

The Messenger

a united methodist community | www.glenmarumc.org | ellicott city, md

410.465.4995



Come & Follow

One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!" – Mark 1:16-17

I will never forget the day I got the invitation to come and join the Beeson Pastor Program to work on my doctorate. I was excited to be accepted to a great program that taught pastors about preaching and leadership. They compared the program to Special Forces training in the military, but for pastors. We didn't have to do anything physical, but the mental challenge and learning was exciting. I was honored to be invited.

When I arrived in Kentucky to start my studies, I was able to follow the teachings of other church leaders, professors, and well known pastors around the country. As I walked and talked with them, I learned from them. As I learned I also gained ideas about how to implement what I was learning. I couldn't wait to get back to Maryland and apply the things I had learned within the faith community.

This is what Jesus was doing with his disciples. He was inviting them to be a

part of something that would change their lives. He was inviting them to walk with him and talk with him. He asked them to follow in such a way that they could learn from him. Then they would be asked to take that learning and go out to share it with others. This is discipleship.

Discipleship is an invitation to relationship, to learn, to grow, and to apply that learning to our lives. Just as children watch their parents and then imitate them, so do disciples learn from Jesus and imitate him. Have you accepted the invitation to follow Jesus? Does your life reflect his teachings?

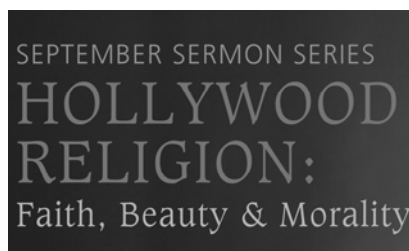
This fall a group is gathering to talk about discipleship at our church. We are looking at ways to encourage people to accept the invitation to come and follow Jesus. We will be talking about how people grow in their faith from being consumers of religion to faithful disciples. We will be discussing the characteristics of a disciple who follows Jesus. Finally, we hope to discover ways we are helping people follow and to learn some new ways as well. You are welcome to join our discussion. E-mail me at matt.poole@glenmarumc.org and I will add you to the group list.

In the meantime, how are you being a disciple today? Have you been walking and learning from Jesus? Accepting the invitation to "Come" and "Follow" may just be the best invitation you have ever received.

Grace & Peace,
Matt

P.S. I look forward to seeing you when I return on September 2nd.

September Sermon Series



Each fall we have explored a cultural phenomenon and how it impacts religion. We have covered Science, Politics, and Atheism. This fall we will look at Hollywood's impact on our culture in regards to religion. Several recent movies attempt to tell religious stories and themes (Noah, Son of God, The Passion, Bible Mini-series, etc.). But people who are not biblical scholars are making movies about the Bible.

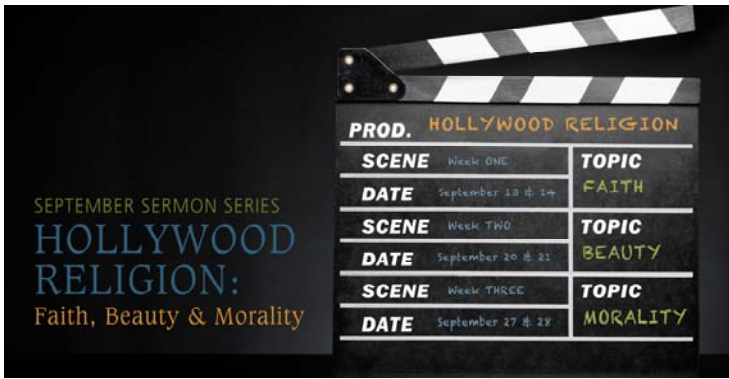
Hollywood is looked to for the standard of beauty in our culture (fashion, cosmetic surgery, etc) Hollywood movies have also pushed the boundaries on morality (language, sexuality, drugs, violence).

Turn to page 2 for series details.

Coming in October

All-Church, small-group study and sermon series. See page 2 for de-





September 13/14 Faith - Hebrews 10:1-18

Hero worship (Batman, Spiderman, etc.) offers us a messiah that is not like Jesus. Religious movies (Noah, Bible TV series) offer us watered down and twisted versions. Jesus is our high priest and sacrifice, not a Hollywood hero.

September 20/21 Beauty - Proverbs 31:10-31 & Mat-

thew 23:25-28

Hollywood seems to define beauty and fashion for us. Hollywood can set the expectations of what is beautiful or God our creator can. Which definition of beauty do we follow?

September 27/28 Morality - 1 Corinthians 15:12-34

“Bad company ruins good morals” Many movies offer the audience a moral lesson. Do we ever compare those lessons to the teachings of Jesus? Hollywood often offers us lessons that shape our society and yet are not in line with the Gospel.

