

# THE MESSENGER

## DO YOU BELIEVE IN EASTER?

Next week, we are supposed to gather for Resurrection Sunday. But, alas, that will not be this year because of a hidden virus that is putting a damper on our ability to gather as a congregation, and in many instances as a family. But it can't take away the importance of the reason for Easter. So, I ask you this simple question: Do you believe in Easter? Do you truly believe in a walking dead man? Do you believe in the Resurrection?

As Christians our faith is based on the resurrection of Jesus Christ. If his own followers who were there to witness this event doubted the empty tomb that Easter morning, how much more do we doubt? Many of us are like Thomas who say—"unless I see...I will not believe."

But Jesus gave proof of his resurrection to his disciples over the 40 days following his resurrection. He appeared on numerous occasions to hundreds. They saw him, they touched him, they ate with him and they discovered he was not a ghost. He taught and encouraged them during this time. We don't know how it (the resurrection) occurred, but we do know that these followers of the Way were absolutely convinced that Jesus had defeated death.

So, I ask you, is it possible for the God who created the universe, who wrote the DNA code for all of life, to transform and resurrect the physical body of His Son after his cruel death upon a cross. When you put it that way, perhaps it doesn't seem so impossible. Our God is all powerful!

The resurrection of Jesus gave his followers and us a new hope and a new promise of eternal life. The Good News of Easter is HE IS RISEN! HE IS ALIVE! His suffering, death, and resurrection are God's response to the sin, evil, injustice, and pain of this world. Jesus experienced it all for our sake.

Easter is a time to renew our faith in the LIVING CHRIST, to LIVE as God's chosen people, FREE from the power of sin, and the fear of death. It can be summarized in one word: **HOPE!** In the face of this ongoing medical crisis and the face of this "new normal" for our lives, hope gives us the confidence that Christ is the victor and he has the final word.

Do you believe in Easter? Can you answer with confidence, **"I not only believe in the resurrection, I'm counting on it!"** Because Jesus lives, we can face tomorrow with hope and confidence! May the face of the resurrected Christ shine upon you all.

*Blessings,  
Pastor Larry Haniffee*

**CONNECT WITH US...** Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, our offices are closed. However, we are still here for you! You may call or email the office with any requests, questions, or concerns.

Connect with us online! Visit [www.centreville-umc.com/live](http://www.centreville-umc.com/live) to stream our Sunday Worship Services. Online worship services will start at 9 am every Sunday until further notice. Follow the instructions to view the video or watch on Facebook or YouTube.

Check your email for Pastor Larry's "Daily Words of Encouragement". Not getting these emails? Please let the office know so we can update your information. Contact Shelly at [office@centreville-umc.com](mailto:office@centreville-umc.com). Also, check out our Facebook page @centrevilleumchurch

Add Pastor Rudy on Facebook to join in and keep up with the following ministry events!

- 9:30 a.m. FB Live Daily Office Prayers (Morning edition with Pastor Rudy)
- 10:00 a.m. FB Live Kids Bible Story Reading
- 7:00 p.m. FB Live Bible Studies to be announced (Most recent study was on James)
- 8:00 p.m. FB Live Daily Office Prayer (Evening) with Pastor Dane Rada and Kristi Kerr Rada

**As we approach Holy Week and future events, please stay tuned for more information as we navigate and come up with new and different ways to connect with you!**

*"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid, don't tremble. For the Lord, your God is with you. He will never leave you, nor forsake you." - Deuteronomy 31:6*

**TRUSTEES CORNER:**

The Trustees are so grateful for all your generous donations for the Sower Youth Hang Out Room. It is complete and ready!

Please notice our public sign out front. Improvements and cleanup have been donated by generous members. Thanks so much!!

- New Wish List Items:
- \$300-\$400 Mulch for rescheduled Clean Up Day
  - \$300 Knock Out Roses
  - \$ Donations for Repainting Parking Lot Lines
  - \$ Donations for Security System Improvements

For more information, please call Henry Covington, Jr. at 410-310-2745.





## BACKPACKS FOR KIDS OUTREACH

Backpacks For Kids wants to thank everyone in our community for the overwhelming support you have shown. We have been receiving donations from numerous individuals and greatly appreciate the love and support for these children in need. Every elementary and middle school has a "Backpacks" program supported by a north county volunteer organization and churches throughout the county. During the school closure, we are partnering with the QAC school system and handing out the bags of weekend food on Fridays at each of the county food pick-up locations. The children receive 2 breakfast, 2 lunch, 2 fruits, 2 snacks and 2 drink items in their weekend bags of food. The children and their families are greatly appreciative for the food. As our numbers continue to change during this challenging time, so will our needs. Currently our need is for the following items: peanut butter (16 oz), jelly (squeezable container/no glass please), chicken in a can (5 oz), pop tarts, tomato soup, juice & milk boxes. Donations can be dropped off at CUMC backdoor in the tubs labeled BACKPACKS. Any questions may be directed to CUMC Backpacks Coordinator Kimberly Starkey at [Starkeykimberly@yahoo.com](mailto:Starkeykimberly@yahoo.com).

### METHODIST WOMEN'S SCHOLARSHIP and RICHARD PHILLIPS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP:

Due to the "stay at home" order currently in effect, the Methodist Women's Scholarship and the Richard Phillips Memorial Scholarship applications will now be available sometime in May. The due date for completed applications will be determined at a later date. Please contact Lynda Palmatary at 410-490-0878 for further details or questions.

