

First Christian Church

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 28, 2024

The Flowers on the Altar are in Honor of Dr. Thomas Haywood and Josie Gaskey, who were married yesterday, Saturday, April 27, 2024. Best wishes Dr. Thomas and Josie Haywood!

Please sign and pass the attendance pads located at the end of your pew. If you are a visitor with us today, welcome! Please leave your contact information so that we can extend a fuller welcome!

WORDS OF WELCOME

CAMP MOMENT

Mr. Barry E. McNew and Mr. Gary W. Watson

ORANGE CONFERENCE MOMENT

PRELUDE Christians We Have Met for Worship Mr. Matthew D. Albright arr. Mark Hayes; Copyright © Lorenz Publishing Company, a Division of The Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved.

CALL TO WORSHIP Dr. Brooks inspired by Psalm 36:5 - 10

Leader: No matter how far we wander from you, O God,

All: your steadfast love finds us.

Leader: No matter how vulnerable our lives seem to us, O God,

All: your steadfast presence gives us hope.

Leader: No matter how unloved and uncared for we feel, O God,

All: you hear our cries and answer our prayers.

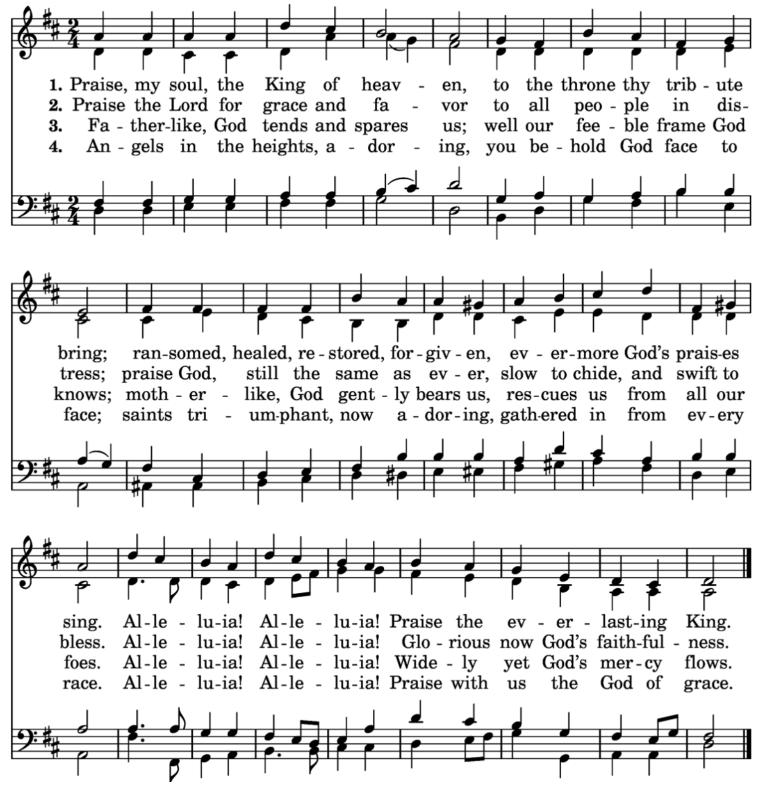
All: Thanks be to God!

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Thomas Neisser

Rev. Dr. James R. Brooks

Mrs. Emily J. Schuit



Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven; United Methodist Hymnal; #66; Words: Henry F. Lyte, 1834 (Ps. 103); Music (LAUDA ANIMA 87.87.87): John Goss, 1869

*INVOCATION PRAYER (Unison)

God, you sent your Son into the world that we might live through him.

May we abide in his risen life so that we may bear the fruit of love for one another and know the fullness of joy.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray by saying: (The Lord's Praver)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.



These Treasured Children: Glory to God; #487; Verse 1; Words: Jacque B. Jones, 2009, Copyright © 2010 GIA Publications, Inc.; Music (PUER NOBIS NASCITUR, LM): Trier ms., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1609

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Mrs. Alicia N. Catherman

As our young disciples return to their seats or go to Kid's Church, please join us in singing...



THE LORD'S SUPPER

Dr. Brooks

Dr. Brooks

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

God calls us to the table to find a new way: a new grace, a new hope, a new faith, a new life. Come to the table and let go of the worn out: worn out habits, worn out pains, worn out angers, worn out burdens. Come to the table and receive blessing, freedom, mercy, love.