Five Things God Uses to Grow Your Faith



“Spiritual Enrichment through Community”

Glen Mar will be entering into a 6-week church-wide study beginning the week of October 5, 2014. The focus of the study will be the book entitled “*Five Things God Uses to Grow Your Faith*” by Andy Stanley. We are forming small groups that will meet weekly for approximately 1 hour

over the 6 week period to discuss the book. Then a weekly sermon will further expand on the small group study.

If you would like to be part of the Spiritual Enrichment through Community please register online at <https://public.serviceu.com/RegistrationForm/7540565-293816120/?OrgKey=f9dfcab6-9531-487a-bf95-c56905565631>

**Small Groups Facilitators/Host Orientation
September 27th 9AM- 11AM at GMUMC**

For additional information please contact Rev.Cecil Mudede Pastor for Community Life cecil.mudede@glenmarumc.org

Sermon Series Begins October 11/12

October 11/12 “Big Faith”

October 18/19 “Practical Teaching”



October 25/26 “Providential Relationships”



November 1/2 “Private Disciplines”



November 8/9 “Personal Ministry”



November 15/16 “Pivotal Circumstances”



Campaign News

This is a celebration year! During the active phase of the Generous Together process, each of us was asked to pray regularly: “Lord, I am grateful for what you have done in my life. Open my eyes to see what you are doing at Glen Mar, and help me discover what you want to do through me.”

Well, thank you! We have much to be grateful for, even as we hope for more families’ participation. Below are some of the reasons for campaign celebration:

- We are on a path to reach our goal of \$2,600,000 over the next three years with new pledges and other giving.
- Generous Together pledges total \$2,481,249 from 257 families and individuals.
- This amount represents an increase of \$270,000 over 2011-14 pledges.
- First Fruits gifts of cash and stocks, totaling \$128,588, favorably position us to prudently start on our plan to accelerate debt retirement.
- Annual operating fund pledges are \$1,097,315 with 306 families and individuals making commitments for \$91,000 more than last year.

Glen Mar also celebrated our 60th Anniversary, remembering humble beginnings for ministry in the basement of the Smith home in 1954. We celebrate Pastor Matt’s Sabbath time away, and expectantly look forward to his insights when he returns. In the meantime, there are joyful voices, much laughter, and great potential for life-change taking place all summer. Becoming even more Generous Together-- sharing

in prayer, presence, gifts, service, and witness—will continue over the next three years, but impacts now are

- “Favorite scripture” messages by lay and clergy guest preachers in worship;
- 194 missionaries in field service at Crisfield, Hurley, Cherokee, and Manaus, Brazil;
- Ongoing local missions continuing over the summer;
- About 425 children, including many from the community, participated during two weeks of “Weird Animals” Vacation Bible School;
- 110 unpaid servants supported children in the VBS experience;
- 66 children in “Marvelous Maryland”-themed summer camps for preschoolers offered by our Early Learning Center (ELC);
- Over 190 children in Club Scientific of the Chesapeake camps at Glen Mar; and
- Staff participating in healthy lifestyle study, using the Daniel Plan by Rick Warren.

Sometimes we are unaware that it is regular giving to Glen Mar’s ministries, missions, and facility that makes these activities possible. God continues to reach others through us. If you are still deliberating, take a step out in faith and start. Thank you for choosing to be part of all this, as we multiply our reasons for celebrating!

FIND YOUR SWEET SPOT MINISTRY FAIR SEPT. 13/14 & 20/21

By Marti Windram

How can we be halfway through the summer already? I have been marveling at the beautiful weekends we have been experiencing, and the weeks are rushing toward September, the start of school, and the beginning of the program year. That can mean only one thing: it’s time to start planning for the Glen Mar Ministry Fair. Applications for space will be sent to previous exhibitors in mid-August, but if you have a new mission or ministry that you’d like to highlight, contact Minister for Congregational Care Marti Windram at marti.windram@glenmarumc.org or 410-465-4995, x218. The plan is to accommodate everyone in the upstairs Gathering Place area, so please plan for maximum impact in a minimum of space. The deadline for applications is Wednesday, September 10. The Ministry Fair can be a powerful witness to how Glen Mar is living its mission: praising God, growing disciples, and serving the world.

Connect, study, serve - fall 2014

Children and Family Ministries - Contact: Margaret Lang, margaret.lang@glenmarumc.org.

Family Church in August

During the month of August, elementary-aged students will attend worship with their families for a family church experience. Older elementary-aged students are invited to be involved in the service by volunteering as greeters, readers, ushers or acolytes. Sunday school will continue during both the 9:30 and 11:00am worship services for preschool and kindergarten students, along with child care during all of our weekend services.

