

THE HERALD



BROWN MEMORIAL
WOODBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the



The Rev. Dr. Scott Wilson, Interim Minister

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- Pastor's Letter
- Mission News
- What's happening at Brown Memorial Woodbrook

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

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As we come to the end of the important season of Lent, a time of self-examination and introspection, our focus on prayer continues. The sermon series for Lent and Easter has focused on the Lord's Prayer and thinking about the power and majesty of each individual "petition" that it contains. In the final weeks of Lent, we consider the powerful topics of *forgiveness* (forgive us our debts), and of *evil* (deliver us from evil/temptation). The part of the Lord's Prayer that was added in church history to the biblical version gives us the incredible promise of the Gospel on Easter Sunday (the kingdom and the power and the glory forever!)

I hope we continue to consider the power of prayer after Lent and Easter have gone. Whether it is individual prayer, prayer in groups or ministries, we trust in God for guidance. It should be our goal to make prayer a lifelong practice, not just during a particular season or event.

But even more so, from my perspective of serving BMWPC through this transitional period between called pastors, prayer is really at the heart of all we do. It is an interesting exercise sometimes to take a big step back and ask ourselves, "What is truly our purpose here at BMWPC?" If we ask 150 members, we might get 150 versions of an answer to that philosophical question. But I would hope that most would include, "growing closer to God" or some kind of "spiritual connection" or "prayer" in their answers somewhere. Even if we believe our main purpose is growing the church, prayer is still at the very heart of it.

A good example of that is found in a popular book about church growth, *Unbinding the Gospel*. The author, Martha Grace Reese, through a Lily endowment funded, massive study of Protestant congregations, identifies 150 American mainline churches that are growing, receiving new members, baptizing adults and children. What do they seem to have in common, she asks – and the surprising, bottom-line answer found in her research was that each growing congregation had a *vibrant prayer life* and a sense of growing in relationship with God. It did not matter whether the congregation was small or large, the church building new or old, conservative or liberal, or part of a particular denomination.

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Weekday School Up Date...

The weekday school is enjoying better weather and is beginning to look towards planting our vegetable garden in the next few weeks. We have had worms recycling our fruit peels from snacks during the winter months. This nutrient rich soil should make for a thriving garden this spring. The children have been watching the birds come to our many bird feeders on the playground and they have even learned some of the birds' names. We are waiting for a few more logs to complete our place space. We also hope

to add some native plants to the playground area to help "green up" the space. The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on March 28th at 10am. This event is sponsored by both the BMWS Parents Association and the Church. This is a fun-filled morning and we welcome everyone.

This month the church and school collected more than \$500 to provide lunch bags for "Health Care for the Homeless." The success of this collection is a wonderful reflection of the generosity of our com-

munity at large. During the evening the children helped decorate lunch bags while volunteers from both the school and church made sandwiches and filled bags with assorted snacks. I would like to thank Bobbie and Ralph Cooke, Ajax and Tom Eastman, and Patricia Short for their participation in the project. I am happy and proud to be part of such a wonderful and caring community.



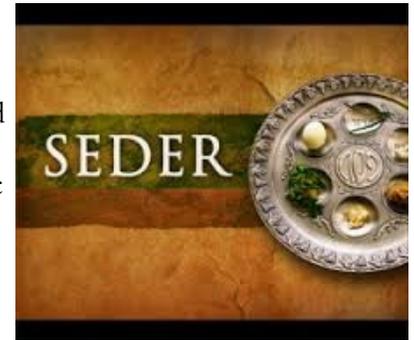
ADULT EDUCATION -ON THE TRAIL OF THE REFORMATION: The Rev. Ralph Cook will lead an adult study session on this topic on Sunday, April 26, after worship. Please plan to join us. An optional light lunch will be served for a nominal fee. Please RSVP to the church office to reserve your meal. 410-377-7232 or office@bmwpc.org.

