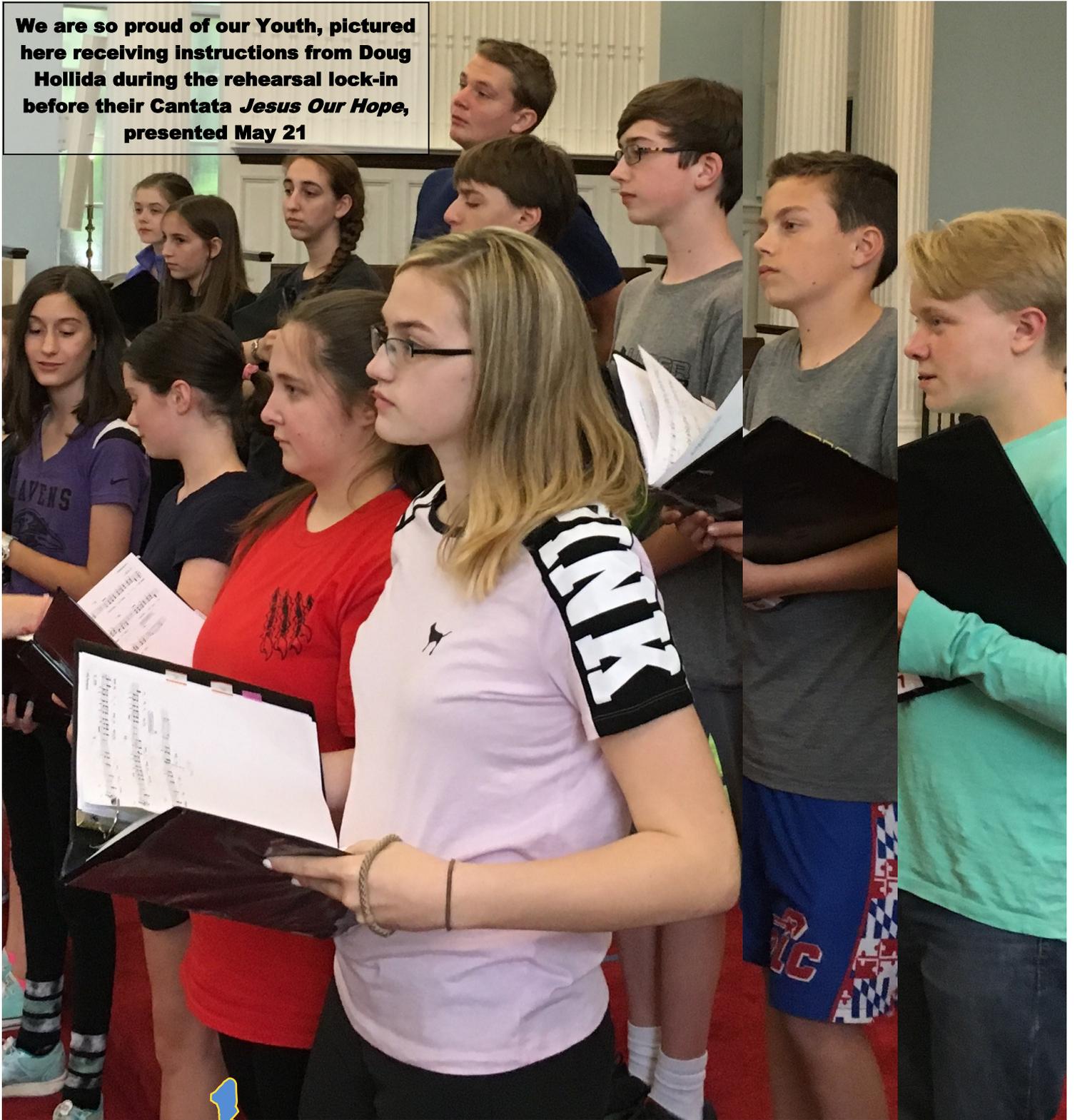


We are so proud of our Youth, pictured here receiving instructions from Doug Hollida during the rehearsal lock-in before their Cantata *Jesus Our Hope*, presented May 21



JuneHigh Spire

Towson United Methodist Church

◆ Monthly Newsletter ◆ June 2017 ◆ Volume 58, Issue 5 ◆

**Pentecost is June 4
remember to wear RED**

You are invited to a reception
in honor of those being Confirmed
on June 4th.

