



# THE BEACON

*"Making disciples for Jesus Christ to share God's love."*

Newsletter of Mt. Nebo United Methodist Church • May 2024

This month, on Pentecost Sunday, we will be celebrating one of the most exciting days in our Christian year. It is the birthday of the church, it marks the arrival of the "Helper" promised by Jesus to his disciples in the Gospel of John 14:26. In it, Jesus declares, *"The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send you in my name...will teach you all things and bring to you remembrance of all I have said to you."* This message is reaffirmed in the Nicene Creed, *"We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, The Giver of Life; Who proceeds from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spoke through the prophets..."*

On the arrival of the Holy Spirit on that first Pentecost Sunday, with authority, Peter said to the crowd, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Peter, the rock on which Christ would build his Church, was fully transformed from being a brash and aggressive "bumpkin" to that of a leading shepherd, feeding Christ's sheep and baptizing 3000 people in one day!

Since that time, this special day has become a traditional day for baptisms, confirmations, and for new members to join the church in Christian denominations worldwide. This year, on **May 19, 2024**, we will follow that tradition when our 2024 class of Confirmands become members of Mt Nebo UMC. It will also be a time that is open for those wishing to join the church to make that final commitment.

From the earliest times, the church has recognized the importance of the Holy Spirit as being active in the conviction of sin, the power of regeneration and rebirth in the lives of believers. The church also recognizes that the Spirit is also responsible for the distribution of spiritual gifts and

the empowerment for Christian service to the world, as well as being active in the work of sanctification, the illumination of scripture, and the personal guidance of believers. The Spirit gives life and wisdom to those who believe – helping us, guiding us, in our brokenness and the brokenness of the world as we await the coming of the Final Judgment Day.

So what are we to do as we await the coming of the Final Judgement Day? The founder of our Methodist tradition, John Wesley, believed that we should continue to perfect ourselves in love and that we should continually strive for Christian perfection on our path to sanctification. After "being made right before God" or justified, and after receiving the assurance of our salvation by the Holy Spirit, we must continue in the works that Jesus began here during his earthly ministry. We must feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and visit the prisoners. We find this mandate in the Gospel of Matthew 25:34-37, *"Then the king will say to those at his right hand,*

*"Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; <sup>35</sup> for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup> I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."* It was also given to us in prophecy in the Old Testament in Isaiah, 61:1-2, *"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prisons to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

In the instance we are born again, we are inwardly renewed by the power of God. Our hearts are filled with the love of God by the Holy Spirit.



# EPISTLE & CHURCH INFO

## EPISTLE CONT...

When this happens, *“we no longer have the love for worldly things in our life. The love of pleasure, of ease, of honor, of money together with pride, anger, self-will and every other evil temper. By the Spirit of God our earthly sensual, devilish mind is changed into the mind which was in Christ Jesus.”* According to Marjorie Thompson, *“In Christian theology and experience, the work of the Holy Spirit, is to conform us to the image of Christ. We see in Genesis 1:26-27 that the human creature was made in the image and likeness of God, yet we obscured and distorted that image in the Fall. Christ is the image of the invisible God in all its original purity... When we are clothed with Christ, the truth of our humanity is restored and the image of our Creator begins to emerge with clarity through the Spirit of God.”*

As we enter into this new church season of Pentecost, may God pour out His Holy Spirit on us all as we work to be Kingdom Builders in this broken world. Let us receive the blessing of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit as we live in Christian love and witness to the power of forgiveness in our homes, in our communities, and to the ends of the earth, until that day when Christ returns in glory. Amen.

*Pastor Bob*



## MAY LITURGISTS:

**May 5 — Maddi Dorsey**

**May 12 — Rob Wetzel**

**May 19 — Tony Basile**

**May 26 — Lisa Riner**

## CHURCH INFORMATION

### Church Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 9 a.m.—1 p.m.

Office Phone: 301-432-8741

Mt. Nebo Email: [mt.nebo@myactv.net](mailto:mt.nebo@myactv.net)

Website: [www.mtneboumc.com](http://www.mtneboumc.com)

### Sunday Event Times:

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

10:00 a.m. Sunday School (for all ages)

### Pastor:

Pastor Bob Ruggieri

443-994-9505

Email: [pastorbob2017@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbob2017@gmail.com)

### Staff:

Administrative Secretary – Brandi Puzonia

Minister of Music – Rose Gamblin

Finance – Patty Watson & Shana Wolfe

Sextons/Maintenance – Dennis & Sallie Dorsey  
and Sara Halbritter

### Mt. Nebo Christian Learning Center

Hours: Monday – Friday 6 a.m.—6 p.m.

