WoodsChips
March 2020
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

Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church
611 Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard
Severna Park, Maryland 21146

Following our February new member classes, we have 14 new members! Please greet and make them feel at home. They are:

**William (Bill) Dusold** was born in Baltimore and he now lives in Glen Burnie. He is an office clerk assistant at the Maryland Department of Health. He has many interests including Toast Masters, bowling and volunteering at Baltimore Washington Medical Center. Bill also participates in the Disaster Relief Ministry. His twin sister is a member of Woods.

**John Engel** is originally from Gaithersburg, MD. He is a financial analyst for Stansberry Research. Like his wife, Laura, his favorite activities are sailing, and spending time with his family. He also likes surfing, biking and hiking. He and Laura came to Woods when searching for a home Church.
Laura Engel lives in Severna Park with her husband, John. She grew up in Pittsburgh, PA and was born in Columbus, OH. She and her husband have a 10-month-old son, Kelson. She is a digital ad agent for Smart-Brief. In her spare time, Laura loves sailing and spending time with her family.

Sarah Fretz comes to us from Phoenix, MD and now lives in Glen Burnie. She has one daughter, Carolyn Ann, and is expecting a second child in August. She works part-time for AACPS as a special education teacher. Sarah also enjoys yoga, cycling and HIIT classes.

Danielle Gibbons and her husband Jim have been coming to Woods since their children were involved in youth activities. Danielle is a native of Newport, RI and has lived here in Severna Park for the past 12 years. Jim and Danielle have two boys, Jameson and Colin. She is a kindergarten teacher and has many interests, including cooking, yoga, reading, jogging and paddle boarding.

Jim Gibbons has been in Maryland since he was three. He and Danielle were drawn to Woods by its presence in the community. Jim is the co-founder of Alpha Pointe Capital, a financial management company. He loves the outdoors, horseback riding, sailing, fishing, hunting or pursuing lacrosse.

Jameson Gibbons is the eldest son of Danielle and Jim. He is currently in college. Jameson has decided to join Woods because of the youth activities he has enjoyed with us.

Charles (Charlie) Marino and Peg, after living in PA and SC, now live in Arnold, MD. They are happy to call Woods home, after having enjoyed coming here for over twenty years when visiting family. Charlie owned a Printing Distribution Company in Philadelphia. His interests include golf and reading. He looks forward to volunteer opportunities here at Woods.
Margaret (Peg) Marino and Charlie found Woods through their daughter and son-in-law Rob Polina. The Marino’s live in Arnold, MD. Peg was a Children’s Hospital Volunteer while they lived in SC, and now she enjoys golf, exercise and reading. While at Woods, she has been attending Heart to Heart Bible Study, and Pastor Jacob’s the Peaceful Neighbor Class. She was also a volunteer for Winter Relief.

Amber Messick was born in Anne Arundel County, and currently lives in Pasadena, MD. She has one child, Miles. In 2019 she lost her beloved husband, Richard. His ashes are here at Woods and she feels close to him when worshipping here. This coming fall, she will be attending college and studying nursing. She has a busy life caring for Miles, and enjoys boating, walking, and caring for children. She found Woods through her mother-in-law, Mary Jane Messick.

Alexis Spadaro and her husband, Ryan, live in Arnold, MD. She was born in the Pittsburgh, PA. They have two children, Claire and Samuel that attend our CDC program. Alexis works in sales but in her spare time enjoys baking, exercising and the outdoors.

Ryan Spadaro and his wife, Alexis found Woods since their children attended the preschool program at CDC. Although Ryan was born in Walnut Creek, CA, he grew up in Philadelphia, PA, before relocating to MD. He is a regional sales manager. His personal time is spent with family, community, and friends. He also enjoys working in the yard and doing handyman work, and golf.