Hospitality Ministries will provide
snacks, in addition to our
traditional cake and punch,
in the Fellowship Hall
following the 10:15 worship
service. Plan to enjoy the light
refreshments as you congratulate
the youth on this important step
in their faith journey.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 4	Pentecost and Confirmation — WEAR RED! 5th graders are invited to Youth Group! Communion Offering: Emergency Food Pantry	/7 /9
June 11	Pastor Rod's last Sunday 11:30 Pie Social to say thanks & goodbye to Rod & Carol Miller, Fellowship Hall	
July 1	Next Church Blood Drive	/9
July 9	Pastor Mark Johnson's first Sunday at TUMC Communion at 10:15 & Mission Offering	/5
July 17	to July 21, Baltimore County Christian Workcamp	
July 24	to July 28, Vacation Bible Camp	/8
July 30	Celebrate VBC & Cathy Anderson's farewell	
Sept. 10	The Omelette Man is Coming!	/5
Sept. 21	Bus trip to Kentmorr for Crab Feast	/10



Rod & Carol Miller

**COME SAY GOODBYE
AND EAT SOME PIE**

*Rod has prayerfully decided to retire from the pastoral ministry and TUMC
in June 2017 in order to follow God's calling
to begin a coaching/consulting ministry with pastors and church leaders.*



Carol with some of the
Angel Tree volunteers

The SPRC (Staff Parish Relations Committee, our church's HR) will be
hosting a **farewell pie social** for Rod and Carol Miller
after the second service on **June 11th**.
Everyone is welcome to come to Fellowship Hall and enjoy some music,
some special surprises,
and of course many different kinds of delicious pies!

How can you help make this a spectacular send-off:

***We need pie bakers:** if you would like to bake a pie, please contact
Sally Savidge at sbjsavidge@gmail.com or at 410-428-6103

***Contribute to the Love offering:**

Let's show Rod and Carol how much
we appreciate all that they have done
for us. You can give or send cash or a
check (with love offering in the memo)
to Kim Ayers in the church's business
office or pay by credit card online
(by putting love offering in the "other"
section).

Please have all contributions in by
June 5th! If you have questions,
please call Kim at 410-823-6593.



Thank You Notes

Dear Friends,

Thanks from a truly grateful heart for your handsome Easter bouquet of pale pink-into-green tulips! They are my favorite combination and perfectly complement my two TUMC poinsettias (one from 2015, the other from '16) — still blooming vigorously in my sunny window.

Your loving offerings certainly have staying power! God bless you all.

With love and prayers — always —
Liz Brown

To My Church Friends,
Our Lord's faithful servant,

Don McWilliams, stood at the door with his usual smile and holding gorgeous yellow tulips for me from the church. They ran first place to a buttercup.

Many thanks for the Lenten Booklet and notes and get well cards I received while I nursed my broken leg. It's a great feeling you know you haven't been forgotten.

Sincerely,
Suey McLean

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the beautiful yellow tulips and the cards I have received. It is so nice to know that I am not completely forgotten.

The poinsettia is still showing a good amount of red leaves.

I miss all my friends so much and I know some of them have gone to another life.

I look forward to the High Spire. It does keep things a bit up to date. I wish I could take a more active part but I guess years of age takes all my energy.

I look back at my life at Towson with joy and love.
Sincerely,
Dorothy Compton

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the kind note, communion, and church news! The picture of church is awesome! Definitely a winner!

Love & Prayers to you —
Doris Wagner
"He is Risen!"



Dear United Methodist Men,

Vern says, "Thanks" for the beautiful tulips. They are just starting to droop so they'll be planted to enjoy for future years. It is so nice of you to remember Vern. It means a lot.

