

From the Pastor's Desk

April 2022

Psalm 23:4-5 states, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over."

It is easy for the casual reader of this psalm to view this verse as dark. However, it is of great comfort to know that the LORD as shepherd still walks with us through the valley of the shadow of death. David recognized that under The Great Shepherd's leading, the valley of the shadow of death is not a destination or dwelling place. Yet, it is our Shepherd's constant presence that makes it bearable.

With Jesus in mind, we can confidently know that we face only the shadow of death because He took the full reality of death in our place. Therefore, we are to be comforted and strengthened by the thought that our LORD would shepherd us through this experience.



We are not to be afraid of shadows. Shadows only exist because of the presence of light. In John 8:12, Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." Consequently, we are not to fear evil either. Under the care of The Great Shepherd, we are kept safe from all potential predators. As He gently guides us through the valleys of life, He also protects and corrects us with His rod and staff.



In the fifth verse of this psalm, David envisions the LORD providing a rich banquet in the presence of his enemies. It is under these unusual circumstances that David feels confident in knowing that the LORD will provide perfect peace. David gives us this beautiful portrait of a feast that has been

prepared in advance. In addition, the adversary is in attendance witnessing this incredible bounty created with love and care.

Notice: when a soldier is in the presence of enemies, a soldier may not have the opportunity to eat at all. However, when you are a soldier in the Army of the LORD, you do not have to hurry and you do not have to rush. You do not have to worry and you do not have to fuss; the battle is not yours it's the LORD's.

Despite the apparent dangers that surrounded David, David enjoyed the



abundance of the LORD. In fact, David was blessed by a head anointing with oil as a sign of God's favor. Consequently, his cup overflowed with goodness and mercy. So much so, he had enough to share. God is offering us the same anointing and favor. Are you

willing to receive it? More importantly, are you willing to share it?

Our challenge: allow The Great Shepherd to guide us.

Lord, anoint us with your favor so that we may share it with others, in Jesus' name. amen. Yours in Christ,



Pastor Rudy

Donna Goes Walk About....

OK. I'm tired of being cold. That's it. Done. Come on spring! Be bold! Be brave! Settle in, will ya! I know that soon enough, we'll all be complaining about the heat but right about now I'd welcome a nice warm breeze as I enjoy my backyard swing. I have been enjoying my spring flowers like crocus, daffodils and hyacinth, and I'm looking forward to getting my flower beds ready and planting some pretty annuals. I'm partial to Gods handiwork with vinca, petunias and geraniums! Isn't it a wonder how He brings the world alive with color and greenery each spring.



The children will be planting flowers around the church again this spring and this year,



to watch them grow and then plant! Thank you to Angela Williamson,

they started them with seeds. How exciting

Brandi Draper and Carole Jaques for their help with this project.

I pray you have a wonderful Easter celebration with your friends and family and I hope you will join your church family for Good Friday, Easter Sunrise and the 10am Sunday Services. The kids will be presenting a special pageant during the 10am service on Easter Sunday. Come out and support the kids!

I'll see you on Sunday.

Donna



Methodist Women

Save the Date: Thursday, May 10th you are invited to the "Women of Hope Banquet and Silent Auction". The event will be held at the church starting at 6pm, with dinner being served at 6:30pm. Tickets will need to be purchased in advance and the cost is \$15 per person, \$8 for girls under 10 and should be purchased by May 1st. Proceeds from the

auction will benefit "Sean's House" in Newark. This is a place where young adults ages 14 - 24 who are experiencing mental health problems or considering suicide can come and get help from peer specialists and connect with other health resources. As well as offering a safe haven, they also educate college and high school students abut suicide and mental health problems. A portion of the ticket sales as well as all the money from the auction will be donated to this worthwhile organization. So make this a "girls night out" and invite all your friends, neighbors and relatives and enjoy the evening.

Your help is needed: We are looking for donations for the Silent Auction. If you can spare one or two items, we can use any unique items that are new or gently used, including antiques, jewelry, decorating pieces, handmade items, plants and baked goods (please no clothing). A collection box will be in the social hall or give items to Kris Foltz, Donna Cavender, Sue Tobin, or Anita Mokienko. Thanks for your help.

Methodist women will be meeting on Thursday, April14 at 7pm in the social hall to make final arrangements for the banquet.



Friendship Star Quilters

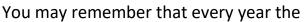


The Friendship Stare Quilters donated another 18 quilts to "Quilts for Comfort" to be distributed to the local hospitals and the Helen Graham Center. We will be working on more quilts on Tuesday, April 5, from 9;30am to 4pm. come when you can and stay as long as you can. Lunch

will be served. We have several tops to layer and some to tie. Bring a sewing machine if you can. For questions, call Kris Foltz, 302-834-9444 or email at krisofoltz@aol.com.

Time to Plant!

Spring-is my favorite time of the year. The birds are singing and along with the squirrels, going a little crazy at the bird feeders. The trees and flowers are beginning to bloom. God's beautiful creation is once again working overtime.







children help plant flowers around our church for Mother's Day. This year we're doing something a little different. On March 20th, we had the children plant flower seeds in pots that will grow in Angela Williamson's greenhouse. The seeds have already begun to germinate.

Not only have we planted flower seeds but hopefully

seeded a love of nature in their hearts.

Remember, weather

permitting, bring the kids-dressed to get dirty-on Mother's Day as we celebrate God's creation, Mother Earth as well as all of our wonderful MOM'S.

Happy Spring, Carole Jaques





Happy Birthday to...

Carol McGlothlin	.April	4
TJ Mokienko	.April	10
Matthew Carrico	April	20

Happy Anniversary to ...

Jim & Sue Gestwicki....April 1

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David Moore	April 5
Sue Tobin	April 13

Anita & Tony Mokienko....April 20

Scout Update

Helping to plant trees at Delaware Wild Lands Inc.





Also, Troop 123 is having their Annual Plant Fundraiser. Time to

order your plants for the garden or order flowers for Mom

since they will be delivered near Mothers Day. Orders and payments due by Monday April 11th. Checks can be made payable to Troop 123. Delivery will be Monday April 25th. Please see Heidi McEvoy or David Poffenberger to get an order form.



Pastor's Office Hours & Contact Information

If you have a prayer request that you would like sent along on the prayer chain, please contact Rudy White by phone at 302-832-2211, by email at <u>pastor@stgeorgesumc.com</u>, or use the prayer wall at <u>www.stgeorgesumc.com/prayerwall</u> Church office: 302-832-2211 Phone: 302-632-8065 (texting ok) Email: office@stgeorgesumc.com, Office hours: M-Thurs 9 to 2



Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays from 10 am to 11:30am at the church For additional information contact Claudia Winward at cwinward1@verizon .net or Karen Higgins at kvalhig@gmail.com

Men's Weekly Bible Study

Thursdays from 10 am at the church



St. Georges United Methodist Church P.O. Box 145 St. Georges, DE 19733



Dates to Remember

April 3	Communion Sunday
April 5	. Friendship Star Quilters 9:30am
April 6, 13, 20, 27	.Women's Bible Study 10am
April 7, 14, 21, 28	.Men's Bible Study
April 14	Women's Society meeting 7pm
April 15	Good Friday service 6:30pm
April 17	Easter Sunrise Service 6am
-	10am Sunday Service

Be well and stay safe!