301-432-6042

[www.mtneboclc.org](http://www.mtneboclc.org)

### Director – Kim Kelly

[director@mtneboclc.org](mailto:director@mtneboclc.org)

### Communications Team:

Toni Wetzel, Katie Smith, Pastor Bob,  
Glenn deShazo, and Brandi Puzonia

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# MAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BIRTHDAYS

May 3	Bruce Smith	May 23	Katie Smith
May 5	Kelli Strauss	May 24	Tina Jones
May 6	Rhyan Harding	May 26	Candy Smith
May 11	Judi Merrill	May 28	John Strauss
May 14	Lilianna Pugh	May 29	Katie Deatrich
May 15	Jeannette deShazo		Gia Gerand
May 16	Dotty Neal	May 30	Hollie Jarrell
May 21	Dianna Basile		Rob Wetzel
		May 31	Kayla Turner

## ANNIVERSARIES

May 2 Dave & Bella Wade



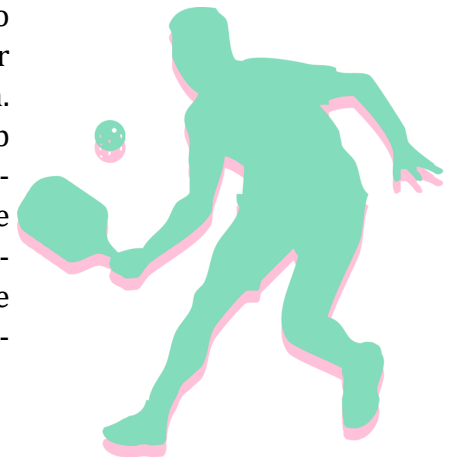
## OUT OF AFRICA

To continue evenings of sharing about mission trips, on **Wednesday, May 22 at 6:30 p.m.**, Dr. Rose Gamblin will be sharing about her trip to Tanzania. She will present slides and video about her experience with the children and people she served while she was there in March. She will have some Tanzania foods to try after the presentation. All are invited to attend!



## PICKLEBALL

Mt. Nebo is now offering Pickleball to add to the opportunities of supporting and promoting wellness in the church. A court has been set up in the FLC. There will be a holistic approach to this involving not only the physical aspect, but also consider the emotional, social and spiritual wellbeing of those wanting to focus on their overall health. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board if you're interested in wanting to participate in this new, popular game.



## THANKS-GIVING FOR THANKS-LIVING

Many thanks to each of the adults who are serving as mentors for our confirmands and to Pastor Bob for leading the Confirmation Class.

**Special thanks to all the youth and other Mt. Nebo members who step up to serve at FaithStep.**

Thank you to each person who made a gift to our Native American Sunday special offering.

**Thank you to Dale and Debbie Lee for sharing their experiences from their trip to Egypt and to Mount Nebo.**

Thanks to Brandi for all the work she does on putting the Beacon together and for her patience.

**Thank you to Rose and the Bell Choir for providing special music for us on April 7<sup>th</sup>.**

# YOUTH and CLC NEWS

## MT. NEBO YOUTH NEWS

The Youth Group has been busy with Confirmation class, serving at FaithStep, designing new banners for the sanctuary and planning for a new space to meet. Summer is fast approaching and they are starting to think about summer activities to do together. Please contact Alyssa Berg or Don Dorsey for more info about the youth group - all youth in 6th-12th grade are always welcome!

*Alyssa Berg*



## CONFIRMATION CLASS

We are proud to recognize six fantastic young women this year for our Confirmation Class. Each Confirmand is working with a mentor of their choosing. The class has been meeting on Sundays from 10:15 a.m.-11:15 a.m. Each young person then schedules other times to meet with their mentors.

The confirmands and their mentors are:

Claire Jackson with Ann Wright  
Amanda Mathis with Dotty Neal  
Finley Parish with Jenni Dorsey  
Hattie and Abigail Cronise  
with Patty Watson & Cindy Kauffman  
Ella Pugh with Lisa Riner

These Amazing young women will be confirmed on **Pentecost Sunday, May 19th** and will be honored following the service with a reception in the Gathering Room. Everyone is invited to help us celebrate this glorious event.

*Cindy Kauffman*

## CHRISTIAN LEARNING CENTER

May is always such a bittersweet month. In so many ways, we are excited for the end of a school year as we celebrate the growth and success of our kiddos. But it also means we must send some students off to Pre-k and/or Kindergarten, and parting with them can really tug at our heartstrings. We have worked hard to nurture them socially, academically, physically, and spiritually, to instill in them a love of learning and great success in kindergarten and beyond. Thanks for being a part of our school family!

