



## **MILLVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

# **The Dove**      **FEBRUARY 2020**

### **Pastor Brad's Message**

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.”

*2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (NIV)*

**“Why do bad things happen to good people?”**

**OR**

**“Why does God let bad things happen to good people?”**

Have you ever been asked one or both of these questions before? Have you ever been the one asking? Or even asked yourself? I've been the asker and recipient several times over to both questions. Usually the question never leaves my mind, but there have been rare occasions when I have asked a family member, friend, or mentor. Do you know what the common thread is? What happens every time, regardless of who is involved or how, is an unsatisfying answer. I have honestly never heard someone give an answer to this issue that made me feel God's strength, love, control, and compassion equally and deeply across the board. You have to favor one side, God as strong and in control or God as loving and compassionate, in order to try and justify things.

Why do we want to know why? Is there comfort in the facts or details? Imagine if God somehow sat you down and somehow explained to you all the reasons and rationale for every tragedy and failure in your life. That would be the worst day of my life. There's no spreading it out or sugar-coating things to make it any better. Knowing the why of terrible

things won't bring change or healing, so what's to be done with them?

I like how, far better than why. I know I am excellent at dwelling on the past, whether I somehow brought it on myself or something horrible just happened. What I need is a next step or two, to have God give me some kind of push to get myself going again. This doesn't excuse trials and tribulations or the long-term pain that they can bring.

In my mind, this illustrates the reality of life and how willing God is to be present with us right now, even when things are so bad that no one else is able to stand that close to us. It is important for us to acknowledge the burdens and scars we carry around with us from the world we live in. They happened, they've left their mark, but the good news is that they don't define us or our story. They certainly are a part of it, but they ultimately point to the redemptive work of God's grace and how needed it is in our life. It points to God's grace in our life so that, if we let it and answer the call, our lives can point to the presence of God in this world for others also. That is the ultimate how at work here and where our next steps from tragedy can lead.

As Christ reaches out to all of His children with His pierced hands, out of love, we can reach to those in need around us with hands and hearts that have weathered so much because of who God is and wants to be for us all. May we all strive to reach as far and wide as our savior who showed divine strength through human weakness and brought the joy of everlasting life from the depth of grief and loss.

Blessings, Pastor Brad

## Thank You from Pastor Brad

I wanted to take the time to thank our church family for your kind words and support since I announced my re-appointment to Union United Methodist Church in Bridgeville, DE as their pastor starting on July 1<sup>st</sup>. This is not something I take lightly, in fact, in a lot of ways I must surrender my feelings to God and lean into trusting and being obedient. Despite however you may be feeling right now, the fact that so many of you have shared how you've been touched by our time together or how excited you are for our family has been profoundly moving and shows once again the loving heart at the core of Millville UMC. I look forward to the next several months of our continuing to be family in Christ and in ministry together for our community and all our neighbors. Beyond that, may we go in faith and expectation knowing that what the Lord has set between us can transcend all things and that greater works of grace and love are yet to be done to and through us all.

Blessings, Pastor Brad

## Pastor Brad's Announcements



Ash Wednesday February 26

## Lenten Study

For those interested in a more in-depth devotional experience for Lent, Pastor Brad is encouraging folks to go through the book 40 Days of Decrease by Dr. Alicia Britt Chole with him during the 40 days of Lent. We will be discussing this book during Pastor Brad's Study held in Wesley Hall at 10:30 am after Sunday worship. He will also be sharing other reflections and materials through the church's Facebook page. Please sign up at the back of the sanctuary if you would like to receive a copy of the book.

## Receiving New Members

We will be having our next United Methodism 101 class for new members and those wanting a

refresher on Methodism Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 11:00 am in Wesley Hall. There are no required reading, texts, or materials for this class. We will be receiving new members in worship on Palm Sunday, which is April 5<sup>th</sup> this year. If you would like to join the church but cannot make it to worship that day, we can pick another Sunday to receive you. If you would like to retain your church membership at your home church or previous church, there are ways in which you can retain that, whether it is United Methodist or not, and affiliate with Millville UMC as well. Please sign up for this class at the back of the sanctuary or e-mail Pastor Brad, in both cases indicating whether you want to join the church.

