Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”

John 8:12
Welcome New Members

Following our November new member classes, we have two new members! Please greet and make them feel at home. They are:

John Helveston was born in Fort Worth, Texas but, as an Air Force “Brat” moved around and lived in 13 states growing up. He and Liz met in Pittsburgh while he was pursuing his PhD in engineering at Carnegie Mellon. John is currently an Assistant Professor in Engineering Management at George Washington University. John loves music and plays various instruments. He and Liz enjoy family time with Luke and are anxiously awaiting the new baby.

Elizabeth (Liz) Phung is originally from Lancaster, PA. Her parents arrived here from Vietnam after the war. Liz is a geriatrician at Johns Hopkins. She enjoys volunteering for medical missions, helping the homeless, and assisting with charity drives. She and her husband, John, have one son, Luke, and are expecting another child in 2020. When she has time, she enjoys yoga, hiking and cycling.

Worship at Woods

8:00 a.m. - Communion Service
9:30 a.m. - Traditional Service
11:00 a.m. - Contemporary Service

Holy Communion is celebrated each Sunday at the 8:00 a.m. service and periodically throughout the year at the 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services.

The nursery (infants through age two) is open during the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services.

Do you have questions, comments or submissions for Woods Chips? Email info@woodschurch.org
Severna Park Award Program Honors the Achievement

SEVERNA PARK December 24, 2019 -- Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church has been selected for the 2019 Best of Severna Park Award in the Religious Organizations category by the Severna Park Award Program.

Each year, the Severna Park Award Program identifies companies that we believe have achieved exceptional marketing success in their local community and business category. These are local companies that enhance the positive image of small business through service to their customers and our community. These exceptional companies help make the Severna Park area a great place to live, work and play.

Various sources of information were gathered and analyzed to choose the winners in each category. The 2019 Severna Park Award Program focuses on quality, not quantity. Winners are determined based on the information gathered both internally by the Severna Park Award Program and data provided by third parties.

SOURCE: Severna Park Award Program

Youth and Their Families Ministry

Woods Church Youth deliver over 60 Gift Baskets to Pinewood Village

On Sunday, December 15, the youth of Woods Church hand delivered over 60 gift baskets to the residents of Pinewood Village, a low-income community located in Glen Burnie, MD. The gift baskets contained many useful items, such as laundry detergent, toiletries, and blankets. The residents of Pinewood Village were happy to see our young people and many came outside their homes to give the youth Christmas cards and to express their thanks! This was a fun way for our youth to serve others in our community, and the annual gift basket delivery to Pinewood Village is quickly becoming one of the favorite activities of the Christmas season!
Children’s Christmas Eve Service

Thank you to all who participated in the Christmas Pageants on Christmas Eve. You made the Christmas story come alive again! A special thank you to Pete Bishop and John Dawson for making our amazing stable.

Bible Bedtime Stories Readers

We’ve asked our families with children to switch one bedtime story for a Bible story every night. It is changing families as they share in the spiritual practice of reading the Bible together. Parents are learning the Bible stories too.

We are ready to bump things up a notch. We are looking for Bible Story readers who will be videoed reading a story from a children’s Bible. Later in January, families will be able to access these stories from our own Youtube channel. I can just imagine a child running up to Bob Royer and saying, “Mr. Royer, you’re the man who read me the story about a boy sharing his lunch.” Creating family spiritual practices, increasing Bible literacy with parents and children and building relationships throughout the church – this is going to be fun! If you’re interested in being a reader please contact Dylan Roche or email halbrecht@woodschurch.org.

Save the Date February 14 and join us for an All Church Valentine’s Day Party

February 14 6:00 - 8:00pm for all ages
We will have dancing and karaoke. Fun games like Truth or Dare and Speed Dating. Yep, Speed Dating – just come and find out! Make a valentine for someone special. Have a goofy photo taken with your family or a church friend. No more sitting at home on Valentine's watching the Hallmark Channel - we promise this will be your best Valentine’s Day ever. Interested in decorating or leading a game contact Holly Albrecht, halbrecht@woodschurch.org or anyone on the Families with Children Ministry.

Teaching Sunday School

Did you mean to sign up to help with Sunday School this fall but never got around to it? There is still time. Come and be a part of faith formation with children. We will give you everything you need. Just come with a love of children, excitement for sharing the story and a willingness to cut and glue. Contact halbrecht@woodschurch.org if you are interested in being a lead or support teacher. All adults working with children or youth must comply with our Child Protection Training and complete a federal background check.
**Adult Education Classes**

**Sundays 8:00 a.m. Classes**

**Men's Bible Study** (Founders Room)
**Women's Bible Study** (Office Conference Room)

**Sundays 11:00 a.m. Class**

**Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi**
January 12 - February 16 (Office Conference Room)
Explore a fresh and timely reinterpretation of Jesus' most popular teaching parables. Jesus knew how to tell a story. He knew that in order to get his message across he needed to relate to the people who gathered to listen—first century Jews—who lived in a very different world than ours today. Author Amy-Jill Levine takes you back in time and explains how original audiences understood Jesus’ parables. You can attend any session during this six-week study, and you’ll learn how new interpretations of the parables continue to challenge and provoke contemporary Bible readers.” Led by Jim Newman

**Sundays 6:00 p.m. Class**

**Animate: Faith**
How can you animate your faith with color, beauty, and movement? Consider a new seven-week course, **Animate: Faith**. Gather for a fifteen minute-video, small-group discussion, and even more opportunities throughout the week for personal reflection. Each session presents a unique perspective that should beckon broad discussions of faith. Classes will be each Sunday evening from January 26 to March 8 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Please rsvp to jsnowden@woodschurch.org if childcare is needed.