I am also reminded of the many beautiful things that happen each day between my teachers and their students. The view from this desk is so special. Watching my teachers work with these youngest learners is a gift, as they literally are helping to grow their little brains through this critical stage of development. Brain connections made in these early years will be long lasting and effective. I am also joyful to watch the friendships and partnerships between our families. We never take it for granted and are always working to provide the best early childhood education and experience for the children and their families.

Teacher Appreciation Week is from **May 6th through May 10th**. I appreciate all your support as we celebrate our AMAZING STAFF!

**Monday, May 13th** we will be celebrating with all our moms at Mt. Nebo with pastries from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. in the school age area.

Our Outdoor classroom will have their end of the year celebration on **Friday, May 31st**.

We will end May participating in the Boonsboro Memorial Day Parade on **Sunday, May 26th**. MNCLC staff will be riding on a float and hope the children will be able to join us!

*Hugs and High Fives,  
Ms. Kim, Director*



# CHURCH NEWS

## WELLNESS GROUP – GO FOR BOLD

Come and join us for a Wellness Walk on **May 15, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.** We will be walking around town to get those steps in! I'll be discussing weight loss tips as we walk. Also, for those that may have a difficult time with walking, I'm looking into Chair Yoga with a plan to start in June, so be watching for a sign-up sheet. If you have not seen, we are now offering Pickleball in the FLC. Currently, the plan is to have the net set up for use after church on Sundays until around 3:00 p.m. Come on in and check it out! We will be offering other times for Pickleball at some point, so be sure to sign-up on the bulletin board to hear new information.

Patty Watson

## MUSIC NOTES

I recently experienced Maasai music in Maasai Land with Mt. Kilimanjaro in the background. (I'm planning to give a full mission report on **Wednesday, May 22 at 6:30 p.m.**). As I listened to the chanting and echo of their music without being able to understand the words, both at the villages, and then at church, I studied the musicality. Their music was based on a five-note scale, *the Pentatonic Scale*. The lower voices sang the same notes an octave lower. There was little harmony, but when they did sing in harmony it reminded me of music I had heard in Asia. Yes, the Chinese use the same scale in their music.

I thought about our Praise Music when our mission group sang the Praise Song "Alleluia" by VOUS Worship much to the delight of the people, who laughed with joy at hearing notes they had never heard before. Most Praise Music, including Praise Hymns, are written in the *Major Scale*. This scale is characterized by its bright and uplifting sounds. The stability and resolution contribute to the sense of celebration and worship in Christian congregational singing.

I couldn't help but compare it to some of the music we played during the Lenten season. Lenten Music most often uses the *Phrygian Scale*. For example, in the key of C, the *C Phrygian Scale* consists of the notes: C, Db, Eb, F, G, Ab, Bb, and then back to C. These flattened notes create tension, pathos, and conveys a somber mood.

## MUSIC NOTES CONTINUED...

Science cannot explain why some scales and rhythms impact us the way they do. As a little baby if my parents played music in a minor key I would cry. They thought it was funny and would quickly change back to a major key so my tears would stop. Making sure it was not a fluke, they would periodically try a "sad" song versus a "happy" song. Think of your family's musical traditions and spiritual purposes. *"What am I to do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will pray with my mind also; I will sing praise with my spirit, but I will sing with my mind also."* 1 Corinthians 14:15

Rose Gamblin



## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

At our recent meeting, Dotty shared a devotion about "God winks" and unanswered prayers. You know those times when you wonder if something is a coincidence or maybe it's God intervening. God communicates with us all the time; we just need to listen and be aware. God is answering our prayers either directly or indirectly. Where have you seen God today?

The annual Mother/Daughter Banquet will be held on **Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Family Life Center. This event is open to all women and girls and will be an evening of food, fellowship, games, and prizes. There will also be a silent auction for those who want to participate. Tickets are \$12 for ages 13 through adult, \$7 for ages 6-12, and free for ages 5 and under. Tickets must be purchased ahead of time. Please sign up on the bulletin board and see Cindy or Katie for tickets.

Our regular monthly meetings occur on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, with our next one coming up on **Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.** We hope you will join us!

Alyssa Berg

# CHURCH NEWS CONT. & OUTREACH

## UNITED METHODIST MEN

The Mt. Nebo Men will be preparing and serving and cleaning up at the Mother/Daughter Banquet on **Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>**. We will be using our good dishes (not paper) and silverware, so we need some expert dishwashers and putters-away of the dishes. The full work crew will start at 5 p.m. We may set up tables Friday night.

