



The Webster Word

A community of faith in Havre de Grace, Maryland



Upcoming Events

Sat., June 6

10:00 AM – VBS Orientation, Hopewell Church

Sun., June 7

11:00 AM – Communion Sunday

Mon., June 8

7:00 PM – Board of Directors Meeting

Wed., June 10

7:00 PM – SCCW Meeting, Home of Vilma Duffy; Speaker: Clifford Walter–FISH Prog.

Sun., June 21

Happy Father's Day!

10:00 AM – Summer Worship Hours Begin

Sat., June 27

7:00 PM – Quarter Auction, Social Hall

Sun., June 28

10:00 AM – Children's Service and Pot Luck Picnic Lunch

Pastor's Message



It must have been the AARP magazine on our coffee table. "I'm almost 60," I thought. "How did that happen?" Some of you will smile at how young that sounds. Others will find me unbelievably old. For me it was an opportunity to reflect on how quickly life passes. Am I really that close to 60?

June—season of weddings and graduations; transitions; beginnings and endings; births and deaths; change. It all keeps changing. No wonder we long for stability. We are really longing for God. Life changes. Church and worship change: *Pilgrim Hymnal to Worship and Rejoice, King James to Good News Bible*, pastors come and go. Doesn't anything stay the same? No, not really, except God's love for us.

● *God's love ... the*
● *rock amidst the*
● *swirling waters of*
● *change.*

Am I really that close to 60? Yes, and I will have changed by then. Soon it will be: "Am I really that close to 70?" Along the way there will be little deaths and rebirths, perhaps practice for the final death and, I hope, rebirth to eternity. Maybe the changing continues even then. God's love will be the one constant, the rock amidst the swirling waters of change.

God's strength and peace be with you,
Pastor Jim

PS: As I write this the search committee has begun its work. That will mean yet another change for all of us before too long, as I move on and you get ready to welcome a new pastor.

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Message from the Moderator

Our Pastor, Jim Wolford, recently delivered a sermon that emphasized the importance of Christian education in the lives of children; more pointedly, the lives of the young ones who come to Webster for their training to become Christians. His words were thought-provoking and had the effect of my reflecting on my own Sunday School, catechism, baptism and confirmation. I hope his words may have had the same impact for you. My years at Christ's Evangelical and Reformed Church were life-defining and priceless for their shaping how to live and love in the world. I still regularly talk with my favorite Sunday School teacher, Louise McKinsey, and I know how important she was, and is, to my Christian experience. She is still loved and revered by many generations of adults who learned from her.

But more importantly, Jim's words brought into sharp focus the children we regularly, and irregularly, see in church at Webster as they come forward for the children's sermon, and then noisily exit below to the Sunday School area. We know they are precious charges in our care for the brief time they spend with us each week. They have many more hours out in the world with school, family, friends, activities and many other influences.

Our challenge is a large one if the Sunday School teachers and we, as a church family, are to reach their

A Note from the Deaconate

As we head toward the summer months and half of 2009 is just about finished, I spend time reflecting on the many changes that have taken place in our church. We welcomed Rev. Jim Wolford as our Interim Minister in February and I feel that he was an excellent choice to lead us through this transition that could have been very difficult. Pastor Jim has proved to be insightful and understanding of our problems and has been a calming influence on all of us.

Now that a Search Committee has been chosen and they move forward in the difficult task of finding a new pastor, let all of us take time to pray for this group. Their task will be challenging but with prayer I know God's guiding hand will be present in their decision making. I know that the financial situation of the church will make finding a full time pastor even more trying. Ministers, like all of us have to make a living and have the security and confidence that they will get a paycheck every week. I ask that all of you look in your hearts and see if you can raise your pledge or if you

hearts and minds with the Word of Christ and a way of life they can know and understand. What a great responsibility we have to them to make them feel safe, welcome, loved and cared for by adult Christians in Webster.

Thankfully, we praise the efforts expended by our Christian Education staff that prepare their lessons, show up each Sunday, and nurture all the children in their care. Let us remind ourselves to thank them for accepting these duties, performing them joyfully, and realizing how important is their work. These teachers are the true leaders who will make our church live and breathe a Christian mission. These children are the future of Christianity and Webster Church. All of this is awesome to watch and behold!

