

April 2019 Caller



Pastor Ken's Message

According to Matthew, Jesus' final instructions to his disciples were, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you."

Our primary task as Christians is to spread the Good News of Jesus' love and grace, inviting others to join in walking the path of discipleship. Often, discipleship and church growth get mixed up. While they are related, inviting people to know and follow Christ may or may not mean growth in a local congregation. That said, we hope the community of Hughes-EI Buen Samaritano invites new followers of Jesus Christ and nurtures them to be in relationship with us.

Our goal as a congregation is to grow, spiritually and numerically, to become a multicultural, multigenerational, multiethnic church, which reflects the demographics of our neighborhood. Although the language continues to be refined, it is the same goal I have had for this congregation for the 10+ years of my ministry here and this goal was restated in our Visioning Process and Strategic Planning last year.

Until recently, we have had limited success fully living into this vision. With Pastor Diana's appointment as associate pastor, we now have a member of our team who has experience and success in revitalizing and growing multicultural congregations. While her expertise helps us focus our energies and ministries, she alone cannot achieve our goal. We must and will come together, through the power of the Spirit, to "Go and make disciples."

Events have been held and are being planned which are intended to strengthen the bonds of understanding and love

within the Hughes-EI Buen Samaritano community. Last fall we celebrated Hispanic Heritage month together with worship and a meal. Several weeks later, we celebrated the diversity within the congregation, identifying over 20 nationalities represented in our church. Later this spring (June), we will hold an international feast in the Social Hall after worship. And we are planning a workshop with leaders from the General Commission on Religion and Race, to work with us on intercultural competency and understanding. The greater love we have for one another, the more that love will be evident for the neighbors we invite to join us as Christian disciples.

Events have been held and are being planned which are intended to offer outreach and invitation *outside* the church, to our neighbors. Last fall, members gave out hot chocolate at the Metro station, along with personal invitations to join us. A Christmas Toy Give-Away was held in the gym to allow families to meet members of the congregation, hear the Christmas story and celebrate together. The goal to welcome 3 new families into the Christian faith was realized (Praise God)!

As this issue of *The Caller* goes to press, a Children's Costume party/contest is being planned with a similar goal. On Mothers' Day weekend a meal honoring mothers, especially those in need, is being planned. A listening and prayer walk within the neighborhoods around the church will occur this spring to hear directly from residents about their needs. In the fall, we plan to hold an International Festival for the Wheaton community.

As growth occurs, change is inevitable. New faces, new personalities, new ideas, and new leaders are already emerging and will continue to emerge. How can we

best meet the needs of Christ's newest disciples while continuing to nurture the faithful disciples who have served here for many years? God's grace is sufficient! Trust and faith in Christ's presence will continue to grow within our hearts and minds, a willingness to listen and truly know each other, the capability for patience and understanding, and an ability to be creative and flexible. The Spirit will help us to set aside personal agendas, so we can offer everything we undertake to the glory of God!

Please continue to pray for Pastor Diana and me, as your pastoral team, as well as for this congregation. May the ministry we do together continue to fulfill Christ's instructions to his disciples, and the mission of The United Methodist Church, "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

April Worship Opportunities

April 7 – Fifth Sunday of Lent

Scripture: Matthew 25:31-46

Sermon: "When Did We See You...?"

Theme: Seeing Christ in everyone through acts of service and love
A Celebration of Holy Communion

April 14 – Palm/Passion Sunday

Scripture: Matthew 21:1-11; 26:1-27:66 (selected verses)

Theme: Passion readings interspersed with poetry and special music offered by the Chancel Choir and Chancel Bell Choir

April 18 – Holy Thursday

6:30 p.m. – Soup supper in the social hall

7:00 p.m. – Seder Meal and Holy Communion

April 19 – Good Friday

Noon – Prayer Stations and contemplative readings with music

7:30 p.m. – Mozart Requiem at Silver Spring UMC (with several area congregations)

April 21 – Easter Sunday

There will be one multicultural, bilingual, blended-style worship service on Easter Sunday.

10:15 a.m. – Musical Celebration by Brass Quintet with organ

10:30 a.m. – Worship Service

Scripture: Matthew 28:1-10

A Dramatic portrayal of the passion and resurrection of Jesus

Meditation: "New Life!"

April 28 – The Second Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20

Sermon: "Go, Make Disciples!"

