



MILLVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE DOVE

SEPTEMBER 2018

Message From Pastor Brad

Still Standing

What does the word strength mean to you? What does it look like? A favorite movie of Brynn and Emma's is a recent animated feature called "Sing!", which was actually the first one they ever saw in a theater. It's about the owner of a performance theater who has dreams of success that have never panned out. Every performance he has staged has been a failure to the point that he can't pay his employees and the bank is on the brink of repossessing the place. As a last-ditch effort, he gathers every dollar and remotely valuable possession he has for a prize for a singing competition. He figures that everyone loves singing contests, like American Idol, so it will turn everything around and save his theater.

What does a cartoon with talking animals have to do with strength? Well, actually quite a lot. As you may imagine, things don't turn out too well for this theater owner, who happens to be a koala bear. A large part of his drive to save his theater comes from the fact that his father took him to see a performance there when he was very young. That experience totally captured the kid's imagination and became the focus of his life. So much so, that his dad worked every day of his life so that he could help the son buy the place. Unfortunately, in the preparation for this singing competition the theater owner deals with setback after setback, getting knocked down again and again, and pulling every desperate move that he can until things come crumbling down around him.

Literally, the theater gets flooded and years of DIY repairs cause the place to come down. You

dreams, and he does what most people would do in that situation. He begins to weep as he collects what personal things he can salvage and then he gives up.

Of course, the movie doesn't end there. The theater owner is saved by the contestants of the singing competition because he believed so much in it, in them, and in the theater that they couldn't help but be consumed with it all themselves. The movie is ultimately about strength, but not of the individual. It's about the strength we can have when we come together and live for something beyond ourselves.

Have you ever felt not strong before? You may have felt that way for an hour, a day, a few weeks, or even a year. Why? Because we think of strong as being forceful, either physically or mentally. We think of action heroes, those with social influence, or someone who can impose their will on others with whatever power they know they have. Do you think Jesus displayed strength? How? He didn't force His will on others, He invited people. Although Jesus did flip some tables, He didn't kick down doors and take names. When not only His life was on the line, but the fate of all people and creation, Jesus displayed the greatest strength in the most surprising of ways. He withstood. He endured. He took the worst we could do because He was standing, stumbling, crawling, and eventually hanging because Jesus lived, died, and rose again for a dream beyond all of us.

The greatest victory was won by what the world would call weakness and defeat. Think about that the next time you feel without power, or somehow unworthy. In 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 it says,

“We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed” (NIV). We can definitely follow Christ and live into His likeness when things are going great, or just plain normal. I believe we can so very much know the presence, strength, grace, and love of our Lord when it feels like the whole world is heaping it on and the only reason we are standing or even surviving today is because He is the only thing keeping us up. This note is called Still Standing because at the end of the movie a young gorilla sings the Elton John song, “I’m Still Standing”. This is after being disowned by his gangster father and losing everything he knew because he didn’t want to get in on the family business. That was his declaration, and may it be ours’, that we are all still standing because of the God who stands with us.

Blessings,
Pastor Brad

September Sermon Series

“Racing for Revival”

September 2nd: Know Your Spotter
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

September 9th: In Car Communications
James 2:1-10, 14-17
Mark 7:24-37

September 16th: Checkered Flags & Blown Tires
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38

September 30th: Don't Forget to Pit
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50

Notes from Pastor Brad

New Member’s Class

Our Fall New Member’s Class will begin on Sunday, October 28th at 2:00PM and will be held at Pastor Brad and Erin’s house (26 Ronzetti Ave.,

Selbyville, DE 19975). We will be using a study called A Disciple’s Path, which is based off the membership vows of the United Methodist Church. This is a 6-week study, so our last session will be on Sunday, November 25th. We will be receiving new members on Sunday, December 2nd during worship. Those interested in becoming members of our church and recent new members who did not go through a class are strongly encouraged to attend! To sign up, please e-mail Pastor Brad (umcpastorbrad@outlook.com) or sign up in the sanctuary.

Pastor Brad on Vacation

Pastor Brad, Erin, and the kids will be going on their first family vacation since they’ve become a family (Erin was pregnant with Emma the last time they went anywhere fun for long). They will be in Maine from Sunday, September 23rd through Friday, September 28th. Pastor Blair Hall from St. George’s UMC up the road has made himself available in the event of any pastoral needs or emergencies.

