

## Letting Our Light Shine

Luke's gospel recounts how Jesus sent seventy of his followers out into the surrounding towns to bring peace to the houses they entered, to cure the sick and to proclaim that the kingdom of God has come near (Luke 10:1-11).

On April 21, fifteen adults and three children gathered for scripture reading and prayer before setting out into Severna Park ball fields and shopping centers to let the light of Christ shine. We were loaded down with 300 bags of candy tagged with our church name, website and a blessing from the church. But we didn't go out alone. We were supported by donations of candy and by helping hands that bagged and tagged all that candy. We were supported by prayers of people who promised to pray specifically for this ministry.

So what happened as we handed out these gifts of candy with a blessing from ourselves and our church? The overwhelming reaction of people we approached that day was one of appreciation and pleasant surprise. One said, "This is a gift from God!" Others commented on our garage sale and preschool. Two teens said, "Thanks for this pick me up. We really needed it." An elderly lady said, "Oh, I'm going to really enjoy this. I knew there was a reason I came out today." At least one person asked about service times and whether casual dress is allowed. At least two people showed up in church the next day.

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Those of us handing out candy and blessings that day were blessed in return. Praise God from whom ALL blessings flow. May God continue to use us to spread God's love to our neighbors through this ministry and all the ministries of our church.

Peace of Christ,

*Pastor Martha*



## RED FOR PENTECOST TODAY!

Today, Sunday, May 27th, is our celebration of Pentecost. We encourage everyone to wear the color red...or oranges and yellows to give the look of fire, symbol of the Holy Spirit. We will also be celebrating the Confirmation of 25 youth at the 11:00 service.

Visit us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/SevernaParkUMC>



## From the Editor's Desk

### Octagon Articles

The next Octagon will be published on **June 10th**. All inputs must be received by noon **Friday, June 1st**.

Please email inputs to: [publications@SevernaParkUMC.org](mailto:publications@SevernaParkUMC.org).

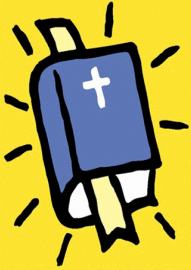
### SPUMC eNewsletter

To receive our weekly electronic newsletter with up-to-the-minute info about what's happening at SPUMC, send an email to:

[publications@SevernaParkUMC.org](mailto:publications@SevernaParkUMC.org).

# UMYF

UMYF



Fellow

ship

**Sunday, May 20**

END-OF-THE-YEAR BANQUET

5:00—8:30 PM

\$10.00 per person

Nice dress for girls, tie for guys

Dinner served by alumni, followed

by awards, recognition, power point

show of the year!

**Sunday, May 27**

7:00 PM Begins Summer MYF

Hanging out, various sports and games

Full summer schedule coming out soon!!!!

**CONGRATULATIONS to Janey Dike and Anastasia Ostrowski -**  
chosen as finalists for the Kiwanis Club's Teen of the Year.

**CONGRATULATIONS to Brooke Johnson, who achieved**  
**second place in a national gymnastics competition.**

## GRADUATE INFORMATION NEEDED

The Christian Education office would like to have the names of spring graduates. For college and grad school, please include the degree granted and in what field. For high school, please include which school and optional, where they plan to be in the fall.

# Children's Ministries

**Bowie Baysox Game & Fireworks**

**Saturday, May 26, 2012 6:35 PM**

Take me out to the ball game! Cheer on the Bowie Baysox as they take on the Altoona Curve with your church family. Fireworks to follow! Buy tickets in Fellowship Hall (or in Erica's office, Rm 209) Tickets are \$8 per person (under 2 free). For more info contact Erica [ebenjamin@severnaparkumc.org](mailto:ebenjamin@severnaparkumc.org).

Bowie Baysox Stadium 4101 Crain Highway Bowie, MD 20716

## Thinking about Summer?

Go to summer camp at West River! Erica will be working at the 5th & 6th grade camp the week of June 24. Summer church camp is awesome! Check out their website for more info:

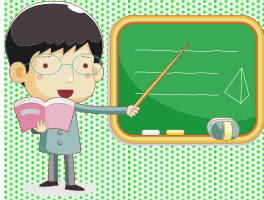
<http://www.bwccampsandretreats.com/WestRiver.html>.



## Babylon: Daniel's Courage in Captivity:

Register today for Vacation Bible School 2012, July 16-20 1:00 -4:00, July 22 at 9:30. We will for children ages preschool- going into 5<sup>th</sup> grade. We still need **15 volunteers** to give 168 children an opportunity to learn about God's love! So far we have 128 children registered. There are only 8 more preschool openings and 32 elementary openings. For more information check out this website: <https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/hl/SPUMC/pggs/Home.aspx> and the Grow in Faith corner of Fellowship Hall.

## Grow in Faith



### Teachers' Appreciation Sunday

**TODAY, May 20**

Did you know that throughout the year we have over 50 Christian formation classes to help you Grow in Faith? All of our teachers are volunteers. We will celebrate in worship and with a special brunch at 10:30 in Fellowship Hall. Please bring in a dish to share and a thank you note for your teachers.

### LEE FERRELL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The Confirmation Class of 2002, in an effort to honor the efforts of Rev. Lee Ferrell's work with the class and youth in general, established the Lee Ferrell Scholarship. This is granted every spring to young adults in college or graduate school who have been active in this congregation and community. Preference is given to those going into ministry, teaching and the service professions.

