

Ashland Church News

May 2020



Ashland Presbyterian Church
116 Ashland Road
Cockeysville, MD 21030
Phone: 410-527-1844
The Rev. Shannon Meacham, Pastor
On the web at: www.ashlandpc.org

Pulpitshenanigans

Here as we reach the month of May, our church doors have been closed for six weeks. March 12, the day we made the decision to suspend worship for three weeks seems like a lifetime ago, and since then we have had to close our building to all use, and suspend in-person gatherings for the foreseeable future. So... here we are in a holding pattern. Session has not discussed a "plan for reopening" like our governments, even as vague as they may be, as there is so much out of our control.

There is a myriad of feelings these days, from anger, frustration, exhaustion to boredom and back again. I know you've heard this from me before but I want to reiterate how important it is that we all stay connected during this time. We have a Tuesday Evening Prayer and Check-in and a Thursday morning Bible Study over Zoom. If you've never used zoom before, do not fear! I am happy to help you!

I hope you have been viewing our weekly worship videos. You should be emailed a link on Sunday morning, if you are not on our email list, please reach out to Pastor Shannon at Shannon@ashlandpc.org or call the church office (the messages are being checked, although everyone is working from home).

The mission committee has been active during this time responding to needs within our community, especially as some organizations that usually provide assistance have had to suspend operations. We are collecting a special offering for Kasupe, as there have been some Covid-19 cases in Malawi and they are deeply concerned about the spread. So far we have collected a little over \$3,000 and all donations will be matched by a generous donor up to \$10,000.

Clerk of Session
Bob Williams

Church Treasurer
Pamela Caras

Financial Secretary
Cathy Griffiths

Session Members

2020

*Debbie Berlin
Bonnie Clarke
Rene Florendo
Tom Griffiths
Will Nassau
JoAnn Ruther
Betsy Segelken
Fred Wagner*

Pre-school Director
Anne Auwil

Organist & Music Director
Sheila Slade-Lee

Office Manager
Cecil Weber



Ashland Presbyterian Church
@AshlandPresbyterianChurch

Pulpitshenanigans (continued)

We are asking, if you are able, to continue your tithes and offerings. Although the building may be empty, we still have maintenance needs, as well as continuing to support our staff during this time, they are working hard behind the scenes (and sometimes in front!) to see that we are connected and resourced.

Prayers are offered each week in worship, on Tuesday evening and Thursday mornings, please do not be afraid to reach out with prayer requests.

This is a time of deep and abiding faith. We believe so much in the power of community, but we have not lost that community. We are protecting it by staying apart. We are protecting each other. Faith teaches us that whatever we do for the most vulnerable in our midst, we do for Christ. So thank you for living your faith safe at home.

I do not know when we will all gather again, but until that time, remember you are never alone, and you are in my prayers.

With love,
Pastor Shannon



Ashland Preschool News

Even though classrooms are empty learning has not stopped at Ashland Preschool. Childcare teachers are continuing to engage with their classrooms through Zoom. The teachers are also holding Zoom meetings to share ideas. Weekly newsletters are sent out to parents with links to videos and with instructions for at home projects.

We hope all are staying safe and well at home. We look forward to seeing you again when it is safe to do so.

Anne Auwil & Pamela Caras

ASHLAND CHURCH FAMILY CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays	Anniversaries	Deacon/Elder Ordination Anniversaries
5/3 Victoria Rudai	5/3 Bill & Bonnie Clarke	5/31 Betty Wirtz
5/4 Beka Walter		
5/6 Taylor DeBoer	5/28 Tom & Cathy Griffiths	
5/7 Samantha Rudai		
5/12 Amanda Kobokovich		
Maria Sasser		
5/14 Zach Simmons		
Carol Walter		
5/15 Jeanette Baldwin		
5/16 Ressa Benzak		
5/23 Sheila Slade-Lee		
5/26 Carla Ulgen		

Do we have YOUR family's important dates to share and celebrate? Have we made any mistakes? Please contact the Church Office at 410-527-1844, or office@ashlandpc.org with additions and/or corrections for the database.



SPECIAL OFFERING



Thanks to a Generous Donor
All donations will be matched up to \$10,000

KASUPE COVID-19 EMERGENCY PROJECT

To prevent spreading and mitigate the impact of COVID-19, Kasupe Ministries, the beneficiaries, and leaders of all the 39 villages under our care, have proposed an emergency project aimed at enhancing sanitation through a coordinated Hand Washing program and preserving the abundant food that the community has harvested through a Food Security Sustainability program.



TIPPY TAPS

The solution to no running water among the rural Kasupe communities is the usage of a simple dispenser tap known as the "Tippy Tap." Even the vulnerable, the elderly, children, and the sick, can wash hands properly using this manual Hand Washing Station.



FOOD SECURITY

Most parts of Malawi received a favorable rainfall last farming season and many farmers in Kasupe haven't seen a bumper harvest like that for over a decade. The Food Security Sustainability Program will preserve the abundant food, mostly maize, that the community has harvested.



SUPPLIES

The Clinic donation from Supplies Overseas is a gift that arrived in Malawi just at the right time (March 18, 2020). On 2nd April 2020, the government finalized its testing and certification of all the equipment. We will start distributing some of the items to beneficiary health facilities

Ashlandpc.org/donate or mail a check to 116 Ashland Rd, Hunt Valley, MD 21030
Please specify in the note or memo line "Kasupe Special Offering"



Sunday Worship is held online. A link to the worship video is sent out by email early Sunday mornings. The link can also be found at the Ashland website at: www.ashplandpc.org

Weekly Online Gatherings

Tuesday Check-In and Evening Prayer 7:30 pm

Thursday Morning Bible Study with Rev. Harry Cahill 10:00 am

These online gatherings are held via Zoom. If you have never used Zoom, Pastor Shannon has a walk-thru video on the Ashland website to get you started.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 4th Sunday of Easter Communion Sunday Online Worship	4	5 Check-in & Evening Prayer 7:30 pm	6	7 Nat'l Day of Prayer  Bible Study 10:00 am	8	9 Fair Trade Day  FAIRTRADE
10 5th Sunday of Easter Online Worship 	11	12 Check-in & Evening Prayer 7:30 pm	13 Session 6:30 pm (online)	14 Bible Study 10:00 am	15	16
17 6th Sunday of Easter Online Worship	18	19 Check-in & Evening Prayer 7:30 pm	20	21 Ascension of the Lord 	22	23
24 7th Sunday of Easter Online Worship	25 	26 Check-in & Evening Prayer 7:30 pm	27	28 Bible Study 10:00 am	29	30
31 Day of Pentecost Online Worship 						

Tithes and Offerings can be mailed to the church at:

**Ashland Church
116 Ashland Road
Hunt Valley, MD 21030**

The mail is delivered to a secure and locked mailbox. The church treasurer checks the mail multiple times a week.

You can also donate online at:

www.ashlandpc.org/donate

You can make a single donation or set up a recurring donation directly from your bank to the church account or by using a credit card. Electronic giving as a way to give any time and to automate your regular offering. Eservice payments is a convenient, safe, and simple way to provide much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

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