

BACK RIVER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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FEBRUARY “2012” EDITION

OUR MISSION IS TO TAKE ONE MORE STEP TOWARD GOD AS WE:

EXPERIENCE God in grace filled worship

EXPLORE God’s word through study

EXPRESS God’s love and humanity through care for community & the world

EXPERIENCE God’s grace in life through fellowship

EXPRESS God’s grace through our own story

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*Happy
Valentine's
Day*

Prayer for Valentine's Day
from *Out of the Ordinary* by Joyce Rupp

Praise to the One whose love stirs the ancient embers
sparks the breath of prayer

Praise to the One whose love entices the wandering
beckons the confused

Praise to the One whose love grows wings on the weary
dreams hope in the discouraged

Praise to the One whose love soothes with the ointment of mercy
transforms with the touch of compassion

Praise to the One whose love threads the energy of friendship
stitches the strength of fidelity

Praise to the One whose love tickles the soul with laughter
urges the heart toward joy

Praise to the one whose love embraces the untamed
dances with the passionate

All praise to this Gracious One, All gratitude to this Beloved
All love to this Mentor of Friendship, All devotion to this Shaper of Hearts.

EXPOSING PEOPLE TO GOD

Our poem of the Month for February is entitled:

THE MAGNITUDE OF GOD

By

Luther Elvis Albright

The vastness and the magnitude
Of God surrounds me so;
He's neither cheap nor stingy
And He loves us all, I know.
Yes, everything about Him shows
His willingness to give
In such abundance and I strive
Each day for Him to live;

I ask you to consider for
A moment if you will

That many flowers He created
 With the greatest skill
 Are never even seen by man
 And animals galore
 Are ne'er encountered – oh, the beauty
 That He has in store!
 And no two snowflakes are alike –
 Ah, don't you see, my friend
 That just a fraction of earth's beauty
 Now enhances men;
 The rest is sheer abundance yet
 It cannot be compared
 To what's in store for earth redeemed
 That Jesus has prepared.



ESTABLISHING FAITH—FILLED RELATIONSHIPS

WHO SAYS CHRISTIANS DON'T HAVE A SENSE OF HUMOR?



HYMNS

Do You Know Your Hymns?

(for those too young to know what a Hymnal is....it is a book of music with words written down and musical notes above them)

When you go to Church this weekend be sure to smile as you go through your Hymnals!

OCCUPATIONAL HYMNS

Dentist's HymnCrown Him with Many Crowns

Weatherman's HymnThere Shall Be Showers of Blessings

Contractor's HymnThe Church's One Foundation

The Tailor's HymnHoly, Holy, Holy
 The Golfer's HymnThere's a Green Hill Far Away
 The Politician's Hymn.Standing on the Promises
 Optometrist's HymnOpen My Eyes That I Might See
 The IRS Agent's HymnI Surrender All
 The Gossip's HymnPass It On
 The Electrician's HymnSend The Light
 The Shopper's HymnSweet Bye and Bye
 The Realtor's Hymn.I've Got a Mansion Just over the Hilltop
 The Massage Therapists HymnHe Touched Me
 The Doctor's HymnThe Great Physician

AND for those who speed on the highway - a few hymns:

45mphGod Will Take Care of You
 65mphNearer My God To Thee
 85mphThis World Is Not My Home
 95mphLord, I'm Coming Home
 100mphPrecious Memories

**Give me a sense of humor, Lord,
 Give me the grace to see a joke,
 To get some humor out of life,
 And pass it on to other folk!**



During these serious and troubled times, people of all faiths should remember these four great religious truths:

1. Muslims do not recognize Jews as God's Chosen People.

2. Jews do not recognize Jesus as the Messiah.
3. Protestants do not recognize the Pope as the leader of the Christian world.
4. Baptists do not recognize each other at the liquor store.



A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class, "If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?" A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence and said, "I think I'd throw up."



