



The Webster Word

April 2009



Vol. 7, Issue 4



Upcoming Events

Sat, April 4

1:00 AM – Children’s Easter Party and Egg Hunt

Palm Sunday, April 5

11:00 AM – Palm Sunday Service
Communion Service

Wed, April 8

7:00 PM – SCCW Meeting

Maundy Thursday., April 9

6:00 PM – Sader Meal, Social Hall

Fri, April 10

Noon – Susquehanna Ministerium’s Annual Cross Walk

Easter Sunday, April 12

8:30 AM – Easter Pancake Breakfast
11:00 AM – Easter Sunday Service

Mon, April 13

7:00 PM – Board of Director’s Meeting,
Church Office

Sat, April 25

7:00 PM – Benefit Quarter Auction

Sun, April 26

11:00 AM – Anniversary Service,
Social Hall

Pastor’s Message

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1-3)

Dear Partners in Ministry,

On April 19 over 20,000 folks will run the Boston Marathon. Imagine running 26 miles and 385 yards with something called Heartbreak Hill right before the finish line. I will not be there. While I have neither the knees nor the desire to even think about such a thing, I have a great deal of admiration for the discipline and determination it takes to prepare for and complete a marathon.

On April 12 we will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. In the days between now and then we will watch him run a very different race towards Jerusalem and the cross that awaits him there. The readings from the Gospel of Matthew in our Sunday and Holy Week worship services will trace the growing opposition, the danger, the suffering and death. We will admire the discipline and determination it takes for him to continue on the journey to which God calls him.

And what about April 12 and every day before and after that? What of us? Will we *run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith?* The traditions of Christianity offer us the disciplines of worship, prayer, Bible reading, fasting, serving, and giving. Our determination ebbs and flows. At least mine does, and when it does, the community of faith is important. We need the support and encouragement of others. We need to feel accountable to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

I hope you are finding that support, encouragement, and accountability through the worship and community of Webster Church. If not, please talk to a member of the deacons or me. The race of life can be difficult. The race of life lived faithfully can be challenging. No one should have to run alone.

God’s peace,

Pastor Jim

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Message from the Moderator

The walrus in Lewis Carroll's Through the Looking Glass says "The time has come...to talk of many things." And so, that is also the case for us here at Webster. The time has come to talk of our future, think about the nature and mission of our congregation, put our thoughts to paper, and envision the sort of spiritual leader we need and want--no small task, and one that requires the input of your hearts, your minds, and your spiritual guidance.

Members are even now being asked to serve or to recommend those to serve on the Search Committee for a permanent pastor. We mean to have a group of 8-10 members who can dedicate themselves to this task. The first order of business will be to update/prepare a church profile. This profile is much more than a statistical accounting of people, programs, and budget; it is also a clear statement of the future mission of Webster Church, drawn to represent the voices of members and to give prospective candidates for pastor the full knowledge of who we are and what kind of pastor we seek.

Once the profile is complete we can then begin to ask the Chesapeake Association Conference of the United Church of Christ to send us the names and resumes of pastors who might be interested in serving our spiritual needs, participate in the leadership of the Church, and help us to know God better.

The personal interaction with pastor candidates is such an important part of the process, because the Search Committee will have many personalities to help discern the best candidate. We need this diversity of individuals to bring consensus to the process and then propose a name to the congregation.

All of the steps we need to take should be well-known to you, and we hope we can earn your faith and trust in the process.

Let us give this step in our history our "all" and our prayers in His name to act responsibly as we work. Then we will have conducted ourselves as in Alice in Wonderland to "Begin at the beginning... and go on 'til you come to the end; then stop."

It's not as simple as that, but you get the picture!

Ann Helton

A Note from the Deaconate

As we come closer to the Easter Season the deaconate has been busy preparing for this, the holiest of times in the Christian calendar. Easter is the centerpiece of our Christian beliefs that as Christians we can achieve eternal life as promised by our Lord Jesus Christ.

On April 5 we will celebrate Palm Sunday followed by Maundy Thursday on April 9. The Seder dinner will start at 6pm on Thursday night and we will celebrate the Lords last supper. We invite all to partake of his simple meal as we remember the last meal of the disciple and Jesus. We will have readings of the Passion of Christ from the Gospel during our Maundy Thursday service and will not have any Good Friday service this year.

