

BUCKINGHAM GRAM

MAY 2025

HOW GREEN IS OUR GARDEN?



Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. – John 20:1

Happy Easter Season Friends – and wow that sure feels good to say on these warmer days - after a long season of Lent that saw the weather taking many ups and downs. There are sure signs everywhere, though, that spring is here to stay: The louder and lovely songs of the birds; the grass which now needs weekly cuts; the return of the ants and bees other bugs. It's safe to say spring has definitely sprung. The best sign of spring's arrival for me is what I call "green day" - that day when the grass and the budding trees – and all the fields as far as the eye can see – just seem to explode in deep, dark shades of green. Suddenly, in the blink of an eye, the whole landscape changes – and what had been colored winter bleak turns into bright and inescapable shades of spring green. Everywhere and everything just seems to sing of new possibilities.

Suddenly the lawn mowers start revving and the weed-whackers start shredding. And the gardeners among us start getting serious about planting. The whole world feels like a giant new garden – ready and ripe for anything. And it's a beautiful thing to see this new garden grow!

In John's gospel, on Easter morning, we find ourselves in a garden where Jesus had been laid to rest after his death. His friends had placed his body in a never-before-used tomb and sealed it with a stone. It is to this garden that Mary Magdalene came – alone, *"early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark."* We may imagine perhaps that as she walked, she could just see her breath in the cold air. She came - expecting to mourn death; but what she discovered instead took her breath away. The stone was rolled away! Mary sits down, dismayed. As if in a daze, two angels appear to her and say: "Why are you crying?" Mary answers: "They've taken my Lord away." But then she turns – and there is Jesus, standing right by her. But (and I LOVE THIS!), she doesn't recognize Him. Rather – she thinks He's the gardener.

But when Jesus says her name – "Mary!" she recognizes him immediately and calls Him "Teacher!" "Yes," says Jesus, "it's me – really me. Now, go – and tell the others that you've seen me."

And she runs, finds the other disciples, and proclaims: "I've seen the Lord!"

And the rest is, as they say, history. Or should I say: it's HIS story - and ours – and all of humanity's. (continued on back)



(continued)

We remember the very beginning of “the story” when God created the world – and in it God put a garden – and in the garden lived a man and woman. They were created to tend the garden, working with and depending on God for everything. It is there, though, that they fell to temptation and sin. And it is from this garden that they had to leave – for a time.

Fast forward, now, to that first Easter morning and remember: Jesus IS the One through whom God has created a NEW garden - a garden of grace and forgiveness, of mercy and acceptance - of love and peace. And through Him God has sown the seeds of this garden in you and me: the children of God - redeemed – and given a new life in Jesus Christ.

The question for us all is this: how will we help this new garden grow? What new ways is Jesus placing on your heart to plant seeds as a church community and take part in the wonderful garden-growing kingdom of God? This Easter & Spring season, let’s open our hearts to new gardening techniques, finding ways together to make His garden even greener here in Berlin – so that when anyone comes into our garden, they may say: “Wow! How Beautiful! I have seen the Lord in this place.”

I look forward to a blessed Easter Season in the garden with you! Peace, Pastor Mark

(*excerpt from Pastor Mark’s 2025 Easter message “Green Day”)

BUCKINGHAM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

G3FORCE YOUTH

GOD, GAMES & GRUB

MAY 2025

**G3
3RD-6TH
GRADE**

**SUNDAYS
KID’S CHURCH -9AM**

TUESDAYS 5:30-7PM

5/6 BUILDING FREE LITTLE LIBRARY
5/13 MAKE YOUR OWN DINNER
5/20 MAKING AGAPE BAGS
5/27A LITTLE HELP (MARK 2:1-5)
6/3 END OF SCHOOL YEAR PARTY

**G3
OLDER
YOUTH**

**1ST & 3RD SUNDAYS
10:15-10:45AM**

**5/4 10 COMMANDMENTS
(PART 1)**

**5/18 10 COMMANDMENTS
(PART 2)**

**G3
JUNIOR
K-2ND**

**SUNDAYS
KID’S CHURCH -9AM**

1ST TUESDAYS 5:30-7PM

5/6 BUILDING FREE LITTLE LIBRARY
6/3 END OF SCHOOL YEAR PARTY

**ALL
G3**

6/1 SHOREBIRDS GAME

Join us as we cheer on the Shorebirds. **June 1 at 2:05pm.**
Tickets are \$11. To reserve your tickets, please contact the church office or Pastor Susannah.
Go, Shorebirds!



In April, 10 youth and 5 adults from church served and cleaned up lunch at Halo in Salisbury. What a wonderful way to share God’s love with our neighbors.

