

# HIGH SPIRO

**Summer  
2018**

Newsletter for Members & Friends of Towson United Methodist Church

## Stress-Free Summertime

Ahhh! Summer. Time to relax, dream and vacate—like the snowman Olaf from Disney’s film *Frozen* sings: “When life gets rough, I like to hold onto my dreams of relaxing in the summer sun, just letting off steam.”

Well, that’s not exactly the case here at Towson UMC. While the summer months are a bit more casual (think: flip flops and shorts), there is still much to do (think: Flea Market, Bible Camp and Thursday night worship and dinner). We can stay connected and focused in the summer sun without stressful schedules and to-do lists. Olaf guarantees: “Oh, the sky will be blue, and you guys’ll be here too...in summer!” Enjoy the slower pace.



CONGRATS to all the Towson UMC walkers, runners and winners at the Araminta Race Against Traffik in May! Thanks to everyone who supported this worthwhile event to end child trafficking in Maryland.



Look at those bricks!!! Cheers to the Youth Group and all our church friends who helped with clearing, building and planting in the new labyrinth area. Lots of sweaty work days = success!



**2 TEXT GIVE**  
410-514-3014  
Towson UMC

## JOYFULLY 2 UMC

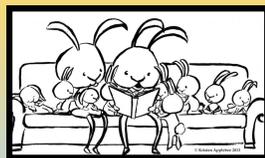
YUP! There’s an app for that. Check out the new ways of giving to Towson UMC. Text an amount and donation designation. OR, download the app using GooglePlay or iTunes. Search for our church’s name. Select “give” and enter a donation amount and fund designation. Easy!



Now, here’s an active bunch of young teens AND our 2018 newest confirmands. Wahoo — celebrating you!

## What’s Inside?

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# FLEA MARKET

Like a good bargain? Want to dump your junk? Enjoy baking? Come to our community Flea Market and BUY, SELL, DONATE or VOLUNTEER to make this event a HUGE success. Check out the church website or Facebook page for more details. Rain date is June 9th. Ginny Foster is coordinating this event: virginiafoster@comcast.net 410.296.4780.

SATURDAY  
June 2, 2018  
8am-1pm



## Welcome Our New Director of Marketing and Communications

The Staff Parish Relations Committee is pleased to announce that Maryanne Arthur will be our new Director of Marketing and Communications. This is a part-time position and Maryanne will be responsible for production of our weekly bulletin and the *High Spire*. Also, she will help church leadership in redesigning the website and increasing our social media presence. There are some additional ways of communicating with our congregation that are still being worked out; and, as things get closer to completion, there will be more information available.

If you have any information for the bulletin or *High Spire* please send to Maryanne at [communications@towsonumc.org](mailto:communications@towsonumc.org) so she can capture the news and reply to you.

A new emphasis for this position will be to increase Towson UMC's visibility in the community. This is an exciting new direction for Towson UMC; and church leadership is confident this increased visibility and partnership with other Towson area organizations will result in greater health and vitality for your church. Questions? Contact Pastor Mark or Miquel Roberts, SPRC chair.



## PRAY WITH US

<http://towsonprays.blogspot.com>

Upper Room devotionals (in regular and large print) available in the lobby.

Next High Spire content deadline: August 3rd for the FULL FALL 2018 issue. Send photos, story ideas and written copy to: [communications@towsonumc.org](mailto:communications@towsonumc.org)

# HIGH SPIRE

501 Hampton Lane : Towson, MD 21286

410.823.6511

[www.towsonumc.org](http://www.towsonumc.org)

Business Hours: Mon-Thurs 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

Sunday Worship Services: 8:00 AM and 10:15 AM

## MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. LaTrelle Easterling—Resident Bishop

Rev. Dr. Wanda Duckett—District Superintendent,  
Baltimore Metropolitan District

Bob Kimmons & Stephanie Kimmons—  
Towson UMC's Church Lay Leaders

Rev. Dr. Mark Johnson—Lead Pastor  
410.823.3640 : [leadpastor@towsonumc.org](mailto:leadpastor@towsonumc.org)

Rev. Margery Schammel—Assistant Pastor  
410.823.2485 : [mschammel@towsonumc.org](mailto:mschammel@towsonumc.org)

Rev. Doug Hollida—Minister of Music  
410.823.6519 : [musicdirector@towsonumc.org](mailto:musicdirector@towsonumc.org)

Rachel Livingston—Director of Youth and  
Young Adult Ministries  
410.823.3698 : [yandya@towsonumc.org](mailto:yandya@towsonumc.org)