Crop Walk

On Sunday, October 14th our church will be joining with the Southeast Sussex Ministerium for the 30th anniversary of its Crop Walk. This event benefits Church World Service, a Christian organization that carries out various mission works throughout the world. Registration for this event starts at 12:00pm at the Bethany Beach Bandstand. There will be entertainment and fun during the walk, with food and fellowship after at Bethany Christian Church. You can donate to the Crop Walk through the church through all of September with your envelopes, online, or the Mission Jar in the back of the sanctuary. Everyone is invited to come on out for the walk itself, so Millville UMC can be well represented!

“Arise!” Early Morning Prayer

After almost a year of carrying on this ministry in different forms, it was decided by the clergy leadership of this prayer time that it will no longer continue. During this time, we will discern what new ways the Lord is leading us into to live out the call to be in prayer together and as a community.

Wesley Wednesday Group

Starting on Wednesday, September 5th our Wesley Wednesday Group will begin studying the book Wesley and the People Called Methodists, Second Edition by Richard P. Heitzenrater. There is an older first edition of this book, but we will be using the 2nd Edition that recently came out. This book can be purchased in print or eBook form from Amazon.com, Christianbook.com, Thriftbook.com, or wherever else you get books. Anyone from the church or community is invited to join in on this study.

Peninsula Delaware Scholarship Sunday

For those who don't know, Pastor Brad is the chairperson of our conference's Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry. The most important thing this board gets to do is award a Merit, Need Based, and Campus Ministry Scholarship every year at Annual Conference to college students in need. These scholarships are funded by the generous giving of the churches of our annual conference. This is something near and dear to Pastor Brad's heart, so any donations are greatly appreciated. Donations can be made to the church by writing PD Scholarship Sunday on a check or envelope, and our church will be collecting money all month for this cause.

Prayer on the Beach

Now that summer is (thankfully?) over our Wednesday morning prayer ministry will move from being a brief service with a message to a time of fellowship and prayer. We will continue to meet on Campbell Place at Bethany Beach every Wednesday morning at 8:30am. Once we are done praying on the beach we adjourn to McDonald's for food and fellowship. Stay tuned, once the weather gets colder everything will move to McDonald's. We hope to see you there!

~NOTICE~

MUMC Church/Charge Conference. Saturday, October 6th at 4:00 PM in the sanctuary. All church members are invited to attend.

Our Financial Health

...Wow

When I look back at our financial condition a year ago, I continue to marvel at the generosity of our church family. As of August 31st, our worship giving is almost \$7,000 greater than our budget for 2018. At this time last year, we were a little over \$5,000. At the end of August, our expenses exceeded our budget by about \$6,300, but this difference is trending down. We have faith that God will continue to provide for our needs.



Wesley Hall Mortgage Monthly Status

Balance on 7/31/2018.....	\$104,581.45
Special Donation by Members.....	\$5,440.00
Yard Sale Proceeds.....	\$5,884.44
Budgeted Payment (less interest).....	\$1,063.54
Balance on 8/31/2018.....	\$92,193.47

We are so grateful and blessed by the members of our church family who support the effort to reduce the mortgage in ways both financial, and through extraordinary personal effort.

A special thanks to Kathy Cropper and her team for the many, many hours spent planning, organizing setting up, and conducting the recent yard sale. As you can see above, the sale netted over \$5,800 which was placed against the mortgage principal. **The combination of the yard sale proceeds and special donations had the effect of shortening our payoff period by over a year!!**

We are still considering ways to have the mortgage paid off by the time the current note comes due in January, 2020, so please consider a special donation using the pew envelopes.

Special donations towards mortgage reduction by members of our church family are always very much appreciated.

Dover District Events
Cathy Myers 302 526-2629

Bishop's District Day-Dover District

Topic: "The Way Forward"

Conversation about the February special session of General Conference that will deal with the issue of homosexuality and the UMC

Who is Invited: Lay and Clergy together!

Wednesday September 19, 2018

6:30 PM to 8:00 PM

Union UMC

2 N. Laws Street

Bridgeville, DE

Dover District Prayer Day

Date: September 22, 2018

Time: 9 AM to 3 PM

Where: Asbury UMC, 200 Weiner Ave.,
Harrington, DE 19952

This daylong celebration will focus on **the Love and Grace of God** who abundantly and faithfully pours out His blessings upon us.

Special Events

United Methodist Women's Group

Tuesday, September 4 @ 10:00 AM

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 4 @ 10:00 am. Our meetings are held in the library of the Wesley Hall. We will be discussing the upcoming Christmas Bazaar and other fun future events and missions. 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 Luella Wright and Wanda Freed for hosting our last bake sale of the summer on September 1.