Thank You for donating Easter Candy. As you can see our Easter Egg Hunt was a huge success with full baskets and big smiles!



Your Help is Always Needed and Greatly Appreciated!

Each Sunday morning, we have nursery available for our youngest during the 9am service. If you'd like to spend a bit of time with some awesome kids, pick a Sunday that works for you and sign up. The service is streamed into the nursery, so you can worship that way or join us at 11am.

Join the youth on a Tuesday nights. Whether you want to prepare food for us (cook it yourself or order it), play a game with us, lead a lesson or help with clean-up, we have a place for you. Just being present reminds the youth they are loved. We'd love to see you on a Tuesday nights. Questions? Contact Pastor Susannah or Sign up on the Sign Up Genius Link using the QR Code.

**Volunteer
Opportunities**



Ahoy Mateys! April 27th was a great day to walk with friends in support of our community at the Child Advocacy Center of Worcester County fundraiser walk.

God bless the children and the good work of CAC. Thank you Buckingham Family for your support and donations to this great cause.



Muffins for Moms

**MOTHER'S DAY
SUNDAY, MAY 11TH**

Dads, granddads, kids & friends are invited to bake muffins for the moms and mom-figures to share together on Mother's Day. Please make them at home and bring them to church the week before or Mother's Day morning. **We'd like to serve them before and after both services.** Please consider providing gluten-free options too. Coffee, tea & juices will be provided by the church.

A Mother's Day Prayer

Lord, Today, we pray for mothers everywhere.

Bless moms who are expecting a baby. Calm their fears and keep their new little life safe.

Bless mothers who have babies and toddlers and are in a busy season of bottles, sippy cups, and endless laundry. Give strength to moms of little ones. They need it, Lord.

Bless mothers who have busy school-aged children. Gift them with an extra measure of wisdom to answer questions, model maturity, and mold young hearts.

Bless mothers who parent teens. Allow them the grace to let go when needed and the courage to provide firm boundaries when required.

Bless mothers of adult children that they would savor the joy of friendship with their grown child.

Bless single mothers with the strength to fulfill many roles. Provide them with supportive people in their lives.

Bless moms who are married that they would care for their children by making their husbands a priority.

Bless grandmothers who have the double blessing of being both mother and grandmother. May they spoil their grandkids with abandon.

We pray peace for **mothers who have lost a child** and for **women who are grieving** because of infertility.

Give us eyes to see **women around us who struggle to mother well.**

Help us be the hands and feet of Jesus to them.

Thank you for our mothers. They gave us life and for that gift we are forever grateful.

We pray for mothers everywhere. In Jesus' name, Amen

HISTORIC
STAINED GLASS
WALKING TOUR
BERLIN, MD

May 10, 2025
2:00 - 5:00pm



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Stevenson United Methodist Church
Buckingham Presbyterian Church



We are once again participating in the Baby Bottle Fundraiser for the Grace Center. Between Mother's Day and Father's Day, please take a bottle and fill it with coins to help support this local service to our community.



ONLINE GIVING



from the **DEACONS**

As a Deacon Moderator I am truly thankful for all the Deacons who actively serve and those who continue to embrace the motto "Once a Deacon Always a Deacon". We continue to be the hands and feet of Jesus in many quiet unadvertised ways. In writing this I thought about sharing a beautiful story how the Deacons recently came together and blessed a person in need. A deeper reflection and study on humbleness led me to these words "Humility doesn't depend on recognition for happiness and contentment." Your Deacons do a lot of work not for bragging rights but because they have volunteered their time and talents to be the light of Christ. We continue to be welcome anyone who wants to assist with our fundraising or are in need. More than anything I ask for prayers for your Deacons. Prayers we continue to demonstrate Christ's love and prayers Buckingham Presbyterian will be known through our community as a church of love. - Cathy M. Leyden



Kid's Sew – Sundays 10:30am-12pm

Sewing Mission – Tuesdays 5:00pm All ages are welcome, items will be donated to local missions

Saturday Classes – May 3rd

10am-12pm - Mother's Day Gift

1-3pm Beginner's Class

Birthday Parties! What a fun way to celebrate your birthday! Projects include Pillowcases, Initial Pillows, Backpack, Drawstring Bag, or Skirt. Parties would last approx. 3hrs. \$30 per person includes fabric, prep work and sewing machines. Class size is limited and for ages 8 and up. Contact Debbie Frene for more information.

Mission & Evangelism



May 5-11 is Children's Book Week.