Sunday School Kick-Off September 7 at 9:30 and 11:00am

Children's Sunday school includes 3-year-old - 5th grade students. All of the classes are taught and supported by parents and youth during the school year. Volunteer opportunities include organizing curriculum or supplies, helping the lead teacher, serving as a lead teacher or offering adult supervision during class. Sunday school works best as teams, and our goal at Glen Mar is to set up teams of 4-5 adults in each grade.

Children's Worship - First Sunday of each month at 11:00am in the Chapel starting in October.

This interactive and educational service will teach our elementary-aged students about faith, praise, worship and the traditions of our church. Children's worship is a great opportunity for youth to be active in all aspects of a worship service. If you're interested in helping out with this new children's event, contact Margaret Lang.

Acolytes

The acolyte tradition of lighting the service candles will continue regularly. Talk to your 3rd-5th grade students today about this very special experience. Training will take place in early fall.



Third Grade Bibles October 12 9:30 and 11:00am services

The gift of a Bible creates a memory for a lifetime. Glen Mar presents student Bibles to all third grade students. Mark your calendar today for this milestone event in your child's spiritual life.



The Family Vine

This weekly e-mail publication arrives in your inbox every Wednesday afternoon with loads of information that pertains to families with preschool through elementary-aged children. Be in the know; sign up today and become be part of this Glen Mar family network.

Middle and High School Youth

Middle School - Jen Rowell, jen.rowell@glenmarumc.org

High School - D.C. Veale, dc.veale@glenmarumc.org

Sunday, August 24, 11 am - Confirmation Orientation

An information session for youth 8th grade and older who have not yet been confirmed AND their parents to learn about the 2014-15 Confirmation Class.

Sunday, August 24, 5 - 7:30 am: Youth Group Kick-Off

6th-12th grade youth and their families are invited for dinner, fun, entertainment, and lots of information about youth ministry.

Sunday, September 7, 9:30 am: Sunday School Kick-Off -

Sunday school classes for 6th-12th grade youth will meet every Sunday at 9:30 am starting September 7. Teachers and substitute teachers are needed.

October 17-19: Middle School Retreat

Save the date for this not-to-be-missed adventure for 6th-8th grade youth.

Music Ministries - Carrie Grams, carrie.grams@glenmarumc.org

"No Strings" Summer Choir will meet on August 7 at 7:00 p.m. and sing on August 10 and meet again on August 24, 7:00pm and sing on August 24.

Handbell ringers needed for Echoes of Joy bell choir. Contact Carrie Grams if you are interested in ringing with this intermediate bell choir. Experience in ringing or playing piano very helpful.

Sanctuary Choir Retreat September 13 9:00 - 11:45am(new date). With clinician will be Doug Burian, choir director, and trumpeter from Glenelg United Methodist Church. New singers always welcome! E-mail Carrie Grams.



Music Ministries - Carrie Grams, carrie.grams@glenmarumc.org

Cherub Choir (ages 4 ½ through first grade) is seeking directors for this coming year. If you have experience in leading and teaching children songs of praise and thanksgiving, contact Carrie Grams. We are looking for a song leader and one or two assistants.

Health Survey in August

Glen Mar's Health Ministry Team is conducting a brief survey of the congregation to identify the top health needs of the community. The results will help the team develop health education programs or activities designed to best meet the identified health needs. Your participation is voluntary and your responses are anonymous. Please help us in our mission to serve our local community. Please go to www.glenmarumc.org and click on the link, or stop by Community Life table on August 9 or 10 in between worship services.

Gotta Bowl!

Are you looking for ways to meet friends in your *spare* time? *Strike* it up with the Glen Mar Bowling League gang beginning **Friday, September 5, 7:00pm** at Normandy Lanes in Ellicott City. Contact Jamie Grace, 443.320.3403, for information.

Thinking of joining Glen Mar? Join us for Lunch with the Pastors Sept. 7, 12:15 - 2pm

- Learn about the history, mission, vision/values of Glen Mar
- Find ways to grow in your faith and expectations of membership
- Get answers to your questions about community life and serving
- Learn about "A Disciple's Path" study, September 14 - October 5, Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

RSVP to Laura Dreibelbis, Laura.dreibelbis@glenmarumc.org. *Child care is available upon request.*

Marriage Enrichment Retreat, September 5, 6 - 9pm and September 6, 9am - 4:30pm

Last Year's Retreat Was a Huge Success! Glen Mar Church is again hosting an exciting opportunity for Marriage Enrichment (ME). The ME team has designed a retreat full of ideas on how to promote a healthy relationship with each other through improved communication skills and will also provide couples with the techniques needed to grow and affirm the sanctity of their marriage covenant. Throughout the retreat, there is an understanding of the common humanity of male and female, both having equal worth in the eyes of God. The experience will be strictly private. Many couples know that "falling in love" is easy, but "staying in love" is hard work. A \$95 per couple registration fee includes materials, an evening dinner, continental breakfast, lunch, and snacks. Child care will be provided upon request. Registration and payment can be made online by *August 20* at www.glenmarumc.org. If funding assistance is needed, contact Betsy and Dale Bucks, betsybucks@comcast.net



