



MILLVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE DOVE

JULY 2018

Message from Pastor Brad

Freedom Every Day

During this month, or at least in the time leading up to and after the 4th of July, there is a widespread focus on and celebration of freedom. Across the board we Americans celebrate our country, the civic freedoms we have, and the ideals infused into the identity of our country. We give thanks for the founders of our country, those who have fought for it ever since, and lift up our leaders in prayer. I know there are some people who struggle with bringing our national identity and celebrations into our worship and corporate spiritual life, but I've come to believe that there are parallels you can't ignore.

Both of these grand institutions, America and the church, have at their foundations an outnumbered, seemingly unprepared and ill-equipped group of people. What they do have is an unshakable faith in a dream that they know can be brought into reality through their joining together with a common spirit and focus beyond themselves. By no means identical stories, but very similar, and freedom is at the root of each of them.

Right now, we could all list several ways that we experience freedom in our lives. The majority of us are able to essentially live our lives how we want to live them. We can go where we please, spend time with who we want to spend time with, and watch, listen, and read whatever we want to. We are free from tyranny, outright indoctrination, and don't have to worry about our loved ones making it home at the end of the day. In Galatians 5:1 Paul writes, "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery" (NIV). The fight for freedom is not limited to these huge and world-changing struggles that

affect the lives of countless people. We all struggle for freedom in our daily lives.

I would argue that one of our greatest and most persistent fights for freedom is against self-imposed limitations. We can claim and proclaim our freedom as Americans, even our freedom in Christ, and live our lives as if both can only go so far. 1 Peter 2:16 tells us to, "live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil" (NIV). Think for a moment, the Creator of the Universe, God Most High and Lord of All Creation has worked in your life and on your behalf in more ways than can be described. What should our response be to that? Something like, "oh no I can't do that, I'm too (insert something here)" or, "that time has passed for me, I've done my part, it's someone else's turn".

I would respectfully suggest that those are the wrong responses because who are we to say no to God, or that God somehow cannot do a new or meaningful thing through we His imperfect and frail vessels. God has worked with far greater and far worse than you and me! So may we resist the evils of comfort, complacency, and copping out of whatever God may be leading us to and to do. May our freedom not be something we only enjoy or give lip service to, but a dream brought into reality by reaching beyond ourselves, just as our founders did. The dream is here, but it is not complete. These ideals and freedoms need to be worked for and protected by us, those who benefit from them and have a joyful obligation to impart them to all people in our generations and the next. May we the free carry on the rest of our days freely in Christ.

Blessings,
Pastor Brad

Summer Vacation for Sunday School

Our Children's Sunday School will be going on break from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. May our teachers, volunteers, and children enjoy the vacationing, travelling, and other fun of summer!

Nominations Update

At our last Lay Leadership and Development Committee meeting the group put together, through prayer and careful discernment, a list of people we believe are equipped and able to serve on the various committees and ministries of the church. Those who were chosen will be receiving letters in the mail over the summer and have the opportunity to talk with Pastor Brad.

New Members

Our church will be receiving new members every year on All Saint's Sunday in November and on Pentecost Sunday in the Spring. In order to join the membership of the church a person will need to complete a 6-week course called A Disciple's Path, a class based on the membership vows of the United Methodist Church. This class will be offered prior to both Sundays. If you are interested in joining Millville UMC we would love for you to do so! Contact Pastor Brad to work out the details and sign up for the class.

Church Renewal Team

Do you have hopes and dreams for our church? Do you want to see Millville United Methodist Church bring the Kingdom of God out into the world around us? Do you feel like the Lord is leading you to help our church deepen its spiritual foundation, remember the value and meaning of gathering as the church, and be organized around God's vision for us? If any of those questions speak to you, we would love to have you join our new Church Renewal Team. We will meet at the end of July to have discussions about our church's mission, vision, values, and how we can practically organize and carry them out through all the goings on of our church. If you are interested in being a part of this group, e-mail Pastor Brad.

Fall Washington D.C. Trip

Our church is organizing a trip to the White House this Winter that is open to anyone from the church and community. Although this trip is several months away, we need to know who is interested in going by July 1st. Our potential days to go are December 5-7. The White House will let us know the exact date as the time gets closer. There are security clearances and background checks that the White House runs for any visitor (they don't just let anyone in). If you would like to go on this trip please e-mail Pastor Brad with the information listed below. There is no charge to get into the White House, so we need to only pay for the bus. Tickets for this trip will be \$30.00 a person, with all profits going to reduce the mortgage on Wesley Hall. No one can be substituted for you or any member of your party. Please submit your payment to the church and the needed information to Pastor Brad through e-mail or regular mail.

Information Needed:

- 1) Last Name, First Name and Middle Initial (if no middle name than indicate by NMN)
- 2) Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)
- 3) Full and complete Social Security #
- 4) Citizen- YES or NO
- 5) Country in which you were born
- 6) Gender –Male or Female
- 8) Address (Must be exact as it is on your license)
- 9) Who is traveling with you

Arise! Early Morning Prayer

Our early morning prayer service will be happening one day a week, Thursdays, at 5:30 AM in the sanctuary. Join us any week for as long as you'd like to stay. We will have a brief, informal worship service followed by a time of praying. See you there!

Dover District Events for July

Cathy Myers (302)-526-2629

Our Financial Health

..At the Halfway Point??

At mid-year, our financial situation is not quite as good as last year, where our worship giving exceeded our budgeted expectation by about \$2,300. We are currently \$1,500 under our budget, and \$900 under giving for this time last year. God continues to provide for our needs through the generosity of our loving church family. As of May 20th, worship giving exceeded our budgeted expectation by \$1,120. However, this is significantly less (by about \$3,000) compared to the same time last year. Our actual expenses continue to be greater than budgeted by about \$3,500.



