



The Summit

November 2021
Volume 20, Issue 5

*A newsletter for the family and friends of
Mt. Carmel UMC*



My sincere thanks to everyone for the gifts, cards, gift cards, and expressions of love during, and since Pastor's Appreciation Month. I love you our Mount Carmel Family and thank you from the bottom of my heart.

THANK YOU soooo very much for your increased giving over the past two months. You have been and continue to be a blessing to our church. The goodness of God shows through in your faithful, cheerful generous giving to our place called Hope. Please don't let up on your increased generosity, it is needed, and as always, I remain grateful.

I look forward with Joy to our celebration of the upcoming Advent Season. I look forward to our Christmas Eve services. As Christmas lights come on throughout our county, may the light and love of Jesus Christ shine evermore brightly in our hearts!

In Joy, Love and Light,
Pastor Jay



You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus" Luke 1: 31

Our theme for the Season of Advent this year is "Something About That Name" Why was Mary told to name him, Jesus? What is so great and purposeful about that name that Heaven told Mary to name her child Jesus? How much Love, Forgiveness, and Life Transforming Power is contained in that name? How does that Name freely give us eternal life?

As Advent unfolds for you and your household this year; find Comfort, Peace, Strength, and Joy in the matchless, Heaven given name of Jesus!



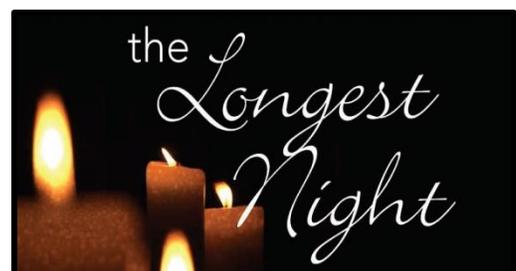
Christmas Eve Services

3:30 and 5:30 pm

Family Services with our Praise Team

7:30 and 9:30 pm

Traditional Services with our Choir



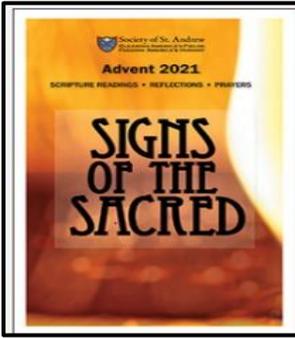
Tuesday, December 21~ 7 pm
in the Great Room.

In the midst of holiday joy, there are many things for which we grieve. This will be a quiet, contemplative service with prayer stations throughout the church allowing space and time to be prayerful with God and our community. All are welcome.



Advent Bible Study Opportunities

Advent is a season of events and activities. We invite you to include in your Advent journey, time to study the scriptures, meditate, share in Bible study and fellowship so that you may maximize your understanding of the movement and guidance of God's loving Spirit throughout the Advent season.



Daily Devotional: Be sure to pick up a free copy of "Signs of the Sacred" from the church Gathering Halls to use with your families and friends during Advent. This devotional will take the place of daily devotions provided by Pastor Scott during the Advent season.

Small Group Advent Studies: *In addition to your personal reflection, we invite you to join a small group to study and be in fellowship with others who are seeking to know the Lord better.*

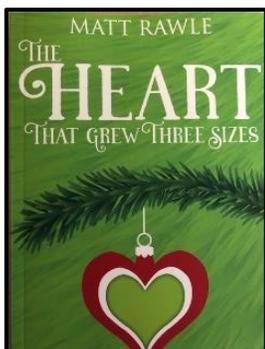
Zoom Bible Studies With Pastor Jay

The Book of Acts~ Wednesday's at 7 pm
Grace and Judgement ~ Thursdays at noon.

To receive the Zoom link contact Donna Clawson at donna.clawson@hopemtcarmel.org

"The Heart That Grew Three Sizes" Advent Study With Pastor Scott

We do not know why the Grinch hated Christmas. We just know that he did. In this new Advent Study, we explore the themes of faith in this Christmas classic, including, how did the Grinch's heart grow three sizes come Christmas morning? How did Christmas save the Grinch? Could it be that the very thing we think we hate is the one thing that changes our lives?



There are two opportunities to join this study, in-person and by Zoom.

In-person Study Group: Tuesdays December 7, 14, 21, and 28, at 10 am in the New Market UMC Schoolhouse.