Dancing Needles - 2nd and 4th Thursday, 3pm beginning September 11

Do you enjoy knitting, crocheting or quilting, or would you like to learn? Glen Mar's Dancing Needles group meets for fellowship and to knit, crochet, quilt prayer shawls and baby blankets. Prayer shawls are given to those in the hospital and those in need of special care as a reminder that others care and are praying for them. Yarn donations are always welcome and appreciated. Patterns and guidelines for shawls and blankets are also available for those unable to attend the meeting. If you know of someone you think may appreciate a prayer shawl/baby blanket or just want information, contact Lois Hildebrand at 410-465-0756 or lohild@verizon.net.

Lunch Bunch 3rd Tuesday, 11:30am beginning September 16.

A group of "seasoned citizens" who meet each month for fellowship, fun and, of course, lunch. Menus include sandwiches, pot luck and on special occasions such as St. Patrick's Day, corned beef and cabbage prepared by George Dohner and the Christmas Sing-a-long. Bring a sandwich on Sept. 16 and we will supply drinks and dessert. Also bring your ideas for anything special you would like to do this year. If you have any questions, contact Carrie Grams at 410-465-4995 or Lois Hildebrand at 410-465-0756.

SaLT (Servant Leader Training), August 23, 9am - 1pm with lunch

If you haven't been to a SaLT session yet, we hope you will make this one. Sessions are open to all, but targeted towards those who actively participate in the life of the church through their leadership and their servanthood. It is a time for fellowship and learning so that we are better equipped to serve our congregation and our community. RSVP, laura.dreibelbis@glenmarumc.org. Child care is available by request.



Ministry Connection - September 29 and November 10, 6:30pm

Anyone who is serving in ministry at Glen Mar is invited for dinner, worship and discussion of information relevant to ministry at Glen Mar. This is a great way to keep in touch with others and with what is happening at Glen Mar.



Enjoy a Healthy Dose of Exercise at the Glen Mar Family 5K and 1-Mile Walk

Are you interested in getting trim, feeling more energetic, and combating disease - all while having a good time? Then register for the Glen Mar Family 5K and 1-Mile Walk on Saturday, Oct. 11. The event will start promptly at 9 a.m. and will be held rain or shine.

Runners, serious or not-so-serious, can negotiate the challenging 5K traversing the roads and neighborhoods surrounding Glen Mar. 5K registrants can sign up to participate as individuals or in teams of three or more. All 5K participants will be timed individually. The times of the top three members of a team will count as the team's total time.

For those not quite as ambitious but who still want to start their day on an energetic note, the 1-Mile Walk is a good alternative to the 5K. Registrants in the 1-Mile Walk will participate as individuals (no teams). Also, 1-mile walkers will not have their times recorded, so the pressure's off, but the fun's still on.

The 5K's mission is bigger than to get folks' adrenaline flowing - the event will raise money and food for the Howard County Food Bank. Participants are asked to bring non-perishable food to the event.

Cost for either course is \$25 for those who register on or before Sept. 15 and \$30 after Sept. 15.

Free coffee, tea, juice, bagels and muffins will be available.

Registration is available at <http://www.active.com/ellicott-city-md/running/races/glen-mar-family-5k-and-1-mile-walk-2014> or at www.glenmarumc.org.

Registration is limited to 350 people. Those who register before Sept. 25 will be guaranteed event T-Shirts.

All proceeds from event sponsorships will go to the Howard County Food Bank. Call Connie Ballenger at 410-796-0290 for more information.

Packet pickup will be on Friday, Oct. 10, 5-8 p.m., at Road Runner Sports, 6630 Marie Curie Drive, Elkridge (Gateway Overlook). If you cannot make packet pickup, you will be able to pick up your race packet between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m. at Glen Mar the day of the event.

If registration is not full, last-minute registration will be available at Glen Mar between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m. on Oct. 11.

Last year's Glen Mar 5K, held in April, attracted 165 participants. It raised \$4,000 and 400 pounds of food for the Howard County Food Bank.



Participants at 2013 Family 5K Run/Walk take off from the traffic circle.

Quarterly Food Collection Ministry, October 5 and 11

The Glen Mar congregation responded with its usual enthusiasm in May and shared many blessings. As a result, food, soap, and paper goods were donated to the Christian Thrift shop and Eva Johnson Foundation, and supplemented the Hurley Mission Team collection. *Items collected on Oct. 5 and 11 will be donated to the Howard County Food bank in support of the Family 5K and 1-mile walk.* Look for a list of needed items and collection materials in the Gathering Place.