Vern & Anne Garrett

Dear TUMC Friends,

Easter was much brighter with our purple tulips. Thanks to all.

With love, *Charlie & Ruth Beam*

I appreciate being remembered on Easter. Thank you for the "dusty pink" tulips.

Sincerely,
Dorothy A. Quigley



Towson Methodist Church,

I enjoyed my beautiful Easter yellow tulip plant. I still have the

blooming poinsettia on my balcony.

Thanks for your thoughts and prayers.

I'm a long time friend of Barbara Shaw.

Blessings to all,
Bea Post



Dear Friends,

The bright yellow tulips and pink and white tulips were beautiful. Their glory seemed to herald in Easter and express "Christ Is Risen!". God's love is reflected through your prayers, cards, phone calls, and visits.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and caring.

Sincerely,
Gil and Katherine Smith

Many, many thanks to all those that helped make the supper on Holy Thursday a special evening of breaking bread together. A special thanks to the ladies that made such interesting and delicious soups. And the fresh fruit was beautiful and generous in quantity. I must say thanks to my daughter that is a member elsewhere, for not only her soup but the beautiful flowers and center pieces. So many helped in different ways, thank you everyone. — *Lee Ann Vasil*

WOMEN'S RETREAT, LAST WEEKEND IN APRIL 2017

Dear TUMC,

Once again, thank you to the Design Team for a wonderful and spiritual Soul Tending Women's Retreat at the very beautiful Claggett Center in Adamstown, MD. Each year it is a very uplifting experience sharing our faith journey with others. A special thank you goes to Rev. Dr. R. Frederick Crider for writing the beautiful hymn, "May We Tend The Soul You Gave Us," for our retreat. The retreat is also a form of outreach encouraging many family and friends to attend with us each year. Thank you again to the wonderful ladies of the retreat team who work very hard each year to provide such a meaningful experience for the women of our church and our friends.

—Sandy Clawson

Thank you to the Women's Retreat participants and church members for their donation to the Maryland Book Bank. Approximately 150 new books were donated. (pictured top, right)



May 2, 2017 — The photo (right) shows Christina Hansen, a volunteer worker with the American Red Cross, holding part of the donation from our Church on behalf of our military members. Many thanks to Carole Dean for making this visit possible. Also many thanks to Towson United Methodist Church for all that they have continued to do over the years for our service members. The donations are for the wounded soldiers at the Walter Reed Military Medical Center in Bethesda. — Bill Peters and Vernon Sevier



(left) May 14, 2017 — Lee Ann Vasil and I gave Ruth Steer her congregational gift to help her heal! She loved it! — Stephanie Kimmons

(right) TUMC's Usher's Golf Outing May 16, 2017 — Elsie Davis, Kevin Gralley, Charlie Woodbury, Janet Kines, Ron Donoho, Tom Edel, Kathy King, Dave King, Bob Kimmons, and Don McWilliams.

Enjoyed visiting and playing with all of you yesterday @ Pleasant Valley. Picture taken at the end of our round. — Charlie Woodbury





Introducing Rev. Mark Johnson

The Rev. Dr. Mark W. Johnson is an Elder in Full Connection with the Baltimore Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church and has served congregations in both the Baltimore Washington and Rocky Mountain Conferences for over twenty-five years. Prior to ordination, he served on the professional staff of the Boy Scouts of America for thirteen years. Dr. Johnson received a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Volunteer Management from Loretto Heights College in Denver, Colorado. He received both his Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from the Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado. His doctoral work focused on the practice of preaching.

Pastor Mark's first Sunday at Towson UMC is July 9, 2017.

Mark and his wife, Sandi (Director of Deaf Ministries of the Baltimore Washington Conference and Lead Pastor of Christ United Methodist Church of the Deaf), are the proud parents of seven children and are dedicated to spoiling their thirteen grandchildren. Both Mark and Sandi are passionate about mission work having led volunteer in mission teams to Russia, Kenya, Honduras, New Orleans, and Southwest Colorado. They have also led Holy Land pilgrimages.