Theme: The great commission: "making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

Our Church Family

Robert (Bob) Piersma (member) died March 8th. For many years, Bob was President of the Hughes Neighborhood Housing Project, and was President of our United Methodist Men's organization. He was an active member of our church and will be missed.

Thank You!

Dear Hughes Church Family,

I was not aware that my husband, Gilmore, had notified the church about my 100th birthday on December 26, 2018.

Last evening I was pleasantly surprised to receive a beautiful prayer shawl from you. I immediately put it across my bed for warmth last night. I was always interested in the knitting group and in seeing the lovely shawls exhibited in the church for consecration. I was a knitter and realized the amount of work required for such projects.

Thank you for the pretty prayer shawl; I never expected to have one. I will be sure to use it and will be thinking of you.

With love, **Barbara N. Lescalleet**

Financial Snapshot

<u>Feb. Income</u>	<u>Feb. Expenses</u>	<u>Total Income</u>	<u>Total Expenses</u>
\$39,284	\$47,530	\$87,087	\$100,078

SAVE THE DATES: CHURCH RETREAT - Our church wide retreat has been scheduled for **October 25, 26, and 27**. Once again it will be held at Penn National Inn in Pennsylvania. Penn National has golf courses and nearby hiking trails. We'll be allowing ample time to enjoy some rest or recreation. We've chosen **Lord, Teach Us The Lord's Prayer & the Christian Life** by Bishop Willimon as our study book. We pray the Lord's Prayer frequently, but what do the words mean. Join us for this meaningful study. Rev. Dr. Carletta D. Allen will once again lead us in the study. Some scholarships are available. See Rev. Hawes if you have this need. Contact Linda French, Marie Muller or Jeannine Rodriguez with questions. Books are available from the Church office.

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

Celebrate Spring!



Hughes-El Buen Samaritano is celebrating spring with a Children's Festival and Costume Contest!

**Come Join Us from 12 – 3PM on March 30, 2019 at
10700 Georgia Ave, Wheaton, MD 20902**

Bring the whole family!

There will be games and a children's spring costume contest with cash prizes!

¡ Hughes-El Buen Samaritano celebra la primavera con un festival para niños y un concurso de disfraces!

**Únase a nosotros de 12 – 3PM el 30 de marzo, 2019 en
10700 Georgia Ave, Wheaton, MD 20902**

¡Traiga a toda la familia!

¡ Habrá juegos y un concurso de disfraces de primavera para niños con premios en efectivo!



52 WEEKS
HOMELESS SCRIPTURE & PRAYER CALENDAR
Written by the District Laity

Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 16-18

"In Loving Memory of Rev. Adrienne Terry: an Affordable Housing Initiative in her Honor".

In an effort to focus our meditations, prayers and funds on Homelessness this year, the lay leaders of the conference have created this spiritual guide. **Please commit to use the readings as part of your devotions for the year.** Churches are also challenged to give an amount of money equal to the number of the week each week of the year. (For example: on week 14 we would give \$14; on week 52, \$52). If you are called to contribute to this cause, you may contribute once or every week by marking your envelope or check with the "homeless" notation.

Adapted from Rev. Green's letter

In Christ's love,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerard A. Green, Jr." The signature is written in a cursive style.

Rev. Dr. Gerard A. Green, Jr.

District Superintendent Greater Washington

Week 15

Hebrews 13:16

And do not forget to do good and to share with those in need. These are the sacrifices that please God.

PRAYER Dear universal God, as we count our blessings every day, let us not forget those of us who are in need, have less or have not, those who are struggling to make ends meet and those whose lives are in turmoil. As we enjoy another day in paradise, help us be your hands and feet each day and serve those in need. Let us remember the example of Jesus who encouraged us to care for our brothers and sisters who are less fortunate. Help us share your love through acts of kindness and generosity to all of those who are part of Christ's Kingdom here on earth. In Jesus name we pray. Amen Maurice Stewart, Lay Leader, Cheverly UMC

Week 16

Ecclesiastes 9:11

I have observed something else under the sun. The fastest runner does not always win the race, and the strongest warrior does not always win the battle. The wise sometimes go hungry, and the skillful are not necessarily wealthy. And those who are educated don't always lead successful lives.