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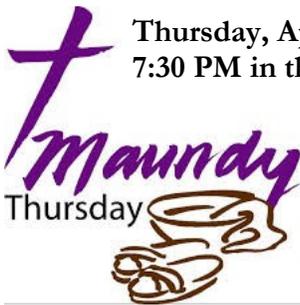
Prayer is at the heart of that vivid relationship with God which seems to define healthy, growing churches. Reese says, "Prayer is the way to *stay in love with God.*" (italics added) It is the way both individuals and groups and congregations grow and become vivid. It is not so much about asking God for help as it is opening our hearts and receiving from God, being energized by the Spirit with a sense of lightness and enthusiasm. So keep praying for yourselves, for your neighbors, the PNC, church leaders, and mission outreach. As we stay close to God through Christ, we will be directed, led, and used for the things that God wills for us.

See you Sunday!
Pastor Scott

FAMILY & COMMUNITY SECOND NIGHT PASSOVER SEDER
SATURDAY, APRIL 4 - 6:00 P.M.
Fellowship Hall



All are welcome to join us for our communal Seder. A ritualized meal, interspersed between songs, symbolic foods, questions, the telling of the Exodus tale, prescribed actions and the four cups of wine, and this year's topic is Miriam and the women! There is a fee for this event., Adults - \$25, Adults (to help defray additional cost) - \$36 Children - \$10. To register online at www.kolhalevmd.org and scroll down to the bottom of the page and follow instructions for registration or call 410-299-7967 to RSVP and payment will be received at the door.

**Thursday, April 2**
7:30 PM in the Chapel

HE HAS RISEN!

Easter
SERVICES

Sunday, April 5
10:30 AM



Easter Sunrise Service
Sunday, April 5
7:30 AM

Weather permitting, this will be a walking worship service outside and may be challenging for those who are physically limited. Please call with questions. We will gather in the narthex.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Woodbrook at Broadmead
Tuesday 10 AM

Contact Sally-lyn Duff at 443-578-8387
or wsduff925@comcast.net for more information.

SUNDAY MORNING
BIBLE STUDY

has resumed on Sunday mornings at
9:15 AM in Peter's Net.



Deadline for the April Herald will be Monday, April 20 by 9 AM.
Please submit all information, articles, and reports to the Church Secretary
via e-mail: office@bmwpc.org



CALL FOR MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Please donate your childrens' no-longer-used musical instruments-- or any instruments you may own and do not use. There will be a large box in the lobby in which to place them; however, if you have something huge, for example, a cello or drum set, please let me know and I can arrange for someone from OrchKids to pick it up at your home. You may declare this on your taxes.

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra

ORCHkids™
planting seeds for a bright future

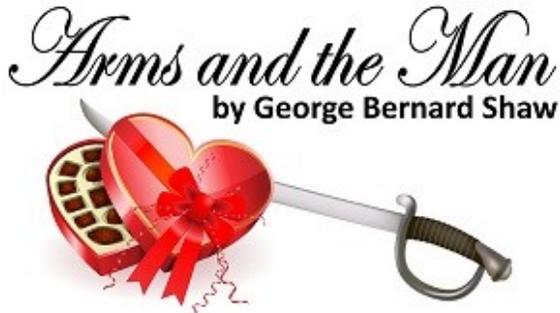


Turnaround Inc.—provides emergency shelter, counseling, community education, emergency room companions, legal services, and a 24-hour hot line for victims of rape, domestic violence, child sexual assault and adult survivors of child sexual abuse. 410-377-8111. www.turnaround.org

WISH LIST

Nonperishable food items, diapers, hats, gloves, scarves, gift cards, and gas cards, household cleaning supplies, paper towels, toilet paper

The Woodbrook Players present
Arms and the Man
by George Bernard Shaw
April 25, 26, May 2, 3, and 9,
Saturdays at 7:30 PM, Sundays at 3



A hilarious satire about the irony of war and the fallacy of romantic ideals, *Arms and the Man* is often regarded by scholars as George Bernard Shaw's funniest play -- and it was also his first big theatrical hit. This light comedy begins when an armed soldier in 1895 Bulgaria breaks into a young woman's bedroom and demands refuge. Poking fun at both the dangers of bravado and the idealistic notions of romantic love, this

Woodbrook Players production of *Arms and the Man* at the Brown Memorial Woodbrook Presbyterian Church proves that you can find love -- and humor -- in war. Tickets at the door. Contact the Woodbrook Players at woodbrookplayers@gmail.com for more info!