Kim Ayres—Business and Office Manager  
410.823.3693 : [kayres@towsonumc.org](mailto:kayres@towsonumc.org)

Maryanne Arthur—Director of Marketing and  
Communications : [communications@towsonumc.org](mailto:communications@towsonumc.org)

Bob Ashby—Custodian : 410.823.6511

## HAMPTON LANE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Erin Rigley—Center Director  
410.825.0008 : [cdcdirector@towsonumc.org](mailto:cdcdirector@towsonumc.org)

A ministry of Towson United Methodist Church, Hampton Lane CDC is a licensed childcare center with approved preschool for ages two (2) through pre-kindergarten. [www.hamptonlanecdc.org](http://www.hamptonlanecdc.org)

# Pastor Mark's Meanderings



*Dear Friends,*

The old song begins “Summertime, and the livin’ is easy.” It seemed like the cold of winter would never end and perhaps, like me, you are ready for a bit of that “easy livin’ summertime.” As our patterns of living change a bit as winter slides into spring and spring slides into summer, our patterns of church life sometimes shift a bit, too. Sunday School classes take a break for a while, choirs take well-deserved rests and that is good. We each need times to rest, renew, and re-charge. Sandi and I are looking forward to time with our family and I suspect you have some down time planned, also.

Sometimes though, we are tempted to take the summer off from worship. Things come up, family and friends stop by and there are games to be played. I would invite you to make sure that continuing to build a relationship with God through worship is a part of your summer rest, relaxation and reinvigoration. In fact, why not come to worship on your way to or from other activities? If the kids are in team jerseys, great. We are “flip-flop friendly.” Bring the family and friends along with you.

The leadership of Towson UMC is working hard to make church life fun, interesting, and engaging this summer. In this edition of the *High Spire*, look for more information about some of these activities including:

**Vacation Bible Camp July 23- 27:** The theme is Rolling River Rampage and this will be a great time for children, ages three through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, as well as for youth and adult staffers.

**Ukulele Choir:** Yes, you heard me right. Grab a uke and join us Thursday evenings 7 PM beginning June 28.

**Thursday Evening Worship:** Come for dinner at 6 PM (sharp) and enjoy multi-generational, experiential, fun

worship as we look at Folk Tales from around the world and how they reflect (or don't) the gospel.

**Sunday Morning Worship:** Our theme is ‘Towson UMC Goes to the Movies’. We will pick a number of our favorite movies and look for the Gospel in them.

**Lemonade Brick Break:** Gather outside after worship with a cup of lemonade and chat with your church family. Thanks to the RAMS committee for arranging this!

**Young Adult Sunday Brunch** Our young adults (listen up folks who are home from college) will be gathering offsite for fellowship and learning at brunch after worship.

And our Finance Team wants to remind you that we have a number of ways that you can easily keep your giving up to date. In addition to putting a check in the offering plate or dropping it in the mail, you can give through the website ([towsonumc.org](http://towsonumc.org)), by text messaging, and through an app on your smartphone. There is additional information about giving by text messaging or app elsewhere in the bulletins and this newsletter.

As I am coming up on my first anniversary as your Lead Pastor, I thank God that I have been called to serve with you in ministry. I am “Godly Proud” of each of you and I look forward to a great summer with you.

See you in worship!

*Blessings,*

*Pastor Mark Johnson*

## ☕ Coffee and Conversation ☕

Coffee and Conversation is on vacation during the month of June, resuming on Wednesday, July 11th, 9:00 AM at Rise Biscuits and Donuts on York Road.

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*

# Summer Strummin'

**Ukulele Choir begins June 28**

**WHAT IS IT?** Summer rehearsals to teach tuning and making chords, then we will learn a song to present during worship.

**WHO CAN COME?** Ages: Mid-Elementary School to Adult.

Children need to have hands big enough to play the chords, developed reading and motor skills, and the ability to maintain focus for a 30-minute session with other children and adults. We encourage folks to participate as a family if able.

**WHEN AND WHERE?** Begins Thursday, June 28, 7:00-7:30 PM, Room 317

**WHEN WILL WE PLAY?**

In Sunday Worship, Aug. 19 – practice at 9:45 AM; and on a Thursday night or two before that. (Come to choir, even if you can't make the play dates.)

**WHAT TO BRING?** Your Ukulele!

There are different sizes – the soprano is the standard size. (Note: don't buy a baritone as the tuning and chords are different on that size.) There are lots to choose from starting at around \$30 online or around \$80 at local stores (see below).