PRAYER O God of mercy, help us to remember when we are asked to help our sisters and brothers that we never know when we may be hungry, thirsty or homeless and we will need a hand up or a hand out to make it to safety. Give us the wisdom to know that our only hope is in you, and when I feel I am better because I am enjoying more blessings this day, there but for your grace go I, needing and seeking food, water and shelter. When I can, help me to be the keeper of my brothers and sisters with gratitude and joy, in the name of our Savior. Amen In honor of Dr. Barbara Baker, who prays for the homeless

Week 17

Psalms 27:10

Even if my father and mother abandon me, the LORD will hold me close.

PRAYER Dear God, who is like a loving parent to all, thank you for your unconditional love. Your love that lets us know we have been put on this earth with a divine purpose - that life has inherent meaning and that your loving kindness is always close within us. Parents on earth love their children, but parents are human. God's love endures. When life's trials have us believe we have been abandoned, we know that at our core, we are loved by You and You are with us regardless of the circumstances. Now may the light of your love be used for good in our lives and in the lives of our neighbors as we shape a more just, equitable, and peaceful world. Amen Amy Durocka, Church Leader, North Bethesda UMC

Week 18

Psalms 27:10

Even if my father and mother abandon me, the LORD will hold me close.

PRAYER Forgiving and loving God, please hold all who are homeless in your care. Protect them from the dangers and uncertainty that surrounds them every day. Give them the strength to endure the hardships, the courage to seek aid, and the resilience of spirit needed if their pleas are met with stony indifference, or worse. Touch the hearts of those who CAN help so that they will remember your teachings and WILL help. Open the eyes of those who turn away or ignore the pleas for help so that they may truly see the suffering. Let them realize that their charge is not to judge, but to help. Bless those who are suffering the sense of abandonment by society that often accompanies poverty. Remind them that you are holding them close, even if they feel abandoned in all other ways. Give them whatever they need to become whole. In the precious name of Jesus, we pray. Amen. Paulette Wright, Associate Lay Leader, Colesville UMC

April 2019



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1 No Trustee Mtg.	2 10 am FA group 7 pm EBS Disciple Class 8 pm Narcotics Anon	3 1 pm Coffee Klatch 7 pm Life Skills Classes 7:30 pm Loyalty Study Group	4 9:30 a.m. TOPS 6:15 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	5 6 pm AA Meeting 6:30 pm Schizophrenics Anonymous (Conf. Rm.)	6 8:30 am FA Meeting 9 am Portuguese Class 8 pm AA Meeting
7* Week 15: Hebrews 13:16 3 pm Girl Scouts	8 7:30 pm Staff Parish Committee Mtg.	9 10 am FA group 6:30 Girl Scouts Mtg. 7 pm EBS Disciple Class 7:30 pm SALT 8 pm Narcotics Anon	10 10 am Prayer Shawl 1 pm Coffee Klatch 7:30 pm Finance 7 pm Life Skill Classes	11 9:30 a.m. TOPS 6:15 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	12 6 pm AA Meeting 6:30 pm Schizophrenics Anonymous (Conf. Rm.)	13 8:30 am FA Meeting 9 am Portuguese Class 8 pm AA Meeting
14* Palm Sunday Week 16 Ecclesiastes 9:11 Confirmation Class (noon)	15 No Worship Committee Mtg.	16 10 am FA group 7 pm EBS Disciple Class 8 pm Narcotics Anon	17 7 pm Life Skills Classes	18  Maundy Thursday Meal— 6 pm Seder— 7 pm	19 Good Friday Service— noon Concert: Mozart Requiem SSUMC—7:30 pm	20 8:30 am FA Meeting 9 am Portuguese Class 8 pm AA Meeting
21 Week 17 10:30 Service Only 	22	23 10 am FA group 7 pm EBS Disciple Class 7:30 pm SALT 8 pm Narcotics Anon	24 10 am Prayer Shawl 1 pm Coffee Klatch 7 pm Life Skills Classes	25 9:30 a.m. TOPS 6:15 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	26 6 pm AA Meeting 6:30 pm Schizophrenics Anonymous (Conf. Rm.)	27 8:30 am FA Meeting 9 am Portuguese Class 8 pm AA Meeting
28* Week 18: Psalm 27:10 Confirmation Class (noon)	29 7:30 pm - Administrative Council	30 10 am FA group 7 pm EBS Disciple Class 8 pm Narcotics Anon	*Sunday services: 9 a.m. Informal Service; 9:45—10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time; 10:30 a.m. Traditional Service and Sunday School; Child Care provided 9 a.m.—12 p.m.; Bi-Lingual Multi Cultural Service 12:00 Noon			