



Cedar Grove UMC

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REACHING OUT, GROWING CLOSE, CHANGING LIVES THROUGH JESUS CHRIST

The Beacon June 2018



Office Hours

Monday	10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Tuesday	10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Wednesday	10:00 am to 4:00 pm

From the Pastor's Desk . . .

SUMMER 2018

June for me is always a time of transition, the season changes, the school year ends, graduations are held, and thoughts of summer vacation and summer fun fill one's minds. Churches generally see an attendance dip in the summer as people go away for vacations, spend time outside, and the workers of the church take a break from another year of doing God's work. But the church does not stop. We have Vacation Bible School coming up at the end of this month, we have an adult Sunday school class (we go from two adult Sunday school classes to one in the summer), the Tuesday morning Bible study continues, the homeless trips are still made, family movie nights are held, and our church continues to be faithful. So enjoy your summer, rest, have fun, and help us to be the church God wants us to be and get ready as the church returns to its full schedule in September.

This year at Vacation Bible School we will be collecting school supplies as our mission. Everyone in our church will have an opportunity to donate. We also need volunteers to help at VBS and we need everyone to pray for our VBS and invite the kids in their neighborhoods to come. More information on VBS is included in this newsletter.

Since the UMC Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference runs too late in the month of May for me to review it for you in this newsletter, look for an article from me about it in the next newsletter. Speaking of the newsletter this is the 50th issue of *The Beacon* which began soon after my arrival as pastor.

Enjoy your summer!

Your fellow servant of Jesus Christ,

Glen



CHURCH NEWS

Scripture readers on Sunday mornings! It has been great having some different voices read the Scripture on Sunday mornings. We would love to have even more voices. If you are interested there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex and if you do sign up we will send you the reading electronically or inform you over the phone as to what the reading is. If you find the reading to be too difficult (length or hard to pronounce names) you can always let Pastor Glen know you have changed your mind. So please sign-up.

New Members Class. If you are interested in joining the church, please let Pastor Glen know.

The **Tuesday morning Bible study meets at 10:00 am** and is studying the Gospel of Luke and if you would like to come please do. We have usually 15-17 people present and have room for more. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Glen.

Yes, the rumors are true! **The once a month Bible Study will study the Book of Revelation** during the September 2018 to May 2019 period (this can be your first lesson... it's the Book of Revelation, not the Book of Revelations). This class will study every chapter of the book, look at all the various ways of understanding it including how it has been understood through the history of the church, learn the meaning of words like *pre-millennial*, *eschatology*, *apocalyptic*, *mid-tribulation*, *rapture*, and other such words that get bantered about in discussions of this book. We will also look at what Jesus says in the Gospels about His return, the impact of the Old Testament on the Book of Revelation, and other important topics. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex and you can sign-up to attend either the Monday morning 10am class (always held on the Monday the day before the third Tuesday of the month) or the Tuesday evening class at 7pm (always the third Tuesday of the month). If you have any questions about this class, please contact Pastor Glen.

Note: *If Christ returns before the first class, the class is cancelled!*

Family Movie Night is Friday, June 8 at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will be showing Disney/Pixar's "COCO." Movie night is FREE and all ages are welcome! As always, our movie night snack bar will be open selling pizza, popcorn, candy, and sodas. Everything is \$1.00 or less. If you have any questions, please contact Stacy Crine at sweetbooboo16@aol.com.

The Martha Lydia Circle's Yard Sale & Bake Sale is Saturday, June 9 from 8:00 am-1:00 pm here at Cedar Grove. For additional information please contact 410.867.2818 or the Church Office at 410.867.7417. **If you are donating a baked good for the sale**, please drop it off to the Fellowship Hall the morning of the event. We will be open at 7:00 am to set up.

The Blue Ribbon Project-Backpacks of Love. As mentioned in the April newsletter, Cedar Grove will help the Blue Ribbon Project by collecting some of the most-needed items to complete backpacks for children within our community who are victims of abuse, neglect, and child sexual abuse. **If you can help with this need, please have your donations here at the church by Sunday, June 10th.** There is a collections box in the narthex to put items in. A donation list is included in this newsletter. For more information about the organization, visit their website at blueribbonproject.org, or contact Kristen Wood at kcrohrer@gmail.com or 301-873-4669.



Need for Sunday Help - Sandra Burns

Are you interested in getting to know your Cedar Grove Church family better? How about helping Jesus spread His word or performing some of His works? Sign up today to provide support before or during church services. The Sanctuary/Sunday Committee was established to provide an opportunity to show your support for your Church and let people get to know each other better. These Committee Leaders are available to help you fulfill the following duties:

Greeters - Alice Rohrer

Nursery - Debbie Huffman

Ushers - Randy Smith

Sanctuary - Ida Mae Williams, Marjorie Johnson, and Sandy Burns

Signup sheets are located in the Narthax. Please contact us if you have any questions. I can be reached at sandraburns87@gmail.com, 410-867-7897, or 301-792-9091.