Tuner is optional – one good one is the Super Tight Tuner by Snark (they even make one specifically for a ukulele – Amazon has it). There are also free apps, free programs, YouTube videos, etc. We will help everyone get their ukuleles tuned up the first night we meet.

**WHAT ABOUT CHILD CARE?** If you need childcare, we are glad to arrange, but you must let us know ahead of time. Contact Rev. Margery Schammel: [mschammel@towsonumc.org](mailto:mschammel@towsonumc.org) or 410.823.2485.



*Hawaiian Shirts*  
*Optional*

## WHERE TO SHOP?

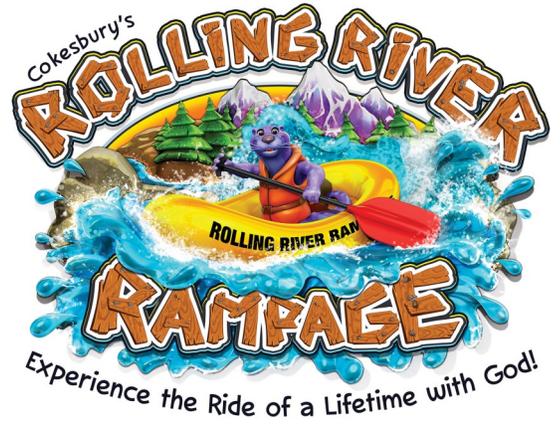
**Online:** you can buy from lots of retailers, including Amazon.

**Local Stores:** **Guitar Center** – Joppa Road : **Menchey Music Service** – Timonium

**Ryan Fowler's Guitar Experience** – Joppa Road : **Appalachian Bluegrass Shoppe** – Catonsville

**Music Go Round** – Cockeysville (sells used instruments)

# Vacation 2018 Bible Camp



## July 23-27, 9:00 AM – Noon

Join us on an adventure for Rolling River Rampage! Experience the ride of a lifetime with God! Begin the day with Romper the River Otter, hear stories from the Bible, make crafts, play games, eat snacks!

On Friday, we will play water games!!

**WHO:** Children age 3 (by Jan. 1, 2018) to 5<sup>th</sup> grade (grade completed 2017-18)

**COST:** \$10 per child, maximum of \$20 per family

## HOW TO JOIN THE FUN:

Register online: Go to [www.towsonumc.org](http://www.towsonumc.org) and click on the VBC logo. This will take you to the Cokesbury website to register. All campers and volunteers register online and will receive a confirmation email. In your confirmation email, you may click on the link for online payment. If you prefer, you may send a check to the church: payable to TUMC, with 'VBC' in the memo line. You must register by June 25<sup>th</sup> to guarantee your free VBC shirt!

“When you pass through the water,  
I will be with you.” Isaiah 43:2

Day 1: Jesus Calls the Disciples, Matthew 4:18-25

Day 2: Jesus Accepts Mary and Martha, Luke 10:38-42

Day 3: Jesus Walks with Zacchaeus, Luke 19:1-10

Day 4: Jesus Shares a Special Meal, Luke 22:14-20

Day 5: Jesus Makes a Promise, Matthew 28:16-20

## Donations needed for VBC!

- \* newspaper
- \* plain-colored vinyl tablecloths
- \* reusable grocery bags (preferably green or blue)
- \* wooden clothespins

Place all donations in the main church office. Thanks!

## Painting Days for VBC!

Come paint the decorations for our River adventure!

Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 10<sup>th</sup>; 10:00am – 12:30pm, Rooms 310-312

Wear paint friendly clothes and let Margery know that you will attend so she can order enough pizza!



## Questions or want to help?

Contact Rev. Margery Schammel at 410.823.2485 : [mschammel@towsonumc.org](mailto:mschammel@towsonumc.org)



# Sunday Mornings



8:00 AM and 10:15 AM

"Towson UMC Goes to the Movies"

Sunday 'Lemonade Brick Break' sponsored by RAMs  
our Reconciling & Accepting Methodists' committee

### Worship Themes:

- 6/10 Faith Amidst Loss
- 6/17 God Lives Within Us
- 6/24 Atonement
- 7/1 Redemption
- 7/8 Forgiveness
- 7/15 Peace
- 7/22 Justice
- 7/29 Faith
- 8/5 Hope
- 8/12 Love
- 8/19 Grace
- 8/26 Community
- 9/2 Heaven



## Double the Worship = TWICE the Fun!

This summer, the worship team at Towson UMC has BIG things planned! For starters, we are offering THREE worship services on TWO different days —Sunday mornings and Thursday nights. Step into your flip-flops and join us!