Information and applications are available from Rev. Lee or the church office. **Deadline is June 15.**

Gifts in memory of Christopher Harden, a devoted Scout and beloved member of this congregation who passed away in 2004, are now being received. Anyone wishing to honor him through this fund, which annually awards scholarships to deserving Boy and Girl Scouts entering college, may do so by contacting the church office or by enclosing a check in the Sunday offering with the designation "Christopher Harden Fund."

## Grow in Faith

### Looking for Some Action? Come to ALL!

Be sure to mark your calendars for **Monday, May 21**, for our next Adults Loving Life ( ALL) event. We will be meeting for dinner at the Texas Road House at 5:00 PM. Afterwards, we'll be heading over to play putt - putt at 6:30. The Pasadena Golf Center is reserved just for us! Join us for all of the evening's activities, or just for dinner or just putt- putt. We are hoping to see you for great food, fun, and fellowship! **Please sign up in Fellowship Hall today.**



Check out the Current Events webpage and the "ALL" bulletin board located by the kitchen in Fellowship Hall for additional information.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

SPAN is in need of volunteers to work as Interviewers and Pantry Workers. Interviewers are the first people our clients see when they come to SPAN. Responsibilities include assessing the clients' needs and providing assistance and resources to the clients. Pantry Workers are responsible for the food donations that come into SPAN. This job involves checking expiration dates and stocking shelves. Our volunteers commit to a weekly, biweekly, or monthly schedule – your choice. Please consider volunteering! Any questions, please contact SPAN at [spanhelps@yahoo.com](mailto:spanhelps@yahoo.com) or 410-647-0889.



## Grow in Faith

### *Perfect Attendance for April*

#### Preschool

Peter Acosta

Gracie Daly

Kyra Hoffmaster

Cole Hoffmaster

Molly Hultgren

Adeline Kolby

Alex Newton

Marielle Unger

#### Elementary

Carter Daly

Daniel Kelley

Leslie Kelley

Trent Muzik

Olivia Unger

Michale Wilson

#### Middle High

Owen Piersall



To the SPUM Family,

There are not enough words to full express my appreciation for the outpouring of your love to me and my family following the passing of my dear husband, Jim. With your attendance at his Memorial Service, food at the reception, and at our home, cards, flowers, contributions in his name and so much more. I have been overwhelmed with yur kindness. Through you I have been blessed by God.

Thank you; thank you from the bottom of my heart.  
You are, indeed, a loving family.

Sincerely,

Ginny McLaughlin

**Thank you!**

## Go Out in Faith

# Heaven's Kitchen

Heaven's Kitchen went well in April. We had 83 guests and 23 volunteers. We gave away lots of canned goods, toiletries, socks, underwear and blue jeans. Many of you have met Robert, a frequent guest and member of BCUMC. Robert is undergoing radiation for throat cancer and about to start chemotherapy. He's lost a lot of weight and is struggling. Please keep him in your prayers along with our other guests who tell us they are really hurting to stay afloat. Many tell us how much they appreciate the meals and clothing as it often leaves them enough money to put gas in their cars and get them to work. Those who are not homeless are a few dollars away from living on the streets.

Martha H. helped with clothes last month. She took down a list of needs then decided to use her bowling winnings to shop at Goodwill. She was able to find everything requested! It's so amazing how God keeps working in this mission.

**May 26th** falls on Memorial Day weekend so many regular volunteers may not be available. **So, please, consider joining us this month!!**

Also, we were short on desserts last month, so all **bakers are welcome**. Donations of new underwear, socks and toilet paper are always needed as well as gently used casual clothing and shoes.

Thanks and many blessings for all you do,

Katherine



# Go Out in Faith

## From Our Wycliffe Missionaries

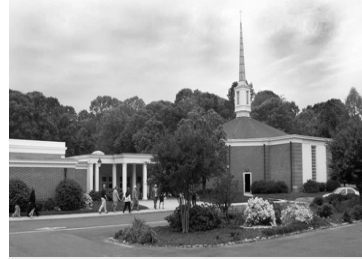
Dear SPUMC – well, it's finally done! After so many years of work and prayers and your support, I was able to complete my dissertation on the language that we study in Mexico, Soyaltepec Mazatec, and the hardcopies are printed. Thank you so much for sticking by us through the entire process! For those of you that are interested, a copy of my dissertation is available in the church's library or on-line through the ProQuest database of Dissertations and Thesis. If you would prefer to have a digital copy and don't have access to that database, please feel free to email me and I'll send you a PDF ([heather-bruce\\_beal@sil.org](mailto:heather-bruce_beal@sil.org)). We are prayerfully considering our next step and how best to use the knowledge and skills that God has given us to further HIS kingdom and spread HIS Word in light of our family's needs, Wycliffe's needs and the situation in Mexico. Please pray that we would move forward in HIS will and timing. We look forward to continuing to share our adventure with you!

In His Service,

Bruce and Heather Beal



## Severna Park United Methodist Church



### Worship Services:

**8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am**

731 Benfield Road, Severna Park, MD 21146  
Phone: 410-987-4700 FAX: 410-987-6040  
Emergency Pager: 410-991-6639  
Website: [www.severnaparkumc.org](http://www.severnaparkumc.org)

*Rev. James Farmer, Lead Pastor*  
*Rev. Nicole Christopher, Associate Pastor*  
*Rev. Martha Meredith, Associate Pastor*  
*Rev. Lee Ferrell, Christian Education and Youth*

# Family Night

**Bowie Baysox Game &  
Fireworks**

**Saturday, May 26, 2012  
6:35 PM**



(Details Inside)