Edward (Eddie) Weber III is a Sales Manager for The Weber Team. He went to Severn School and graduated in 2006. He has many friends in Severna Park. He enjoys cooking, golf, fishing, boating. Eddie also enjoys sports including, lacrosse, football, softball and basketball.

Michalyn (Mickey) Weber her husband, Eddie, live in the Annapolis/Arnold area. They were married at Woods in 2014 and now have two children, EJ and Coralyn. Mickey is originally from Fairfax, VA. She is a teacher at Celebree Annapolis. She enjoys crafting, her family, animals and softball.
Dear Friends,

What is a Cathedral Congregation?

A cathedral is generally defined as the premier congregation in a particular diocese, conference or episcopate. Presbyterians don't have bishops so we do not ordinarily name our key churches as cathedrals. (Although there some exceptions such as the Presbyterian Cathedral in Rio de Janeiro, St. Giles Cathedral in Edinburgh and First Presbyterian Church of New York City, which calls itself “New York’s Presbyterian Cathedral.”) Presbyterians clearly have churches that function in this premier role. Woods is undoubtedly the Cathedral Congregation in Baltimore Presbytery.

During the first few years of my work at Woods I did not fully realize this. I knew that Woods was the first Protestant Church in Severna Park (then, Boone). I understood Woods to be a large, strong suburban congregation. At the same time I wondered why our worship attendance increases 5-10-fold at Christmas and Easter. This is highly atypical. I heard students at Severn School, who have no congregational affiliation say that if they were ever in trouble they would “go to Woods Church.” I heard from our mission partners that community decisions regarding funding are greatly impacted by Woods’ decisions. I recognized that a far larger group of people at Woods remain on the edges of the congregation than in a typical suburban congregation. All of this began to make sense as I recognized that Woods is a cathedral! We don’t look like one. There are no flying buttresses and no rose window, but in many ways, Woods functions like a cathedral.

As the Human Resources and I began plans for my 2020 sabbatical we discussed several possibilities for my study topic. We found the idea of me studying the congregational life of Cathedral Churches fascinating. We wrote a proposal on this topic which Session approved for my sabbatical, July 1 – September 30, 2020.

My preliminary study on Cathedral Congregations reveals that we are different in form and behavior from other, large urban and suburban congregations. A Cathedral Congregation has a broader reach. We are able to support programs in mission, education, care and the arts that are more impactful than other congregations. Cathedral Congregations are also attractive to people who do not want to “be in charge of everything.” A Cathedral Congregation is a good place for those who have been previously hurt by the church to ease back into congregational life.

What does that mean for the future of our congregation? That’s what I want to find out.

The work of my sabbatical study will be to identify at least nine Cathedral Congregations in varying locations, communicate with their staff regarding the life of the church and learn what I can from the things they have learned. I will do academic research into the topic. I will visit or (preferably) worship with these congregations and provide a report to the Session my findings. I will include relevant findings in my communication with the congregation. If appropriate I will write and submit articles for publication.

I’m requesting your prayers as I undertake this project and for the officers and staff and they cover my responsibilities while I’m away. Sabbatical is a season of learning and spiritual development for pastors; it’s also much needed R&R. Thank you for providing this opportunity for me and the other pastors. I hope that what I learn will make me a better leader and place the church in a more vibrant, impactful position as we enter the new decade.

Grace and peace,

Signature.

www.woodschurch.org

March 2020
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

Lenten class
March 1 (Office Conference Room)
This year’s Lenten study will be “Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Guide to Holy Week.” Although the Bible gives us insight into what Jesus was thinking between the time he entered into Jerusalem and the night he spent in the garden of Gethsemane, we can’t totally relate. To help us fill in the blanks, author and biblical scholar, Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical text surrounding the Passion story, looking at the “ordinary” people who witnessed the events. Attend any session during this six-week Lenten study led by various adult education ministry members.