Pastor Mark is pursuing certification as a Biblical Storyteller through the Academy for Biblical Storytelling and is a member of the Network of Biblical Storytellers. He enjoys hiking, exploring lighthouses, photography, guitar and theater and has volunteered as a chaplain in both medical and law enforcement settings.

FABULOUS—FOOD—AND—FELLOWSHIP



"EGG-CITING ANNOUNCEMENT" OMELETTE BRUNCH!! SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

THE OMELETTE MAN is coming to TUMC !!

Come one, come all for delicious omelets made to order. Also, bagels with cream cheese, baked goodies, fresh fruit, juices, coffee/tea.

Cost: Age 10 and older — \$15
Age 6 to 9 — \$ 8 Age 5 and under — free

A portion of the cost will go to the Growing Forward Campaign.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS!
CONTACT: Ginny Foster, 410-296-4780, virginiafoster@comcast.net

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT TOWSON

- 8:15 AM Traditional Service in the Chapel. This service has communion every Sunday and usually piano or organ accompaniment.
- 10:15 AM *Worshipping God Together* in the Sanctuary. This service is blended and richly varied. About twice a month we open with contemporary songs led by our praise band. And, about twice a month we are more traditional, with one of these Sundays including an old-fashioned-hymn-sing. Every Sunday, we hear from the 3,000 pipes of our glorious organ. Communion is offered on the first Sunday of the month, and is open to all.

We have gluten-free bread, too, just ask the server.

Cribbery (nursery) — in Room 122

The cribbery opens for children infants to 3s at 8:45 AM and remains open until after the 10:15 worship service ends until June 11th.

Beginning June 18, Cribbery Care for children infants to 3-years-old will be provided only for the 10:15 worship service.

8:45 - 10:15a... Coffee, treats, and friends in the Parlor continues through the month of June

9:00 - 10:00a CLASSES:

The last day for Sunday morning classes is June 4th.
There will be no Sunday school for children on June 11th.
Adults, please check with your teacher for your last class.

FOR YOUNG CHILDREN DURING THE 10:15 WORSHIP SERVICE:

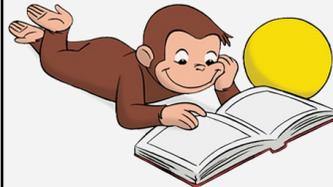
Pray and Play (children ages 4-6) in Room 314. This is an experience of fun and learning with a team of teachers. Ms. Jamie comes every week to lead the Joy Singers.

K.I.D.Z. Children ages 7-11 begin in the worship service with their families; to be dismissed partway through the service for fun and learning in Room 310.

Pray and Play & K.I.D.Z. will end for the season on June 11th.

Summer Sunday School is from June 18 - August 27 during the 10:15 worship service.

Children, ages 4-6 years, begin in the worship service with their families and are dismissed after the Children's Moment to Room 314. Children older than 6 years will stay in worship with their families.



Our summer learning experience is Loving God's Earth. We will be learning about nature and how to care for the earth. We will be outside some Sundays,

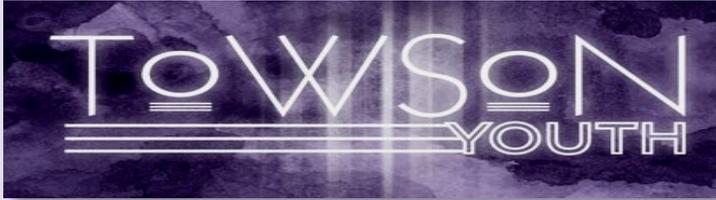
enjoying the beauty of Aurora's Prayer Garden and our lovely trees. We will learn from scripture, Curious George, and the Lorax. We will plant seeds, make simple crafts, and have fun!



