

MESSENGER



Pastor's Pen:



This Precious "Foolishness"

Friends, it has been a joy to share with you our Lenten journey and Holy Week remembrances. I trust with you that our Easter joy will continue as we keep preparing and hosting our community throughout Eastertide. It is exciting to think about our little "resurrection community" hosting the neighbors from our area to experience the risen Christ with us, isn't it?! I pray the Lord blesses your sharing and inviting people into his resurrection power and glory, and I hope you find friends and coworkers that can encourage to come with you for our worship and discipleship opportunities through this glorious season ahead of us. We will again be changed by all this "foolishness." Do you remember the apostle Paul using that word about the cross?

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God. For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart. Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

1 Corinthians 1: 18-20

For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

1 Corinthians 1: 21-25

Yes! Once **again** we will remember the foolishness that birthed our eternal hope, the foolishness that has turned the world upside down! May God continue using this "resurrection community" at Tom's Creek United Methodist Church to continue spreading the foolishness!

In Jesus' love,
Pastor Mike Cantley

Service March 1st



Message:
Faith works for us All!

L- **Jaime Rickell**

R- **Pastor Mike** with
Young Disciples plus one



L- Our beautiful altar



R- **Debbie Henning**,
Music Director
Playing 4 bells at one time!



Many thanks to our pianist, **Carol Hipp**; Greeters/Ushers, **Pat Brabson** and **Bonnie Gillum**; Acolytes- **Christian Kendall** and **Ryan VanGarven**; Young disciples; Nursery helpers- **Greta Nettleton** and **George Tuggle**; Fellowship: **Susie Honaker**

Service March 8th

Message: "Living Water for a Thirsty World"



After listening to the message and seeing the pictures of water, we were all getting thirsty. Then, out comes the bottled water for us all. On behalf of all of us, thank you for the refreshment and may our living water flow to others.

Lay Reader: Phyllis Kelly

Special Thank You



Big Thanks to
Larry & Debbie Henning
for the comfy new chairs in
the AV booth!



Big Thanks to
George & Beverley Tuggle
for freshening up our sign
at the corner!



**Paster Mike and
Larry Henning**



Lay Reader –
Joe Coleman



Dale Carr singing
‘Springs of Living Water’



Joe Coleman addressing
the young disciples

Sunday School Teachers/ Helpers Needed

For a reference of spiritual gifts, check 1 Corinthians 12: 1-31. If you have the gift of teaching or can help, we need you in the youth ministry.

If you are interested, contact **Trudy Price** at 717-337-2897 for more information or questions you may have. If you have not yet been approved by our Safe Sanctuary Committee, contact **Heather Fitzgerald** at faithisfirstnow@gmail.com to go through the process.

Thank you, **Trudy**

Oldies and Goodies

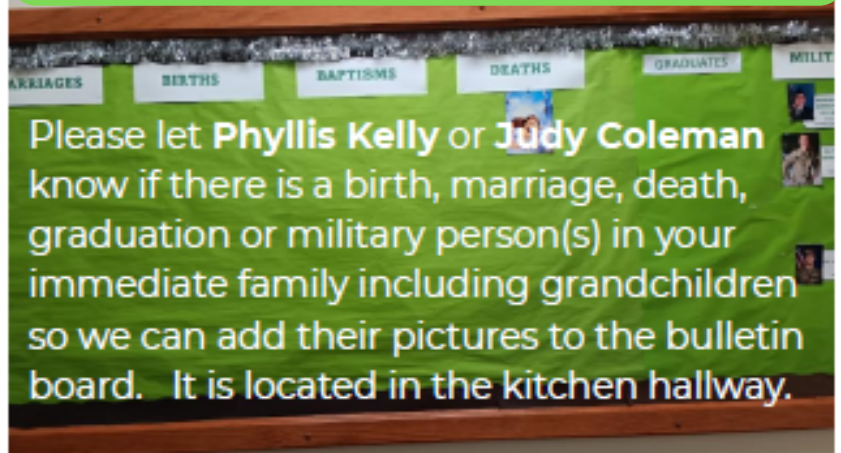


The Oldies and Goodies met on March 19th at the church. It was a larger group than usual with some first timers and a few old timers returning. **Bonnie** welcomed everyone and thanked **Anita Hill** for providing the fried chicken for the luncheon. She also thanked **Trudy** for organizing games for each meeting and getting the prizes. **Pastor Mike** offered a prayer. The meal was very tasty; the chicken was delicious and there were many different side dishes and desserts from which to choose. The Spring Trivia game was won by **Joe, Frank, Pat Chapman** and **Pat Brabson**. **Brooke** won the Fix the Lyrics game (That girl knows her lyrics!), followed by **Joe and George Tuggle**. The next Oldies gathering was scheduled for April 16th. As always, everyone is welcome!