Glen Mar UMC Social Justice Ministry

The Social Justice Ministry (SJM) of Glen Mar UMC has been active since the beginning of 2013 with a mission to help bring about systemic change by educating, connecting, and supporting action and advocacy on social justice issues, in order to illuminate the life-giving message of Jesus Christ as supported in The United Methodist Social Principles.

For the remainder of 2014 we will continue to have presentations focusing on this year's poverty theme. Fall meetings are scheduled for *September 16, October 28, and November 18 at 7:00pm*. The meetings are open to anyone interested in learning more about how they can become involved in addressing poverty. Please join us in this very important ministry.

UM Connection Available in Gathering Place

With the support of the Communications Team and the Social Justice Ministry, a bulk subscription of 50 copies of the award-winning Baltimore-Washington Conference monthly newspaper - the UM Connection, is now available in the Gathering Place. It is hoped that by making this available to the congregation, people will be better informed about what is going on in the conference and the denomination. You're encouraged to pick one up for yourself, and perhaps pick up an additional copy to share with someone unable to attend worship.

We have begun with 50 copies, but this number can be increased if there is greater interest. If however the existing number is not needed, we may adjust the subscription in the future. At this time, the trial subscription for one year is not fully funded by any particular budget line within the church. If you enjoy reading it and support continued availability, please consider making a suggested donation of \$25 that covers the cost of the subscription for an entire month.

Faith Friends

Think back for a moment about yourself as a teenager... (and if you are a teen, think about your life now) Who were the adults, other than your parents, who took the time to have a relationship with you? What do you remember about them, and how did those relationships affect your life? Perhaps you had a teacher who took a special interest in you, or a coach who really encouraged you. Maybe it was a music teacher who pushed you to really excel, or simply a Sunday school teacher who remembered your name, or your best friend's mom who was so much easier to talk to than your own parents. Now try to remember - who initiated that relationship, you or the adult?

Studies show that one of the key factors in whether young people will develop a faith that sticks with them into adulthood is their relationships with adults in the church outside their families. But how do those relationships form? One obvious way is through the many children, family, and youth programs at Glen Mar. Sunday school teachers and youth leaders can make a point of getting to know the young people in their classes and groups, then greeting them by name outside of class or even taking the effort to go to one of their special events. VBS, mission trips, Green Team, and Walk to Bethlehem are some of the many ministries where adults and young people can work together and form new relationships.

Parents can play an important role in helping their children develop relationships with other adults. Introduce your kids to your friends at church. Encourage and arrange for your children to get

involved in various intergenerational ministries at Glen Mar where they'll meet other adults. Organize family gatherings with your small group, and help your children mingle with other adults at church-wide and family events at Glen Mar. I heard recently from a parent whose daughter has been learning to knit from another Glen Mar adult after expressing interest at one of our silent auctions! Parents can also BE one of those other adults for the children of their friends or the friends of their children. Make a point of getting to know your friends' children. Spend time with your children's friends by volunteering at Sunday school, youth group, and other ministries where your children's friends are.

One of the big ways that Glen Mar encourages and supports intergenerational relationships is through the Confirmation Class **Friend-in-Faith** program. Each member of the Confirmation Class has a Friend-in-Faith, an adult member of Glen Mar outside their family, who serves as a guide, coach, mentor, and friend during the confirmation journey, and hopefully beyond. Friends-in-Faith meet regularly with their youth and talk about different aspects of faith and church membership, but you don't have to be an expert to be a Friend-in-Faith. Often Friends-in-Faith are learning new things right alongside the youth, sharing both the journey they've been on and where they hope to go. The Confirmation Team is always looking for new people to serve as Friends-in-Faith. If you're interested in learning more about this opportunity to be in relationship with a young person, contact Jen Rowell (jen.rowell@glenmarumc.org).

Studies show that one of the key factors in whether young people will develop a faith that sticks with them into adulthood is their relationships with adults in the church outside their families.

Teach These New Disciples

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28: 19-20 (NLT)

These were Jesus' last words to his disciples – his final command, not just to the disciples, but to us as well. There are many ways to make disciples of all the nations. You could go on a mission trip to Brazil, sponsor a child through Compassion International or World Vision, or even become a missionary in Africa.

Or you could teach Sunday school. Glen Mar is full of potential new disciples, just waiting for someone to teach them about God. They range in age from preschool all the way to adults, with a new class forming this fall for college-age young adults. You don't have to be an expert to teach Sunday school. Most classes use step-by-step curriculum that includes all the information you need. You may even find that you learn more than the students. And don't forget, Jesus will be with you, even to the end of the age!