On Easter Sunday we will start our celebration of the Resurrection with a pancake breakfast starting at

8:30 AM and will serve until 10:00 AM. The Easter service will start at 11:00 AM. I hope that all of you will have the chance to join us in all of these services; it is a great time of year for all of us.

The deacons have been working on the new shepherd's list and the members will be receiving notification by there deacon very shortly. Our Confirmation classes will have started by the time you read this in the Webster Word and we are also planning Communion classes for this year. Please notify Pastor Jim if you are interested in Communion class for your child.

I pray that the peace of Christ has been with you this Lenten season and that you all are looking forward to spring as much as I am.

Gary Lyttle, Chair of the Deaconate

TRUSTEE'S REPORT

Thanks to the powers that be, no major trustees work was required in March. A new double-glazed safety glass pack was installed in the basement door (the outer glass had been broken quite a while ago). The pushbutton for the door bell at that door had gotten cranky and was replaced. Thanks to my clumsy attempt to replace a burned out light bulb at the bottom of the stairs from the sanctuary, we now have a new glass globe on the ceiling fixture as well as a new bulb. Air filters are checked monthly and seem to take about 3 months to load up and need replacing. If you notice a screw-driver on an air-conditioning duct in the basement storage room, leave it there, as it is really a nut-driver needed to take off the cover to check the air filter. Trim is being installed around the base of the new construction in the social hall.

The well ran dry during a recent quarter auction, but was okay again in a short while. This is the second time in a year. The area around Webster Church is known for rather low flow into wells, so we will continue to monitor the situation to see if we will be forced to drill a separate well for the church. There is a 2½ gallon jug of water and a bottle of hand sanitizer up high on a storage shelf on the north wall of the kitchen if needed, and three more in the storage room downstairs. I maintain 5 five-gallon pails full of water at home, each of which will flush a toilet. Call me at home at 410-734-6721 at any time if the water supply fails again.

Please don't park in front of the trash or recycling dumpster, as we have twice had the pickup aborted because the truck couldn't get in. This in turn creates an unsightly and unsanitary condition at the dumpster, which is usually quite full at pickup time. Also, do not block the parking spaces for the tenant in the parsonage even though there are two parking spaces delineated behind their space.

As spring approaches, please make a note of projects that would be appropriate for a clean-up day. In particular, I would like people to adopt a window to clean. Even the small windows in the basement take quite a while to clean, so don't get too ambitious. I expect it will take two or three people several hours to clean the upper floor windows inside and out, and one person at least an hour apiece to clean the smaller windows. Window cleaning is something that can be done anytime, so grab a friend or two and do a window at your leisure. Try to

involve new members and members of the youth group so that they know they are valued members of the church. The ladders are in the left hand bay of the garage. Although the sanctuary should get first priority, if you are nervous working off a ladder, do some basement windows. I have also asked several people if they could do some painting, and need a few more volunteers. If you need access to the church, call me (number above) or the office, 410-939-1884. I understand that the Daisies (the youngest Girl Scout age group) have volunteered to plant some flowers at the front of the church, and a general outside clean up is needed.

Graham Silsby, Chair, Board of Trustees

SCCW

The SCCW had a successful Joe Corbi fundraiser. Bessie Bowman, Pat Mengel, and Jim Gorham were our top sellers. We raised over \$400 towards our benevolences.

If you have participated in the March Calendar of Blessing, turn in your change or a check made out to SCCW to Bessie Bowman or Doris Lyttle. Thank you for your support.

The SCCW is planning for the Mother's Day Dinner that will be held on May 9, 2009, at 6 PM, in Webster Church Social Hall. Watch for further information about the meal and ticket sales.

Join us on Wednesday, April 8, 2009, at 7 PM, at the Lyttle's home for our SCCW meeting. Jane Gottwald will be our hostess. The SCCW has been having some interesting speakers at our meetings. At our March meeting Diane Ruckman spoke about the book "Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace ...One School at a Time". This is the true story that tells about the journey that led Greg Mortenson from a failed 1993 attempt to climb Pakistan's K2, the world's second highest mountain, to successfully establish schools in some of the most remote regions of Afghanistan and Pakistan. His work has led to a nonprofit organization. North Harford High collected pennies for "Pennies for Pakistan". Other Harford County schools have collected for "Pennies for Peace" which is what the organization is called now.