Wesley Hall Mortgage Monthly Status

Balance on 4/30/2018.....\$112,244.24
Special Donation by Members..... \$2,300.00
Budgeted Payment (less interest).....\$1,044.24
Additional Yard Sale Proceeds.....\$321.50
Balance on 4/23/2018.....\$108,578.50

The Special donation of \$2,000 towards mortgage reduction by members of our church family is very much appreciated. You can do the same in several ways: by using a pew envelope, or by placing your donation in a basket at the rear of the sanctuary marked "Mortgage Reduction."

Thank you in advance for your support.

Trustees Report

Your Trustees have completed the sanctuary microphones upgrade, consisting of a new wireless lapel microphone for Pastor Brad, and four new handheld microphones for general use.

Installation of new rain gutters at the rear of the sanctuary over the handicapped ramp is partially completed.

Missions

Missions is at the heart of our Vision, so please continue to prayerfully consider how you can support our giving. This is the current status of our Missions account.

Paid out in April:

UMCOR.....\$100.00
Native American Sunday.....\$49.00

Current Balance.....\$302.24

We have an ongoing commitment to make a quarterly payment of \$650. to the Salem and Union Wesley food pantries. Please consider this as you fill our mission's baskets.

Ellen Hitchens Missions Chairman

Special Events

United Methodist Women's Group

We will not be holding UMW meetings in the summer, so that our ladies may enjoy their summer with family and friends. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 4th @ 10:00 am. We will be discussing the upcoming Christmas Bazaar, missions and other fun future events. 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.

2018 UMW Bake Sales

A huge thank you to Sharon Graham, Phyllis Rudd, and Sharon Turner for hosting our bake sale.

Our next events...

Friday, July 27 – 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm (Drop off Bake goods for pricing)

Saturday, July 28 – 8:00 am to *11:30ish (Bake Sale)

Friday, August 31 – 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm (Drop off Bake goods for pricing)

Saturday, September 1 – 8:00 am to *11:30ish (Last Bake Sale)

I want to personally thank all of those who go out of their way to make the UMW Bake Sales so amazing and successful. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Donna Binaut at 302-829-1680 or 443-668-8067.

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, Instructor

Aging Faithfully

Cookie Bingo will be held on Tuesday, July 10th at 10:00 AM. Please contact Cathy Witmer @ 302-732-6284 with any questions. If you’re looking for a good time with lots of laughs, join us!

Please note: If you have ideas for future programs for Aging Faithfully, or if you would like to help with planning events, contact Connie Warner at 539-7488

Church Picnic

**July 22, 4:00 PM at Skinner's home
31155 Vines Creek Rd., Dagsboro, De. 19939
302-732-9684**

Bring a dish to share and your lawn chairs. Everything else will be provided, including Joe’s Famous Dogs. Sharing rides would be helpful due to limited parking. We are looking forward to a blessed time together. Come and join us!

Joe & Elizabeth

Weekly Happenings at Millville

Pastor Brad’s Schedule

Pastor Brad is normally in the office on Tuesdays, but he is available by appointment Monday through Thursday. He’ll be in the office Monday through Thursday, but 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’d like to make an appointment, need a pastoral visit or help, or want to talk to him for any other reason, you can contact him by email, phone or text.

Monday	Bible Study	10:00 AM
Tuesday	Fit for Life	9:00 AM
Wednesday	Worship on the Beach	8:30 AM
	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

Monthly Meetings

The following committees will not meet in July and August. All meetings will resume in September: UMW, Trustees, Finance and Administrative Council.

Small Groups -Weekly

Coffee with Pastor Brad - Sunday at 10:30 AM in Wesley Hall. We will be reading the shorter books of the New Testament throughout the beginning of 2018.

Wesley Wednesday Group – Wednesday, 11:00 AM in Wesley Hall, led by Pastor Brad. Our group is reading and discussing the book If Saddlebags Could Talk: Methodist Stories and Anecdotes by Frederick E. Maser. This is a book about the leaders, lives and circuit riders of early American Methodism and promises to be an interesting journey into our denominational roots. This book can be purchased wherever books are sold online. Everyone is invited to join in!

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

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**

Donations will resume in September

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 at Mariner’s Bethel UMC

Volunteers for ACTS are needed!

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

Worship at the Beach!

Every Wednesday at 8:30 AM
Bethany Beach @ Campbell Place

~A time of worship and fellowship on the beach~
Bring a chair or a towel and join with folks from other churches and the community for a casual and traditional worship service. Pastor Brad, other clergy and community members will be delivering messages every week before we pray together. Everyone is invited to join us for more fellowship and breakfast at the Bethany Beach McDonalds.



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. 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!

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

~Special Notes~

During the summer months, the choir will enjoy some vacation time. We will be blessed each Sunday with special music by choir members.

Reminder....Coffee and Conversation will take place the third Sunday of each month immediately following the Worship Service. Everyone is welcome for a time of fellowship and an opportunity to greet our visitors.

Hall & Church Refrigerators

Both refrigerators will be cleaned out at the end of each month. Please take all leftover food and beverages when you leave an event. **Only unopened containers, and containers specifically marked, will be kept.** Thank you. UMW

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.

CHURCH INFORMATION

Fire Extinguisher Locations:

Fire extinguishers are located immediately inside the front entrance, and the inside entrance to the choir room/ lavatory area.

Millville United Methodist Church
36405 Club House Road
Millville, DE 19967

Church Phone (302) 539-9077

Pastor Brad Schutt (302) 249-2337

Church e-mail:

millvillechurchwesley@yahoo.com

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 suggestion to improve content.

HAPPY JULY 4TH



GOD BLESS AMERICA