For more information about teaching or assisting with Sunday school, contact Margaret Lang (Margaret.Lang@glenmarumc.org), Jen Rowell (Jen.Rowell@glenmarumc.org), D.C. Veale (DC.Veale@glenmarumc.org), or Pastor Cecil Mudede (Cecil.Mudede@glenmarumc.org).



Sunset from the dock during the June Crisfield mission trip.

How do I...

Reserving Space at Glen Mar

Does an activity or program you are facilitating require use of one of Glen Mar's spaces? It's easy to do thanks to the folks who maintain our web site.

- Go to www.glenmarumc.org and click on the words "stay informed" at the top right of the screen. On the next screen there will be a box on the left containing the link "Facility Use Request."
- Please provide all of the information requested, including special needs such as use of televisions and other technical equipment, child care, time before and after for set-ups and clean-ups, or other special needs. Events are displayed on the website calendar unless specifically requested otherwise.

- Once submitted, the request is automatically routed to several staff, to assure that we don't lose a request, and to be processed. Once conflicts or questions are resolved and the event is approved for inclusion on the calendar, you'll receive an e-mail confirmation. With increasing demands for use of our spaces, we may not be able to honor requests that are submitted with less than 48 hours advance notice. The staff needs time to process requests, to set up and take down items such as tables and chairs, and to maintain the accuracy of the Wayfinder daily schedule on the televisions inside the church.
- If needed, use the same form and check the box for "event change" or

"event cancellation," which enables us to free up the space for use by another group.

If you have questions about the form or about your request, please indicate this on the form or contact Barbara Hudson at the church office, Barbara.Hudson@glenmarumc.org.



Walk to Bethlehem Makes Changes, Looking For Food and Supplies

Glen Mar's popular Walk to Bethlehem will return the weekend of Dec. 5-7 with a weather delay date of Monday, Dec. 8. The hours each day will be 5 p.m.-8 p.m.

This year will feature a redesigned Welcome Area, a revised route and script, and a central location for the Command Center to handle emergencies. Also for the first time, a weather delay date is scheduled in case the event has to be canceled one evening.

"Walk to Bethlehem hasn't undergone many major changes since we started it in 2008, but this year a Committee took a good, hard look at how to improve the event to better accommodate the increased number of visitors we've been fortunate enough to attract. I think everyone will be happy with the improvements, and the event will maintain

its reputation of excellence," said Margaret Lang, who as Minister for Children and Family, oversees Walk to Bethlehem.

It's not too early to bring in food and supplies for the event. Supplies can be dropped off downstairs in the red bin marked WTB. Needed items include large pieces of cot-

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ton fabric in muted colors; large sheets of thick craft foam in brown, tan or black; jute cord; Elmer's glue; and spices (old or new).

Other items needed are baskets, bamboo, outside tiki torches, and artificial plants and trees.

Drop off food

items in the kitchen marked WTB 14: Crackers and bread sticks, fresh dates, pomegranates, nuts, bundles of herbs, hard cheeses, loose leaf tea, coffee beans, tabouli, hummus, and dried fruits including mangos, date, plums and raisins.



You're invited to Walk To Bethlehem: a free indoor/outdoor theatrical Christmas adventure for the whole family.

Meet Roman soldiers, shepherds and angels as you journey through the Christmas story. You'll see live animals and an authentic biblical marketplace. Sing carols and get in the holiday spirit!

December 5, 6 & 7, 2014

5-8 pm Open House style, drop in anytime

Glen Mar Church

4701 New Cut Road, Ellicott City

entrance off MD Rt. 103 across from Brampton Parkway
(Inclement Weather Date: Dec. 8, 5-8 pm)

Visit www.glenmarumc.org or call 410-465-4995 for more information.



So What's Next in Finance?

Pastor Matt challenged us with motivating, inspiring, and direct sermons during the active phase of the Generous Together campaign, and, thanks to you, the goal we stretched toward was largely achieved. One meaningful image developed in these sermons was the opportunity to "climb down the mountain (of debt) together." Thank you for responding to the opportunity to help make this happen.

We are 95.4% of the way to the \$2,600,000 goal now and over 40% of pledges represented increases. This is a very encouraging response to the opportunity to accelerate payments on our debt and save interest costs over the lifetime of the loans. There were 45 families and individuals who pledged for the first time. These increased commitments, new pledges, and the positive outcome are important to acknowledge. We are thankful for many Generous Together prayers and gifts. We are blessed, and, as a church in mission, we are changing lives and making an impact for God in the world.

The campaign period of July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017, provides two separate opportunities to pay off some of our debt and manage the interest rate risk when the bank resets the rate in 2015 and 2017. When we reduce our debt, we are continuing to come down that mountain that Pastor Matt described. Effectively, when we pay extra principal, we are receiving significant savings over the total life of our notes: approximately 50 cents for every \$1.00 we prepay. With time, more focus on expanding mission and ministries will

take place as benefits of prepayment are realized.