BE A SUSTAINING MEMBER OF TOWSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

You may:

1. Place your cash or check in the offering plate during worship. If using cash, make sure you use an envelope and include your name and what the cash is for.
2. Mail in your check to the church's Business Office.
3. Send from your bank's online checking or saving account by setting up regular contributions. Have the bank send to Towson United Methodist Church, 501 Hampton Lane, Towson, MD 21286. Use your name as your account number, and make sure you tell us what it's for in the memo line.
4. Visit our website at www.towsonumc.org. Click the to **Donate Online** button. Click on the **Create Profile** button, then follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions to be debited from your credit card or Electronic Funds Transfer.



June 4 – Pentecost – Confirmation at 10:15 service

Youth Fellowship

Our last UMYF of the season is June 4, 6-7:30 PM

It's a pot-luck event with games and fellowship as we welcome our newest youth—the 5th graders. All 5th graders are welcome to join us in the Fellowship Hall as we celebrate the end of the school year!

Summer youth events will include fun activities, mission, and team building fellowship! Stay tuned for updates on events!

Upcoming Events

June 18th - Juneteenth celebration at Hampton Plantation. *Juneteenth* is a celebration that commemorates the moment the last enslaved men & women received word of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation in Galveston, TX on June 19, 1865.

June 29th - Hiking

Other Events This Summer: camping, Hershey Park, Baltimore County Christian Work Camp, Car Wash, Game Night, etc. Stay tuned for details.

Vacation Bible Camp - We need our youth to help with Vacation Bible Camp. We are counting on you to help provide fun and understanding to the children. **Remember to register AS A VOLUNTEER online at <https://2017.cokesburyvbs.com/TowsonUMC/volunteer/>**

We would like to send out a warm congratulations to all of our graduates from high school, college, and graduate school. We pray that as you enter into the next part of your journey of life that you remember God is always right there with you!



Check us out on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/TowsonUMCYouth/

Questions? Contact Rachel at yandya@towsonumc.org or 410-823-3698



FOREVERMORE

Holy, holy, holy King, evermore to You I sing,
On the cross, You took my place, clothed me with Your boundless grace.
My strength, my song, my heart's delight, my All-in-all, the Source of my life,
This is my song, while life shall endure, to praise Your holy name forevermore.

Holy, holy, Lord of hosts, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Spotless Lamb upon the throne, I would worship You alone,
My Lord, my Rock eternally, my Savior forever You will be.
Safe in Your love, my soul is secure, and I would worship You forevermore.

Holy, holy, Lord of grace, when of Heaven's joys I taste,
When my faith has turned to sight, showered by Your glory bright,
And there, while Heaven's delights unfold, Your matchless face I shall behold,
My spirit will dance in the joy of You, Lord, and there rejoice in You forevermore.

From STUNNED BY YOUR GLORY,
© 2010 by Joyce Keedy





VACATION BIBLE CAMP

July 24-28

9:00am to 12 noon each day

Join us for fun and learning at **HERO CENTRAL** with **FLAME the RED PANDA**.

"Do good! Seek peace and go after it!"

Psalm 34:14b



Who: Children, age 3 years (by Jan. 1, 2017) – 5th grade (completed 2016-17)

Cost: \$10 per child, \$20 maximum per family of campers



Register online! GO TO www.towsonumc.org and CLICK ON FLAME the Red Panda.

This will take you to a Cokesbury site to register — campers & volunteers.

You will receive an email confirmation of your registration, which will have the link you click on to pay for your camper. Volunteers are free.

Day 1: Samuel Anoints David, 1 Samuel 16:1-12

Day 2: Abigail Saves the Day, 1 Samuel 25

Day 3: Jesus Goes to the Temple, Luke 2:41-52

Day 4: Beatitudes, Matthew 4:23- 5:12

Day 5: Pentecost, Acts 2:1-41

Register soon for our fun summer camp at church!



Join us for fun, snacks, crafts, games, and Bible stories to help us be God's heroes!

If you are interested in helping with preparation or with VBC that week, please contact Margery (mschammel@towsonumc.org or 410-823-2485).

Painting Days for VBC!

Everyone is welcome to come and paint decorations on

Wed., June 21 and

Thur., July 6,

9:00AM – Noon.