## February Worship Series "Belonging to Receive"

February 9<sup>th</sup> – "You Belong to the People of God"

Readings: Isaiah 58:1-12, Matthew 5:1-20, and Micah 6:1-8

February 16<sup>th</sup> – "You Belong to the Ways of God"

Readings: Deuteronomy 30:15-20 and Matthew 5:21-37

February 23<sup>rd</sup> – "Receiving Transformation from God" Readings: Exodus 24:12-18 and Matthew 17:1-9

February 26<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday "Living into the Transformation" Readings: Psalm 51:1-17 and Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

## Dover District Events

Contact Amy Willey 302-526-2629

District Leadership Training – Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 am to 12:00 pm at Avenue UMC in Milford, DE

General Conference Listening Session – Saturday, February 29<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at Ocean Pines Community Church, Ocean Pines, MD

District Revival Prayer Day #8 – Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at Greenwood UMC in Greenwood, DE

District Lay Academy – Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at Avenue UMC, Milford, DE

Extravagant Generosity Workshop—Saturday, April 25 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. Registration opens at 8:00 am, Smyrna Centennial UMC

## **Committee Reports**

### **Our Financial Health.....**

#### **A Good Start**

We started 2020 with a General Fund Balance (what we have left after paying all bills for the month) of \$31,171, or about \$5,700 less than we had at the end of December last year. This is consistent with the fact that operating expenses were about \$5,300 greater than last year, while worship giving was slightly under last year.

However, we are getting off to a good start in 2020. Due to a generous one-time donation by one our church family during January, worship giving is about \$3,300 over our budget estimate.

The Finance committee will be meeting on February 10 to review our budgeted and other potential future expenses. We will consider a prudent approach to how we use God's gifts, to ensure we will be on a sustainable path for the remainder of the year. Rich Spina



### **Trustees Report**

Facility Security: The Trustees are still waiting for a response from our insurance company on liability coverage for our security. Ocean View police have agreed to provide for any training needs. Additional approved actions will be implemented in the near future, including video surveillance of entry doors and parking lot. We will also look for recommendations from security system providers.

Sanctuary Computer: We will be contacting Mid-South Audio for a proposal to meet our current needs, but also to support a future visual system upgrade.

Sanctuary Projection System: This project is under consideration as a 2020 effort.

Other: Our buildings will be power-washed in the Spring. Rich Spina

## **Missions**

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

### **UMW Notes From Donna**

#### **United Methodist Women's Group Tuesday, February 4 @ 10:00 am**

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 4 @ 10:00 am. Our meetings are held in the library of the Wesley Hall. We will be discussing the Changes in UMW and Elections for New Officers. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Donna Binaut at 302-829-1680 or 443-668-8067.

### **MUMC Membership Secretary Notes MUMC Ladies Breakfast Club**

Come join us at Bethany Diner on Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am for breakfast. Had breakfast already? Have a cup of coffee with us. The whole purpose of the breakfast club is to join the women of the church together in fellowship. We will be meeting on the fourth Friday of each month. I will post this information each month in the Dove. Let me know if you can make it and I will make sure you get a seat at the table. Many blessings,  
Donna Binaut, MUMC Membership Secretary

## **Special Events**

### **Pot Luck Dinner**

There will be No Pot Luck dinner in February

### **Ash Wednesday Service Feb 26, 7:00 PM**

### **Coffee and Conversation**

Just a reminder that our Coffee and Conversation is on the 3rd Sunday of every month. This is a special time for members and visitors to say "hi" and to "catch up". So many of you have helped to make these 3rd Sundays of the month a success by

bringing yummy things to share and enjoy, and I thank you for that. We can never have too much!!! We are a Church family and it's great to have us all involved in our fellowship events. Your presence and involvement makes those times more special and more fun! Thank you, Ellie Trait

### **Fit for Life**

Each Tuesday we meet at 9:00 AM and Carol Gorden leads us in "gentle exercise." Everyone is welcome to join in for fitness, fun, and fellowship!! Carol (410-530-3002)

### **Cookie Bingo**

Cookie Bingo will be on a break until someone volunteers to assume the responsibility for this activity. If you are interested, please Contact Cathy Witmer @ 302-732-6284.