Online Study by Zoom: Thursdays at 7 pm, starting December 2nd
To receive the Zoom link, contact Donna Clawson in the church office.



CARE TEAM CORNER

The year was 2013 when Mt. Carmel's Care Ministry Team hosted their first American Red Cross Blood Drive. This year's drive took place on October 3rd when 29 folks took time from their busy day to generously and lovingly donate "the gift of life" during this time of a critical blood shortage. Sincere appreciation and many thanks are due to those who volunteered their time. Trish Mason, Maureen Oakley, Kenny Moore, Ann Thompson, Sharla Worley and Terry Granger greeted donors, served snacks, and performed "other duties as assigned" by the Red Cross staff. Maddie Oakley and Mckenna Witt, juniors from Oakdale High School, also assisted. A shout out to Randy Granger for lending a helping hand to the Red Cross staff during set up and tear down of materials and equipment.

**Our next blood drive is scheduled for Saturday, May 14th from 9 am-2 pm.
Please be sure to mark it on your 2022 calendar!**

At our October meeting, we enjoyed a game of positivity. The exercise was to think of each person and anonymously write down a nice, kind, loving thought that comes to mind on the slips of paper provided. Each completed slip of paper was mixed together in a plastic pumpkin, and then handed out to the person whose name was on it. It turned out to be a very encouraging and uplifting time!

We are looking forward to our December "meeting" when we will gather for our Christmas "Shovunda" Party! For those who are not familiar with the word "Shovunda" - it stands for Shove Unda as in items that you received as gifts, "Shove Unda the bed" and forgot about. We do not go to any expense with purchasing gifts, as pretty sure we all have been given presents that are not only under the bed, but stored on the attic, in the basement....well you get the idea. Re-gifting is a must at this party! We enjoy dinner together, assembling Christmas Care Packages then the "Shovunda" gift exchange.



*Pictured are Kenny Stine, Pastor Jay Blake
and Corey Schoo at the top*

The Mt. Carmel Care Ministry Team is always open to new members we well as adding names to those who receive Care Packages and "Thinking Of You" cards! Please contact Terry Granger at 301-514-2379 or RTJEB@hotmail.com for more info. The Care Team wishes you joy, love, and peace in Christ this Christmas!



Winter Weather Policy



Church meetings, events and office hours during the weekday will follow the Frederick County Public School closings.

If schools are closed for the day or have early dismissal due to inclement weather, all scheduled activities will be automatically cancelled for that day and evening.

During the weekend all activity and service cancelations will be posted by 8am, via these two methods: you can call the church office (301)662-1303 where a message will be posted or you can log onto our web site, www.hopemtcarmel.org



Mt. Carmel Bell Choir

The Bell Choir will be “ringing” in the new year with a new set of bells and some new songs. Watch future bulletins and the weekly email announcements for ways you can be a part of this exciting adventure!!



Jessi Tree

The Jessi Tree focuses on the needs of children and their families in our immediate community. We will start by requesting \$25.00 Walmart gift cards and will add more personal requests as they are received them from our community partners. Please reach out to Michele Stine if you have a need, know someone in need, or have any questions. Michele.Stine@hopemtcarmel.org.



Cookies and Crafts With Santa and Mrs. Claus

December 12 ~ 3-5 pm

2nd floor Great Room

Enjoy Cookies and Crafts with Santa along with story time with Mrs. Claus! Suggested \$10 donation to help cover cost and support the 2021 Jesse Tree that serves families in our community.

CHURCH OFFICE

Tuesday - Friday: 9 am - 3 pm

301-662-1303

Donna.clawson@hopemtcarmel.org

PASTOR JAY

240-664-3408

Pastor.jay@hopemtcarmel.org

CHURCH WEBSITE: www.hopemtcarmel.org



Update from the Finance Committee

As the year 2021 draws to a conclusion, I want to give everyone an update on the financial situation of the Mt. Carmel. The year has been a struggle financially, but we have been able to manage through with some government assistance. As of the end of October, we showed a net deficit of \$54,672 on our income statement. This is mostly due to contributions being lower than originally expected. However, we have been able to bridge this gap with the receipt, and then forgiveness, of a PPP2 loan from the government worth \$62,500. This should allow us to break even by the end of the year. We have also been able to rebuild the building fund to over \$69,000 which is back to the levels prior to the various wall repairs that have occurred over the past two years.