– Ann Helton

Trustee's Report

Thanks to the Daisies for planting flowers around the front entrance to the church. Thanks also to the person who mulched around the church. A new contract for lawn mowing is in place and the air handler filters have been changed for spring. The deadbolt at the side entrance is still cranky, so be sure that the door is really locked.

The volume of paper being recycled continues to grow, which brings in a bit of cash for the youth group. Remember, no cardboard, Kraft paper, boxboard, plastic and food waste such as dirty paper plates. It is ok to bundle paper in Kraft paper or plastic bags, etc., as long as it is easy for them to be pulled from the recycling stream at their processing plant.

– Graham Silsby
Chair, Board of Trustees

have not made a pledge to see if you can make a commitment to the church and a new minister.

Last week we initiated a prayer vigil for young Mac McFarland who underwent a serious surgery. We were all happy that he came through the surgery pretty well but we know he has a long road to recovery. Please keep him in your prayers and ask for God's blessing to be with all those on our prayer list who are sick or in harms way.

May the peace of Jesus Christ be with all of you!

– Gary Lyttle
Chair of the Deaconate

Planning for Summer Music

Your Music Committee has been hard at work planning for the season of guest musicians during the Choir's summer hiatus. This year is proving to be a challenge as a number of our regular guests are unable to join us for worship due to health and family issues. We are blessed, though, to have a well-known and loved substitute for Neil during the weeks when he'll be traveling with his family and away at music camp. Auggie Somers has agreed to fill in for Neil at the organ for the 5 Sundays he'll be gone.

Along with the challenges have come some wonderful new opportunities, thanks to the efforts of congregation members and our secretary, Jo Ann. On July 12, we will be visited by violinist Dennis Hertzog - instructor at the Maryland Music Conservatory in Bel Air. He and Neil are in the process of deciding on the pieces he'll present that day. In addition, we'll soon be contacting Nan Taylor from Havre de Grace Methodist Church. Nan is a harpist who also sings. If anyone knows of other musicians/singers who might be willing to play for Webster's summer services, please see me after church or send me contact information at gwenstolz@comcast.net.

Here is the present schedule for June:

- June 7 – Neil will provide special music
- June 14 – Gwen Stolzenbach
- June 21 – Auggie will provide special music
- June 28 – Sunday School

Check your bulletins and the newsletter for updates and “coming attractions”.

As we come to the end of another Choir season, Casey and I would like to thank everyone involved in preparing and presenting music for our weekly services

– Dave Wilhelm, Gary Lyttle, Pat Mengel, Linda Placzankis, Ann Muir, Elsie Marie Niiler, Dianna Bartlett, Roz Zimmerman, Ann Helton, Neil Fung, and Hang Fung. It's been a joy working with all of you!

– Webster Music Committee

- Gwen Stolzenbach
- Casey Anno
- Gary Lyttle



seeW

Our Mother's Day dinner was very successful. The theme was “The Women of Webster Church”. We honored the present women and the women of the past who have been very active in our church. A



special thank you goes to Heidi Pensell, Ann Muir, Wendy Walstrum, and Levin Heath for providing pictures and information about the Women of Webster Church. The men

under the direction of Gary Lyttle provided us a delicious turkey dinner. Thank you. Thank you to Ann Helton for providing the door prizes and centerpieces. Thank you to Heidi for printing our tickets.

The next SCCW meeting is Wednesday, June 10, at 7 PM at the home of Vilma Duffy. Clifford Walker from FISH will be our guest speaker. All women of Webster Church are welcome.

– Doris Lyttle



Worship Assistant Schedule

| Date | Greeters | Ushers | Acolyte | Reader |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| June 7 | Marie Wehland Doris Lyttle | Ken Joel Gabe Capasso | Lindsey C. | Doris Lyttle |
| June 14 | Vilma Duffy Genevieve Snodgrass | Jim Duffy Tom Kutscher | Mark Z. | Pat Mengel |
| June 21 (begin 10 AM service) | Dave Brown Janet Cohen | Mary Muir Bruce Ashman | Margaret A. | Gary Lyttle |
| June 28 | Levin Heath Doris Lyttle | Jim Gorham Graham Silsby | Natalie G. | Sunday School |

Please note: If you are unable to fill any of these dates, please call Gary or Doris Lyttle at 410-939-9637.