We are losing no time in taking action. The Church Council approved a prepayment plan at the June meeting. So, one additional month of principal payment on the note that resets interest in 2017 started in July. While monthly scheduled payments vary, they hover around \$7,500 extra principal per month. Using funds on hand and First Fruits campaign funds will help us to manage the risk of future interest rate increases and reduce our payments on this note in 2017. The Finance Team monitors the income from the pledges and other giving and will make new recommendations if other debt reduction lump-sum payments can also be made.

For the general operating fund, pledged and unpledged giving is right on target with offerings representing 49.6% of the budget at the half-way point of the year. We have a net revenue over expenses through June of \$4750.38, with bills and connectional giving paid. Mission funds, plus efforts from Youth, Green Team, and gift card fundraising is being expended now on trips for youths and adults in Crisfield, Maryland, and for service in West Virginia, North Carolina, and Brazil. New plans for ministry, mission, facility, and staffing begin in August, with the November Church Council as the time for discussion prior to approval of the budget. It's because of God's work in and through you that these financial figures are transformed into changed lives here and wherever we serve others in Jesus' name. Thank you.

The Finance Team

Glen Mar Golf Classic Wrap Up



Dear Glen Mar,

Thank you for your generous contribution to Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center of \$33,000. This amount exceeded all expectations. Thank you to all who helped in a variety of ways...in planning the outing and the Silent Auction, obtaining sponsors, golfing on the day of the event, making monetary or Silent Auction donations, volunteering on the day of the event, working the Silent Auction, etc. This donation comes at the right time. Many grants that we have relied on for years are being reduced or eliminated; yet the needs of our homeless population are increasing. This will go a long way in supporting many families in need. We are grateful for the generous hearts of the Glen Mar congregation.

Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center



Connie Ballenger, Jeanne Odermatt, Joy Piersall, Lois Hildebrand, Leslie Franson, and Jim Piersall stand on the track at this year's Relay For Life of Howard County. Glen Mar's Relay For Life team, Angels for a Cure, raised \$8,220 for the American Cancer Society.

Glen Mar's Relay For Life Team Raises \$8,220 for the American Cancer Society

Glen Mar's Relay For Life team, Angels for a Cure, participated in Relay For Life of Howard County on June 6 at Long Reach High School in Columbia. This year, the team raised \$8,220 for the American Cancer Society. The overall Relay raised \$100,000.

Angels for a Cure thanks those who donated at our Spotlight Ministries this spring and those who attended the concert we sponsored last Oct. 27 at Bethany United Methodist Church in Ellicott City.

Thanks also go to Rob Niccolini who performed a magic act for children at our Relay and to Ron Kiewe who drew caricatures at our event to raise money for the team.

Relay is an annual event to celebrate cancer survivorship, remember those who lost their cancer battle, and raise money for the American Cancer Society. Funds are used for cancer research, prevention, detection and treatment, and patient services.

Team members are Connie Ballenger (captain), Leslie Franson, Suzan Geppi, Lois Hildebrand, Estelle King, Dana Kleinsteuber, Mary McKay, Jeanne Odermatt, and Jim Piersall.

The team plans to hold its 4th annual concert on Sunday, Nov. 16 at 3 p.m. at Bethany United Methodist Church. Choirs from area churches will perform. There is no charge, but a free-will offering will be taken.

If you are interested in joining the team, contact Connie Ballenger 410,796, 0290, angelsforacure@glenmarumc.org.

Excerpts from thank you letters

From Bita Dayhoff President, Community Action Council of Howard County

On behalf of the Community Action Council Board of Directors, staff and our clients, I would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to you and your church members for your generous \$2660.00 donation to our organization on June 13, 2014.

Through our programs, we are called upon on a daily basis to address the needs of Howard Country residents who are less fortunate and struggle to meet the most basic needs of food and shelter.

Your contribution will make a great impact on families seeking assistance and helps them get one step closer to self sufficiency.

Africa University

Thank you and Glen Mar United Methodist Church for your gift in the amount of \$1,610.00 to the Africa University Choir Fund.

Thanks to you and others like you who give so generously to support our work of equipping global leaders. Africa University has come a very long way in a relatively short period of time. Together, we've built an effective and relevant world-class institution. We've educated young people from 29 African countries and sent them back home to serve. Across the African continent, they are making a difference as agriculturalists, nurses, teachers, pastors, peace-builders, and managers of public and private enterprises.

Sunrise in Crisfield



Holy Baptism at Glen Mar Church

The sacrament of baptism is celebrated one weekend each month at all worship services.

A one-hour baptism class is required for all adults seeking baptism and for parents who wish to have their infants and children baptized at Glen Mar Church.