**Sunday morning** services are still at 8 AM and 10:15 AM with a Lemonade Brick Break on the front steps (instead of the 9AM fellowship hour) and Cribbery (infants to age 3) plus Summer Sunday School (ages 3-6 only) during 10:15 AM worship.

**Thursday night** service begins promptly at 6 PM with informal dinner and a storytelling worship format. Away on the weekend? Bring the whole family to this fresh folk tale Biblical experience. Stick around for Ukulele Choir or fellowship with church friends at 7 PM.

Remember...all 9 AM Sunday school classes take a summer break!

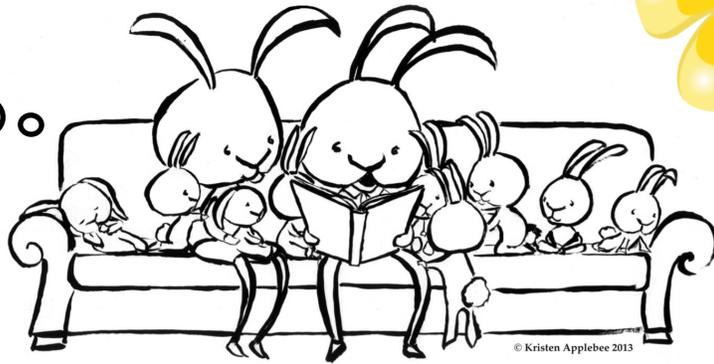
**Cribbery** summer hours begin June 17<sup>th</sup>. Childcare for infants and children (to age 3) is located in Room 122 during the 10:15 AM worship service. Enrollment forms online.

Sunday School — for all ages  
— ends on June 10<sup>th</sup> and  
resumes 9 AM, Sept. 9th.  
Watch for details in the fall  
2018 newsletter

### Summer Sunday School June 24 through August 26 — Children ages 3-6 years (by 1/1/18)

Learn stories of Jesus! Children will begin in the worship service and go to Room 314 when dismissed, following the Children's Time. We will learn, play games, and make crafts. The first few weeks will be based on the parables of Jesus and the last month will be stories of persons who encountered Jesus. Questions? Want to help lead a class? Contact Margery Schammel at 410.823.2485 or mschammel@towsonumc.org.

# Two Great Ways to



© Kristen Applebee 2013

**families  
flip flops  
folk tales  
fellowship  
free food  
fun**

**Ahhh! summer**

## Thursday Evenings

6 PM dinner and worship  
in Fellowship Hall

Theme: "Tell Me a Story" —  
Folk Tales from Around the World

Enjoy a simple dinner prepared by various  
church committees each week!



### Stick Around After Worship:

6/21 at 7:00 PM — Intro to Deaf Culture  
Class, taught by Sandi Johnson

6/28 at 7:00 PM (consecutive Thursdays) —  
Ukulele Choir, taught by Doug Hollida and  
Jaime Deady

Don't miss this great opportunity to worship  
with your church family, especially if you are  
away on the weekends! Enjoy folk tales and food  
from around the world. Dress is summer casual.

### Folk Tales:

- 6/21 The Fly (Vietnamese)
- 6/28 The Blue Coat (Jewish)
- 7/5 Being greedy Chokes Anansi (West African)
- 7/12 The Parts of the House Argue (Philippine)
- 7/19 How War Was Ended (Yup'ik)
- 7/26 The Rabbit and the Fox (Native American)
- 8/2 Wild Goose Lake (Chinese)
- 8/9 Fair Exchange (Irish)
- 8/16 Fire, Water, Truth and Falsehood (Ethiopian)
- 8/23 The Empty Barn (Latvian)

# Worship This Summer

## Under the Star-Showered Sky

from *Awesome Holy Night*

copyright Joyce Keedy, 2015



The dome of the heav'ns like a canvas is spread,  
Once more deep night blankets the land,  
The sun in its flaming red glory now set,  
And yields to the Milky Way bands.

Cricket choirs praise the Lord with their steady delight,  
The stars God's great handiwork show,  
They sparkle the heavens and illumine the night,  
And amaze us again with their glow.

I exult with sheer joy in this star-dazzled night,  
In the wonders and glories of space,  
For the heavens stretch out all star-shattered and bright,  
Surely God is here in this place.

With such breathtaking beauty night's curtain is filled  
Midst the vast level darkness so deep;  
From Heaven's bright fountains the countless stars spilled,  
Their numbers beyond all belief.

These star-studded heav'ns in their Maker rejoice  
As they praise His great name from on high,  
And I'm filled with His awe and I ache with His joy,  
Under the star-showered sky.

## Attention Women Singers



Women and girls are invited to sing in the Women's Chorus on Father's Day, June 17. We will be singing a jazzed up arrangement of *This Little Light is Mine*. There is a learning curve to this piece, so we will be having some special rehearsals to prepare.

**Sunday, June 3** – rehearse right after the 10:15 AM worship service – Music Room 321

**Wednesday, June 6** – rehearse at 7:00 PM – Music Room 321

**Sunday, June 17** – rehearse at 9:15 AM and sing at the 10:15 AM service.

Hope to see you there!

Dear Congregation,

Gerald Lawrence "Jerry" Dale, cousin to TUMC member Lucette Bowers, passed away April 16, 2018, following a long, valiant four-year battle with cancer. Jerry has been on the TUMC prayer vine since the beginning of his battle. Our family is grateful for the support for Jerry and his family and want to thank all for their faithful service and prayers.

— Lucette, Mike and Carol Bowers

Dear Congregation,

Recently, I attended an event and had the chance to catch up with Matt Stover there. I took the opportunity to thank him for all his early years of support for PATHWAYS. He was pleased to hear that the program is still helping deserving students.



— Stephanie Kimmons

## Sunday Mornings During the Summer

Our Sunday School continues for children, ages three (by 1/1/18) to six years, who will begin worship with their family and be dismissed to class during our 10:15 AM service. We need teachers for every week, June 24 – Aug 26. (We do not have Sunday School on Labor Day weekend.) Curriculum and assistance is provided for each week!

Help our Sunday School teachers have a wonderful summer by taking a turn teaching our children.

Contact Margery Schammel to sign up for a week: [mschammel@towsonumc.org](mailto:mschammel@towsonumc.org) or 410.823.2485.

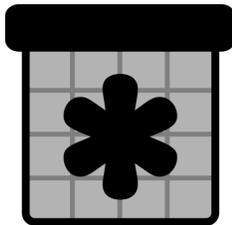
Dear Congregation,  
Once again, the Women's retreat was an enjoyable and meaningful experience. Thanks to the women of the Design team for creating a great program! It is always a special time making new friends and sharing one's faith journey.

— Sandy Clawson

## Women's Retreat 2019

### SAVE THE DATE

The Women's Retreat will be March 29-31, 2019. Put the dates in ink on your calendar now!



### SHARE YOUR IDEAS

You are invited to an open brainstorming session to gather ideas for the 2019 Women's Retreat. We will gather in Room 317 on June 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. You do not need to be a member of the Design Team to attend, and there is no obligation, except to share your wonderful thoughts.

## Duckpin Bowlers Wanted!

Join the Anneslie League (started by Katherine Rigney more than 50 years ago) this fall with the first bowling date, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM at AMF Bowling Lanes on Providence Lane.

Want to get in some early practice? Come when you can, on Tuesdays throughout the summer, at 11 AM. Same place.

Questions? Contact:  
Ginny Foster  
410.296.4780 or  
443.326.0271.



Anyone one — age or stage — is welcome!

## Faith Foundations

Join us for a new class — held on the third Sunday of every month throughout the year, from 9-10 AM, in room 119 — on a three-month cycle. First class begins May 20<sup>th</sup>.

*Interested in becoming a member?* This is the class for you! Take all three classes when it works with your schedule.

*Interested in learning more about our Methodist faith and are already a member?* You are welcome to be part of any of the classes.

Even better, if you miss any class, you can catch it later in the year.

Here are our topics for discussion:

### Heritage

January

April

July

October

### Distinctives

February

May

August

November

### Towson Church Community

March

June

September

December

Each quarter, our Hospitality Ministry will host a reception to welcome any new class members who have joined recently. Any questions, contact Margery Schammel at [mschammel@towsonumc.org](mailto:mschammel@towsonumc.org) or 410.823.2485.

# Moment on a Mission: Communion Offering

## June : Earl's Place

We hear a lot about home values and about the high cost of rentals and the lack of affordable housing. But what about the non-monetary value of a home? A home provides us with a sanctuary and a foundation, dignity and a sense of self-worth. A place where we can be ourselves. For

most of the men who live at Earl's Place, home, a real home, is something they have not had for a long time. To reclaim their lives, they are changing everything— people, places and things. Earl's Place is an important step in their quest to start over.

