July 2020

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When will we be able to worship together again?
The Commonwealth of Virginia is now in Phase 2 of its Forward Virginia Plan to reopen. Bishop Sharma Lewis’ team of experts recently applied these Phase 2 standards and formed policies for a Stage 2 re-opening of United Methodist Churches in the Virginia Annual Conference. Braddock Street Church’s Healthy Church Team examined these policies and quickly determined that it was too challenging for a church our size to open under those requirements (one service with no more than 50 people, who would have to pre-register to attend, etc.). Our Healthy Church Team decided to wait until the date for Stage 3 to begin to worship in our sanctuary again. So when you see the Commonwealth of Virginia move to Phase 3, know that our Bishop will then look at those requirements, form appropriate policies for our churches, and set the date at which we will be offering worship in our sanctuary again. We are all anxious to worship in person again as soon as we possibly can! Until then, we will continue to worship on Facebook Live every Sunday morning at 10 AM!

A brief note from the Trustees:
At the beginning of the year, the balance on our line of credit was $329,211. In February 2020, we paid $98,866 towards reducing our principal. This month, the Trustees approved paying an additional $50,000 towards reducing our principal. This leaves us with a balance of $180,345 on our line of credit. Thanks to everyone for their generous donations and continued support of our church! When we embarked on the 3-year capital campaign, our goal was to be debt-free and have a healthy reserve for future building needs. We are well on our way to achieving these goals. May God continue to guide and protect us during these difficult times. Thanks be to God!
Staff Directory

Ministers
The BSUMC Congregation

Lead Pastor
Rev. Kirk Nave
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Minister of Music
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Director of Children’s Ministry
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Budget & Finance Administrator
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Secretary
Deya Hamilton
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Your giving helped provide $500 worth of diapers and wipes for families in need at the C-CAP diaper giveaway on Saturday, June 26! THANK YOU for your ongoing support!

Mission Needs:
Looking for a place to serve?
Braddock Street will be helping provide a shower for our homeless from 5:45 PM - 8:15 PM on Mondays for the next four weeks. Meet down by the chapel. Thank you! https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094daca828aaf94-showers

Want to help prepare and serve a lunch for our homeless? Dates are Thursday, Aug. 6, and Monday, Aug. 17. https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094daca828aaf94-lunch

Dear Bright Future Frederick/Winchester Partners and Volunteers at Braddock Street UMC,

As a result of your selflessness, we were able to provide more than 800 students with weekend food packs each week, provide holiday assistance for more than 250 families, and distribute coats, clothing, and school supplies to numerous children within Frederick County and Winchester. As you know, schools were closed on March 13, due to COVID 19. This did not end the need for support; in fact, it increased that need.

The number of students requesting access to weekend food bags has increased from 800 per week to 1449 per week. Through your generosity and support, we were able to meet the needs with no gap in services and will be able to continue to do so throughout the summer.

Gratefully, Nancy Mango, MSW—Bright Futures Coordinator

Office Request—If you are not receiving Constant Contact e-mails on Tuesdays and Thursdays, please contact Deya at deya@braddockstreetumc.org, to be added to our list. Important church information and news will continue to be sent via Constant Contact. Thank you!
Digital VBS this Year! Knights of North Castle frozen until June 2021!

In June the week before our regular VBS was scheduled, we celebrated VBS online with a digital format - Cokesbury provided for us to see the story and opening assembly time.

Families used this for as many days as they chose. We sent take home kits with daily coloring pages and lessons of the Armor of God. Crafts, games and yummy snacks - just because food is a great part of small groups, too! Thank you to Kate, Jeannette and Jen for all of your help in setting up!

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power.
Ephesians 6:10

A big high five to our very own Rigo Landers who celebrated a day of giving to others with our take out kits. He personally delivered safely 7 kits to his school friends, safely. Rigo is the youngest of Christy and Matt Landers. What a lovely way to reach out to friends with lessons and teaching of who God is.

How are you reaching out to friends this summer?

Children's Summer Small Groups
Watch for more details as we prepare to Re Open. We will communicate with you through Constant Contact, emails and through our Staying Connected Articles. Feel free to contact patty@braddockstreetumc.org with any needs or concerns.
Due to the ever changing opportunities and requirements, PLEASE make sure you are on Kristin's email loop for the July Youth Happenings! kristin@braddockstreetumc.org

THERE WILL TENTATIVELY BE: Summer Camp (July 18-21), Mission Days, and Summer Fun Days when and as we are allowed. STAY TUNED!

Note to my youth council: We will do a ONE day planning event at church in August to put in place whatever is needed this year for our calendar/events. Stay tuned!

Also, note we are working on making a 'make up' confirmation retreat as soon as we are given clearance to do so. (Most likely August) If you've been through confirmation and you are interested in being a counselor for this, please let Kristin know. Thank you to everyone for their support and patience during this time.

What Being a Disciple of Christ Means to Me/How I live it Out
By Kelley Berlin, 7th grade—age 13, WINNER of $1,500 scholarship and grand niece of JD and Nancy Berlin...

Being a disciple of Christ is never easy. You might try, over and over again, but you can't seem to act godly or according to God's will. Some may think that once you are saved, you automatically become a practically perfect person with infinite wisdom. If that were true, we would be living in a fantasy where the saying, "cupcakes and rainbows," would become reality.

On the contrary, being a follower of Christ takes a lot of work. It is God's way of testing how loyal and dedicated you truly are. Not even the wisest or the most experienced have it all because, no matter what, you will always be human and that is okay. It is okay because God wants you to lean on Him when you need help; His ultimate goal is for you to give your life into His worthy and capable hands.

The point I want to make is that I try each day to learn something from the Lord and His plans for me. I am finding that, to be His disciple, I have to give up my life plans and submit to His life plans for me. I want things to go my way and if they don't, I panic. If I were to fully trust in Him, I would not have that problem. Another key point is that it is not what I do as a disciple of Christ, it is what the Lord does within me—how He uses me to do His bidding for the greater good.

When I try to do things without Him, I fail. Part of the nature of humans is the desire to feel loved. When I fall, I want to be picked back up by a loving—but also disciplinary—hand. I act like His disciple by working through His word and basing my actions on it. Most of the time, life is trial and error because, even if you complete a godly act, it will always need work. I live my life knowing that. I will constantly try harder and harder until Christ calls me home.

My life is a mere speck among billions of others. I want not to bring attention to myself as I give the Good News, but I want to point to the Lord. I am not endeavoring to live my life as Christ did; that would be impossible, as He was perfect. Instead, my goal is to hear these simple words spoken by Christ when I finally enter His protective embrace: "Well done, my good and faithful servant."

A GREAT ENCOURAGEMENT FOR US ALL!