Please wear paint friendly clothes and let Margery know you will attend.



Donations Needed for VBC:

- ★ empty paper towel rolls
- ★ empty clean food boxes such as cereal and cracker boxes
- ★ small glass jars (baby food jars, empty and clean)

Bring to church and place in the church office.

Missions & Outreach

COMMUNION/MISSION OFFERING

Sunday, June 4

and throughout the month of June

OUR EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY

Our FOOD PANTRY needs your help!!!

Here, currently at TUMC, we are providing for about 85 local, needy households. On a one-morning-per-month basis, we open Fellowship Hall, staff it with TUMC volunteers, and give out free non-perishable food and free gently-used household items. We are honored to be serving the *Lord Jesus Christ* by helping to share our resources.

>>Two very generous members of our congregation have offered to "match" any monetary donations that you make to the FOOD PANTRY throughout the month of June 2017.<<

Please make your check payable to: "Towson UMC" and be sure to indicate, on the memo line, that it's for the Food Pantry. Questions? Please contact Val Wehrle c410-812-3932; valw4321@yahoo.com

OUR EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY

... will be open to the public on **Saturday, June 24**

9:00 to 10:30AM — in Fellowship Hall

If you would like to volunteer to help once a month, contact Dwight Kines at 410-828-0792.

Check the Sunday bulletins for up-to-date food needs.



TUMC BLOOD DRIVE

Saturday, July 1

PLEASE mark your calendars and consider donating the morning of Saturday, July 1, between 6:30 and 12 noon.

You can make your appointment now by contacting Marella at msch1105@gmail.com.

OUR CHURCH COLLECTS USED

CLOTHES — for men, women, and children — as well as shoes and accessories. The bin is in the back of the church next to the playground. All your donations go to the Homestead UMC community, who really appreciates us!



PATHWAYS End-of-Year Celebration

— Awards Dinner —

PATHWAYS Tutoring wrapped up another successful year for students, their families, and tutors on May 15, 2017.

Dinner was prepared and donated by Sally Savidge. Nearly 30 students received medals for attendance and effort. Many were awarded the highest honor with near perfect attendance and strong effort.



Craig Thompson (pictured top, right, with Mary Wynn Eisenberg and Sharon Penhallegon), an attorney with Venable, treated the audience to a motivational message which resonated with the crowd.

We look forward to another successful year of PATHWAYS tutoring next year with your support.





**KENTMORR CRAB FEAST
Stevensville, Maryland
THURSDAY, SEPT. 21, 2017**

Registration Deadline is Sept. 6

Join us for an Eastern Shore Crab Feast at the Kentmorr Crab House in Stevensville, MD. In addition to the all-u-can-eat crabs, you will also enjoy a cup of red crab soup, and a buffet of fried chicken, coleslaw, potato salad, delicious corn on the cob, and ice cream for dessert. Beverages are included. After the two-hour crab feast, we will go to the Amish and Mennonite Market in Annapolis where you can purchase handmade quilts, crafts, fresh produce, desserts, etc.

Departure times:

10:00 AM TUMC / 10:30 AM Oak Crest, Parkville, MD

Return time: 5:30 PM

The price for this trip is \$75.00, which includes the transportation, a two-hour crab feast, and all taxes and tips, including the driver.

Make your check payable to the "Senior Adult Council" and mail to:

**Mrs. Bernice Peacher
12300 Rosslare Ridge Rd. #402
Timonium, Md. 21093**

Please include your phone number and your email address with your check.

Folks of all ages are encouraged to join us

Register early for the bus trips to assure your seat. Each tour allows you to either board at the church or at Oak Crest, whichever is more convenient for you.

Pick up a brochure, with ALL the trips, in the church lobby. If you can't get in, call the office at 410-823-6511 and we will mail you one.

