



# The Summit

January 2021  
Volume 20, Issue 1

*A newsletter for the family and friends of  
Mt. Carmel UMC*



**A note to all our Mt. Carmel families that have lost loved ones this past year to COVID-19 or other causes.**

**Matthew 5:4** Blessed are they that mourn; for they shall be comforted.

**Psalm 30:5** ... weeping may endure for a night but joy cometh in the morning.

**1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18** <sup>13</sup> But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope

<sup>14</sup> For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. <sup>15</sup> For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

<sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: <sup>17</sup> Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

<sup>18</sup> Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

It has been a challenging year; much suffering, loss, pain, and uncertainty. Yet, our Lord Jesus still reigns, and knows how to comfort our hearts with his compassionate Love. God knows the pain of watching his son die, God knows our pain also. As we are partners with God in loss, so will we be partners with God in life eternal, in his Heavenly Kingdom forever more, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Please receive the comfort, care, and compassion of Jesus Christ into your spirit right now, and may it bring consolation to your heart... Amen.  
Love You All,

*Pastor Jay*

## Important Newsletter Notice:

To save delivery time, cost, and to be more environmentally friendly *The Summit* will now be delivered electronically. Paper copies can be sent to those who do not have computer access. If you know of someone who needs a paper copy, please let the church office know.

## **Did You Know?**

The first edition of *The Summit* Mt. Carmel's newsletter was published in December 2002.

## **Keep In Touch!**



If you do not have computer access and would like the weekly prayer email and announcement email mailed to you, please call the church office at 301-662-1303 and leave a message for Donna.

## **Church Office:**

The church office continues to have limited hours.

To contact the office email  
[donna.clawson@hopemtcarmel.org](mailto:donna.clawson@hopemtcarmel.org)

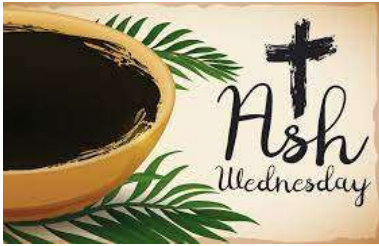
## **Pastor Jay's Contact Information:**

Email: [pastor.jay@hopemtcarmel.org](mailto:pastor.jay@hopemtcarmel.org)  
Phone: 240-664-3408



Lent 2021

## Ash Wednesday ~ February 17



### "Drive-thru, Stay in Your Car Ashes."

Mt. Carmel UMC Parking Lot  
9:30-11 am, and 3:30 to 5 pm.

Pastor Jay will be holding a "drive-thru, stay in your car and receive your ashes service" on Ash Wednesday. You will have the choice of receiving ashes from Pastor Jay (who will be wearing gloves) or small packets of ashes will be available for you to take and put the ashes on yourself.

### Online Ash Wednesday Service

There will be a special online Ash Wednesday service on our church website and the Mt. Carmel YouTube page.



### Sunday's In Lent

**Live Worship Service on Zoom. 11 am each Sunday.**

To get the Zoom link email [donna.clawson@hopemtcarmel.org](mailto:donna.clawson@hopemtcarmel.org).

**New online worship service each Sunday.**

The service can be viewed on the Mt Carmel Website ([www.hopemtcarmel.org](http://www.hopemtcarmel.org)) or on our [YouTube page](#).



### Lenten Zoom Studies

#### "Final Words From The Cross" Zoom Bible Study

February 21 through Palm Sunday, March 28  
9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

This Sunday morning class will explore Adam Hamilton's "Final Words from the Cross." Each class will examine one of the statements that meant so much to Jesus that they were the last words he spoke in his human form. The class will be led by Doreen Bass, if you have any questions you can contact Doreen at 240-422-6335 or [dbass39@yahoo.com](mailto:dbass39@yahoo.com).

To get the Zoom links contact Donna at [donna.clawson@hopemtcarmel.org](mailto:donna.clawson@hopemtcarmel.org)

#### Gospel of Mark Zoom Bible Study

Weekly Zoom on Wednesday at 7 pm or Thursday at noon.

Join Pastor Jay in a study of the book of Mark and get set to let Mark take us on a Whirlwind Tour of Life and Salvific Ministry of our Savior.



### Good Friday Zoom Service

12 pm

This service will center on the 7 last Words of Christ from the Cross. What a Holy, Sacred thing this is to Honor our Savior on this most special of days... for the SINGLE ACT in all of history that provided our forgiveness, purchased our redemption, prompted our transformation, and procured our Eternal Life. The Zoom link will be in the

Thursday emails or contact [donna.clawson@hopemtcarmel.org](mailto:donna.clawson@hopemtcarmel.org) to get the link emailed to you.