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO ALL OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY IN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

- 2/02 – Margaret Spacek of 2207 Bauernschmidt Rd. Essex, Md. #21221
- 2/06 – Jim Barton of 10019 Nearbrook Lane Parkville, Md. #21234
- 2/07 – Raul Kalloo of 936 Lance Ave. Essex, Md. #21221
- 2/08 – Elaine Farmer of 607H Brighton Manor Drive Essex, Md. #21221
- 2/08 – Stan Finch of 416 Beck St. Essex, Md. #21221
- 2/10 – John Goodman of 1213 Evergreen Lane Essex, Md. #21221
- 2/12 – Ken Yutzy of 326 Worten Rd. Essex, Md. #21221
- 2/12 – Barbara Thomas of 582 Welbrooke Rd. Essex, Md. #21221
- 2/16 – Laura Koch of 2611 Bauerschmidt Road Essex, Md. #21221
- 2/21 – Freda Price of P.O. Box 374 Joppa, Md. 21085

May God grant you all a special blessing on your special day in February.



LUNCH BUNCH NEWS

We had a total of seventeen join the lunch bunch for our luncheon and Christian fellowship on Thursday January 19th at the Williamsburg Inn. We had a great time and are hoping that more of you all will join us on our next adventure on Thursday February 16th at The Olive Garden at 12 noon in White Marsh. Just let Mary Hartman or Big Bill Poplovski know if you are attending so we can get a good count for the restaurant. If you are for some reason not sure as to whether or not you would enjoy such an outing, just come out with us one time and test it out. We would love to have you join us and we know that you would have a good time. After all, who wouldn't enjoy being with good friends and having a nice meal? What are those old saying, "The more the merrier" and "Try it, you'll like it." Remember, there are no restrictions, everyone is

invited. Each and every one of you has an open invitation to join the Lunch Bunch every third Thursday of the month. We always welcome new faces. God Bless.

EXALTING GOD

BELIEVING IT'S NOT OVER **TILL IT'S OVER**

(Taken from a book of prayer by Stormie Omartian)

Lord, my times are in Your hands. Thank you that my life is never over here on earth until You say it is. And when my time comes, I will see You face to face and dwell in Your presence. Thank You that You never give up on me, even when I give up on myself. I am so happy that no matter what age I am, I will always have a purpose because You have great things for me to do.

PSALM 92:13-14

Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be fresh and flourishing.



WORDS OF WISDOM AND INSPIRATION

He who cannot forgive breaks the bridge over which he himself must pass.

Matthew 6:14

For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

Lessons learned from Tim Tebow

Received from Karla Schaefer

As Christians we often do not have role models that are so obvious, but this football season we had Tim Tebow. For those of you who are not football fans, Tim Tebow is the quarterback for the Denver Broncos, and a Christian who lives his faith blatantly. Raised by missionaries in the Philippines, his faith was instilled at a young age. But what is amazing and fun to watch is his living his faith. After winning a game he falls to one knee, praying and giving thanks and praise to God. He always thanks his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Tim Tebow has not bowed to peer pressure or criticism. He bows only to his Lord. He once removed himself from an award consideration in college because it was sponsored by Playboy. He has been highlighted in a skit on Saturday Night Live where they made fun of 'Tebowing' - what falling to one knee and praying

has come to be called and he just took it in stride. He was once asked by a reporter if he was a virgin and admitted he was. His faith is often ridiculed by the sports pundits and they joke about Jesus being the 12th man on the field. Tim Tebow handles it all with grace, class and faith. He turns the other cheek. He fights hard on the football field and he wins. He wins with his faith too. More people are watching him, wondering how he does what he does and wondering what this Christianity thing is all about thanks to him.

His press conference after the recent wild card playoff win against the Pittsburgh Steelers began with gratitude to God for giving him the platform of an NFL quarterback. Platform? To do what? To spread God's word of course. Tim Tebow reaches millions of people. They see how he lives and how he plays and they are exposed to Jesus Christ.

In college, at the University of Florida, he painted Bible verses in the eye black all players use under their eyes, to spread God's word. Just a simple book, chapter and verse painted for all to see. When he painted John 3:16 under his eyes after a big game it became the #1 searched item on Google that weekend.