After the completion of the class, call the church office to select a scheduled weekend and service time.

To register for a class or to schedule a baptism, please contact Laura Dreibelbis at the church office.

410.465.4995
laura.dreibelbis@glenmarumc.org

Serving the world in Crisfield, MD

In June, 35 youths and adults from Glen Mar were “serving the world” in their own backyard in Crisfield, Maryland. This group collectively had served on about 348 mission trips and directly touched the lives of over 60 families.

On this trip, the group developed relationships with about a dozen homeowners and made their homes more livable. We heard about history of the watermen making a living off the oysters and crabs, culture from a local tribal elder, and folklore while on a ghost tour of Crisfield. During this week the Glen Mar UMC group was blessed with several God moments:

- Instead of going to the beach for senior week, nine graduating high school seniors decided to go on a mission trip to Crisfield.
- While crossing the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, we saw a bald eagle swoop down and catch a fish.
- Our reluctant homeowners were surprised to see us return each day, completing several small home repairs. At the end of the week, our homeowners were thankful that we brought a message of hope and God’s love.
- An ‘angel donor’ from the community pre-paid for one of our crew’s lunch at a local restaurant.
- One homeowner’s backyard was so peaceful we were able to hear the sound of a bird’s wings flapping.
- We become part of one homeowner’s family history, since our crew picture was added to their family scrapbook. They were overjoyed by us rebuilding the family homestead, which was originally built by their grandfather.
- One homeowner attended one of our evening meals and told everyone that she just had the three best days in several years. She also told several others that she wanted to adopt our entire crew.
- After four unsuccessful days of trying to restore one homeowner’s water, I started to doubt that this was God’s plan for us. Moments later the water started flowing.



*From Back left
Sally, Dohner,
Connor Adamson
Colin Eddy, Val-
erie Eddy, Cris-
field home-
owner,
Megan
Straumanis*

*Glen Mar Crisfield mis-
sion team*



The Glen Mar UMC mission group was ‘thankful for

- Our work crew and leaders
- Our new relationship with our homeowners
- The delicious breakfast and dinners during the trip
- The fun we had during our mission trip
- Quiet times to reflect on our faith journey
- The laughter with crew and old and new friends
- The great conversations with friends
- The trips to Bayside hardware store
- The free items given to us by several community members
- Watching beautiful sunsets while eating ice cream
- Hugs, love, and friendship from our homeowners
- DC and Don, our trip leader
- The leadership and energy of the young adults
- God’s love and grace
- A generous community of active Christians ‘serving the world’
- Rebuilding houses so they can become homes to their owners and for rebuilding a community
- Being part of the continuous line of believers
- Adults treating youths as young adults and asking them for advice on the job site
- Our UMCOR program manager, UMCOR site manager, and social worker
- Two kinds of mission trip volunteers, first timers and veterans
- Helping those who are in need due to natural disaster, economic, or health situations
- Responding to God’s call to action



**GLEN MAR STAFF
410-465-4995**

Lead Pastor

Matt Poole, x202, matt.poole@glenmarumc.org.

Pastor for Community Life

Cecil Mudede, x206, cecil.mudede@glenmarumc.org

Pastor for Worship

Jen Eschliman, x215, jen.eschliman@glenmarumc.org

Minister for Operations

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Minister for Music

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Minister for Contemporary Music

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Minister for Youth, Young Adults & Missions

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Minister for Middle School Youth

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Minister for Children & Families

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Larry Albrecht x210

Financial Secretary

Bob Henry, x231

Pianist

Estelle King

Website:

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Phone numbers:

410-465-4995

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Messenger Schedule

The schedule for The Messenger through Fall 2015, is listed below, along with due dates for submissions. We strive to be forward-looking, to allow readers to involve themselves in the many opportunities for ministry, but also to include a summary or highlights of recent, relevant events. Each edition will have an area of focus, but we always welcome ministry articles from the congregation at any time (500 words). Photos are encouraged! Please provide a caption or description and names of those pictured. We do our best to include all submissions, but may need to edit for space and content. Please make every effort to honor the dates listed, as time is needed for assembly, layout, editing, and proofreading. Thanks for all your input!

Advent/Christmas 2014 (November/December) - Deadline, Oct. 17

Winter/Lent 2015 (January/February) - Deadline, January 7, 2015

Lent/Easter 2015 (March/April) - Deadline, February 12, 2015

Spring/Summer (May/June/July) 2015 - Deadline April 17, 2015

Fall Preview (August/Sept./Oct) 2015 - Deadline, July 17, 2015

**E-mail submissions to Laura Dreibelbis,
laura.dreibelbis@glenmarumc.org or leave a copy in her mailbox.
Call or e-mail with any questions or ideas!**

**Glen Mar United Methodist Church
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Ellicott City, MD 21043**

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