Savior, Thy Dying Love; Chalice Hymnal; #383; Words: Sylvanus Dryden Phelps, 1862, alt.; Music: Robert Lowry, 1871; SOMETHING FOR JESUS; 64.64.6664

PRAYER FOR THE ELEMENTS

DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS

COMMUNION MUSIC

Festival Prelude on "Old 113th" Gilbert M. Martin; from the Strassburger Kirchenamt, 1525 Copyright © 2001 Lorenz Publishing Company, a Division of The Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PARTAKING OF THE ELEMENTS

Individually packaged communion elements are provided for your safety and convenience. To open, gently bend the tab down to separate the clear film and peel it back to expose the wafer. Carefully pull the remaining foil tab to open the juice cup. You may partake of the elements at the same time as the minister.

CHANCEL CHOIR Beloved, Let Us Love One Another Chancel Choir Pepper Choplin; Copyright © Lorenz Publishing Company, a Division of The Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved.

SCRIPTURE	2 Corinthians 9:6 - 8	Elder Styer
SERMON	"Being a Cheerful Giver"	Dr. Brooks

Elder Styer

Deacons

Mr. Albright

Dr. Brooks

***INVITATIONAL HYMN**

For the Fruit of All Creation



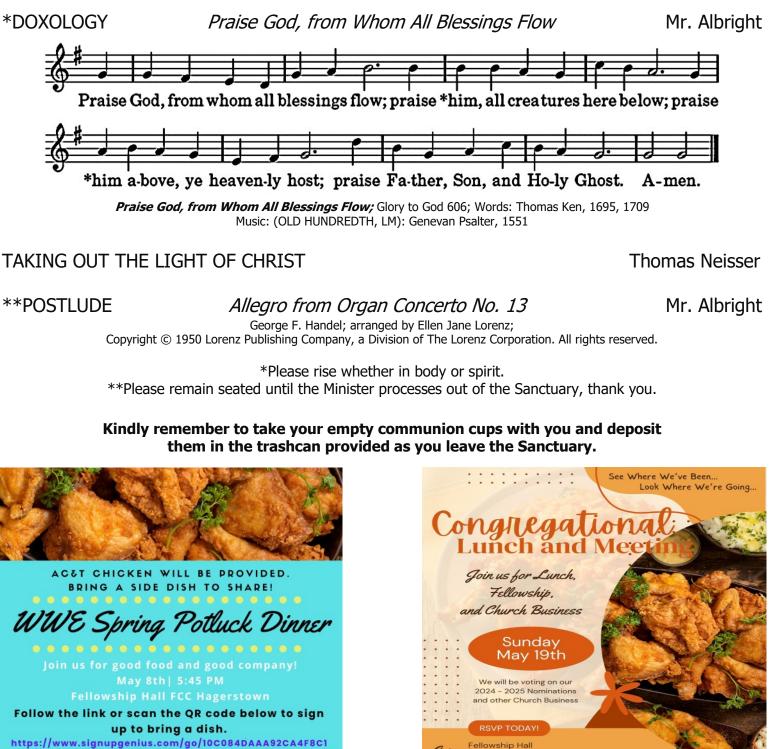
For the Fruit of All Creation; Chalice Hymnal; #714; Words: Fred Pratt Green, 1970; Music: Traditional Welsh melody; harm. Luther Orlando Emerson, 1906; Words Copyright © 1970 Hope Publishing Company; AR HYD Y NOS 84.84.888.4

INVITATION TO STEWARDSHIP

Offering what we have for the sake of others is a discipline of pruning—letting go of our possessions, our time, and even ourselves—to extend the gospel witness into the world. Be generous in your ministry of giving. You need not fear; you abide in the vine. As you go forth from this place today, you are invited to make your offering in the black donation boxes provided in the Narthex and Upper Tower Room.

BENEDICTION

Dr. Brooks



11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

RSVP to diannaplotner@fcchagerstown.org

6-49282372-wwespring#/ PLEASE RSVP VIA THE WEEKLY WWE EMAIL OR

CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE (301)-733-0144





THE ANNOUNCER

April 28, 2024

Please take time to sign-in on the **RED Hospitality Notebook** each week as it's important to help us stay in touch with each other.

If you are accustomed to giving to the Church using cash, please help us maintain that record by placing money and checks in the envelopes provided in the pews and please write your name on the envelope.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE Sunday, April 21, 2024 In-Person - 175; FaceBook - 205; YouTube - 45 = 425 Total

Children birth through 5th Grade: 10

Last Year on Sunday, April 23, 2023 In-Person - 186; FaceBook - 221; YouTube - 52 = 459 Total

CHURCH FINANCIAL - 2024

Operating Budget: \$685,619.23

Contributions Received thru February 29th: \$101,402.57

Just a friendly reminder...We have **Electronic Giving**... Please fill out an ACH form which is located on the Bulletin Board outside the Church Office. Once you have completed the form, please give the form and Voided Check to Dianna in the Church Office. For more information, please contact her at 301.733.0144.



Hagerstown, MD 21742



ANNUAL YOUTH SPAGHETTI DINNER EAT MOM TO DINNER

Saturday May nth

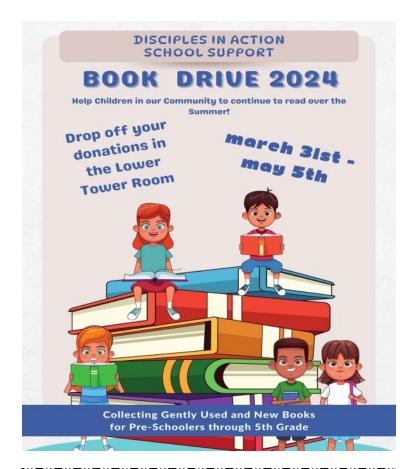
Tickets go on sale April 7th. Call the Church Office for more information, or tickets 301.733.0144

Adult Tickets (11 & older) - 515 (Children Tickets (2-10) - \$10.00 Birth to I year old - Free Desserts available by donation!

4:00 - 7:30 PM FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH 1345 POTOMAC AVE, HAGERSTOWN, MD

PROCEEDS SUPPORT OUR YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS, NORTH CAROLINA JUNE 2024

Tickets on Sale - Lower Tower Room 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM



Join us for the next Book Club meeting!

We meet on the second Monday of each month at **Hoffman's All American Grill** to share fellowship and thoughts about our book. Our next meeting will be on **Monday, May 13th at 12:30 PM**.

The book we will be discussing is **The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot,** by Marianne Cronin.

If you are interested in joining us, contact Judy Kofoet and she will send you a reminder email prior to the meeting. In the meantime, read **The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot** and plan to join us!

The Seniors In Ministry will be having a Brownbag Lunch and Games on Wednesday, May 29th from 11:30 AM to 3:30 PM in Room 108.

Come and see friends, meet new friends, have lunch, and play games.

All are invited to join them!

Guest Wi-Fi Password - Disciples4me

Join us for our Welcome Wednesday Excitement Programs this Wednesday, May 1st.

Programs for the entire family!

5:00 PM - 5:30 PM - Children/Youth Choir 5:30 PM - 6:00 PM - Children/Youth Chimes 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM - WWE Dinner for All (RSVP is requested by Sunday at 1:00 PM) 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM - Adult Bible Program 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM - Children's Bible Program 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM - Youth Group 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM - Brass Ensemble Rehearsal 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Rev. Dr. James R. Brooks Senior Minister jamesbrooks@fcchagerstown.org

Alicia N. Catherman Director of Children's Ministry aliciacatherman@fcchagestown.o



Matthew D. Albright Director of Music Ministries atthewalbright@hotmail.com

Dianna C. Plotner Office Manager <u>diannaplotner@fcchagerstown.org</u>

Brock A. Bricker Director of Youth Ministry brockbricker@fcchagestown.org

> Slate of Officers July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Recommended to the Leadership Board By the Nominating Committee* First Christian Church Hagerstown, MD April 8, 2024

Leadership Board

Moderator (2-Year Term) - Larry Black Vice Moderator (1-Year Term) - Mary Elkind Secretary (1-Year Term) - Debbie Hoffman Treasurer (2-Year Term) - Gil Crumrine Member At Large (1-Year Term) - Carol Rogers

Additional Elected Positions Nominating Committee (2-Year Term) - Bonnie Fouke

Personnel Committee (3-Year Term) - Susan Latimer

Trustee (5-Year Term) - Melisa Cline Trustee (5-Year Term) - Don Risser

Elder (2-Year Term) – Erica Aranha Elder (2-Year Term) – Susan Gerberich Elder (2-Year Term) – Christopher Goddard Elder (2-Year Term) – Dr. Thomas Haywood Elder (2-Year Term) – Jay Koch Elder (2-Year Term) – Jay Kofoet Elder (2-Year Term) – Lara Shepherd Elder (2-Year Term) – Tim Shepherd

*Nominating Committee Members: Mary Elkind (Chair) Mark Goller and Debbie Hoffman Rev. Dr. James R. Brooks and Dianna Plotner

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) •1345 Potomac Avenue • Hagerstown, MD 21742 P: 301.733.0144 • F: 301.733.0146 www.cchagerstown.com

The above list of Nominations were presented and approved by the Leadership Board on Monday, April 8th. The Congregation will vote on

Sunday, May 19th.

Micah's Backpack Team

For April, we are in need of individual Microwavable Popcorn Bags and Microwavable Mac and Cheese Cups.

Food donations may be placed in our cart in the Lower Tower Room or purchased through our Amazon Wish List.

The Amazon Wish List link is located in the FCC Weekly Eblast. Instructions are also posted on our cart in the Lower Tower Room. We welcome all who would like to participate in this Ministry. If interested, please contact Rebecca Yeakle at FCCMicahsBackpack@gmail.com.

Thank you for your continued support!

Zion Soup Kitchen

The Soup Kitchen at Zion Reformed United Church of Christ, located at 201 North Potomac Street, provides dinner every Tuesday night for anyone who needs a hot meal.

Our Team cooks and serves the meal every 3rd and 5th Tuesday of the month. The next serving date is **Tuesday, April 30th.**

If you would like to volunteer to cook and serve (4:00 PM to 6:30 PM) or if you're interested in donating supplies, please contact Lori Schmidt, 717.701.3407.

Church Women United **May Friendship Day Friday, May 17th at 6:00 PM** Manor Church of the Brethren, located at 19511 Manor Church Pood, Boonshore

18511 Manor Church Road, Boonsboro.

Dinner Cost - \$15.00 Reservations are due by Thursday, May 9th by contacting Tammy Coyle tammy.coyle93@gmail.com or 240.409.2410

Program begins at 6:45 PM Speaker: Marty Blake, Coordinator of Health Kits distributed to Homeless Students in Washington county. Also, the Young Christian Women Awards will be presented.

FCC's Diaper Ministry

FCC's Diaper Ministry is hard at work!

In March, we provided **82** families with a portion of the diapers they need each month.

We want to continue to help our local children and are currently in the middle of our fund drive.

If you haven't picked up a baby bottle yet, there is still time!! Fill it with spare change, a few bills, or a check and drop it off in the diaper bag in the Upper Tower Room by the display. We're half way to our goal of \$3000.00!!

Help us go over the top to cover their bottoms!!

Little Pantry

Thank you to all for your support and contributions.

Some kind folks have been putting fresh produce into the Little Pantry, this is a welcomed addition, as long as it is not too hot nor too cold outside.

As usual, non-perishable items are always welcome.

Please consider a financial contribution: make checks payable to First Christian Church and put "Little Pantry" in the memo line and we will do the shopping.

> For more information, please contact Dale Philp 301.730.4232

When you walk into the Church and are greeted at the door with a smile and "good morning," we hope that it makes your day better!

Tim Shepherd is recruiting **Greeters** for Sunday Mornings to greet folks with a smile and a welcoming "hello." Also, to greet visitors and welcome them to FCC and direct them where to go.

If you are interested, please contact Tim at 301.739.8835.





EMPTY NESTERS

Are you looking for some fun events and fellowship? Then this is the group for you. Not an Empty Nester? No problem at all!

All are welcome.

Some highlights of upcoming events include:

Bus Trips

- New York Yankees at Baltimore Orioles
- Museum of the Bible, Washington, DCThe story of Daniel, Sight & Sound
- Sunfest, Ocean City MD, a day on your ow
- New York City, a day on your own

Local / Ride Share Events

- 2nd Sundays at Big Cork live music/activities
- Staten Island FerryHawks at Hagerstown Flying Boxcars
- Canal Boat Tour and Lunch, Georgetown
- Historic Harper's Ferry and lunch
- Winter City Lights, Olney, MD
- Historic Houses of Worship Tour

If you would like more information about upcoming events or have some event ideas to share, please contact Rebecca Yeakle at FCCEmptyNesters@gmail.com.

Washington County Consort presents Byrd and the B's

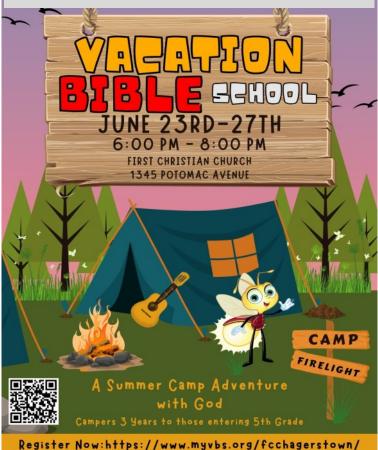
Saturday, May 11th at 3:00 PM St. Johns Evangelical Lutheran Church Located at 141 South Potomac Street (parking available behind the Church)

Music from Composer, William Byrd (ca. 1540 - 1623) to 20th Century Bill Bailey (Won't You Please Come Home)

Members include: Kathy Barr, Shelly Harr, Russell Johnson, David Styer, and Naomi Styer

www.facebook.com/washingtoncountyconsort

Register for VBS by Tuesday, April 30th you will be registered into a Raffle for a Campfire Basket!





Bingo! Bounce House Games Food Music Raffle and Fellowship more details to follow....

www.fcchagerstown.org

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Saturday, August 17th 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM





We are looking for a Chair Person or 2 Co-Chairs!

Would you like to help plan activities for our Congregation?

Would you like to help care for our Congregation?

The Mission of the Congregational Care Ministry Team is to serve Christ by helping and supporting our Congregation.

We currently have 13 Team Members and over 11 Sub-Committees.

If you are interested in the Chair or Co-Chair position, please contact Dianna in the Church Office, 301.733.0144 or diannaplotner@fcchagerstown.org



Please provide us your name, activities you participated in (sports, choir, etc.), any special honors/certificates you're graduating with, plans after High School / College, and what you thank God for, by Friday, May 31st at Noon - diannaplotner@fcchagerstown.org

Our Goal Is In Sight!! We have collected \$2,492.08 / 83% as of Tuesday, April 23rd.

FCC's Diaper Ministry Drive is almost over and we are so close to our goal of \$3,000.00. We are only \$507.92 away from our Goal!

You can help us reach that goal by contributing today!

And did you know that the Richmond Lee Downey Foundation has generously agreed to match our donated funds? So, your dollar will be doubled!

Pick-up a bottle on your way into Church on Sunday and fill it with some change or a few bills - even a little bit will help!



Sunday, March 17th through Sunday, April 28th

Pack-N-Play in the Upper Tower Room





RESTORE AND REWIND



When it comes to church, we have a lot of negative tapes playing in our heads:

"Church is judgmental." "Church is hypocritical." "They think they're better than everyone else."

It's time for restoration. Time to rewind the tape.

New Church Ministry is dedicated to fostering faithful communities marked by deep Christian spirituality and a passion for God's love and justice.

Like our ancestors, we're going back to the beginning, when new Christian communities gathered together and shared all they had, organizing everything around the Spirit's dreams for their lives and their communities. Yesterday, today, and tomorrow, God is singing a new song: not a song of judgment, but of welcome and forgiveness; not a song of superiority, but of humility and grace; not a song of hoarding, but of sharing everything we have!

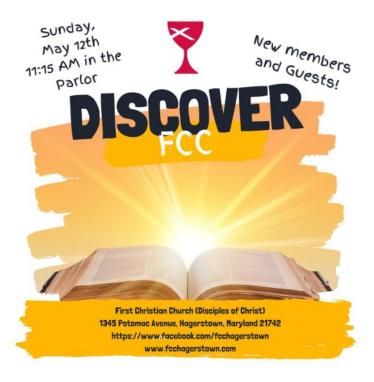
God's movement for wholeness is already underway. Our job is to listen, and learn, and follow - supporting leaders and communities as the Spirit calls them into being, laying down a new song for a new generation.

Church as a place of generosity and justice. Church as a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.

Your gifts to the 2024 Pentecost Offering, received in most congregations on Sunday, May 12, and Sunday, May 19, are divided equally between your regional ministry, which supports local new churches, and **New Church Ministry**, which trains, equips, and assists emerging leaders to be "movement initiators."



Find additional Pentecost Offering resources at pentecost-offering.com



Altar Flowers

If you would like to donate flowers on a Sunday Morning in Memory or In Honor of someone, please either sign-up on the Flower Calendar located on the bulletin board outside of the Church Office, or contact Dianna in the Church Office, 301.733.0144.

The cost of the arrangements are: \$70.00 for Altar Pieces and \$60.00 for Pulpit or Lectern Pieces. Please make checks payable to First Christian Church, memo line: Flowers.

The Over the Hill Gang will be meeting on Friday, May 17th from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM at the Western Sizzlin' located at 17567 York Road.

Come and see friends, meet new friends, and have lunch.

All are invited to join them!

12th Annual HARC Hike - Hunger & Hope Main Hike - Saturday, June 8th Challenge Hike - Saturday, May 18th

> 4K (2.5 miles); 10K (6.3 miles); Half Marathon (13 miles)

> Sign-Up Today! https://harccoalition.org/hike/

All proceeds benefit Micah's Backpack Program!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES - DURING WORSHIP

Childcare is available for Birth - Pre-School: Room 02 with Ms. Melanie Fouche

Children who are in 3rd through 5th Grade will have class in Room 202 with Ms. GeorgeAnn and/or Ms. Vickie Children who are in Pre-K (entering Kindergarten in Fall 2021) through 2nd Grade will have class in Room 102 with rotating teachers

Middle and High School Youth 6th - 12th Grade will have class in Room 108 with Mr. Brock Bricker

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Christian Heirs meet in Fellowship Hall at 11:30 AM.

They will be studying Comparative Denominations, as they look at the beliefs and practices of other Churches in our Community.

For more details, please contact Rev. Fred Harris (Teacher for the Study), or join them on Sunday morning.

All are welcomed!

The Samaritans meet in Fellowship Hall at 11:30 AM.

They will begin a study "Bible Stories for Grown Ups," by Pastor Josh Scott.

For more details, please contact David Yohman or Sue Gerberich, or join them on Sunday morning. All are welcomed!

MUSIC PROGRAM REHEARSALS

Young Adult / Adults

Next Sunday Morning

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM -Disciple Bells - Choir Room

Wednesday Evenings Young Adult / Adults

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM - Brass Ensemble -Music Room

Contact - Matthew Albright - 304.671.6975

Wednesday Evenings Children / Youth

5:00 PM - 5:30 PM - Children's Choir (from Pre-K - 8th Grade) - Sanctuary

5:30 PM - 6:00 PM - Children's Chimes (2nd to 8th Grade) - Choir Room

Wednesday Evenings Young Adult / Adults

7:30 PM - 9:00 PM - Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

Calendar for the Week of Sunday, April 28th - Saturday, May 4th

Sunday		
-	Worship Service	10:00 AM
	Sunday School for Children and Youth - Room 202, Room	-
	Fellowship Time, Fellowship Hall Bell Choir Rehearsal, Music Room	11:00 AM - 11:30 AM 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM
	Adult Sunday School, Fellowship Hall	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Monday	Adde Sanady School, Penovolip Hair	11.507.11 12.50111
Monday	TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly), Fellowship Hall	7:00 AM - 11:30 AM
	FCC Community Celebration Planning Meeting, Room 108	6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
	Search and Call Ministry Team Meeting, Dr. Brooks' Office	6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
	Staff Meeting, Room 108	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Tuesday		
,	Women's Ministry Prayer Partners, Parlor	9:30 AM
	Boy Scout Troop #66, Fellowship Hall	6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
	Girl Scout Troop #166 Meeting, Room 202	6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
	Cub Scout Pack #66, Fellowship Hall and Various Rooms	6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
	FCC Clarinet Rehearsal, Sanctuary FCC Clarinet and Flute Rehearsal, Sanctuary	7:00 PM - 7:30 PM 7:30 PM - 8:00 PM
	FCC Flute Rehearsal, Sanctuary	8:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Wednesday	, Combined Children/Youth Choir, Music Room	5:00 PM - 5:30 PM
	Combined Children/Youth Chimes, Music Room	5:30 PM - 6:00 PM
	WWE Family Dinner, Fellowship Hall	6:00 PM - 6:30 PM
	WWE Children's Program, Room 102	6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
	WWE Adult Bible Program, Library	6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
	Youth Group, Fellowship Hall	6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
	Brass Ensemble Rehearsal, Music Room	6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Music Room	7:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Thursday		10.00 ANA 11.00 ANA
	Meritus Health - Prevent T2 Class, Room 108	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
	Girl Scout Troop #40790, Room 202	0.00 PM - 8.00 PM
Friday		
Saturday		
Saturuay	Elder Retreat, 860 Pennsylvania Avenue	8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
	FCC Flute Rehearsal, Sanctuary	5:30 PM - 6:00 PM
	FCC Clarinet and Flute, Sanctuary	6:00 PM - 6:30 PM
	FCC Clarinet Rehearsal, Sanctuary	6:30 PM - 7:00 PM

PARTICIPATING IN OUR SERVICE THIS MORNING Our thanks to those who make our morning worship a special experience.		
Greeters:	Jay Koch, Susie Latimer, and Quay Scott	
Elder:	David Styer	
Camera Tech:	Diann Smith	
Security:	Bill Strine	
website: www.fcchagerstown.org		