Looking forward to 2022, it will again be a difficult year for Mt. Carmel as we continue to build momentum and get back to the new normal. Earlier this year, the government opened up the Employee Retention Credit (ERC) program to churches affected by government mandates. That includes Mt. Carmel which was affected by Governor Hogan's limitation on indoor gatherings initially announced in 2020 and not cancelled until March of 2021. We have applied for the ERC credit and expect to get it in the first quarter of next year. With this assistance and contributions slightly up from this year, we will be able to achieve a balanced budget.

We are continuing to watch our expenses carefully. As always, we are highly appreciative of the support from the congregation of Mt Carmel and your generous giving. With your support, we have been able to weather the storm of the past two years. While we are not out of deep waters quite yet, we are starting to see some sunshine as we move into 2022.

Bruce Beveridge, Finance Team Chair

2021 Giving Statements will be available at church on Sunday, January 16-23. The statements not picked up will be mailed. If you do not see yours or have any questions, contact Donna in the church

2022 Offering Envelopes will be in the 1st -floor Gathering Hall on December 19. If you do not see yours or have any questions, contact Donna in the church

Help make a difference

Shop for gifts using AmazonSmile to support us, at no cost

amazonsmile



AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping. The first time you go to the site you will be asked to choose the organization that you want to support. Search for "Mt Carmel United Methodist Church". Make sure you select the Mt. Carmel in Frederick MD (there are a lot of Mt Carmel's.) Now shop as usual you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.



Children's Ministry at Mt. Carmel

A ministry growing and nurturing little disciples

It's Time for Advent!



Save The Date!



Cookies & Crafts with Santa, along with story time with Mrs. Claus!

December 12

3:00-5:00pm

**in Mt. Carmel
Great Room.**

**Suggested \$10 donation
to help cover cost and
supports 2021 Jesse
Tree serving families in
our community.**

We are wrapping up the 10 commandments 11/21 in Sunday School. We will transition into the first week of advent 11/28/21. We welcome you to Sunday School Sunday mornings at 9:30 am & 11:00 am to go on this advent journey together. We have been having a wonderful time in class with lessons, crafts, prayer and catching up with friends. Please reach out with your questions: (301) 418-0462 -Michele Stine

Jerimiah 33:14

¹⁴“The days are coming,” announces the Lord. “At that time, I will fulfill my good promise to my people. I made it to the people of Israel and Judah.

The Jesse Tree will be ready 11/21/21 in the gathering hall. The Jesse Tree will focus on the needs of children and their families in our immediate community. We will start by requesting \$25.00 Walmart gift cards and we will add more personal requests as I receive them from our community partners. Please reach out if you have a need or know someone in need.

Michele.stine@homemtcarmel.org

AMPED

A Ministry Preparing Extreme Disciples

 Youth Ministry

Important Dates

Note: Youth Group will continue to be every Sunday evening from 5-6:30pm except Sabbath Sundays

Sat. Dec. 4th Live Nativity & Tree Lighting at NM

Jan 7-9 ROCK/WAVE: in Ocean City

January 16: 1st Youth Group of 2022!

Advent Greetings! We are wrapping up a full Autumn in youth ministry at Mt. Carmel and New Market. During our first several weeks, we spent time learning about different types of prayer, pictured below. Most recently, our youth came to the Emergency Family Shelter at Mt. Carmel to make a meal and spend time with the families. We are looking forward to going to ROCK/WAVE in the New Year and continuing gathering together to strengthen faith and friendships.

How to Reach Pastor Laura:

laura.isaac@hopemtcarmel.org
(714) 337-3520

How to Reach Kate Hanson:

New Market Volunteer Youth Leader
kate@tkhanson.net
Phone: 240.344.9762



Over the course of 5 weeks we have talked about and practiced different types of prayer...

Week 1: We wrote prayers of adoration for God (after our warm up of discussing in detail our favorite food)

Week 2: We wrote prayers of confession and after, watched them burn in our campfire

Week 3: We practiced praying with our hands/active prayer by pulling weeds after talking about a parable in Matthew.

Week 4: We learned about intercessory prayer and practiced praying in color.

Week 5: This week we will talk about tying action to prayer and what it looks like to follow through on "Sending thoughts and prayers," to someone in need.