**FRIENDLY FARM RESTAURANT LUNCH
AND TOUR BOORDY VINEYARDS
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2017**

Depart Oak Crest 10:30 AM / 11:00 AM TUMC
Return 5:00 PM TUMC / 5:30 PM Oak Crest

Travel through the countryside of Northern Baltimore County to Friendly Farm Restaurant for a delicious family style lunch. Offering breathtaking views year-round, the restaurant is located on a two-hundred-acre farm and surrounded by three ponds. Sit, relax, and enjoy the warm friendly service, scenic views, and the great food that has been associated with this family owned restaurant since 1959.

After lunch we travel to Boordy Vineyards, which is nestled among the farmlands of Baltimore County. Enjoy a guided tour of the winery, followed by a tasting of selected Boordy Vineyard wines served with crackers and locally made cheddar cheese. You will also receive a wine glass to take home compliments of Boordy Vineyards.

The price is \$85.00 per person, includes:

- Broiled Jumbo Lump Crab Cake, Fried Chicken, and Family Style Vegetables,
- Vineyard Tour with wine tasting, crackers and cheddar cheese, and glass
- Transportation, all taxes and tips.

Make your check payable to the "Senior Adult Council" and mail to:

**Lois Winship 410-825-4013
1 Southerly Court, # 201
Towson, Maryland, 21286**

Please include your phone number and contact information with your check.

Registration Deadline is Sept. 25, 2017

Towson United Methodist Church is a community of Christ-followers growing in love of God and neighbor. This is what we at Towson UMC believe Christian discipleship is, what we are to be, and what Jesus meant when he sent his followers to “make disciples”—

We believe every person is of sacred worth and created in God’s image. We commit to Jesus’ example of inclusive love, care, and intentional hospitality with persons of every race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, faith story, physical or mental ability, economic status, or political perspective. We respect our diversity of opinion and expressions of faith. Therefore, as God loves us, so let us love and serve in the name of Christ.

— adopted by the TUMC Church Council February 2, 2015



TOWSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MINISTRY TEAM

501 Hampton Lane, Towson, MD 21286

410-823-6511 www.towsonumc.org towsonprays.blogspot.com

Rev. LaTrelle Easterling, Resident Bishop

Rev. Edwin DeLong, Interim Superintendent, Baltimore Metropolitan District

Bob Kimmons & Stephanie Kimmons, TUMC’s Church Lay Leaders

Rev. Dr. Roderick J. Miller, Lead Pastor

Rev. Margery Schammel, Assistant Pastor

Rev. Doug Hollida, Minister of Music

Rachel Livingston, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry

HAMPTON LANE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

410-825-0008 cdcdirector@towsonumc.org — **Erin Rigley**, Center Director

A Ministry of Towson United Methodist Church — Child Care with an approved preschool — www.hamptonlanecdc.org

Church Staff Directory

Rev. Rod Miller

Lead Pastor

rmiller@towsonumc.org

410-823-3640 (church)

410-465-2335 (home)

Rev. Margery Schammel

Assistant Pastor

mschammel@towsonumc.org

410-823-2485

Rev. Doug Hollida

Minister of Music & Organist

MusicDirector@towsonumc.org

410-823-6519

Rachel Livingston

Director of Youth &

Young Adult Ministry

yandya@towsonumc.org

410-823-3698

Kim Ayres

Business Manager/ Receptionist

kayres@towsonumc.org

410-823-3693

Cathy Anderson

Director of Communications

communications@towsonumc.org

410-823-3689

Bob Ashby

Custodian

Erin Rigley, Director

Hampton Lane

Child Development Center

cdcdirector@towsonumc.org

410-825-0008

TOWSON PRAYS ONLINE

<http://towsonprays.blogspot.com>

Prayers and thoughts written by friends at church!

Make this a “favorite” and
join us in prayer.

Upper Room devotionals are available in regular and large print. You can find them on the credenza under the pictures of the church’s stained glass windows in the main lobby.



ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT

HIGH SPIRE

SUMMER (July & August) 2017

are due Tuesday, June 13, 2017.

All articles need to be on time and either in the marked folder outside Room 315

OR — e-mail to

Cathy Anderson at communications@towsonumc.org.

Thank you!