Tuesdays First and Third 9:30 a.m. Class

Heart-to-Heart Women’s Bible Study
All women are welcome the first and third Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. for fellowship and a study of “Ten Woman of the Bible” by Max Lucado. For more information or to RSVP for childcare please contact Stacey, Kirches6@aol.com or Sara, 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.

Thursdays 2:00 and 7:00 p.m. Class

How Do You Spell “P-r-e-s-b-y-t-e-r-a-n?”
Have you ever been asked the question How do you spell “Presbyterian?” Presbyterianism is not the most well-known faith tradition. If you would like to know more about what is means to be Presbyterian, then consider joining a new class starting Thursday, March 5 at both 2:00 and 7:00 p.m. Over seven weeks, think with other Woods folk about the sociology of belief, how people talk about God, how to interpret the Bible, church history, and whatever you want to know about Woods. Childcare is available at 7:00 p.m. Have questions email Jacob Snowden, jsnowden@woodschurch.org.

Family Life

Bible Bedtime Stories Update
We are still recording our Bible Bedtime stories for our YouTube channel. We hope to have our online launch in the next few weeks. We are still looking for readers (there are a lot of stories in the Bible)! If you would like to be a part of this story telling please contact Holly Albrecht or Dylan Roche. Families are encouraged to switch on bedtime story for a Bible story each night. Reading the Bible together is a family spiritual practice that will create a strong faith foundation as children and adults increase their Bible literacy. The Families with Children Ministry is happy to suggest Bible story books for families.
What Comes First the Chicken or the Egg?

The eggs and they should be arriving the first week of March. Our eggs will be in the incubator for twenty one days and then the hatching will begin. Make sure you stop by the downstairs offices to visit the eggs and the chicks. It is going to be eggsciting!

Our chicks are a reminder of our bigger project, “The Chicken Mission.” The Families with Children Ministry will be raising money to purchase flocks of chicks through Heifer International. Chickens change lives by providing food and income to those living on the margins. Families throughout the world receiving chicks from Heifer make a gift of chicks to another family and so on and so on. Your gift keeps on giving. Change a life and be a part of our Chicken Mission. Each flock costs $20 and contains 10-50 chicks.

Lent Event and Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, March 28 9:00-11:00am
Bring a basket and enjoy learning centers, games, fellowship and Easter Eggs. Lent and Holy Week prepare us for celebrating Easter. Bring your family for a hands on exploration of the Lenten season and add to your spiritual practices as you prepare for Easter. Finding a few Easter eggs is a lot of fun too! Donations of pre-stuffed plastic Easter eggs are appreciated.

Vacation Bible School
July 13-17 9:00-12:00pm
Online early registration begins March 3. Register your four year olds through 5th graders for a week of fun as we explore where God’s power can take you with the “Knights of North Castle.” Through Bible stories, music, crafts, science, games and snacks we will learn about God’s power of truth, justice, peace, faith and salvation. The program fee for Vacation Bible School is $25 after April 1 it is $35. Space is limited. Youth and adults interested in being volunteers please contact Holly Albrecht, halbrecht@woodschurch.org.

Faith-In-Action
July 21-23 9:00-2:00pm
Third through fifth graders join us as we serve our community by putting our Faith-In-Action! Through Bible study and games we will learn about being servant leaders. Each day we will serve local mission partners from farming to serving at a soup kitchen. This hands-on mission camp allows children to do meaningful work as they explore God’s call to serve their neighbors. Online early registration begins March 3 for a fee of $25. Late registration begins April 1 for $35. Space is very limited. Children will be transported to local worksites. Questions contact Holly Albrecht, Director of Family Life, halbrecht@woodschurch.org.
**Music Ministry**

**Woods Music Theater Camp** is a week-long theater camp for rising fifth through tenth grade, that revolves around the bible, and teaches about Jesus and his teachings. Our show this year is *Children of Eden Jr - Act 2*. It’s a beautiful story about Noah and the Ark, with a message about God’s never ending love for us, focusing on the love and importance of family. Woods Music Theater Camp focuses on the art of Music Theater, the how-to’s, the backstage work, drama, choreography, and music. In addition, we have bible study, indoor and outdoor games, and scavenger hunts. Not to mention ice cream sundaes, water kick-ball and much more!