Our guest speaker at the April meeting will be Peg Niland from the Harford Land Trust. All ladies are welcome.

Doris Lyttle

Village News

Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to all those celebrating in April.

A special Happy Birthday to Amelia's godfather, Uncle Lewis or as Lily calls him "Loo-Loo". Just ask his wife on that one. Also Amelia's Uncle Nolan is also celebrating a birthday this month. I think both are over 21.

Sympathies are sent to the descendents of the Wirsing Family - the Gallions are among them - on the death on March 6 of a cousin who lived out in Yuma, Arizona. He was 87. Also, sympathies sent to the family of the Bathory clan in Baltimore on the death of their sister/aunt who resided in a nursing facility. She was 88 and my mother's best friend in their young woman years of the 1940s. A special sympathy to Mrs. Biennes on the death of her husband. They were a joy to watch and say hello to when they took their walks through Webster Village.

Thank you Ruth for the lovely get well card - the John Deere Model 60 on the front was of great interest to Joe, and the update on Scott and family. Ruth visited her son out in Wyoming and saw how big her grandchildren had become. Glad you enjoyed yourself.

Talked to Marilyn through e-mails awhile back. She and Walter are doing fine. Walter is a relative of the Gallions through the Hughes. They have had lots of snow, the temperatures ranged around five degrees, and she sent get well wishes down my way. Walter is due for surgery for two hernias. I wished him well. They are enjoying walks every day and reading when weather keeps them indoors. Walter is working on his high school 70th class reunion for this summer. They wish all their friends a big hello and to tell them that they miss seeing everyone. Her e-mail is in his book for anyone wishing to send hellos up to Vermont.

Congratulations to the Level Fire Company on their "job well done". They are located in Level Village - lots of villages around here. Most of our family members are connected to the fire company. My son, Frank does three - Aberdeen, Level and Howard County. The police departments also employ our family members - Harford County and Baltimore City. There is even a firefighter in the state of Virginia.

Congratulations to Pat on the birth of a grandson. Best wishes to Joyce, who is getting over the shingles. She is too young for the shot. The statistics indicate that one in three over 60 get the shingles. The shot - Zostavax was approved by FDA in May 2006 and works 50% against the varicella zoster virus. I hope my warnings sent all of you over 60 to question your doctors on the importance of this shot as well as the flu shot, pneumonia, and now the whooping cough. They are even recommending updating the tetanus shot. My mother must be shot happy and has received all. At 86 she had no reaction to any and enjoys a healthy lifestyle -

although we kid her about being full of nuts, bolts, and screws.

Greg Reynolds got inducted in the National French Honor Society. Parents Bill and Joyce were very proud of their son's accomplishments. Greg has also begun his driving. Best to you Greg in all that you do. You set a fine example for our youth.

While waiting in the eye doctor's office awhile back, I came across the "Orange Peel Gazette" put out by the Nottingham, Maryland people. It has very funny quips and thought provoking ideas. The one that caught my eye was, "Always use tasteful words. You may have to eat them".

Best to L.S. and hope things will turn out OK for the kids - yes we have kids actually triplets born to our goat. Unfortunately, we lost one but still have two bouncing around the yard. Amber plans to work one of them into 4-H. Lily enjoy playing in the "leftovers" they make in the yard.

Concerns are for Marie and Henry. Hope things will go well. Marie has been keeping me up to date on the soaps that we watch together. Great having a TV buddy that explains the goings on that I miss. Congratulations to Marie and Henry's daughter. She was married to her sweetheart of those teen years. Apparently both were in love then, went their separate ways, married and had children, and re-met over 30 years later and married. Isn't that romantic? Right out of the movies or a good romantic novel. The best to this newly wedded couple.

Harford County originally came together as numerous villages - Aldino, Churchville, Level, Webster, etc. We like to keep in touch with our neighboring villages for news and updates. Our young people here at the church are excellent examples of good parenting, love and a basic religion to keep them on the right road. However, some of our young people make poor choices one of which was to destroy all four tires of an emergency vehicle over in the Level Fire Dept. parking lot. This was a bad choice of fun and excitement. Their actions could have had serious impact on an emergency. Continue to praise our youth for all their accomplishments - whether big or small. Our young are worth it!