Submitted by Karen Wivell



Bulletin Board Near Kitchen



Service March 22

“Oh Dry Bones Hear the Word of God”



Larry Henning and Pastor Mike adding percussions for effect to Ezekial 37 1-14



Lay Reader: Neil Price

Pastor Mike with the young disciples

Can ‘them’ bones live?



Tom’s Creek Bell Ringers
Led by: **Debbie Henning**



All-Church Birthday Party

Our annual All-Church Birthday Party was held on March 22nd. Bakers sign up to create a cake or pie to celebrate a specific month. Others bring a covered dish. All are asked to sit at the table of their birth month. This is a fun tasty way to meet others in our congregation that you wouldn't normally sit with to enjoy fellowship. Also, we look forward to eating with our birthday buddies each year. We had approximately 70 people in attendance. There is room for more next year! Many thanks to those who helped set-up and clean-up.



Check out **Leroy Wilt's** birthday tie!



Choir Practice for the Cantata



Service: March 29 Palm/ Passion Sunday



On this **Palm/ Passion Sunday**, we were treated to the beautiful music of our choir for the **Cantata**.

Lay Reader: **Dale Carr**



Pastor Mike sharing with the young disciples.



Sadie and **Sam**

Pastor Mike goes back to school!



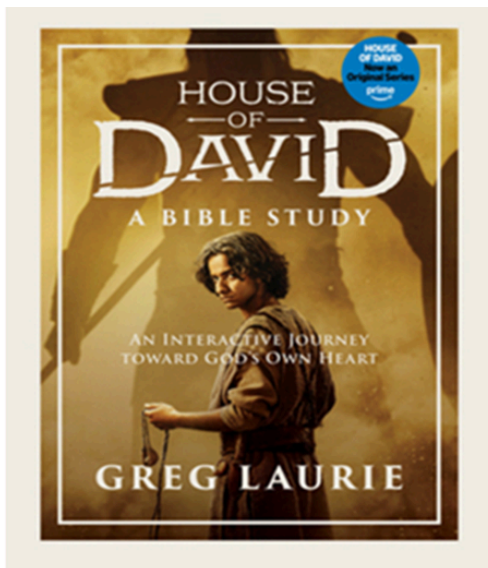
A couple of joys I have to share... about going back to school! Some of you have already heard. I was accepted into a graduate program at **United Lutheran Seminary in Gettysburg**. It was a joy that they invited me to be part of this fairly new graduate program called **“Public Theology and Witness.”** Then a second joy came this week. I was sure when I got the news, that I would likely have to leave being a pastor in the local church; however your Ad Council voted this week to keep me on as your pastor while I am a student in this program. We’re going to modify my hours to 3/4 time and some of the ways my job works here, but I am humbled with the family of God and your support for my work in the LORD. We will share more as details unfold, but I wanted to share that praise and joy about some meaningful things happening in our lives together.

Thank you all, and I trust the LORD will keep blessing our work together.

Pastor Mike Cantley

April 30th ‘House of David’ Bible Study Class Begins

*******There is still time to join the study. Please contact Carol Hipp in order to have a study guide available for the lessons.*******



“House of David” - A bible study authored by Greg Laurie and facilitated by **Carol Hipp**, will begin on **April 30th** at the church and will continue each Thursday for 8 weeks from 9:30am to 11am. Inspired by the Prime Video Original Series, *House of David*, this Bible study unpacks timeless lessons from King David's life to help build a faith that endures life's greatest challenges. The study explores David's ascent from obscurity to the throne, uncovering powerful lessons about faith, perseverance, and God's unwavering grace. Whether David was defeating Goliath, navigating the treachery of Saul's court, or seeking redemption after failure, his journey reveals a God who is faithful in every season and beckons us to Him.

Please sign up or call Carol Hipp (410-493-7384) to register by April 12th so that study guides may be ordered promptly. The class is free. Study guides are \$15. Cash and/or checks can be made to Tom’s Creek UMC and will be collected at the first meeting. BRING A FRIEND and come join our fellowship as we are guided through scripture and lessons that demonstrate, through David’s story, how God remains faithful as our loving and gracious Father.

May 2nd





Saturday, May 2, 2026

10:00am in the Tom's Creek UMC sanctuary
Followed by lunch together in fellowship hall

Are you or someone you know experiencing loneliness, anxiety, depression, or grief? The church family is here to carry one another's burdens and share our sorrows.

NO FEELING IS FINAL



Join us for this film, a quiet time of reflection, and lunch together. *You are not alone.*

Please RSVP to
revcantley@gmail.com
for head count.



May 3rd Outreach Ministry Collection

Ruth's Harvest continues to be a meaningful outreach ministry serving children and families in the Gettysburg and Fairfield, Pennsylvania communities by providing weekend food bags for students who may face food insecurity when school is not in session. Through the generosity of churches, volunteers, and community supporters, this mission offers nourishment, care, and hope to many local families each week. We give thanks for the opportunity to support **Ruth's Harvest** through donations, prayers, and service, helping to remind our neighbors that they are seen, valued, and cared for. Please join Connect/Serve/Share in supporting this important ministry by **donating** to our **Second Mile Giving collection** on the 3rd of May 2026.

Submitted by **Heather Fitzgerald**

May 14th

Westminster Ringers, May 14th, 7pm – They are a Maryland community handbell ensemble who will be in concert at Tom's Creek. Please come and enjoy an evening of wonderful music. There will be a freewill offering with a suggested fee of \$10. The funds raised will be donated back to Tom's Creek for their handbell program. Our own Music Director, **Debbie Henning**, is part of this group and **Larry Henning** is their Director.

IN CONCERT



Westminster Ringers

A Maryland Community Handbell Ensemble



Tom's Creek UMC

**10926 Simmons Rd.
Emmitsburg, MD**

May 14th

7:00 PM

**Freewill Offering
Suggested Fee \$10**

*Larry Henning,
Director*

Westminster Ringer CDs and other merchandise will be available.

An advanced community ensemble of gifted musicians playing advanced handbell repertoire at the highest possible level of musical sensitivity and technical clarity.

"The musically creative art of English handbell ringing is strikingly evident with the Westminster Ringers - one of the leading organizations for musical expression and innovation. They have established themselves as one of America's premier professional ensembles."
Dr. William A. Payne



www.thewestminsterringers.org
A 501(c)3 nonprofit organization

The Westminster Ringers, Inc. is supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council (msac.org) and in part by a Community Arts Development Grant from the Carroll County Arts Council (carrollcountyartsCouncil.org).

May 17th

Face of America Bike Ride

The annual Face of America bike ride, organized by nonprofit **World T.E.A.M. Sports**, focuses on **honoring the sacrifices of veterans**. The endeavor pairs able-bodied people with those who have disabilities as a team on a shared mission. The ride begins in Arlington, Virginia on Saturday, May 16 th and ends in Gettysburg on Sunday afternoon.

TCUMC has hosted a rest stop for the bikers since 2016. We offer nutritious snacks, fruit, energy drinks, lemonade, water, coffee, and tea to all of the riders and support staff. We also offer baked goods prepared by church members. **We are the only rest stop to offer this to the riders so they are very appreciative of the homemade goodies.** While the event is veteran focused, no one is excluded from participating. It is estimated that about 80 percent of the riders are veterans or affiliated with the military in some way.

This year we are expecting over 350 riders. It is a hectic 30 minutes when all are at the rest stop. When "The Star-Spangled Banner" is sung, you can hear a pin drop. Volunteers are needed in order to provide this service. If you are helping, you must be at The Promised Land by 8:30 am. on Sunday morning. If you are unable to volunteer, come and cheer on the riders as they come and leave the rest stop. We guarantee that you will return again next year.

Sandy and Frank Negro

717-359-8737

fasnegro2@yahoo.com



August 22nd Tom's Creek Annual Yard Sale

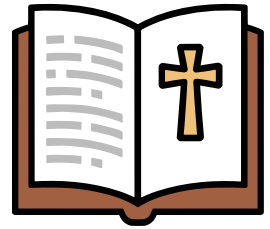
Tom's Creek Annual Community Yard Sale, August 22, 8am-2pm, The Promised Land . Below are the ways in which you can participate:

- Reserve a space for \$10.00 to sell your treasures.
- Donate your treasures to the church table where proceeds go to the church.
- Donate baked goods to sell. (Think Face of America snacks.)
- Distribute and post flyers.
- Spread the word.
- Assist people in finding their area on the day of the yard sale.
- Pray for all who are organizing, selling, and attending this event.
- Pray for unseasonably cool weather for August 22!

Contact **Kathy Imirie** at, 301-471-2585 or kitherapy@yahoo.com for more details.

Flyers are available on the lobby table for you to take and distribute.

Click on arrow to view video from last year. Or, enter this link into your URL: <https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1Dh7ZMpeeE/>



Why spend time in the Word?

1. To find wisdom – through the Word from God
2. Helps us grow in our godliness
3. It puts us in communion with God
4. Gives us a direct pathway to receive what God has for us (blessings)
5. The Word puts all life's pressures in proper perspective
6. The Word is the good part that cannot be taken away from us – these thoughts will come back when needed throughout bad times

Kindly submitted by **Phyllis Kelly**

Pastor Mike said, "Amen, **Phyllis**. Time in the Bible also points us to the Living Word, Jesus!"

Thanks to the Brucheys for a Lovely Display