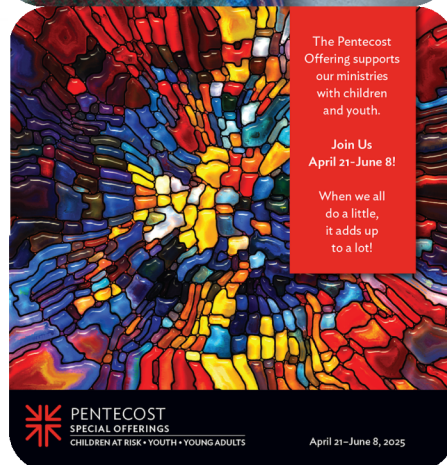
Encourage the children in your life to read books, especially the Bible!!

Children's editions of the Bible are available for free here at Buckingham.

The Bible is filled with wonderful stories every child should know: Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden; Noah and the Ark; Abraham and Isaac; Moses and the Exodus from Egypt; The Ten Commandments; David and Goliath; King Solomon; Jonah and the Whale; John the Baptist; and most importantly the Life, Death and Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Please speak with a member of the Christian Ed or Mission and Evangelism Teams to obtain a Bible for your child.**



Thank you for your generous support in donating \$200 to **One Great Hour of Sharing** which is used for the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Disaster Assistance, and Development of People. BPC Missions is matching the gift and **we will be sending a total of \$400. Thank you!**



Our next special offering will be taken up on Pentecost Sunday, June 08.

The Pentecost Offering

helps the church encourage, develop, and support our youth to build the foundation for a life of faith.

- 40% is retained by our congregation to support work with at-risk children, youth and young adults in our local community.
- 50% supports PC-USA ministries with youth and young adults.
- 10% supports PC-USA child advocacy/children at risk.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Fellowship Time Sundays between the two service Sewing Seeds of Love Sundays at 10:30am Older Youth meet the 1st and 3rd Sundays 10:15-10:45. Holy Communion - 1st Sunday of every month Gram Submissions - Due Sunday, May 18				1 Choir 5:30pm Bible Study 6pm	2	3 Sewing Seeds of Love 10am-12pm 1-3pm
4 Contemporary Service & Kid's Church 9am Traditional Service 11am Communion	5 Share & Care 6:30pm	6 Sewing Seeds 5pm G3 5:30pm	7	8 Choir 5:30pm Bible Study 6pm	9	10 Stain Glass Walking Tour 2-5pm
11 Muffins for Mom Contemporary Service & Kid's Church 9am Traditional Service 11am Happy Mother's Day	12 Share & Care 6:30pm	13 Men's Breakfast 8:30am Session 5pm Sewing Seeds 5pm G3 5:30pm	14	15 Choir 5:30pm Bible Study 6pm	16	17
18 Contemporary Service & Kid's Church 9am Traditional Service 11am	19 Share & Care 6:30pm	20 Sewing Seeds 5pm G3 5:30pm	21	22 Choir 5:30pm Bible Study 6pm	23	24
25 Contemporary Service & Kid's Church 9am Deacons Mtg 10am Traditional Service 11am	26 Share & Care 6:30pm	27 Sewing Seeds 5pm G3 5:30pm	28	29	30	31

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May 6 ... Bradley Black
 May 12 ... Debi Cook
 May 14 ... Greg Fraser
 May 14 ... Charles Townsend
 May 25 ... Cheryl Holland
 May 25 ... Cecil Tull
 May 28 ... Carol Rose
 May 31 ... Jacob Gaddis

HAPPY Anniversary!

May 1 ... James and Sue Mallory
 May 1 ... Larry and Tammy Nickell
 May 7 ... David and Cindi Pruitt
 May 28 ... Mark and Aimee Piedmonte

Looking Ahead

VBS
July 14-18
 Hosted at
 Stevenson's UMC.
 Volunteers are
 needed.
 See Susannah for
 details.

If your special day is not listed, please call the church office 410-641-0234 and leave a message with your name and correct information OR email info@buckinghampcusa.org
 THANK YOU!

VISION STATEMENT

We are a community of disciples,
Who honor all people,
Care for those in need,
Share the hope we receive from Jesus Christ



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Tues, Wed, Fri 10:30-3:30

WEEKLY SERVICES & PROGRAMS

Sunday	Contemporary Service*	9:00am
	Friendship Hour	10:15am
	Sewing Seeds of Love	10:30am
	Traditional Service	11:00am
	*Kid's Church available during 9am service	
Monday	Share & Care	6:30pm
Tuesday	G3 Youth	5:30pm
Thursday	Choir	5:30pm
	Bible Study	6:00pm

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