# Hope Community Preschool



**Preschool Chapel Time  
with Pastor Jay**

The preschool program continues to do very well! Enrollment for the remainder of the current school year has been "booming" since we returned from Christmas break. Enrollment for next year is just about full!

Thank you to the parents, students and staff for helping to make this a successful preschool experience despite the Covid pandemic. I am eternally grateful to them all!!!! If you have any questions about the preschool program, please contact Kathy Petrill, the Director at [kathy.petrill@hopemtcarmel.org](mailto:kathy.petrill@hopemtcarmel.org).



## Hope 4 Kids Food Ministry

### Hope 4 Kids' Valentines



Hope 4 Kids wishes to send out Valentine's Day wishes to some very special folks who help keep our mission alive!

**Kurt Cooper** has been H4K's treasurer for the last 7 years!

**Mike Schaeffer** has worked with the food bank and is the brains behind the excel sheet madness!

At New Market **Matthew Coffey, Kelly Herzing, Joann Price and Mary Lou Benota** make sure everything runs smoothly at packings.

**Missy Cooke** always has our labels created so we stay organized!

**Amanda Berry, Dave Loudermilk and Tom Geary** have served as critical members of H4K, ensuring the food packs are delivered to the schools weekly

**Andrew and Rebecca Hodgkins, John and Diane Derr, and Shawnee Shaw** for your willingness to shop and pick-up food from the food bank for H4K!

Thank you for your time, energy, and mileage dedicated to Hope 4 Kids, especially during this unique time period!

**Future Hope 4 Kids Packing Dates:** February 15, March 15, April 19, May 17

All packings will occur at the New Market Church Schoolhouse at 6:00pm. You must sign up to help with packing, per our Covid restrictions. To sign up contact [donna.clawson@hopemtcarmel.org](mailto:donna.clawson@hopemtcarmel.org).

### Giving Instructions:

**Your Bank:** You can schedule monthly gifts straight from your bank; this is a secure, no-fee option.

**Vanco:** This provides another secure online option. Follow the link on the church website ([www.hopemtcarmel.org](http://www.hopemtcarmel.org)) to donate through the secure Vanco site.

**GivePlus+ App:** Download the free GivePlus+ mobile app and search Mt Carmel UMC. Log in or donate as a guest.

**Mail your offering directly to Mt. Carmel:** *Self-addressed envelope attached*

Mt.Carmel UMC, 9411 Baltimore Road, Frederick, MD 21704



## Community News

Mount Carmel has an ongoing partnership with Spring Ridge Elementary School. Our Jesse Tree outreach provided many gift cards to meet the needs of some of our SRES and church families.

Here is a note we received in response to our kindness:



### **A message from Spring Ridge Elementary School Community Liaison:**

Spring Ridge Elementary, in partnership with the Maryland Food Bank, would like to share some information about the monthly food distributions at SRES. Our school is fortunate to have this partnership and to be able to distribute fresh frozen meats and pantry items to our community! Though the public distribution is held on the second Friday of each month, anyone in need of food may call our school during school hours to schedule a pickup for themselves, a neighbor, family and friends anytime during the month! This is open to anyone. Please contact Ms. Shaw at [deborah.shaw@fcps.org](mailto:deborah.shaw@fcps.org) or 240-236-1515 for more information, or to schedule a pickup.

### **Vacation Bible School 2020 Mission:**

The families that participated in Roar VBS 2020 raised money to support school supplies. Our donation went to North Frederick Elementary. Mt. Carmel has a strong leadership, youth and volunteer team that supports VBS year after year. Special thanks to our returning VBS director Jess Clinesmith!!!

### **Donations for the Alan P. Linton Jr. Emergency Shelter**

Thank you to everyone who donated items for the Alan P. Linton Jr. Emergency shelter in downtown Frederick. Two carloads have been taken so far.



## CARE TEAM CORNER

The Care Team continues to meet by Zoom on the second Thursday of each month. The Care Team Prayer Chain has been very active lifting prayers these past few months. The Mt. Carmel Prayer Chain helps usher in the hand of God when it corresponds to His will. Prayer also creates unity. If you have a prayer you would like the team to pray about contact Terry Granger.