Our Saturday breakfasts will resume in the fall, but we will have our famous Steak and Salmon feed in August.

*Bruce Smith*

## FROM YOUR LAY LEADER...

On **Sunday, May 19**, which is also Pentecost Sunday, the United Methodist Church celebrates another milestone. It was April 23, 1968 that the United Methodist Church was created. Bishop Mueller representing the Evangelical United Brethren Church and Bishop Wicke of the Methodist Church joined hands in Dallas, Texas. With the words, "Lord of the Church, we are united in Thee, in Thy church, and now in the United Methodist Church." The new denomination was given birth by two churches which both had distinguished histories. Theological traditions, similar ecclesiastical structures and relationships dating back almost 200 years facilitated this union. This year as the United Methodist Church strives to create some new directives in the General Conference, we, here at Mt. Nebo, recognize that the United Methodist denomination is 56 years strong in 2024. We will recognize this milestone on **May 19**, which is designated to Heritage Sunday by the Baltimore Washington Conference.

*Cindy Kauffman, Lay Leader*

## HELP NEEDED

We're looking for help with keeping the grounds around Mt. Nebo looking nice. There are two of us who are doing what we can, but as we age, our energy and stamina are getting less and less. Please, if you can spare a bit of time, join us in our ministry of keeping Mt. Nebo looking nice. It would be great if we could get a few people to adopt a specific small area to lovingly care for. Please contact Katie Smith 301 707 6044 if you can help.

## MICAH'S BACKPACK

Micah's Backpack is presently serving 131 students. Many thanks to all at Mt. Nebo who support this ministry that helps children in our area through collected donations and volunteer service for packing and delivery of the bags. *Oatmeal packs and granola bars* are the items of need at this time.

There are no reported needs for the Food Pantry, which continues to serve a smaller client list. The location to help Micah's Backpack continues to be at Trinity Lutheran Church on the **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month from 1 to 3pm.**

*Ruth Resh*

## MISSION MOUSE

Did you know that there are many organizations that work to improve the lives of people in our area? Just to name a few there are Micah's Backpack, REACH, and The Community Free Clinic. You are familiar with Micah's Backpack where volunteers from local churches meet each month to fill backpacks with nutritious food for the weekend for children in need of food for weekends. REACH is a cold weather center that provides meals and sleeping accommodations for homeless people from the last Sunday in October to the first Sunday in April. You can volunteer by contacting [Liz@reachofwc.org](mailto:Liz@reachofwc.org) to help. The Community Free Clinic of Washington County provides health care for people who are residents of Washington County and have no health care. Each of these organizations are in need of financial help and you can donate to them at any time. Their information is available online. Financial donations are always welcome and if you have time to volunteer, please step up and step out and volunteer to help.



# CONFIRMANDS 2024

## HATTIE CRONISE



Hattie is in 10th grade at Boonsboro High School. She has played Unified Bocce and Lacrosse for two years with the school. She was recently accepted into the Boyd J. Michael, III Technical High School where she will be studying to become a Nurse this Fall. Her proud parents are Vanessa and Michael Cronise.

## ABIGAIL CRONISE

Abigail is a distinguished honor roll student at Boonsboro Middle School with straight A's in all of her classes. She loves to draw and write fictional stories. Her proud parents are Vanessa and Michael Cronise.



## CLAIRE JACKSON

Claire is in 8th grade at Boonsboro Middle School and is an honor roll student. She enjoys playing soccer all year round, singing in chorus, and loves to read. Her proud parents are Matthew and Kimberly Jackson.

## AMANDA MATHIS

Amanda works in the produce section at Weis in Boonsboro and enjoys volunteering at FaithStep in Hagerstown cooking eggs for those who come in for a hot meal. She enjoys making jewelry for others and her proud mom is Angela Redden.



## FINLEY PARISH

Finley has been playing soccer and cheering since she was 8. She enjoys spending her summers boating, tubing and kayaking. She is a distinguished honor student in the 8th grade at Boonsboro Middle School and is looking forward to her new adventure in high school this fall. Her proud parents are Mark and Christi Parish.

## ELLA PUGH

Ella is in 8th grade at Boonsboro Middle where she excels at being a student-athlete, maintaining academic honors while balancing a vigorous sports schedule year-round that includes softball, basketball, and volleyball. Her favorite is softball and she loves being a part of her Brunswick Steam 14U travel team. Ella is an amazing artist and loves to bake. She is a wonderful role model to her 3 younger siblings with her love of God, outstanding academics, and her perseverance in sports. Her proud parents are Chrissy and Andy Pugh.



