting in much improved lighting for the outer areas of the lot.

Sanctuary Projection System: This upgrade is on hold until later in the year, when our financial situation is more clearly defined.

Rich Spina, Trustees Chairman

Missions Update

Our Missions balance on 2/28/2019 was \$402. Our outreach donations for this year are:

- Local Missions.....\$408
- Salem Community Food Pantry...\$500
- Union Wesley UMC.....\$150

Please prayerfully consider your missions giving, especially on Communion Sunday, so we can do more to care for our local needs. Ellen Hitchens

United Methodist Women's Group Tuesday, April 2nd @ 10:00 am

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 2nd @ 10:00 am. Please arrive 5 minutes before this. We will be discussing upcoming mission projects and preparing for the Southeast Sussex County Ministerium "Health Fair". If you have never been to a UMW meeting and would like to see what we are all about, ladies please join us in fellowship and friendship. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Donna Binaut at 302-829-1680 or 443-668-8067.

Memorial / Commemorative Bricks

Always wanted to get a Memorial or Commemorative Brick? Now you can! We will be placing an order for bricks in mid-April. To purchase a Brick for the church's walkway to permanently recognize someone, even yourself, the cost is only \$60.00 per brick. You may pick up an order form in the back of the church or Wesley Hall. Fill out the form and write a check to MUMC,

note Memorial Brick on check. We will handle the rest.

Please contact Joe Skinner 302-732-9684 or Donna Binaut 320-829-1680, if you have any questions or need help.

Special Events

Pot Luck Dinner

Pot Luck on Sunday, April 7, at 4:30 PM. Our main dish will be Easter ham. Please bring your favorite side dish and a friend(s). Contact Elizabeth Skinner with any questions.

Choir Notes

We welcome all who can sing to join our choir. We practice in Wesley Hall on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM and Sunday morning before church at 8:30 AM. Come one, come all – use your God-given talents to serve the Lord! Elizabeth Skinner

Fit for Life

Each Tuesday at 9:00 AM join in the fun and get healthy at the same time, as Carol leads us in “gentle exercise.” Everyone is welcome!!

Carol Gorden

Aging Faithfully

Cookie Bingo

Cookie Bingo will be held the second Tuesday in April – April 9th. I look forward to seeing you all then. Come and bring a friend for a lot of fun and laughter – and cookies!

Contact Cathy Witmer @ 302-732-6284 with any questions. **Note:** If you have ideas for future programs for **Aging Faithfully**, and would like to help with planning events, contact Connie Warner at 539-7488

Coffee and Conversation

Coffee and Conversation will be held on Palm Sunday to welcome new members to our church family. There will be no Coffee and Conversation on Easter Sunday.

Coffee and Conversation is the third Sunday of each month. There is a sign-up sheet on the back

table. There will be a place for 5 or 6 of us to put our name and what we’ll be bringing for the upcoming Coffee and Conversation Sunday. We’re only talking about 12 Sundays a year so maybe you’d like to sign up 3 or 4 times, or every month, or whatever would work for you. It really is a fun time to be together and share for just a little while! Please think about looking at the sheet this Sunday and signing up. Nancy Bowers

LIVING LAST SUPPER

April 18, 2019, 7 PM



For some time now, we have worked on making sure that Jesus is at the center of Christmas and Easter as He should be. It has been forgotten by many that Easter does not revolve around bunnies, colored eggs and flowers.

Once again, we will proudly present The Living Last Supper at 7 PM, April 18. We are blessed with men who are willing to give their time and talents to make this happen.

Look forward to seeing you at the performance.

God Bless

Marianne Smith

Weekly Happenings at Millville

Monday	Bible Study	10:00 AM
Tuesday	Fit for Life	9:00 AM
Wednesday	Prayer on the Beach	8:30 AM
Wednesday	Pastor’s Book Club	11:00 AM
	Choir Rehearsal	6:30 PM
Thursday	Bible Study	9:00 AM
Thursday Eve	Pastor Brad’s Home:	
	Covenant Bible Study	7:00 PM
Saturday	Praise Service	6:00 PM
Sunday	Worship Service	9:00 AM
	Coffee/Bible Study w/Pastor Brad	10:30 AM

~ Monthly Meetings~

UMW Tuesday, April 2, 10:00 AM
Finance Comm. Monday, April 8, 6:30 PM
Trustees Monday, April 8, 7:30 PM
Admin. Council No meeting in April
Nominations Monday, April 15, 7:00 PM

Small Groups -Weekly

Coffee with Pastor Brad - Sunday at 10:30 AM in Wesley Hall. A time to study and discuss the primary Scripture reading and message from worship that day. If you have ever had any questions about Pastor Brad's message or wanted to talk more about the reading of the day, this is your place to ask, share and grow. Everyone is invited.

Covenant Bible Study - Our Tuesday Covenant Bible Study, 11:00 AM, will not meet in April. There will be an evening session of the Covenant Bible Study on Thursday, 7:00 PM at Pastor Brad's home.

Pastor's Book Club – Wednesday, 11:00 AM in Wesley Hall, led by Pastor Brad. We will be studying "United Methodism in America: A Brief History" edited by John G. McEllhenney.

This group will finish its current book at the end of April and will resume in September, shifting its focus to topics relating to the Bible, Jesus, Christianity, and other issues relating to faith and spirituality.