Christian Ed

It is hard to believe the school year is coming to a close. In Sunday School, we are reflecting on the lessons we've learned since Rally Day in September and are preparing our annual church service for the congregation. The Sunday School Church Service will be Sunday, June 28. This will be a special service during which our children will share their many musical talents. We look forward to seeing you all for the service. Also, please join us for a cookout and potluck following the service. Sunday School will supply the burgers and hot dogs and rolls and we ask you to provide some yummy side dishes and desserts.

We are also preparing for Vacation Bible School with Wesleyan and Hopewell. VBS will be at Webster Church in the evenings from Sunday, July 19 through Thursday, July 23. We need as many hands as possible so please contact Heidi Pensell to find out how you can help. Anyone who works with the children will need to comply with our Safe Church Policy, which requires the volunteer to complete a form, have a background check, and attend an orientation session. (If you already have certification, e.g., through Scouts, you can present us with proof of the certification rather than attending the orientation session.) Hopewell Church will be conducting an orientation session on Saturday, June 6 at 10:00 AM. We will be setting up another orientation for those who are unable to attend the session at Hopewell.

Finally, representatives of the Open and Affirming Committee would like to speak with the parents after church on Sunday, June 7. We will provide lunch and supervision for the children so that the parents can attend this important meeting.

– Susan Cohen

Vacation Bible School

VBS is July 19-23 at Webster! We need your help!! The following positions are open and need friendly faces ☺ Email Heidi Pensell hpensell@comcast.net if you can help!

Nursery

- Adult leader, adult helper

Preschool Crew Leaders

- 4 adults, 2 youth

2nd/3rd grade Crew Leaders

- 4 adults and youth helper(s)

4th/5th grade Crew Leader

- 1 adult

6th/7th grade

- Adult leader, adult helper

Great Oak Theater (Bible Lessons) Pre School Group

- Adult helper

Great Oak Theater (Bible Lessons) Elementary Group

- Leader and youth helper

Glow Rock Theater (Bible lessons in lab setting)

- Youth helper

Boz Preschool (Reinforce Bible lesson)

- Adult leader, adult helper, youth helper

Boz's Treehouse (Crafts) Preschool Group

- Adult leader, adult helper

Treetop Art Studio (Crafts) Elementary Group

- Helper (adult or youth)

Vineland Adventure Course (Games) Preschool Group

- Adult leader, adult helper

Vineland Adventure Course (Games) Elementary Group

- Youth helper

Nurse

Fundraising Success

The food was delicious, the items were out with bargain prices, the crafters were ready to sell, and the rain held off which was good for the Webster Church Yard Sale and Craft Show. Thank you to everyone who helped. Some people helped in between doing other volunteering for other groups. Some people helped set up and then came back to clean up. Others gave us a few hours and others donated items to sell. Bessie came to church earlier in the week to price many of the items. Everyone's help was greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Mark August 13, 14, and 15 on your calendar. This is when we will prepare for and hold our annual Peach Festival. We will need lots of help to make it a success.

– Doris Lyttle

Thank You!

A special thanks to Mr. Ken Shires of Colora, MD for donating two mowings to Webster Church. He graciously filled-in until we found our regular mower and would not accept remuneration for his time and effort. We thank him and bless him for his generosity.

Daisy Troop News



Daisy Troop 2881 has been very busy! The girls recently earned the last two petals of their Daisy. They planted flowers and mulched the front beds at the church and went on camping trip to Camp Conowingo with their moms (and a couple of dads)! They learned a lot and had a marvelous time. On June 14, the troop will be Bridging to Brownies. They will have a luau celebration following their ceremony. Thanks Webster for allowing our troop to meet at the church!

– Heidi Pensell



Troop 965



Troop 965 held their spring Court of Honor on April 22. During the ceremony it was announced that since joining the troop 12 new scouts completed the joining requirements earning the rank of Scout. Additional rank advancements included one Tenderfoot, one Second Class, one First Class, three Star, and two Life (one rank from Eagle). There were 20 merit badges earned and awarded as well. T.J. Byrnes passed the Senior Patrol Leader position to Nick Trimble and the new Assistant Senior Patrol Leader is Dan Gamble.