If you would like to join a care team meeting, add a prayer to the prayer chain, or have a shut-in who would love a card or care package, contact Terry Granger at

[RTJEB@hotmail.com](mailto:RTJEB@hotmail.com), call or text her at 301-514-2379.



Terry Granger, Trish Mason, and Barbara Lawson deliver bags for the shut-ins and mailboxes for the Sunday school children.

## Youth Art Project



A group of our youth, talented in various forms of art (mixed media, drama, film, painting, drawing, singing, dancing, and sculpture), gathered together by Zoom in April to dream up two pieces of art. The following month, two of those youth joined Pastor Laura to create the art. The acrylic painting on canvas is an image of the Israelites journeying through the parted Red Sea into the sunrise. Written in the middle is a verse from a sermon series in Exodus, "In your strength, you will guide them to your holy dwelling." The sermon series journeyed alongside the Israelites' transition of leadership from Moses to Joshua. It was preached in the weeks leading up to the change in pastoral leadership in our congregation. We put the art on display at the outdoor worship services that included Pastor Jenny's last Sunday of worship, a lay-led worship service, and then the first few Sundays of worship led by Pastor Jay. The second piece we created is a heart made from toilet paper rolls. The youth thought it would be creative to make something beautiful out of the very thing many of us were worried about at the start of this pandemic. In our visioning meeting, we discussed the sin of

selfishly hoarding driven by a fear of scarcity and the faith required to trust God's provision, even in the midst of a global pandemic. This project was funded by an art grant Pastor Laura applied for from the North Carolina United Methodist Church Annual Conference Creative Arts Committee. We hope to make another piece in the coming months with the remainder of the money!

Youth who helped vision: Megan Chang, Kaitlyn & Kayla Brightman, Nikki Stine, & Darrick Swinimer  
Youth who helped create: Megan Chang & Nikki Stine

Go to [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dEyMJoFSSMI3GRSK8dhIF9djM\\_r5WkUt/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dEyMJoFSSMI3GRSK8dhIF9djM_r5WkUt/view) to see a fantastic video about this project.

## From The Worship Team



Your Worship Team has been busy keeping the Online Services relevant and expanding the Sunday Zoom Service to now include weekly communion! If you have not yet joined us, make it a point to visit with old friends already there on Sunday's starting at 11:00 am. There is plenty of fellowship time and lively conversation starting around 10:45 am before the service and immediately following the service.

After hearing continued inquiries about the Parking Lot Service and after careful consideration we have made the difficult decision to not re-start the Parking Lot Service at this time.

How did we arrive at our decision? We started analyzing our attendance numbers for all of the services offered to determine where our resources have the most impact. Comparing the numbers for the past parking lot services and online service logins, the Parking Lot Service attendance averaged 35 people per week while the Online Service logins averaged 81 per week. The Live Zoom Service that started in December is averaging 39 logins per week to date.

Just looking at the raw numbers one can conclude that The Parking Lot Service draws approximately the same as the Live Zoom Service but notice that the Live Zoom Service is counting logins and not actual people. If our average Live Zoom Service household has two people watching at the same time (some have four and some just one) we are averaging over 70 people each week in attendance. What this tells us is that we are reaching many more people on the Live Zoom Service than the Parking Lot Service. Furthermore, the regular faces that we see on the Live Zoom Service are the same faces we normally would see at the Parking Lot Service.

Some comments that are regularly made:

- *We can be in person and talk to one another.* The Worship Team feels that based on the fellowship that goes on before and after the Live Zoom Service talking to one another is very much happening on a weekly basis.
- *Let's do outdoors for special things.* The Worship Team has strived for, and accomplished, reliable consistency with what we are currently doing between the Online Service and Live Zoom Service. Consistency has been the ultimate goal for our congregation from the beginning of COVID. What we have firmly established with consistency will be negatively impacted by random Parking Lot Services. Furthermore, we will isolate, maybe permanently, roughly 40 people who will be affected by no Live Zoom Service and do not attend the Parking Lot Service on these inconsistent weeks. Some of our folks rely on the Live Zoom Service for socialization on Sunday.

Though neither service is ideal, the Live Zoom and Online Service are the most effective approach we can take in reaching as many as we can in our congregation on a weekly basis until such time we can gather in our building for live worship.

As COVID is still taking its toll on God's kingdom we must stay diligent in our efforts to minimize the risk of contraction and the Worship Team will continue to engage our congregation using the best means possible. Please be assured that indoor services will resume just as soon as we can safely do so. We ALL pray for that day to come!