April is our month for thanking God for giving His son to us and the sacrifice He made. Let us not forget our roots and worship as a family! A prayer hung in our home in Baltimore for more years than I care to say, "A family that prays together, stays together".

I AM SHINGLE FREE! EYES ARE BACK TO 20/20.

Carol Gallion

Clerk's Report

Memorial Service Gunther Bienes

Things Happening at Webster Church

- New county rules will require a permit to be obtained for each Quarter Auction and Bingo. Financial records must be kept at each event and a report filed.
- The Pastoral Relation Committee will be meet on March 31, 2009
- The aim is to have the Search-and-Call Committee of 8 to 10 people formed by mid April.
- The April 26th service will be a special Anniversary Service followed by a pot luck dinner to help the congregation and committee to begin the Search-and-Call process.
- Preparing a congregational profile for Webster Church is another important part of the Search-and-Call process.
- Final preparations are being completed for the 2009 Member Directory.

Doris Lyttle

Christian Ed Update

We had a great time at the Mardi Gras Karaoke/Rock Band party after church on Sunday, March 8. First, we enjoyed a pot luck dinner (complete with a Mardi Gras decorated cake from Rita's, thanks to the Heltons) and then we sang and played our hearts out. Thanks to Gary for bringing the Karaoke machine and wonderful selection of tunes -- and for being our DJ extraordinaire.

Thanks to Mac Placzankis for supplying the Wii and Rock Band/Guitar Hero. I hope you enjoy the photos in this edition of the Webster Word. There are so many more great pictures...please feel free to take a look at <http://websterchurch.shutterfly.com>.

The fun will continue on Saturday, April 4 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. as we hold the annual Easter party. We will have an egg decorating contest (so please bring your decorated eggs), Easter egg hunt, snacks, and games. If anyone wants to donate candy or goodies for the party, please contact Chris Gorham, Heidi Pensell, or me. All our welcome for this party, so please feel free to invite your family members and friends.

We are pleased to have Mary McFarland as our nursery attendant on Sundays. Karen Howes, Chris, Heidi, and I are Sunday School teachers for the spring. Shawna Ashman will continue to teach bells.

Reminder: there will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday.

Susan Cohen

Communion Classes for Children

Baptized children in our congregation are invited to begin receiving Holy Communion when their parents decide they are ready to do so. Some parents prefer to wait until their children are confirmed. Others believe communing at a younger age helps in the faith development of their children. To help such parents in preparing their children, age appropriate instruction in the meaning of the sacrament is offered periodically. If you would like such instruction for your child at this time, please contact Pastor Jim.

Pack 965 Happenings

The Pack as a whole has participated in several activities over the past few months. Sixteen boys and their parents attended services at the Church on Sunday February 8, in celebration of Scout Sunday where second-year Webelos Scout, Mac McFarland, served as acolyte. On the evening of February 8, the pack had its annual Blue and Gold Dinner with a "Pirate Party" theme. Following invocation by Pastor Wolford, we enjoyed a delicious pot luck dinner, followed by awards recognition and entertainment from the boys. We had songs, jokes, pantomime, skits, and a puppet show. We also had our annual Father/Son dessert contest whose entries were judged by Art and Ann Helton in the categories of Tallest, Shortest, Most Colorful, Best in Theme, and Judge Choice.

On February 28, boys and parents from Pack 965 descended on several area neighborhoods to distribute collection bags for Scouting for Food, the Boy Scouts annual food drive. The following Saturday, March 7, boys and parents returned to those neighborhoods to

collect the food donations that had been put out. In all, 22 boys and their parents participated, collecting 446 donated food items in 58 bags. The food was brought back to the church for distribution to those in need.



Our dens have been busy with their own activities as well. The Tigers finished their last "go see it" at the APG Ordnance Museum. The Wolves had 8 boys earn their Wolf Badge and many of the boys have begun working on the World Conservation Award. They've also worked on electives and

learned about weather. The Bears went to see Critter Dinner time at the Anita Leight Estuary where they fed snakes, frogs and turtles. The second-year Webelos have been especially busy, finishing up activity badges for Artist, Showman, and Communicator, several belt loops, and the US Scouting Service Internet Award. Three of the boys have now completed all 20 activity badges, earning them the Heavy Shoulder Award, so called since the activity badges are worn on the shoulder.