Experience the **“MANE” event** this summer at Cedar Grove and head back to ancient Babylon with Daniel as your guide! **Vacation Bible School** begins on **Monday, June 25-Thursday, June 28 from 6:30-8:30 PM** each day. To register for VBS, please pick up a registration form from the table in the Church narthex and return it to the office by either drop off (Mon-Wed, 10am-4pm) or mail it to 5965 Deale-Churchton Rd., Deale, MD 20751. You can also contact the church office at 410.867.7417 or by email at office@cgumc.org to have a form sent to you. The form is also on our website at www.cgumc.org and attached to this newsletter. For more information, please contact Sharon Staley by email at sharonstaley@aol.com.



MISSIONS CORNER

The Mission we are highlighting this month is **The Breakfast Club**:

The Breakfast Club is a feeding ministry whose simple goal is: “to nourish the body & spirit of those we serve.” We do this by providing breakfast during the summer months to area children/families who typically rely on the free or reduced meal programs at school. The program was started at Cedar Grove UMC back in 2009 and has expanded to other area churches and mobile home parks serving as many as 15,000 meals in a summer! Please pray for this mission and also prayerfully consider if you can support it with your time, talent or tangible gifts.

This summer, Cedar Grove will provide a weekly food bag every Thursday, July 5 through Aug. 22. We are looking for volunteers to help between the hours of 5pm and 7pm with packing and distribution. If you can help, please contact Ingrid Quimby-High at 443-404-8354 or ingrid.quimby@gmail.com. Also, the Breakfast Club culminates with a distribution of backpacks filled with supplies for our local kids. Watch for more information on this in a worship bulletin this summer.



BOOK CORNER



Old Testament Turning Points: The Narratives that Shaped A Nation

Victor H. Matthews Baker Academic 2005 208pgs

Last month I reviewed a book about the seven key events that shaped the New Testament world, this month I look at a similar, but different book, on the turning points of the Old Testament. One of the first things you need to know about the Old Testament in comparison to the New Testament is that the Old Testament covers from creation all the way to about 400 years prior to the birth of Jesus. It is a long time, thousands of years. While the New Testament has a book that predicts the end of time (the Book of Revelation that we will be studying this Fall in the once a month Bible study) it was written during a period that covers around 100 years and was written over a period of 70 years. Matthews picks eight turning points in the story of God's relationship with Humans/Israel. Unlike the book on the New Testament that was written from a historian's perspective, this book is written from the biblical perspective, accessing history, and from a faith perspective.

The eight turning points Matthews chooses are: Adam and Eve expelled from the garden; God calls Abraham; Moses leads the Israelites out of Egypt; David makes Jerusalem the capital; Jeroboam leads the secession of the Northern tribes; Samaria falls to the Assyrians; Nebuchadnezzar destroys Jerusalem and deports the people of Judah; and finally Cyrus captures Babylon and returns the exiled Jews to Israel. Following the preface the book is divided into eight chapters, one for each turning point, and the book concludes with usual bibliography, indexes, and a helpful glossary. The book also has little boxes with additional information throughout the book which I found to be very interesting.

One thing to remember about this book is it is about turning points. So in other words events that changed things which led Matthews to pick Adam and Eve being expelled from the Garden, not being created, because that would just be the start, not a turning point. What I am trying to say is this book is not saying that these events are the only important ones in the Old Testament or even the most important, simply they are the eight key turning points in the story. So for example where is the coronation of David as king, what of the prophecies of Elijah, and I could mention other important Old Testament texts and stories but they are not turning points in the nation's story. For me the only two points I would have argued might need to be included are the conquest of the Promised Land and the people wanted God to give them a king. Matthews addresses them in the book in the chapter on David picks Jerusalem as the capital. I would argue this decision only occurs because of the two I mentioned but since Matthews addresses it, it does not matter really.

Like the book on the New Testament you don't have to be enthused by the theme of trying to find a limited number of events that shape the New Testament world or the key turning points of the Old Testament to benefit from this book. This book in particular will give you a basic clear overview of the flow of Old Testament history. In addition the book is full of Scripture citations that will allow you to look in the Bible itself and read the actual stories.

This is a good book but a serious book that at times is probably too much in an academic style for some readers. It will make you think. It will take these turning points and make you think about what they mean for us today living with God in God's world.

Pastor Glen Arnold



The Blue Ribbon Project "Backpacks of Love" Donation List

*supporting children within our community who are victims of abuse,
neglect, and child sexual abuse*

CLOTHING (new) - any size from birth to 17 years, boy or girl

- " shirts
- " pants (stretchy or elastic waist)
- " Underwear
- " Socks
- " pajamas

MOST NEEDED CLOTHING

- " ALL size pajamas- birth to 17 years, boy or girl
- " Boys Pajama's- sizes 7/8, 12/14, 14/16, and 16/18
- " Girls Underwear- Size 16 and over
- " Boys Underwear- Size 2/3, ¾
- " Boys Pants (elastic or stretch waist)- Size 8 and over
- " Boys Shirts- Size 8 and over
- " Girls Pants (elastic or stretch waist) - Size 10 and over

An Amazon wish list is also located on the website at

<https://blueribbonproject.org/our-programs/backpacks-of-love/needed-backpacks.html>

Please bring to church by Sunday, June 10th.

If interested in delivering the donations to the Crownsville headquarters on June 10th and participating in the Volunteer Day, please sign up on the sign up sheet.

Contact **Kristen Wood** at kcrohrer@gmail.com or **(301) 873-4669** with questions.