**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.

### **Coming Events**

**The Other Twelve Disciples**  
(Featuring the twelve Women in Jesus' life)  
**Saturday, March 28, 7:00 PM**

Come hear the testimony of the women who traveled with and really knew Jesus. You will be blessed by this presentation. 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	Bible Study—Mark	1:00 PM
Wednesday	Choir Rehearsal	6:30 PM
Thursday	Bible Study	9:00 AM
Saturday	Praise Service	6:00 PM
Sunday	Worship Service	9:00 AM
	Pastor's Study	10:30 AM

#### **Pastor Brad's Office Schedule**

Tuesday	11:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Wednesday	11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Thursday	11:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Friday and Saturday	- Sabbath and Family time

### **Monthly Meetings**

UMW	February 4, 10:00 AM
Finance Comm.	February 10, 7:00 PM
Trustees	No meeting in February
Admin. Council	No meeting in February

### **Choir Notes**

Choir practice is held every Wednesday evening at 6:30 PM in Wesley Hall. We always welcome anyone interested in joining us. If you can sing in the shower, maybe you can sing with us. We love praising the Lord, how about you? Elizabeth  
*"With praise and thanksgiving they sang to the Lord....."* **Ezra 3:11 NIV**

### **Small Groups –Weekly**

**Pastor Brad's Study** - 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.

**Pastor Brad's Bible Study on the Gospel of Mark** will meet every Wednesday at 1:00 PM in Wesley Hall, until June. Everyone is welcome. Just bring your Bible – we will study the scripture and gain some new insights into the book of Mark.

### **Missions Giving**

#### **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: International Disaster Response**  
**Advance # 982450**

**Remember To Bring Donations For Salem UMC Food Pantry**

## Supplies Needed for Wesley Hall

Tri-fold paper towels, toilet paper, hand/dish soap, cleaning or disinfectant supplies.

## Ministries

### To activate the Prayer Chain

Call Nancy Bowers at 1-410-598-5600  
or email [nanbowers4@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto: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 on the Beach!**  
**During the winter months,**  
**we meet at McDonalds**  
**Wednesday, 8:30 AM**

Come and share in a time of prayer, fellowship and breakfast at the Bethany Beach McDonalds on Route 1. Invite a friend!



### 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!

## CHURCH INFORMATION



### Attention!!

Seeking help with operation of the Sanctuary audio/visual system in the sound booth on Sunday mornings. Please see Janet Smith.

**If you have questions regarding:**  
 ~ Scheduling Requests for use of Wesley Hall~  
 ~ Flowers on the Altar~  
 ~ Prayer List Additions or Corrections~  
 Please contact Marilyn Ferry (539-9598)  
 or email [wingferry@aol.com](mailto:wingferry@aol.com)

**Reader/Greeter Schedule**  
 (Subject to change as needed)

**February 2020**

Date	Reader	Greeters
2	Rich Spina	Bev Brady & Betty Moffett
9	Tom Binaut	Phyllis Campbell & Millie Cheek
16	Chuck Erbe	Tom & Donna Binaut
23	Marianne Smith	Rich & Rosemary Spina

**Readers / Greeters schedule for 2020**  
**Looking for Readers and Greeters**

We are currently looking for members who would like to be a Reader or a Greeter at Sunday service. We would love to have more volunteers. If you are interested, please talk with Luella Wright, Worship Chair or Pastor Brad to learn more.

Many blessings, Donna

**February Birthdays**



- 11 – Cathie Heird
- 13 – John Amato
- 22 – Phyllis Rudd
- 23 – Bob Chin
- 28 – Sherrill Meekins

Dove Editors: Marilyn Ferry, Rich Spina

**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**

**Worship Service Cancellation**

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

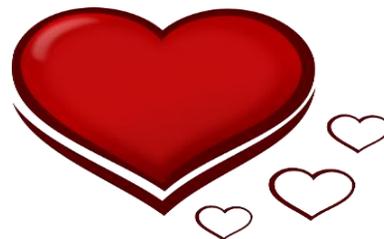
**Contact Information**

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](mailto:millvillechurchwesley@yahoo.com)

Church website:  
[www.millvillemethodistchurch.org](http://www.millvillemethodistchurch.org)



*“...Faith, Hope, and Love, but the greatest of these is Love” 1 Corinthians 13:13 NIV*

***Happy Valentines Day***