News from Troop 965

Our Boy Scout troop has been really busy, as always, during the past few months. They went on a day trip to Ski Roundtop on February 14, where a super time was had by all, and several scouts accomplished much toward their skiing merit badge. The Troop also enjoyed a cabin camping outing to Camp Ware in Peach Bottom, PA. During this outing, the scouts worked toward their Pioneering merit badge, to include building a great monkey bridge. A highlight of the weekend was a patrol cooking contest where the scouts displayed their outdoor gourmet talents and had a great time.

Speaking of cooking, a few weeks ago, the troop held their 18th annual spaghetti dinner, and the community turned out in droves to support. The scouts, parents, and adult leaders prepared and served over 1100 meals. The troop thanks those of you who came and enjoyed great food and fellowship, and hopes you all can be there next year. The troop also gratefully acknowledges the support of Mars Super Markets, The Bayou Restaurant, Sara Lee Coffee and Tea, Lifetouch, Pollitt Signs, The Olive Tree Restaurant, Mid-Atlantic Supply, Howard McComas, Aero Energy, and Adams Chevrolet for supplying various materials and items to make the dinner and other troop activities possible. Of course, most important is the support from the sponsoring organizations, Webster Church and Level Volunteer Fire Company.

Celebrating Our Heritage: The Search Process Begins You Are Needed at Worship on April 26

This year Webster Church will celebrate its 85th birthday. We have much to be thankful for as we look to our past. Now we are in a year of transition and we are looking to the future. What is our vision for this congregation's future and how will we get there? We need to decide that before we decide what kind of pastor we need to help us move forward. A key to determining where we want to go is to know where we have been. On April 26, we will look at our history, share stories of the past, and celebrate the ways God has been at work in and through this church. We will discover much about our identity and how God has led us. This will be an important starting point for discovering where God might be leading us next.

We need your presence and your ideas on April 26. Please plan to stay a bit longer than usual. Worship will be held in the social hall and run from 11:00 until 12:30. Then we hope you will stay for a pot luck luncheon. The time will go quickly, for this will not be a typical worship experience. We will be moving around and discussion will be lively. **This is the first step in preparing the congregational profile that will be used in the process of calling a new pastor. Please make every effort to join us.**

Holy Week Worship

Palm Sunday, April 5, 11:00 AM: Palms and Holy Communion as we begin this most holy week of the church year

Maundy Thursday, April 9, 6:00 PM: We remember the key events leading to the crucifixion as we gather in the social hall for a Seder Meal and a dramatic reading of the Passion of Jesus.

Good Friday, April 10, Noon: Join your brothers and sisters in Christ for the Susquehanna Ministerium's Annual Cross Walk. The walk will begin at noon at the St. John Street and Warren Street side of the Lafayette Statue, and will end at the Union Avenue and Warren Street side of the Lafayette Statue. The route will be the businesses on St. John St., Congress Ave., Union Ave., Pennington Ave., Washington Ave., St. John St., Franklin St., Union Ave., and Warren Street. Parking is available from 12:00 Noon until 2:00 PM near the beginning of the Walk at the American Legion lot. Parking at the end of the Walk is available at Ken's Steak & Rib Restaurant and the Presbyterian Church of Havre de Grace on Franklin Street.

Easter Sunday, April 12, 11:00 AM: A Celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Worship Assistant Schedule

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Acolyte	Reader
April 5	Marie Wehland Doris Lyttle	David Brown Graham Silsby	Mark Z.	David Brown
April 12	Genevieve Snodgrass Doris Lyttle	Ken Joel Jeff Meiselwitz	Andy M.	Gary Lyttle
April 19	Mary Muir Doris Lyttle	Jim Gorham Tom Kutscher	Natalie G.	David Wilhelm
April 26	Vilma Duffy Jim Gorham	Jim Duffy Bruce Ashman	Margaret A.	Ann Helton

The Webster Word

Webster Congregational Christian Church
Of the United Church of Christ
4100 Webster Road
Havre de Grace, MD 21078

(410) 939-1884

www.websterucc.org

Email: websterucc@comcast.net



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