We can all watch Tim Tebow and learn a few things about how to make disciples for Christ. Do we truly put God first in our lives? Do we thank Him for the successes we have or do we take the credit? Do we realize the opportunities we are given to witness about Him are even there? Do we use them? Do we have a Bible verse in our email signatures to spread the word? Even though it may draw unwanted criticism and is not accepted by society? Do we joyously show we are Christians or is it something we only share when we know we are around other Christians. How often do you tell someone you are a Christian or is it embedded in you not to discuss politics or religion so deeply you never bring it up? Do your coworkers know you start your week by going to church on Sunday? Do they know your church supports a homeless shelter or is having Kids Night Out? Do they know your community group was collecting socks or you read the Bible every day? Do they know you pray? When you eat lunch at work do you bow your head and pray before eating like you would in a more private place?

Tim Tebow is not ashamed to be a Christian. His outward display has made enemies, yes, but it has also drawn people to him. We should not be ashamed either. If we change just one thing we do, tell one person we normally wouldn't, we might be surprised at the response we get.

18 Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations,[a] baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. **20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."** Matthew 28:18-20 (NLT). Thank you Karla.

EQUIPPING FOR MINISTRY

Don't forget our video ministry at church. If you miss a service for some reason you can always get a video of it to watch later.



Remember, Wednesday February 22nd is Ash Wednesday the beginning of Lent. Keep an eye open in our bulletins, church video announcements and the B.R.U.M.C. "Current" for Ash Wednesday's upcoming activities and the times. God Bless.

ENGAGING IN MISSIONS

ALL ARTICLES FOR THE MARCH "PARISH PEN" MUST BE TURNED IN NO LATER THEN FEBRUARY 23RD. THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS.



**Tree of Lights
Memorial Scholarship Fund**

In Honor

- Margaret Whittle
- Freda Price
- My Family
- Ada B. Evans
- Ada B Evans, My Mom
- Michael Mihavetz, Husband
- Kailey Ada Mihavetz
- Kara Charlotte Mihavetz
- Samuel Emerson Mihavetz
- Owen Gordon Mihavetz
- My Sister, Joyce Evans
- Loved Ones
- Loved Ones
- Loved Ones
- Rev. Lory & Family
- Rev. Lory Cantin
- Rev. Lory Cantin & Family
- Members of UMW
- Major Delmar Dickson of Baltimore
City Police
- All Baltimore City Police Officers

Given By

- Karen Kerr
- Karen Kerr
- Barb Meyers
- Love, Her Family
- Love, Sharon Lee
- Love, Sharon
- Love, Gramm & Granddad
- Love, Grand mom & Granddad
- Love, Gigi & Greegrah
- Love, Gigi & Greegrah
- Love, Sharon
- Freda E. Price
- Clarence A. Cox
- Shirley & Vernon Fowble
- UMW Back River UMC
- Myrna's Adult Bible Class
- Your Back River Church Family
- UMW Back River UMC
- Delmar & Val Jean Dickson
- Delmar & Val Jean Dickson