Calling All Woodbrook Gardeners

Spring is here and that means it won't be long before we can get out and start planting and planning how we will tend our gardens. This is the fourth year for planting vegetables and herbs in the garden on the hill and sharing the abundance with area food pantries and with the congregation. We'll be watching to see what the Week Day School gardeners surprise us with this year. They have shown themselves to



be masters at engaging their young students in eating what they grow

and in attracting butterflies. Working alongside them and sharing what we are learning has been a joy. And last but not least; are the flowers. Be on the look out for the spring bulbs and other plantings around our campus and also in the columbarium. Who knows what will show up in the

garden below the walkway? No doubt there will be some big red zinnias.

If you think you would like to play a part in any of these stewardship endeavors we are always looking for more hardy souls who like to grow stuff. Our next planning meeting is Wednesday, April 8, at 7:00 in Peter's Net. And watch the bulletin and look ahead for times you could join us in the garden.

BOOKENDS

April 10th: Lowlands by Jhumpa Lahir, a saga of two very different Indian brothers bound by a tragedy.

May 8th: My Beloved World by Sonya Sotomayor, her amazing autobiography from poverty to the Supreme Court

Everyone is welcome to join BookEnds discussions. We suggest reading the books we will be discussing first. We meet on the second Friday of each month, at 10:00 a.m.

For more information contact Ajax Eastman

410-323-2999 or
ajaxeast@msn.com



**Common Ground on the Hill presents
Jay Ungar & Molly Mason
Friday, April 11 at 8 PM
Fellowship Hall**

http://www.commongroundonthehill.org/baltimore_concert_series.html

One of America's richest artistic traditions lies in its music. **Jay Ungar** and **Molly Mason** embody that spirit with their commitment to the authentic roots that formed the foundation for modern American music. Ungar's most famous composition, "Ashokan Farewell," was the musical hallmark of **Ken Burns' *The Civil War*** on PBS, winning the pair international acclaim. Ungar

and Mason's repertoire includes timeless renditions of hard-driving Appalachian, Cajun and Celtic fiddle tunes, stirring Civil War classics, sassy songs from the golden age of swing and country, up-tempo waltzes and moving original songs. Tickets available at the gate or online.

**International Lunch Club:
First lunch of the year
Thursday, April 9 at 1:00p.m.**



Come try out Ryleigh's Oyster at 22 West Padonia Road

(410-252 -8093) with us and meet old and new friends. Good food and good company.

Thursday May 14 at 1:00p.m. Join us at Bread and Circuses, a French Bistro across from the Towson Library on the corner of Delaware and Chesapeake Avenues.

401 Delaware Ave. A small intimate place for food with a touch of France.

Make your reservation by calling Elsie Wong at 410-296- 3955 no later than the day before the meeting. Car pool-

ing available. Meet at BMWPC by 12:30p.m. This is a fun way to meet new friends and try out new restaurants.



SAVE THE DATE

Friday May 1st at 7PM

The Brown Memorial Weekday School
Parents Association Presents Its 2nd Annual
Preakness-themed

*Spring
Fling*

EVENT AND FUNDRAISER

Tickets are free for this fun, **adults-only** affair
held at Brown Memorial and featuring:

**Live Music, Heavy Appetizers,
Silent Auction & Cash Bar**



**Look for the sign-up sheet on the kiosk
in the lobby.**

RSVP by April 24, 2015 if you plan to attend. Hope to see you there.

Time of New Beginnings

By Karen Bartell

We rejoice with one another at this time of year with new beginnings around us. The pleasant memory of the **triumphal entry of Jesus on Palm Sunday** still lingers.

The amazing **miracle of the risen Christ** is foremost in our minds.

The **beauty of the season springing anew** is all around us. The gardens on the hill and near the school will soon be green with new growth.

We enjoy watching the children at the **Easter Egg Hunt** and the joy on their faces as they find an egg with a surprise inside. At Brown Memorial Woodbrook, we anticipate a new beginning with the **calling of a new**



pastor.

The Weekday school is holding their **Spring Fling on May 1st**. We encourage your support. The Story Time Play Group families are assembling a basket of children’s books (new and gently used) for the silent

auction.