Earl's Place is a project of United Ministries... a housing and social justice organization dedicated to assisting men who are homeless who want to change their lives, and to changing community attitudes toward the homeless. Earl's Place was the first project of United Ministries, opened in 1997 and is named for Earl Johnson, who, before his death was involved both as a client and a volunteer at The Supper Club, a soup kitchen in Fells Point. With the support of many generous donors Earl's Place provides housing and supportive services to men who are homeless. Earl's Place is located at 1400 E. Lombard Street in Baltimore City, [www.umhousing.org](http://www.umhousing.org). Your donation to the Moment on Mission offering will provide the residents of Earl's Place with the resources they need to get back on their feet and to be productive citizens of society. \$18 = one day of help/hope for a man at Earl's Place. Please give generously!



## July : Table of Grace

At the Table of Grace, a mission of Essex UMC, an average of 160 hot, homemade meals are prepared and served every Wednesday by members and friends of this small congregation. The dedicated providers for Table of Grace are those who responded when He called them to "Follow me." These children of God are listening and taking the opportunity to do God's work by feeding the hungry. They don't need to know how it will work —they don't wait to see where

they will fit in —they are ordinary people just following their call and with God's blessing it works extraordinarily. Just as it worked when Jesus looked to Heaven, blessed the loaves and fishes, and fed five thousand people. Since 2013, Towson UMC has supported Table of Grace. While the organization received grant money and food donations from various sources (such as Maryland Food Bank and local businesses), it is in need of other items (such as paper products, plastic cutlery, trash bags, etc.). Our monetary donations help this group continue its meaningful work in our area, serving all God's children. And, once a year, our congregation prepares toiletry bags for visitors, including toothpaste/brushes, soap, and more. Table of Grace is located at Essex UMC, 524 Maryland Ave, Essex, MD 21221. [www.essexumcmd.org](http://www.essexumcmd.org).



TABLE OF GRACE

## August : Streets of Hope

Streets of Hope is a coalition of churches and community volunteers who have pooled resources to provide food, clothing, shelter and other relief to the homeless, poor and underprivileged people in Southeastern Baltimore County. Their volunteers run food pantries, soup kitchens, clothing drives and a cold weather shelter. Churches for Streets of Hope started meeting in 2009, became incorporated in 2010, and opened a 16-bed cold weather shelter for men that has operated since that date. The organization shares schedules, locations and resources for soup kitchens and pantries. The Streets of Hope volunteers and staff have worked with Prologue, Department of Social Services, Mental Health Association of MD and other professionals to coordinate care for sheltered men, providing a positive impact on lives in the community. Streets of Hope has a main office at Boulevard Christian Church, located at 920 N. Essex Avenue, Essex, MD 21221. Visit the website at [www.churchesforsoh.org](http://www.churchesforsoh.org)



## How to Give

**Sunday Worship:** Give the first Sunday of each month in the offering plates as you go up to communion or mail your donation to the TUMC business office. Note "Earl's Place", "Table of Grace" or "Streets of Hope" on your check.

**Celebrate Your Special Day by Giving:** Do you have a birthday or anniversary coming up? Consider asking friends and family to donate to your charity of choice in lieu of gifts.

**Matching Gifts:** Does your company sponsor a matching gift program? If so, ask the human resources department for forms and information.

Thank you for your generosity!

# You're Invited

**Sunday, June 3rd**  
**10:15 AM Worship**  
**Labyrinth Dedication**



WALK with God  
in Nature



Only 25 steps away  
from a parking space!



Follow the path  
at the end of  
our parking  
lot to the new  
Labyrinth area.



Don't forget! Towson UMC is an approved charity with Amazon Smile! Simply shop online and Amazon sends a donation to our church. To select Towson UMC as the recipient of your online shopping, log onto [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) and choose "Towson United Methodist Church" each time you shop online. You will see the church's name under the search box at the top of the page, following the word "supporting".



## Remember Towson UMC in Your Will

When you leave a bequest to Towson UMC in your will or estate plan you help to root your hopes and dreams in the bedrock of Christ's Gospel. You also make a good steward's return to God of God's blessings in your life and leave an eternal message of what is important to you. It is easy to include your church in your estate planning by having your advisor include this language in your will or beneficiary designation: "I give, devise and bequeath \_\_\_\_\_ (insert dollar amount or percent amount) of my estate to Towson United Methodist Church, 501 Hampton Lane, Towson, MD 21286".

Questions? Call Pastor Mark to connect with a Planned Giving Committee member.

Your pledges and contributions are a critical part of how we make a difference in our church, community and the world. For a quick link to donate, scan this QRC code with your cell phone. Thanks for your generosity!