This camp is for kids who like to work hard, have fun and strive for an amazing performance! Camp runs from July 25 through August 1 and costs $200 per camper. Register at [www.woodsmtc.com](http://www.woodsmtc.com). For more information please contact David Merrill at dmerrill@woodschurch.org.

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**Mother’s Day Cantata**

On May 10, at the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services, the music department will present “A Journey to Hope.” This is a beautiful cantata inspired by traditional spirituals that tells of the ministry, passion, and resurrection of Jesus Christ through the singing of beautifully woven Gospel songs. The cantata will consist of the Adult Choir, the Praise Band, and a professional consort orchestra.

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**Save the Date - St. Patrick’s Day Dinner**

Once again the Deacon’s will be hosting St. Patrick’s Day Dinner Friday, March 13 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for great food, music, fellowship and fun! The Cypress Creek Celie Band will be providing the entertainment and our own Carolyn Watkins will be making traditional corn beef, cabbage, carrots, potatoes and rolls for your enjoyment. The deacons will be providing appetizers and desserts.

Tickets will be on sale in Fellowship Hall after all services Sundays February 23 through March 7. The cost of the event is adults $10, children $5 with a family maximum of $30. For additional information call Maureen Adams in the church office.
Presently in the Woods Gallery:

**Stepping Into Spring**  
February 23 - April 5, 2020

This exhibit features watercolor, oil, acrylic, mixed media, & prints by Carolyn Councell, a long time member of Woods Church & graduate of Maryland Institute of Art, having experience in fine art, commercial art, & teaching art. She is a signature member of the Baltimore Watercolor Soc. and Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers Society of Washington. D.C. Carolyn is also a member of the Annapolis Watercolor Club, Annapolis Arts Alliance, and The Chesapeake Show and has exhibited widely with these venues as well as other galleries in the Mid-Atlantic region & elsewhere. She has received many awards from these associations & other venues.

Paintings & prints in this exhibit represent her preferred media. Carolyn’s styles range from representative to abstract and she usually combines both approaches in each painting. Subject matter includes people, landscapes, seascapes, & flowers featured here.

About her work she says "I try not to set boundaries in painting, leaving the door open to inspiration which can come from the painting itself, or other influences. I feel each painting has a life of its own, and attempt to go with what each one suggests to me, such as color, composition, balance & all the elements of art. I let the painting speak to me. By continually learning & trying different media, I feel there are many concepts, approaches, and possibilities in painting yet to explore."

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**Woods Presbyterian Disaster Relief Trip**  
**New Bern, NC**

Floods in the North Carolina area from 2019 storms have overwhelmed some families. Over 3,500 families have submitted requests for FEMA assistance and less than 2,000 have been evaluated and far fewer have been repaired. We are trying to get 15 adult volunteers to work for the one week March 29 - April 4, in New Bern, NC. No experience needed. We depart on Sunday, March 29 and return Saturday, April 4 and will be staying at the PDA volunteer village of the Neuse Hope Presbyterian Church. Contact Dick Moore, irpmoore@verizon.net or 410.490.7607.

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**Service of Wholeness**

There will be a Service of Wholeness on Wednesday, March 18 at 6:45 p.m. in the sanctuary. This is a deeply spiritual service of prayer, laying on of hands and anointing by the pastors and elders for those experiencing emotional or physical concerns. If you would like to attend, contact Maureen Adams, madams@woodschurch.org or call 410.647.2550.
Session Highlights

At the regular meeting of Session in February:

- At the meeting of Session on February 19 there was a discussion about our goals for the fall Annual Congregation Annual Meeting. We want to celebrate the ministries’ accomplishments and better inform the congregation about the impact of our ministries. We could do that by each ministry submitting a slideshow or video. We could also distribute the financial and compensation information weeks before the Annual Meeting and hold a pre-meeting to answer questions. We would like to be able to share a meal together as part of the Annual Meeting. This could be part of the pre-meeting. The Session is continuing to consider options and plan for the fall.