**Tuesdays 9:30 a.m. Journey Group**

**The Heart-to-Heart**
Welcomes all the women the first and third Tuesday beginning Tuesday, January 21 from 9:30 -11:00 a.m., Room 208 to study "Ten women of the Bible" by Max Lucado. You can purchase the book on Amazon Prime or if you need a copy, we would be happy to purchase it for you. Childcare is provided in the cribery. Please sign up your children and include age. For more information contact Stacey Kirchenheiter, Kirches6@aol.com or Sara Snowden, saradinker@aol.com.

**Wednesdays 12:00 p.m. Class**

**Pastor's Bible Study**
Join Dr. Susan DeWyngaert and The Rev. Marie Sheldon as we consider each of the scripture readings before the Sunday when it will be presented in worship, thus giving us a new understanding of scripture, and enhancing our worship experience.

**Spirituality for the 21st Century**

Bill Hocking’s next Seminar, “Spirituality for the 21st Century,” will be offered beginning Monday, February 10, 2020, and continue each Monday thereafter until March 16. We will meet at the Woods Counseling & Care Center in the Large Group Room, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

This Seminar is a continuation of Bill's Fall, 2019, “Science & Spirituality” sessions. Featured writers include Bruce Lipton (The New Biology): Joan Chittister, Richard Rohr and Pierre Teilhard deChardin.

For more information or to register, contact Bill Hocking at Billhocking100@comcast.net.
Missions

Encounter Exhibit

Woods Church will host an exhibit called the "Encounter Exhibit" in Founders Room from January 18 through 21. This exhibit was developed by The Samaritan Women. It demonstrates GRAPHICALLY what life is like for a sexually trafficked woman. Sexual trafficking is a growing problem in this country and throughout the world and we encourage parents to visit the exhibit. This is a traveling exhibit that has been displayed in many locations in the United States. We will have on hand volunteers from The Samaritan Women to answer any questions visitors to the exhibit may have. Parents may accompany older teenage children through the exhibit but must first sign a parental consent form.

We would like to extend a heartfelt "Thank You" for your prayers, concern and cards during our Mom's (Margaret MacFarlane) cancer diagnosis and on her recent passing. It was comforting to our family to have the love and support of so many. The memorial service was very special and we would like to thank everyone involved in the planning and organization; special gratitude to Mary Jo Greenley, David Merrill for the music arrangement, the Choir, Andrew Lincoln's beautiful solo and Dave Nelson's handbells were touching and much appreciated. Also thanks to Rev. Nancy Lincoln Reynolds and Rev. Jacob Snowden for your beautiful words. Mom would be so very pleased and we find peace knowing that she is back 'home' at Woods with our Dad.

Blessings,
from Sandra, Bob and George (Margaret’s children)

Dear Woods Deacons,

Thank you so much for your many prayers during the long recovery from my fall. Your visit to my home just after the surgery, the prayer shawl you gave me, the flowers and your frequent note cards, all reminded me of how wonderful it is to be a part of Woods Church.

The surgery has successfully healed, and all that remains is physical therapy to restore the motion, reach and muscle stamina in my left shoulder and arm to the level they were before the fall.

Throughout this difficult process, and particularly during the very brief minutes that I fell and was submerged in the Severn, I knew God was there. Words can't express how much your thoughtfulness has meant to me. Your actions have been constant reminders of God's love and Care.

Best wishes,
Don Roland
The Love and sympathy of the congregation *

† Wendy Bradford, and family, on the death of her mother, Nancy Brown
† Debbie Bradley, on the death of her sister, Claudette Kamsch
† Debbe Fry, on the death of her mother, Lois Keagy
† Zelma Gossard, on the death of her son, David Gossard
† Jessica Meredidth, on the death of her brother, John William Oblaczynski
† Eloise Smith, on the death of her husband, Mel Smith
† Joyce Williamson, on the death of her husband, George Williamson
† Family and friends, of Lambert Zaengle
† Jean Zemo, and family, on the death of her brother, David Gossard

*Information is current as of December 26, 2019

Congratulations for our newborns *

† Linda Cramblett, on the birth of her grandson, Stephen Summerville
† Chris and Sarah Magette, on the birth of their son Jacob Kurwood Magette, Grandparents are Tom and Marcia Magette
† Rick and Mary Jane Messick, on the birth of their grandson, Miles Richard Messick, son of Amber Messick
† Bob and Karen Royer, on the birth of their grandson, Callum Robert Antonio Royer, Parents are John and Kristina Royer

*Information is current as of December 26, 2019

Membership at Woods

MEMBERSHIP CLASS
Sunday February 16 at 9:30 a.m. in Founders Room

DINNER WITH ELDERS
Wednesday February 19 at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

INTRO TO THE CONGREGATION
Sunday February 23 at the 9:30 a.m. or 11 a.m. services

For More Information Contact
Rachel Lunde
RLunde@woodschurch.org
443.261.3269
Memorial Presbyterian Church
PC(USA)

611 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd.
Severna Park, Maryland 21146
Phone: 410.647.2550
Fax: 410.647.2781
www.woodschurch.org

HAPPY NEW YEAR