## Lunch & Learn: Advanced Directives Recap

by Dale Springer

In case you missed the Advance Directives Seminar last month, you missed a good one. Here is a recap;

There are three legal documents that should be included in everyone's estate plans. They are used to make determinations about one's healthcare —how one's bills will be paid; and who should receive one's personal belongings. These documents are:

- Advance Medical Directive
- Financial Power of Attorney
- Last Will and Testament

This seminar focused on the Advance Medical Directive. This is a written statement that allows you to decide what type of medical treatment you do (or do not) want, particularly in an emergency or near end-of-life situation. They are voluntary, changeable and for all adults (of all ages). Electronic Advance Medical Directives are encouraged and should be completed in consultation with family, religious and legal advisors.

### 5 Reasons to complete an Advance Medical Directive today:

- Ensure your wishes are honored during a medical emergency
- Reduce conflicts between family and doctors during end-of-life care
- Ensure religious beliefs are considered during medical care
- Designate a healthcare agent to make decisions when you can't
- Record healthcare wishes in a legally-binding document.

This seminar was organized by TUMC Planned Giving Committee with cooperation from the Maryland Department of Health and the Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service. Some of their handouts are available on the shelf in the church narthex.



## Calendar of Upcoming Events

- May 27 : 6-7:30 PM**  
Game night with 5th graders rising into Middle School and all 6th-12th grades
- June 2 : 8 AM-1 PM**  
Craft Table at the Flea Market
- June 3 : 11:30 AM**  
Last youth council meeting for the summer
- June 10 : 11:30 AM**  
Pancake Breakfast following 10:15am service
- June 23 : 9-11 AM**  
Hiking TBD
- June 29**  
High School Youth Camping Trip
- August**  
Tubing in Monkton, MD TBD
- September 10<sup>th</sup> 11:30am**  
Youth Council Meeting



### 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 the Cokesbury website: <https://rrr.cokesburyvbs.com/TowsonUMC/volunteer/>**

### ConGRADulations!

We would like to send out a warm congratulation 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!



## **Got Syrup?**

**We Do! Come to the annual  
PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

Hosted by Towson UMC Youth

June 10, after 10:15 AM worship in Fellowship Hall.  
Free will offering and "toppings" donations benefit Claudette, our adopted child through Compassion International. Join us for food and fun!



### Towson Young Adults

**Welcome Home to All College-Aged Young Adults!**

We would like to gather with all of our young adults for fellowship to kick off summer young adult ministry. If you are a student home for the summer, a young professional, or a young parent, etc. AND, if you are 18-35 years old, then join us! We welcome you all! **Join us for Brunch! June 17<sup>th</sup> @ noon. Meet at The Point Towson (523 York Road, Towson, MD 21204).**

### Upcoming Young Adult Summer Meetups

- Brunch gatherings
- Chats/Discussions
- 6 PM Thursday Evening Services – "Tell Me A Story"

**Questions? Interested in any of these Youth Group or Young Adult events?** Contact Rachel Livingston at 410.823.3698 or [yandya@towsonumc.org](mailto:yandya@towsonumc.org).



## Did You Know?

### Towson UMC Supports Mission Work with Maryland Residents in Liberia

Towson UMC's Mission Committee supports husband and wife missionary team, Nathan and Anna Glenn, who are working in Liberia to help local farmers and entrepreneurs learn about sustainable agricultural practices and economic small business management.

Their mission location is the Agricultural Resource Center on the campus of Liberia International Christian College. Anna is now currently serving as the Dean of Agriculture, helping to teach classes, organize curriculum, train teachers, conduct outreach, and develop partnerships for the agriculture department at LICC. Nathan is currently working as teacher in the agriculture department, student activities coordinator for LICC, as well as playing a key role in the research and development aspects of the demonstration farm, especially in the areas of poultry and swine.

Here is an excerpt from a recent note:

*Hey friends,  
April was a tough month with a lot of illnesses but, praise God, we were still able to host so many fun events and we are all doing much better now! We pray for each of you and are so thankful to have you on this journey alongside us. Sending much love across the Atlantic and missing you all.*

— Nathan and Anna Glenn

Read the latest Hope in the Harvest report and happenings at: [www.hopeintheharvest.org](http://www.hopeintheharvest.org). And, follow the Glenns via their personal blog that is chock full of photos and incredible details of their work in Liberia:

<https://glennsglobal.wordpress.com/>



**Like stained glass windows,  
the saints allow the light of God  
to permeate the darkness...  
in the world.**

Pope Francis, Nov 2017

## Saints in Service

Looking for meaningful "work"?

**Saints in Service** is a ministry of Towson UMC that matches our congregation members' abilities, interests and calling with ministry tasks.