May 15-16 was another Appalachian Trail outing with both a 10 mile and a 15 mile hike. The 15 mile hike started in Weverton and ended at the Washington Monument State Park in western Maryland. The 10 mile hike started at Gathland and ended at the Washington Monument State Park as well.

The Troop also went on a horseback riding outing to Elk Mountain Trails in Harpers Ferry on May 23-24.

– Lisa Cox, Troop Committee member

Letter from the Search and Call Committee

Dear members and friends of Webster Church,

As members of the Search and Call Committee of Webster Church, we express our gratitude for the trust you have placed in us. We have had our initial meeting and have begun the process of finding our new permanent pastor.

Our committee consists of Susan Cohen, Dave Brown, Casey Anno, Doris Lyttle, Graham Silsby, Ruth Walker and Linda Placzankis. Rev. Jim Wolford and Ann Helton will serve the committee in an ex officio capacity. Susan and Dave have agreed to be co-chairs. Linda will serve as secretary and Casey will be our chaplain. Please feel free to speak to any member of the committee if you have questions or concerns, but be assured that we will regularly communicate with you throughout the entire process.

This is an exciting time in the life of our church. We are very grateful to have Pastor Jim to help guide us. He is well trained and experienced with this process. We are blessed with a wonderful church, a loving church family, and a great community. We ask that you pray for us regularly. We trust that God will guide us to the right candidate for our congregation.

Yours in Christ,

Search and Call Committee

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Susan Cohen | Dave Brown |
| Casey Anno | Doris Lyttle |
| Graham Silsby | Ruth Walker |
| Linda Placzankis | (Ann Helton and Rev. Jim Wolford) |



Village News

Happy Anniversary and Happy Birthday to all those celebrating in June. A special Happy Birthday to Amelia who will turn 23 on June 18.

"Not as Old as Dirt"

A four year old girl stared at her grandfather for a long time. Then she asked, "Pop-Pop, were you on Noah's Ark?"

"Of course not Sweetie," he answered smiling.

"Then how come you didn't drown?"

- Orange Peel Gazette - March 2009

Went to the Spring Concert at Meadowvale Elementary School on May 13 to watch Amber play her flute and sing in the chorus. I spotted William Ashman in the back playing his instrument and Natalie Gorham playing hers in the front and saw Shawna, Chris, and Jamie coming in to enjoy the concert. It was very short - 45 minutes. Lily sat perfectly still singing her songs to the varied music. She can play 12 notes on the piano of "Jingle Bells" which is a theme song in many ELMO videos. The school at this point does not have a need for an ELMO enthusiastic individual. We have never missed

any of Amelia's concerts she played the flute until graduation - 9 years. I hope our young people continue to put that kind of commitment into their playing. And if we have any dancers, stay with that. Amelia danced for Havre de Grace and Aberdeen Rec. Councils for a total of 10 years. I still have all of her costumes. Plus Meadowvale implemented a Russian program when Amelia was in kindergarten that lasted until fourth grade. Each year they performed a festival. And yes, I still have that costume. And on one occasion we mothers performed a Russian play about animals and guess whose mother played a black cat and spoke about a sentence in Russian and no I don't have that costume. After the ceremony the mothers and fathers who did not participate in preparing the festival prepared the foods that are common to the Russian peoples. There was very good eating that night. I did not know how many ways one could fix salmon.

Congratulations to all of our students who have passed on to the next grade and those who are still in college working towards a degree. May you all use your summer for worthwhile endeavors. A special congratulations to Stephanie, a 10th grader at

(continued on page 7)

Remember:

10:00 AM

Summertime worship hours begin on Sunday, June 21 - Father's Day.

(continued from page 6)

Havre de Grace High School who gets on their distinguished honor roll - straight A's (4.0). I ran into her and her family awhile back at Golden Corral and always enjoy a hug from this fine young lady who is also sports oriented and works on the side. Our granddaughter has also graced us with getting on Honor Roll at Havre de Grace High School for the 3rd semester. Amelia has just about completed her "Quantitative Methods" and has had 100's on all her work. Just ten more classes to go. I don't know too many people who are working on their Masters at her young age. I know Bruce has continued his studies with his Masters, but I think he is over 23. Joe and I continue to praise her accomplishments.