- During this year’s Session Retreat, each ministry was asked to come up with three “dream” ideas to enable each ministry to share leadership across the generations. The ministries shared their ideas to incorporate younger leaders. Their ideas and initiative will be reflected in their minutes throughout the year.

- Bob Royer from the Renew Capital Campaign reported that the HVAC installation was on schedule. The Rehabs are helping with the demolition. Daytime schedules will be disrupted and rescheduled to other rooms. The night schedule will be the same. The cash position of the campaign is going well. Approximately $700,000 in donations has been received to date. The Rehabbers are looking into establishing a summer intern position.

- The Property Ministry presented a motion to procure and install a new server to replace our obsolete system for a cost of $6,080 which includes a 15% contingency. Payment to be expensed from the Maintenance Reserve fund. This motion was approved.

- The Youth and Their Family Ministry presented a motion for approval for four summer youth trips: WoodsWork (June 22-30), Montreat (July 26-Aug. 1), Massanetta (July 9-12), and Cross (Aug. 2-7). This motion was approved.

- The Finance Ministry presented a motion to commit $5,500 for training on the new Realm (ACS replacement) software. This motion was approved.

- Jacob Snowden announced that his Installation at Woods is on March 15 at 4:00 p.m.

- The Session called a Congregation Meeting for the purpose of electing officers for March 25 at 10:25 a.m.

- Preparations are underway for the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, USA in Baltimore, June 20-27. We are hoping to have many enthusiastic volunteers from Woods as part of this gathering.

One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday, March 29

Please prayerfully consider participating in One Great Hour of Sharing, the single largest way that Presbyterians join together to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. Each gift helps to improve the lives of people in challenging situations through disaster relief assistance, the Presbyterian hunger program, and investment in communities responding to racism, depression, poverty and injustice.

The Love and sympathy of the congregation *

- Anne Haile, on the death of her father, Bud Desmond
- Pam Smith Bob Smith, on the death of their mother, Barbara Smith
- Harriet Yake, on the death of her mother, Alice Heldenfels

*Information is current as of February 26, 2020
What's next for you?  
A PROGRAM FOR FINDING DIRECTION

For more information please contact:

SUNDAYS  
3-5:30pm  
March 8–29

BILL DANIEL  
Professional Coach  
Bill.Daniel@WoodsCCC.org  
410-570-8500

Life Purpose Course

Program cost $120  
scholarships available

There are times in everyone’s life when we look for what comes next. This may occur during a time of transition like retirement, kids leaving the nest, loss of a loved one, or change in employment. At the Woods Counseling & Care Center we have developed a small group facilitated program to look at this. Our Life Purpose Course is a 10 hour program done in 4 Sunday afternoon sessions where we explore: values, interests, energy/passions/dreams, what does God call me to do, how do others see my gifts and passions, and a one-on-one follow up with Bill Daniel regarding plan development and implementation.

LOCATION: 8 Cypress Creek Road, Severna Park, MD 21146

ASSUMPTIVE COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP

This workshop will provide you with information, tools, and practice time to help you speak and behave assertively. Being assertive is associated with a number of benefits, ranging from less anxiety and depression to a greater sense of agency and better relationships.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO RESERVE A SEAT
CONTACT:
TANISE STEVENS
TANISE.STEVENS@WOODSCCC.ORG

MARCH 10, 17, 24, 31
6-7 PM
$250 PER PERSON

Woods Counseling & Care Center  
8 Cypress Creek Rd, Severna Park

www.woodschurch.org
Happy St. Patrick’s Day