Our Church Family

Scott Sewell

Jean Sewell	Scott Sewell
Tyler Reynolds	Scott Sewell
Our Military	Scott Sewell
Babe Bosco, from California	Audrey Lipka
Daniel Conroy	Audrey Lipka
Mr. & Mrs. Irene Allred	Audrey Lipka
Mr. & Mrs. John Prasch	Audrey Lipka
Thomas Lipka, Sr.	Audrey Lipka
Jane Turner	Audrey Lipka
Carolyn Cain	Audrey Lipka
Toni Goodman	Audrey Lipka
Tanya Lee & Family	Audrey Lipka
Beverly Jetke	Audrey Lipka
Mary Hartman	Audrey Lipka
Charlotte Schmuff	Mary Cheryl
Judy Nelka	Mary Cheryl
Myrna Loucks	Mary Freyer
Rev. Elle	Mary Cheryl Freyer
The Poplovski Family	Bill & Ethel Poplovski
The Getz Family	Bill & Ethel Poplovski
The Thompson Family	Bill & Ethel Poplovski
The Skeen Family	Bill & Ethel Poplovski
Our Children, Sharon and Bill	Bill & Ethel Poplovski
Our Grandchildren,	
Kyle, Lauren, Andrea,	
Nathan and Bethany	Bill & Ethel Poplovski
Our Mother, Ethel Getz	Bill & Ethel Poplovski
Our BRUMC Church Family	Bill & Ethel Poplovski
St. Matthews U.M. Church	Bill & Ethel Poplovski
Margaret Whittle	Bill & Ethel Poplovski
Michael E. Finch	Flo & Stan Finch
Devin O. Telford	Flo & Stan Finch
Deborah Gilson	Howard & Eleanor Jones
Amy Marshall & Chloe Galford	Howard & Eleanor Jones
Esther & Joe Good	Howard & Eleanor Jones
Betty Wyman & Family	Howard & Eleanor Jones
Michael & Pat Jones & Family	Howard & Eleanor Jones
Kenneth & Linda Jones	Howard & Eleanor Jones
Ray & Virginia Jones	Howard & Eleanor Jones
My Children	Myrna Loucks
My Friends BRUMC	Myrna Loucks
My Adult S.S. Class	Myrna Loucks

Ruth Fletcher	Bill & Ethel Poplovski
Catherine McLaughlin	Bill & Ethel Poplovski
Terry Renner	Shirley Renner
Craig Mitchell	Myrna Loucks
Howard Mitchell	Myrna Loucks
Katie Lewelyn	Myrna Loucks
Earl Lewelyn	Myrna Loucks
Foy Miller, Cousin	Vernon & Shirley Fowble
Bertha E. DiNicola	Parents, Mel & Mary Schultz
Pearl Blewitt	Mel & Mary Schultz
Harry Schmuff	Mel & Mary Schultz
Joseph & Mary Matthew	Howard & Eleanor Jones
Ester Biro & Son, Louis Borsos	Howard & Eleanor Jones
Betty King, Mom	Flo Finch
Parents, Stanley E. & Matilda Finch	Stan Finch
Jan Harrison	Sister, Linda Hubble
Alex Elste	Grandmother, Linda Hubble
My Parents, Gladys & Charles Bennett	Linda Oakes
Grandchildren, Ashley & Edward Prince	Linda Oakes
Sister, Edna Patterson	Linda Oakes
Brother, John Bennett	Linda Oakes
Joann Goles	Sandy Goles
Lillian Goles	Sandy Goles
Sherry Goles	Sandy Goles
Joey Goles	Sandy Goles
Mary Goles	Sandy Goles
Estelle Campbell	Sandy Goles
Joseph Campbell, Sr.	Sandy Goles
Charles Campbell	Sandy Goles
James Campbell	Sandy Goles
Robert Campbell	Sandy Goles
Joseph Campbell, Jr.	Sandy Goles
Bill Davis	Sandy Goles
Beatrice Davis	Sandy Goles
Gene Metheny	Sandy Goles
Matt Lober	Sandy Goles
Butch Jenkins	Sandy Goles
Jody Wells	Sandy Goles
Carol Willard	Sandy Goles
Evelyn Deal	Sandy Goles
George Deal	Sandy Goles
Debbie Smith	Sandy Goles
Ernie Smith	Sandy Goles
Harry Schmuff	Sandy Goles

THANKS TO YOU ALL FOR CONTRIBUTING TO OUR TREE OF LIGHTS SCHOLARSHIP FUND



A ONE MINUTE PRAYER TO END YOUR DAY

I made it through today because I prayed often. My lips praised You for those promises still unfolding in my life. My tears were evidence of my need for You. I used to lament such times, but now I am understanding how Your faithfulness is evident when I hold onto You and wait patiently for a better day.

That day of revival might be tomorrow, it might be next week, it could even come after months of waiting, but I am certain it will arrive. This hope carries me, Lord.

Hosea 6:2

After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will restore us, that we may live in his presence.

Big Bill Poplovski -- Editor