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

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 Program

Items needed: Backpack food items
Weekend Snacks
Kleenex tissues

Needed all year: Construction paper
Glue Sticks
#2 pencils

Supplies Needed for Wesley Hall

Trifold paper towels

Ministries

To activate the Prayer Chain

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

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Pocket Prayer Shawl is meant to bring comfort, love, and knowing that prayers have been asked for whomever touches this tiny piece of yarn. It can be carried in a pocket, purse, or pinned to a loved ones pillow. The Pocket Prayer Shawl can be tucked into a card and mailed across country or across an ocean. Please include your prayers when giving it to someone.

We now have available, Pocket Prayer Shawls. They are located at the back of the church sanctuary in a small basket. The full size Prayer Shawls are still located in Wesley Hall, in the wooden chest. Bless someone today with your smile. Please contact Sharon Graham @ 537-0772 with any questions.

“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
Mariner’s Bethel UMC

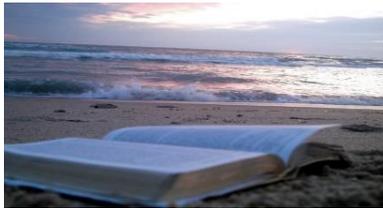
Volunteers for ACTS are needed!

Fill out an Application at 34634 Atlantic Ave., Ocean View. (Phone 302 539-3513)

Prayer at the Beach!

Wednesday, 8:30 AM

During the winter months, we will share a time of prayer, fellowship, and breakfast at the South Bethany Beach McDonalds on Rt 1.



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 – Donald Maeby
- Week 5 – As needed: Janet Smith
Donald Maeby
Lou Ciccanti

Following the service, we visit and enjoy coffee and dessert together. Join us and bring a friend!

Elder Care/Companion

Elder Care/Companion Care Available. If interested, please call Alice @ 845-596-6700. Alice is a friend of Lois Lathbury. You may contact Lois with any questions. (Cell phone) 302-745-2111. A flyer is posted on the bulletin board.

Special Notes

Southern Delaware Chorale Spring Concert

The Southern Delaware Chorale will present its Spring concert, “For the Beauty of the Earth”, on Sunday, May 5, 2019, at 3:00 PM at Epworth United Methodist Church, 19285 Holland Glade Road, Rehobeth Beach, DE, 19971. In addition to the title song by John Rutter, the group will perform the last movement of Beethoven’s Symphony No. 9 (the familiar “Ode to Joy”) and Finlandia by Sibelius. Other selections will have themes evoking nature and the natural world. Adult admission is \$25; \$10 for students. For tickets, please go to southerndelawarechorale.org, visit Puzzles in Lewes or Browseabout Books in Rehobeth Beach, or contact any chorale member.

Ken Beckman, Member

Charitable Deductions and the New Tax Law

In a previous Dove, mention was made of a method to make a charitable contribution to our church that was advantageous when considering the limitations included in the new tax law. This involves using funds you are required to withdraw from an IRA, known as Required Minimum Distributions. The distributions are called Qualified Charitable Distributions, or QCDs, and are direct transfers from your IRA to the charity,

Briefly, this allows the amount distributed to the charity to be excluded from your Adjusted Gross Income; that amount cannot be included in your itemized deductions, but in many cases, this is to your advantage if you can only take the standard deduction.

If you are interested in this approach, contact your tax professional, and your IRA administrator to set up the process. You can also contact Brice Cropper (302381-8557) or Rich Spina more information. Brice Cropper

CHURCH INFORMATION



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

Reader/Greeter Schedule

Please refer to the schedule on the bulletin board and web site for a current version. Contact Marilyn Ferry with questions. (539-9598)

Keeping Wesley Hall Clean

After completion of any activities and events that take place in the Wesley Hall at which food has been served, please make sure that the Hall is left as you found it. Thank you for helping keep our Wesley Hall clean. Many hands make light work.

Donna Binaut

Worship Service Cancellation

In the event of inclement weather, call church office (302) 539-9077 for voicemail message about worship service status.

Fire Extinguisher Locations:

Sanctuary

- *Immediately inside the front entrance
- *Inside the entrance to the choir room/lavatory area.

Wesley Hall

- *Immediately inside office entrance
- *Immediately inside Main Hall entrance
- *Conference Room front porch entrance

Defibrillator Locations:

Sanctuary

In the Choir Room at the entrance to the Sanctuary

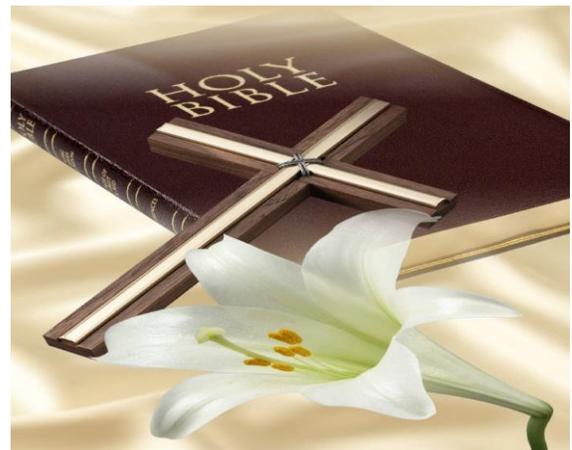
Wesley Hall

In the Main Hall at the handicapped ramp entrance

Contact Information

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Pastor Brad Schutt (302) 249-2337
Church e-mail:
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Church website:
www.millvillemethodistchurch.org

Please contact your Dove editors, Marilyn Ferry and/or Rich Spina at the above church e-mail address for submission of future articles or suggestions to improve content. The editors offer a special thanks to Connie Warner, who, among all her other church "jobs," assembles the Dove Newsletter for distribution and mailing.



"Because I live, you also will live"

John 14:19 NIV

Have a Happy and Blessed Easter