I had a minor set back with a flare-up of the shingles and am back on a course of intense eye medications. Still haven't the shot and won't yet. Tried to convince my Baltimore cousins to get it since they all have hit 60 plus. Out of ten, one finally listened. The shingles in your eyes take on a different meaning than around the exterior of one's body. As of May 13, the doctor said the shingles are not active again. I will see him in about one month.

Been bombarded by several individuals for prayers for Mac. I am sure with all of us sending messages upwards, HE will listen. From all of the Gallion clan and extended families, we are sending you - Mac - our prayers and there are zillions of us.

"Loving Spinach?"

Mother: "Eat your spinach. Think of the thousands of starving children who would love some spinach like this."

Ariel: "Name two!"

- Orange Peel Gazette - March 2009

Sympathies are extended to the Hancock family on the death of their beloved wife and mother - Martha. She was a dear friend to all of my family in Baltimore and a joy to know. Her family lived on the same street until her sisters passed away. Her mother was born in Poland.

Hope all the mothers had a wonderful Mother's Day last month. Now it is the fathers turn to enjoy a dinner out on the children. Those of us whose parents have passed on must continue to show our children and grandchildren how valuable these people were in our lives. I thank God every day my mother is still with me, and I hope she has many more healthy years ahead of her. When her best friend died weeks ago, she did

not have the privilege of bearing children and left no one behind her except one sister and several nephews and nieces. My grandmother taught us to always place the "elders" in high esteem. She always said one day you will be an elder and what goes around will come around.

Cheryl Mattix, who writes Mattix on Matters in the Cecil Whig, wrote an interesting article in the Monday, May 11, 2009 edition. "In a previous column, I mentioned two Democrat candidates have already come forward to challenge incumbent Republican Senator Nancy Jacobs (District 34) which includes Harford County south of I-95 and Cecil County north of I-95.....Former state Senator Art Helton and Harford County Councilman Dion Guthrie have both announced intentions of running against Jacobs in 2010, but one will have to prevail in the Democrat primary first." May the most honest, devoted, and sincere politician make our state proud.

CHANGE IS INEVITABLE, EXCEPT FROM A VENDING MACHINE!

"Pet Names"

An elderly man went to his friend's house for dinner. He was so impressed that his friend was referring to the wife with such endearing names such as Honey, My Love, Darling, etc. The couple had been married almost 70 years and were very much still in love.

While the wife was in the kitchen, the elderly man said to his friend, "I think it is wonderful that after all these years you have been married, you still call your wife those loving pet names." The old man hung his head, "I have to tell you the truth. I forgot her name 10 years ago."

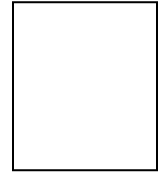
- Orange Peel Gazette - March 2009

Ran into Genevieve down at the diner on the 16th and learned that her granddaughter is getting married and having the reception on the farm. Is there another wedding in the church family? Genevieve had a birthday the day before Mother's Day. Happy Belated Birthday to a fine gal of 39! Heard she made her famous pineapple upside down cake for the bazaar only to learn there was no bake table. Webster's loss and Heidi's gain. Congratulations to Teresa who is getting a new grandchild - a boy. The proud papa is her son Jerry, Jr. Looks like LS will be a great-grandmother. Aren't you rather young for this? Hope things went well with your sister.

- Carol Gallion



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



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Clerk's Report

Things Happening at Webster Church

- If you know of someone Pastor Jim should contact, please give him the information
- A church member suggested we call the church library, The Levin and Grace Heath Library, in honor of them setting up and maintaining the library.
- The Open and Affirming Committee will meet with Sunday School teachers, parents, and other interested people to discuss the statement presented to the Board by the committee, after church on June 7. A light lunch and child care will be provided.
- The Search and Call committee had their first meeting on the 13th. They will be installed on May 31.
- Webster Word articles will be due the 15th of the month. This should be easier to remember.
- We are looking for a window washer to wash the top floor windows
- Pastor Jim and Gary and Doris Lyttle will be attending the Central Atlantic Conference in June.

– Doris Lyttle



Please send articles, photos, news, and corrections by the 15th to the editor (shawna.ashman@comcast.net)
 or church office (websterucc@comcast.net).