Our successful bake sales are due to all of our church family who have supplied us with delicious homemade treats to sell. I want to personally thank all of those who go out of their way to make the UMW Bake Sales so amazing each year. Donna Binaut, UMW President

SAVE THE DATE

UMW Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, November 10 at 8:00

UMW Christmas Bazaar is right around the corner. It will be held on Saturday, November 10 and doors will open at 8:00 am. UMW will reserve the Wesley Hall the week of Monday, November 5 to Saturday, November 10. This scheduling will affect anyone who uses the hall during the day - bible studies and classes. Any evening meetings in the library area during this week will not be affected.

We hope to offer 2nd Time Around Treasures (Any Christmas or Late Fall / Winter decorations), Crafts, Bake Sale, Silent Auction and the UMW Café will be serving lunch.

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 too! Again, we are only be accepting Any Christmas or Late Fall / Winter decorations. We will start accepting donation Monday, October 1 thru Saturday, November 3.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Donna Binaut at 302-829-1680 or 443-668-8067. Or come to the meeting on Tuesday, September 4!

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

Pot Luck Update

Pot Luck will resume in October.

Contact Elizabeth Skinner with any questions.

Special Gospel Concert

A special gospel concert will be provided at MUMC by "Anchormen" on Saturday, September 8th at 6:00 PM. You won't want to miss this one!!! Bring a friend.

Aging Faithfully

Cookie Bingo will be held Tuesday, September 11th at 10 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 at the next event.

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

A Mission Project for Christmas

As most of you already know, our Church will be buying shoes for children in third world countries as one of our Christmas mission projects. This will replace the Shoeboxes.

Now that the Yard Sale is over and we're finished cleaning out our homes of all the many things we have and never use, let's step back and think about what that means and realize how blessed we are. We sold "used" shoes this year at the Yard Sale. Think about your closet and how many pairs of shoes you have. Then, please think about all the children who walk barefoot every day down to the dirty stream to fill buckets for drinking water, walking on sticks and rocks and sharp objects that cut their feet and then become infected without proper ways to clean and disinfect the wounds.

Each pair costs \$3.60. Please open your hearts and your wallets to help put shoes on these children.

Please make your checks payable to:

Millville United Methodist Church (tax deductible) and put CHRISTMAS SHOES on the memo line.

You may drop it in the collection plate or send it by mail to Millville United Methodist Church, 36405 Clubhouse Road, Millville, DE 19967.

To reach the children by Christmas, all money should be in by SEPTEMBER 23rd.

I know we'll make many children very happy this year! Thank you!!

Nancy Bowers

Weekly Happenings at Millville

Pastor Brad's Schedule

Pastor Brad is in the office on Tuesdays from late morning to early afternoon. He is available by appointment Monday through Thursday.

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	Prayer on the Beach	8:30 AM
Wednesday	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

~September Monthly Meetings~

UMW	Tues., Sept. 4, 10:00 AM
Finance Comm.	Mon., Sept. 10, 7:00 PM
Trustees	Mon., Sept. 17 6:30 PM
Admin. Council	Mon., Sept. 17 7:00 PM
SPPRC	Tues., Sept 18 7:00 PM



Choir rehearsal begins Wednesday, September 5th at 6:30 PM in Wesley Hall

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.

Wesley Wednesday Group – Wednesday, 11:00 AM in Wesley Hall, led by Pastor Brad. We will be studying the book “Wesley and the People Called Methodists,” 2nd Edition, by Richard P. Heitzenrater.

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

Missions

**Donate to CHRISTMAS SHOES
by September 23rd**

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

Needed all year: Construction paper
Glue Sticks
#2 pencils

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).

Prayer at the Beach!

Every Wednesday, 8:30 AM, Bethany Beach @ Campbell Place. A time of prayer and fellowship on the beach with 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 Maebly
- Week 5 – As needed: Janet Smith
Donald Maebly
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~

How Donor-Advised Funds Can Boost Charitable Giving

This approach allows you to donate highly appreciated assets, and by doing so, you will:

1. Avoid capital gains tax
2. Consolidate your charitable tax deductions, by taking a big deduction in one year, and donate proceeds over multiple years
3. Receive tax-free compounding

Contact Brice Cropper or Rich Spina for further details.

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. Joe Skinner

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.

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Church website:
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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.