If you have any to contribute, just leave them in the basket on the counter in the office.

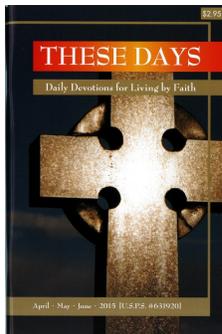
Given the success of our program for the last two summers we have plans for this year. Our theme is **“Clean Water for**

All God’s Children.” It is scheduled for July 13-17, 9 – noon.

Woodbrook Players are planning a drama camp for middle-school aged children during the first week in August.

We invite you to review all the options and check your calendar to see which ones you can support and attend. As usual we are looking for volunteers for the summer program. If you can assist just one morning of the week, it will be a big help to us.

There are often tasks to be completed earlier in the month that can use an extra pair of hands. Please talk with me, drop me an email, or phone me to volunteer your availability and help.



April, May, and June issue of These Days is now available in the lobby

Helen Finney	2	Claire Storey	9
Anne Stone	2	David Ross	11
Mark Wong	2	Janice Heath	27
John Deprine	3	Bobbie Cook	30

April 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7 PM Compassionate Friends	2 7 PM Handbell Rehearsal 7:50 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 8 PM Common Ground on the Hill Performance	4 6 PM Kol Hal'ev & BMW Community Seder-Fellowship Hall
5 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship & Communion 11:30 Fellowship & Team Meetings 7PM Boy Scouts	6 11 Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Yoga	7 9:30 & 10:30 Story time play group 10 Broadmead 7PM PNC Meeting	8 7PM Boy Scout Committee Meeting 7 PM Woodbrook Players rehearsal	9 7 PM Handbell Rehearsal 7:50 PM Choir Rehearsal	10 2:30 PM Spiritual Direction	11 1 PM Woodbrook Players rehearsal
12 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship & Communion 11:30 Fellowship Lunch & Team Meetings 7PM Boy Scouts	13 Deadline for Easter Flowers 5:30 Yoga	14 9:30 & 10:30 Story time play group 10 Broadmead 7PM PNC Meeting	15 7 PM Woodbrook Players rehearsal	16 7 PM Handbell Rehearsal 7:50 PM Choir Rehearsal	17 2:30 PM Spiritual Direction	18 1 PM Woodbrook Players rehearsal
19 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship & Communion 11:30 Fellowship 12:00 Session 7PM Boy Scouts	20 11 Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Yoga 7 PM Woodbrook Players rehearsal	21 9:30 & 10:30 Story time play group 10 Broadmead 7 PM Woodbrook Players rehearsal	22 7 PM Woodbrook Players rehearsal	23 7 PM Woodbrook Players rehearsal 7 PM Handbell Rehearsal 7:50 PM Choir Rehearsal	24	25 6 PM Woodbrook Players rehearsal
26 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship & Communion 11:30 Fellowship 12:00 Adult Education 7PM Boy Scouts	27 9:15 AM Weekday School Chapel 9:30 Parent discussion Group 11 Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Yoga	28 9:30 & 10:30 Story time play group 10 Broadmead 7 PM PNC Meeting	29	30		

**BROWN MEMORIAL WOODBROOK
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

6200 North Charles Street at Woodbrook Lane
B a l t i m o r e , M D 2 1 2 1 2

Herald

ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED

Dated Material
Please Deliver Promptly



**BROWN MEMORIAL
WOODBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

A Congregation of the



CORE VALUES

We commit to living out God's love through:

Compassion
Learning
Inclusion
Faith

VISION 2016

In five years God will see us

- 1) welcoming all God's children;
- 2) sharing Christ's love with others;
- 3) intentionally and actively building our faith to understand God's purpose for us;
- 4) using our physical resources sustainably to honor God; and
- 5) celebrating God's love with abandon.

Staff:

The Rev. Dr. Scott Wilson, Interim Minister
Susan Gonzalez, Director of Music
Karen Bartell, Intergenerational Ministry Coordinator
Anthony Mason, Sexton
Michele Hanna, Church Secretary
Cindy Zhao, Financial Secretary

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