# PICS AROUND MT. NEBO

## EASTER SUNDAY





# PICS AROUND MT. NEBO CONT..

## RAISING DISCIPLES



## PICKLEBALL



## COMMUNITY CHOIR AT MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE



## SERVING IN THE COMMUNITY



**FAITHSTEP**



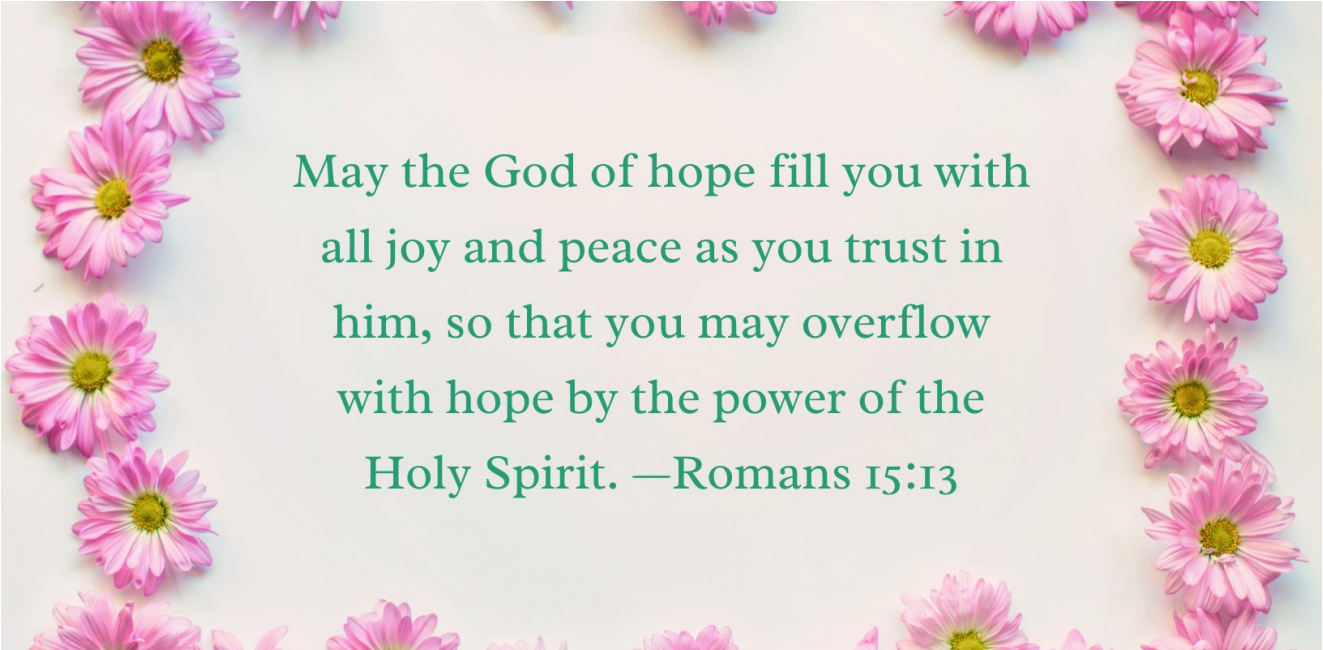
# MAY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 1p Micah's Backpack 6p Choir 7p Bells	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 6p Mother/Daughter Banquet
<b>5</b> 9a Worship  1015a Confirmation Class	<b>6</b>  630p Trustees Meeting	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>  6p Choir 7p Bells	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 9a Worship  <i>Happy Mother's Day</i>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  6p Girl Scouts (Sanctuary)	<b>15</b> 6p Wellness Meeting <i>Newsletter Articles Due</i> 630p CLC Advisory Mtg	<b>16</b>  6p Choir 7p Bells	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  8-9a SHARE Pickup
<b>19</b> 9a Worship  <i>Confirmation Sunday Day of Pentacost</i>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 10a UMW Meeting  630p Council Meeting	<b>22</b>  630p Out of Africa Presentation	<b>23</b>  7p Bells	<b>24</b>  <i>Brandi Off</i>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>  9a Worship  3-9p FLC Occupied	<b>27</b>  Memorial Day  <i>Office Closed</i>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	
			<i>Annual Conference</i>			
						

**Mt. Nebo United Methodist Church**  
**134 S. Main Street**  
**Boonsboro, MD 21713**

**Change Service Requested**

Welcome ♡  
May



May the God of hope fill you with  
all joy and peace as you trust in  
him, so that you may overflow  
with hope by the power of the  
Holy Spirit. —Romans 15:13