



**Cedar Grove UMC**

5965 Deale-Churchton Road  
Deale, MD 20751  
410-867-7417  
[office@cgumc.org](mailto:office@cgumc.org)  
[www.cgumc.org](http://www.cgumc.org)

## **The Beacon** **January 2014**



### **Office Hours**

Monday	9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Tuesday	9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Wednesday	9:00 am to 4:00 pm

### *From the Pastor's Desk . . .*

#### **THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 2014**

A new year is upon us, 2014. I can remember when I was growing up that I thought the 1970s would seemingly never end, but it did, and if you remember some of the hairstyles and fashion choices, that was a good thing. But what is your response to a new year? What I mean is, do you see this New Year as a year for you to do what you please or do you see it as a gift from God in which He has plans for us? And as Christians we have to ask this question not just for ourselves as individuals but also as a church. Why has God given us 2014 to be Cedar Grove UMC?

Every church has the things it does that mark it as a church. We worship, we educate, we share, we serve, we administer, we fellowship, and we are the family of God. What is God calling us to do in these areas in 2014? Something new or the same things we have been doing? What matters is not what we decide but rather that we do decide based on what God is calling us to do. In this New Year we will be setting goals to challenge us to be more faithful to God. Do you have any ideas? Is God speaking to you about what Cedar Grove UMC should be doing 2014? Then share those ideas and be willing to help us to do it! At a minimum I want to ask everyone to be in prayer for our church and its ministries in 2014. We can only be the church God wants us to be if we are led by God, and we are willing to do the work.

Hopefully you will find attached to this third issue of the newsletter a calendar page for January 2014 that you can print out and put on your refrigerator to remind yourselves of all the things we do as a church. Also, if you use offering envelopes I hope you picked them up in the narthex as 2013 came to an end and will continue to provide the financial support our church needs.

Let me conclude by saying that I hope that all of you had a good end to 2013 and are looking forward to 2014 where ever God may lead us.

Your Fellow Servant of Jesus Christ,

*Pastor Glen*



## Book Corner



### How Great a Flame! : Contemporary Lessons from the Wesleyan Revival

James Logan    Discipleship Resources 2005 104pgs

A friend of mine came across this book while in Tennessee and told me about it. James Logan was one of my professors at Wesley Theological Seminary and was one of a few professors that I liked. (He died in 2009.) His areas of expertise were systematic theology, Methodist history and doctrine, and evangelism. This book brings together all three of these as he reflects in this book on the success of John Wesley and the early Methodist movement and what we as a church today can learn so that we can be better not just at getting more members, but of bringing people to faith in Jesus Christ.

The book begins by describing the early Methodists and John Wesley and what they did to be a part of such a fast growing movement. He draws from this description three keys to be successful in reaching people with the Gospel; preaching, classes and societies, and lay ministry. Essentially these three things in the modern context are; bringing the Gospel in words to people, having a place for them to grow in their faith once they come to faith, and that lay people must own this as a part of being a Christian. (the key point being that while clergy should do this they can't be doing it alone) The book then moves into describing how important it is that we understand how important the concept of Grace is to all that we do as Christians and as a church. The book concludes with a list of 6 bad habits the church has fallen into and how if we are going to be effective in evangelism we must have right belief, right conduct, and right passion.

I really enjoyed reading this book, not just because it brought the voice of James Logan back into my mind but because it is well written and a short book. I would encourage any Christian to buy and read this book and then put it into practice!

### Pastor's Perspective

I have been disappointed that I have only gotten one **name suggestion for the building** where the offices are. I am sure there are some good ideas out there, so last call for suggestions.

While I have no trouble filling the pages of **our new newsletter**, I would like there to be other articles and information from other people besides me. So if you have something for the newsletter simply send it to the office via email.

I want to thank the Manifold family and their helpers for **decorating the sanctuary** again this past Christmas. THANKS!

What do you think of **the new Fellowship Hall**? I think it looks great. The Trustees are to be commended for doing such a great job. THANKS!

If you are like me, **change is almost always difficult** and even I am still getting used to the new order of worship. But like most change, you have to give it time before you can distinguish the difference between not liking it because it is different and not liking it because you do not like it. For me the two things that most bother me is the location of the children's sermon and the way the service ends, but I am going to give it some more time.

Finally, I hope you will all lift up in prayer **the Confirmation class of 2014**. I might also ask a few of you to mentor a confirmand as they go through the process. If you are interested in doing this let me know. But all of us can pray for and encourage the confirmands as they prepare to make a the most important decision we can ever make - no not whether or not to join the church though that is important, but rather whether or not they will accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior!

## 2014 Church Council

The new year brings some changes to our church council. Terms have ended for Jack McDaniel as SPRC Chairperson, Julie McNamee as Missions Rep., and Heather Parks (Feb. 1) as Worship Coordinator. Greg Witte will be our new SPRC chair for 2014. If you would like to serve in the other open positions, please let me know. I am thankful to Jack, Julie, and Heather and all the laity who have served in the past or are still serving their season of ministry here at CGUMC. I, with our congregation, stand on their shoulders and benefit from their hard work and faithfulness. I am grateful for all of you and the hard work you do so that we can be the church we are right now. We are blessed to have so many committed, dedicated people working within our Church to make us successful at doing the work of the Lord. The CGUMC 2014 Church Council members are:

Pastor:	Glen Arnold
Committee Chairs:	Finance – Betsy Weinkam SPRC – Greg Witte Trustees – Paul Seen
Ministries:	Lay Leader – Kevin Roby Lay Leader to Annual Conference – Mike Haas Martha Lydia Circle – Linda Keiffer Men’s Ministry – Will Seger Missions Representative – Sunday School Superintendant – Sharon Staley Treasurer – Bill Kline Worship Coordinator – Women’s Ministry – Linda Keiffer Youth Ministry – Pam Foster
Council Staff:	Council Chairperson – Paula Stuard Recording Secretary – Jeannie Haas

### Upcoming Events

Give the gift of life



Donate blood

**AAMC Blood Drive.** The bloodmobile will be here at CGUMC on Wed., Jan. 8, 2014, from 3:00-7:00 pm. To schedule an appointment, please contact the office or you can go to [mysignup.com/cgumc](http://mysignup.com/cgumc). Walk-ins are also welcome!

**Quilting for Fun!** Saturday, Jan. 11, 2014 at 9:00 am in the Parlor.



**Movie Night!** Saturday, Jan. 11, 2014, at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy some relaxation after the holidays and join us to watch the movie “PLANES”. If you wear your PJs you will get FREE Popcorn.

[Please see the attached calendar for meetings and recurring events in January. As always if you would like additional information, please contact the office at 410-867-7417 or by email at [office@cgumc.org](mailto:office@cgumc.org).]