We THANK YOU for your continued support of Mt. Carmel and the services that we offer.

# Children's Ministry at Mt. Carmel

*A ministry growing and nurturing little disciples.*



**We continue to offer a Zoom Zone Sunday School Class!**

**Zoom Zone is a combined class for PreK-5<sup>th</sup> grade kids and is led by Alison Humphrey and Michele Stine at 9:30am each Sunday.**

We understand that being online all week for school may be discouraging. Class will be kept short and will focus on a story, a prayer, and a safe place for kids to diffuse a little about their week and chat with their church friends.

Zoom Zone Link, can be found in the weekly church email and will remain

the same. Email Michele Stine with suggestions and any questions you have about children's ministry. [Michele.Stine@HopeMtCarmel.org](mailto:Michele.Stine@HopeMtCarmel.org)

## **Have you seen the craft videos from Ms. Robin?**

Twice a month, Robin Schaeffer offers craft videos on our website.

<https://www.hopemtcarmel.org/children-s-ministry>

A monthly supply bag to go with the videos are in a bin on the small porch by Joan's Garden. Previous craft bags are still available.



## **Lent Kits for Sunday School**

Lent Packets, similar to our Advent Packets are available. If your PK-5th did not get an Advent packet and would like a Lenten one, please email Michele at [michele.stine@hopemtcarmel.org](mailto:michele.stine@hopemtcarmel.org) Lent begins Ash Wednesday February 17th; our first lesson will be February 21st.

## **Advent Recap**

During Advent season our Sunday School students were given playdoh and candles to design their own Advent wreath. We had a lesson each week of Advent and shared our wreaths during Zoom Zone Sunday School. Pictured are Kira & Sean Weeks and an on screen shot of our class.



## **VBS & Summer Camp**

We are currently planning to do Rocky Railway VBS "tentatively" July 26-30, if you would like to volunteer or be a part of the planning phase, please contact Michele Stine. (301) 418-0462. As we get closer there will be opportunities to purchase or make monetary donations for supplies

**Manidokan Explorer Camp** is for rising 3rd - 12th grade. Campers will have the opportunity to "explore" all Manidokan has to offer and learn more about the blessings God has given them. Adventures include river trips, team challenges, and beautiful hikes including Sawmill Creek and a visit to Harper's Ferry along with traditional activities like campfires, s'mores, archery, crafts, gaga ball, 9 square, a talent show and enjoy new hammock pods. Older campers will soar on our aerial park with a quick jump zipline. IF the camp goes as scheduled it will be July 11-16, 2021. If it is deemed not safe to have overnight stays there will be a modified camp offered. If you are considering camp for your child(ren) or would like to volunteer in some capacity please contact Michele at [michele.stine@hopemtcarmel.org](mailto:michele.stine@hopemtcarmel.org) or Pastor Laura at [laura.isaac@hopemtcarmel.org](mailto:laura.isaac@hopemtcarmel.org).

# AMPED

A Ministry Preparing Extreme Disciples



Youth Ministry at Mt. Carmel UMC: Reflections and Updates for 2021

## Sunday Mornings 10:15 AM

Youth of ALL ages, sign on to Zoom to check in before our all church Zoom Worship. This is casual, no lesson included. A brief devotional and check in to prepare us for worship. Ask Pastor Laura for the login information!

## AMPED Wed. Nights 7:00 -8:30 p.m.

We continue to gather virtually by Zoom as we await a safer setting during this pandemic. We have a solid group of youth (middle & high school) who gather regularly on Wednesdays. Please join as you are able!

## SAVE-THE-DATES

Mt. Carmel & New Market UMC's week at Camp Manidokan is

**July 11-16, 2021**

for rising 3rd through rising 12th graders. The staff is working very creatively to make it Covid-safe.

Questions? Contact Michele Stine or Pastor Laura.



## ROCK(ISH) 2021

It was so good to be together around a colorful fire and discuss hard topics with our youth during Rock(ish) last weekend! See below for some resources about mental illness among teens.

Please know you can reach out to Pastor Laura, Pastor Jay, Pastor Scott, and many others on our staff at ANY time if you need to talk. We are here for you!



Interested in our regular youth events? Join us every Sunday and Wednesday on Zoom. We'll be highlighting stories of Black Christians in particular during February for Black History Month. All are welcome!



## How To Reach Pastor Laura

[laura.isaac@hopemtcarmel.org](mailto:laura.isaac@hopemtcarmel.org) or 714-337-3520