A variety of ministries is available:

- Office support
- Sound system operator
- Prayer Servants
- Worship bulletin copying
- Worship PowerPoint production

Training and support are available. Curious?

Contact Dale Springer at [cdale241@aol.com](mailto:cdale241@aol.com) or Susan Killian at [susanbkillian@gmail.com](mailto:susanbkillian@gmail.com).

## Summer 2018

### Food Pantry OPEN

**Saturdays, 9:00-10:30 AM**



June 23

July 21

Aug 25

We are always collecting items to keep our food pantry shelves full. Please bring all donations to church on Sundays, or during church hours; and leave them in the Sharing Bins for future food pantry guests. Want to help?

Contact Dwight Kines at 410.828.0792.



## Calling Prayer Servants

Are you being called by God to a ministry of intercessory prayer? Do you have a compassionate heart and are you able to keep confidences? Will you participate in training and supervision? If so, then you may be interested in becoming a Prayer Servant at Towson UMC.



Once trained, Prayer Servants will sign up to be available in the Chapel about once a month after the 10:15 AM Sunday worship service. During that time (probably 11:15-11:45 AM or so) Prayer

Servants would pray with anyone desiring additional prayer.

Want to learn more? Talk with Pastor Mark. When there are enough interested persons, a training session will be scheduled and the program will begin. Please pray for those God is calling to this important ministry.

## Where in the World is Pastor Mark?

Pastors Mark and Sandi will be celebrating their grandson's high school graduation in Loveland, CO from Wednesday, May 23 to Monday, May 28. Then, Pastor Mark will attend the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church from Wednesday, May 30 through Friday, June 1. Finally, Mark and Sandi will fly back to Colorado on Thursday, June 7 for a family vacation, returning to Baltimore on Wednesday, June 20.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## June 10 to September 2

### Sunday Mornings

8:00 AM and 10:15 AM Worship

### Thursday Evenings

6PM Dinner and Worship

### JUNE

- ALL June Communion Offering: Earl's Place
- Jun 2 Flea Market @TUMC (rain date 6/9)
- Jun 3 Summer Worship Begins
- Jun 10 Pancake Breakfast, 11:15 AM
- Jun 17 Father's Day & Women's Chorus
- Jun 17 Young Adult Brunch, noon
- Jun 21 Intro to Deaf Culture, 7 PM
- Jun 23 Youth Group Hiking, 9-11 AM
- Jun 24 Sunday School Begins, ages 3-6
- Jun 27 VBC Painting Day
- Jun 28 Ukulele Choir Begins, 7 PM
- Jun 29 Youth Group High School Camping Trip

### JULY

- ALL July Communion Offering: Table of Grace
- July 10 VBC Painting Day
- July 23-27 Vacation Bible Camp
- ALL Wed Meet the Pastor @ Rise, 9AM, Begins 7/11

### AUGUST

- ALL Aug Communion Offering: Streets of Hope
- ALL Wed Meet the Pastor @ Rise, 9AM
- Aug Youth Group Tubing in Monkton, TBD

### SEPTEMBER

- Summer Thursday Evening Worship Ends
- Fall 2018 Sunday School/Education Classes Begin

### Mark your calendars! 2019

- Mar 29-31, 2019 Women's Retreat





TOWSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
501 Hampton Lane : Towson, Maryland 21286

410.823.6511 : [www.towsonumc.org](http://www.towsonumc.org)  
Business Hours: Mon-Thurs 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

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RESIDENT or

**SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE**  
June 10– September 2, 2018

**8:00 AM**

**Traditional Service in the Chapel**

Communion every Sunday with piano or organ accompaniment.

**8:45-10:00 AM**

**Lemonade 'Brick Break' on the Front Steps**

**9:00-10:00 AM**

**Sunday School, ages 3-6**

June 24-Aug 26; Meet in Room 314 midway through the worship service for learning, play and crafts that relate to the parables of Jesus

**10:15 AM**

**Worship Service in the Sanctuary**

Communion on the first Sunday of each month — open to all — with a richly varied service that blends vocal and hand bell choirs, praise band, traditional and contemporary song, old-fashioned hymns, and glorious 3,000-pipe organ music.

*Yes! Gluten-free bread is available.*



**Hampton Lane**

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER  
*of Towson United Methodist Church*

Licensed childcare and pre-school



410.825.0008 [www.hamptonlanecdc.org](http://www.hamptonlanecdc.org)

Every good  
and perfect  
gift is  
from above,  
coming down  
from the  
Father of  
heavenly  
lights.

James 1:17

**Summer**  
**2018**