### ADMINISTRATIVE CHAIRPERSONS

Administrative Council:  
Jerry Thomas

Staff Parish Relations:  
Tom Scull

Trustees:  
Henry Covington Jr.

Lay Leader:  
Will Covington

Finance:  
Todd Turner

### CLERGY



Larry Hanifée  
Interim Senior Pastor  
[lhhanifee@centreville-umc.com](mailto:lhhanifee@centreville-umc.com)



Robyn Brown  
Associate Pastor  
[rbrown@centreville-umc.com](mailto:rbrown@centreville-umc.com)



Rudy Draper  
Pastor of Youth & Young Adults  
[rdraper@centreville-umc.com](mailto:rdraper@centreville-umc.com)

*Newsletter Ideas & Article Submissions should be sent to Doug Witt, Newsletter Editor at [dwwitt@centreville-umc.com](mailto:dwwitt@centreville-umc.com).*

**Church Email**  
[office@centreville-umc.com](mailto:office@centreville-umc.com)

## **Outreach:**

**Reaching out into our Community to make a difference**

**By Larisa Thomas c240-994-5042**

### Upcoming Outreach Opportunities For Our Congregation:

April 17	5:30-7	Food Drop Pantry: NO Volunteers Needed
May 6	8:30-12	Food Pantry: Limited Volunteers Needed
May 9	10 AM-12	Roadside Clean Up

### **Food Pantry Continuing to Serve**

Listed as an Essential Service, CUMC has continued to serve those needing food in the community. We have implemented a Drive Through method, allowing our guests to be served without getting out of their cars. The first one was fun learning experience. Our small team of volunteers worked so hard, allowing us to serve 126 families.

We are taking seriously the safety of our volunteers. We are promoting Social Distancing and require gloves to be worn at all time. For the next Food Drop Pantry April 17, we will be having the National Guard do the volunteer work. The only volunteers from CUMC will be the leaders. However, May 6 will be a require a limited number of volunteers of 10 inside and 6 outside. If you are feeling healthy and are interested, please contact Larisa Thomas.

We can use more help! Service hours apply for youth. We are specifically looking for:

- **Person to take charge of food pantry community donations pick up and sorting. Daytime availability needed. We get incoming supplies probably once a month. Could be mom and middle age children or retired friends.**
- **Set Up Help for Table Set Up Third Thursday night 6 or 8 PM or Friday 1 PM**
- **Food Nutrition Education Team: volunteers needed to help prepare and serve healthy sample recipes.**
- **On the Third Friday starting in May, Help with the food from 2:30-5 PM or 4:30-7:30 PM Shifts (Sign Up Link is on CUMC Website, Serve Tab, Link under Food Pantry, although if full we love people to drop in when you can (sign ups don't cover all the positions)**

### **Road Clean Up Opportunity**

We will be partnering with Plastic Free QAC to help keep Queen Anne's County beautiful. We will be working May 9 from 10 AM to Noon. This is a great family opportunity to serve. PFQAC provides vests, gloves, and trash bags to all volunteers. Hope to see you there. If you are interested, email Larisa at Larisa97thomas@atlanticbb.net.



**Fellowship with Board Game Night Postponed...Look for it in a Few Months**

Thank You to all the  
Essential Workers  
keeping us safe! We  
appreciate you.

- The staff at  
CUMC

**Cast all your anxiety on  
him because he cares for  
you.**

**1 Peter 5:7**

A prayer for essential workers...

Lord,

We come to you today asking for protection and health for our essential workers. Often times their work goes unnoticed and we take their faithful service for granted. Help us to be more aware of who they are and what they do. Thank you, God, for those who are being called to go to work everyday in order to keep us safe.

We also pray your mercy and healing on any of these dedicated workers who have fallen ill. Comfort them and restore them to perfect health.

We pray for the families of our essential workers. Let your presence be known to them in these times of worry and fear. Keep their families safe and provide for all their needs.

Lord, we ask for your help to express our gratitude for these amazing workers! We thank you for their skills and courage. Bless them today and always.

In your sweet son's name, Jesus Christ....

Amen.

**April At-A-Glance**

[www.centreville-umc.org](http://www.centreville-umc.org)

04/01	Drive Thru Food Pantry	10AM - 12PM
04/05	Palm Sunday Online Service (centreville-umc.com)	9 AM
04/10	Good Friday online service	TBD
04/12	Easter Sunday Online Service (centreville-umc.com)	9 AM
04/17	Food Pantry - Drive Thru	5:30PM - 7PM
04/19	Online Worship Service	9 AM
04/26	Online Worship Service	9 AM

**\*Please stay tuned for updates on virtual meetings, bible studies, events, etc.**



We will be updating the bricks in our Memorial Garden this summer. If you would like to purchase a brick for a loved one, we are taking orders through April 30. Contact the church office at 410-758-0868 for an order form. All details (cost, formatting of bricks, etc.) are included on the order form.

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**Centreville United Methodist Church**

Sunday Worship: 8:40am Contemporary 11am Traditional

[www.centreville-umc.com](http://www.centreville-umc.com)

5:30 The Sower (Small Group followed by Worship)

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CENTREVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

608 Church Hill Rd.  
Centreville, Maryland 21617

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED