

HUGHES CALLER



May 2017 Edition

Pastor Ken's Column



Prayer is our opportunity to communicate with God, to open our hearts to Christ's leading, and allow the Holy Spirit to empower our lives.

Communication is key to any relationship, so spending time

in prayer strengthens and renews our relationship with the living God. I ask us, as individuals, and as a congregation, to enter into an intentional time of prayer.

Pray for our denomination. By the time you read this, the Judicial Council of the denomination will have issued a ruling on the election of Bishop Karen Oliveto, the Episcopal leader of the Big Sky Area of the Western Jurisdiction. No one disputes Bishop Oliveto's gifts for ministry or passion for Christ. The dispute comes only because she is a married, lesbian woman. There is not a "wisdom of Solomon" solution for the Judicial Council's ruling; the theological divisions in the denomination are so deep, no matter which way they have ruled there are members who are in pain and angry. The Commission on a Way Forward continues to meet to discern together how to remain together in covenant, despite our various understandings of human sexuality. Pray for God's Spirit to blow a-fresh upon the church.

Pray for our church. Several faithful members have finished their course of faith in recent months and years, and we mourn their loss. Pray for God's comfort. We seek to discern God's will as we reach out beyond these walls into the neighborhoods around our church. What are the needs of our neighbors? How can we reflect the face of

Christ in an ever-changing, multi-cultural community? Pray for discernment. We strive to invite and welcome all of God's children into relationship with Christ and with us. Pray for our ministries and for growth, for the sake of Christ's kingdom.

Pray for our nation. Divisions within the country mirror the divisions within the denomination. Citizens with competing ideas of what it means to be "the land of the free and the home of the brave," barely speak in a civil manner. We have forgotten how to listen to one another and allowed the strident voices of politics be our spokespersons. Lift up our leaders in prayer, for wisdom to lead effectively, to work for the good of the country, not only their constituents or to be reelected. Pray that we might build bridges so that we can determine how best to live out our pledge, "liberty and justice for all."

Pray for each other. There is usually no moment more powerful in our worship time than the sharing of joys and concerns, followed by prayers of intercession. Be in communication with each other, listen for the celebrations and needs expressed, and offer them to God. We will strengthen our connections with each other and with the power of the resurrected Christ.

Pray for me, Pastor Evelyn, and our church leaders. We seek the guidance of Christ to lead the people of God in these times. Please pray that our own hearts, minds and spirits will continue to be strong in the Lord, offering glory to God and service for Christ. We will pray for you.

Pray to grow in grace and love of God, and Christ Jesus, God's Son, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Let us pray.



Join us for a special worship service honoring Dr. Van Knauss' fifty years of service to the glory of God and the Music Ministry of Hughes Church

*Sunday, May 28th 2017
10:30 am*

*Hughes El Buen Samaritano
United Methodist Church
10700 Georgia Avenue
Wheaton, MD 20902*

Reception to follow

*R.S.V.P by May 15 to Marie Bunting
301.949.8383*

May Worship Opportunities

May 7, 2017 – Easter 4

Theme: Knowing and reflecting on the scriptures and being open to the Spirit's leading prepares us to proclaim the good news of Christ.

Scripture: Acts 8:26-39

Sermon Title: "Prepared for Proclamation"

A Service of Holy Communion

May 14, 2017 – Easter 5

Theme: The power of the Holy Spirit cannot be confined, reaching beyond our imaginations

Scripture: Acts 15:1-18

Sermon Title: "Signs and Wonders"

May 21, 2017 – Easter 6

Theme: Faith Promise Sunday

Scripture: Matthew 25:31-40 or Luke 9:10-17

Jackie DeCarlo, Executive Director of Manna, will offer the message

May 28, 2017 – Easter 7

Theme: Celebrating God's gift of music in worship and praise

Scripture: Psalm 98 or 150; Colossians 3:12-17

Sermon Title: "The Joy of Music"
Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Van Knauss as our organist

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The **May** Executive Board will meet on Monday, May 1 at 10 a.m. in the Parlor. Friendship Circle will meet in the Parlor at noon on May 2. Loyalty Circle will meet in the Parlor on May 3 at 7:30. Eloise Woods is the hostess.

The General Meeting will be in the Parlor on May 17th at 9:30 a.m.

The **June** Meeting will be a Pot Luck Luncheon on Tuesday, June 6 in the Social Hall. We will be preparing the Ditty Bags for Camp Bennett and Crossways Community Center. Loyalty Circle is planning a trip to visit Frances Badman on Saturday, June 3.

If you shop at Giant, please consider buying Giant Gift Cards to use for your grocery shopping. We receive 5% from each card sold. The 5% has been used to provide scholarships of \$200 for each of our graduates and to accomplish other projects around our Church *when* funds are available. Gift Cards for \$25., \$50, and \$100 are sold in the library between services. These gift cards can also be used for Pea Pod purchases.

Our Church Family

Deaths:

Charles Cooley (Bob Cooley's brother) died March 29, 2017.

Susan Odell (member) died April 13, 2017.

A Note from the UMW

We appreciate all of the special people we have in our Hughes Family. In April, two members of our congregation passed away. To honor and support the families, a repast is held after the service. Many people are needed to help shop, prepare the food, provide salads and desserts, set up the Social Hall, serve the food, and clean up at the end of the day. As you can see, it takes the help of many willing people to support the families.

We are blessed at Hughes with enough volunteers, and sometimes more than are needed to help. If a list of willing hands was included, it would include most of our congregation. At Hughes we are blessed with a loving, supportive family.

Thank you all for your faithfulness and help.

DITTY BAG



Church Women United (CWU) is an organization of women from many faiths working to improve the lives of women and Children. One important project that everyone can help with is filling "Ditty Bags".

Ditty Bags are filled with items that children can use on their first overnight camping experience at Camp Bennett. Items include hand towels, regular size soap, plastic soap dish, comb,

hair brush, tooth brush, regular size tooth paste, paper writing tablet and small trial-size shampoo.

Other Ditty Bags go to Crossways Community Pre-School. Crossways provides homes for women and children in our area. Items for those bags are: small or larger bedtime books, small tooth brush and tooth paste, regular size soap, small tissue package, small box of crayons and writing tablet.

These items can be brought to Church between May 21 and June 4. The items will be assembled in the Ditty Bags at the UMW Pot Luck luncheon on June 6.

Financial Snapshot

Operating Budget	March 2017	Total 2017
Income	\$41,052	\$128,533
Expenses	\$48,018	\$145,384

Missing Books From Book Exchange

We are glad so many people are using the book exchange in the children room, next to the library. It's been very popular. There are several series on the shelves. One is the Guidepost Amish Mysteries Series.

One book, volume eight, entitled Simply Vanished, has vanished. The folks reading this series are waiting to read this book.

The second set of missing books are part of the Pleasant Valley Series by Marty Perry. The first one is Book One, Leah's Choice, and the second is Book Seven, Naomi's Christmas.

If by chance you have these books or know where they vanished to, please let us know. If you are not finished reading them, enjoy them and then please return them.. Others are waiting to enjoy them.

Thanks for your help.

Joan Gartrell

Kindly e-mail your Caller articles to Marty Weaver, Editor at caller@hughesumc.org or place them in the Caller drawer outside of the Church Office by the 15th of each month.

Please visit the Hughes Website at www.hughesumc.org

A Photo Tribute to our Wonderful Church Gardeners

