

## Have you seen our latest masterpiece?

by: The Rev. Chasity L. Wiener

I heard it once said that, “Art speaks where words are unable to explain.” In this mystical process of faith and the mystery of how God ordains it that we all should be—through no coincidence—connected together in this thing called church, I appreciate that art is there to lend me a few words. Let me make it clear: you are in this place, Holy Communion Lutheran, not by your own doing. God brought you here for a reason. It’s part of your faith journey to discover that reason: Is it to grow? To be challenged? To be affirmed? To heal?

This mosaic not only marks our 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a church, but also is wholly representative of who we are: broken shards of beautiful glass that, when put together in a larger framework, become a completely different, beautiful masterpiece larger than oneself. That could be the very definition of “church” itself, couldn’t it?

What do you see when you peer into our mosaic? There is a lot to see—a lot to discover—and its beauty invites you to stay awhile to ponder. First, you might notice the chalice—the blood of Christ—shed for you...but not only you, because this chalice is “rooted” in all creation (coincidentally, the word “rooted” appeared on a number of your responses from the congregational survey, from which the artist read and sought inspiration for this mosaic). Additionally, the chalice is our namesake—*Holy Communion*—and from that chalice we are spreading our roots and sharing Christ’s love (did you catch that one root even bends to be in the shape of a heart?). Are those wings sprouting from the chalice, ready to take flight into this world? Or are they just beautiful mountains majestic,

honoring a God of all creation? Art is in the eye of the beholder, and both interpretations are apropos and invite you to stand in both possibilities to create the meaning.



*This stunning mosaic was mounted by the front doors, leading into our church. It was created by you (and, if you weren't here physically, it was created inspired by the essence of you!). Artist Sue Stockman took all 87 responses to the congregational survey and designed this mosaic from the words that you used in responding to the question: "Why is our church important to you?"*

As your gaze moves to the left, that green pasture gives way to the outline of rocks that form a bank to those still waters of a peaceful stream. Can you feel the movement of the 23<sup>rd</sup> psalm? *He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.* A solitary, burnt-orange flower pushes through rocky bank. There is a story behind this story as well: that small, orange flower was once a chunky, glass knob of some kind. One of our youngest church members thought it should be integrated into the piece but—perhaps because of its chunkiness—

hindered other smaller pieces to be placed within the surrounding space. On several occasions, I saw several adults temporarily remove that knobby flower in order to work around its awkward size. The little girl ventured over multiple times, pushing through the crowd of adults, and in bold assurance that the flower—her contribution to this mosaic—would be included. She laid that piece, much like you laid yours. Her tenacity was a reminder that everyone has a place here, even in those awkward, ill-fitting moments.

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Finally, the sun (or “son,” because it is above the chalice?) rises on the cosmos. There seems to be two distinct skies, with just a fine line between heaven and earth. It is here, in this place, where we encounter those “thin spaces,” where the divine seems to so accessible to our world. *For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.* This almost brings us back full circle to the chalice once more—life, in the form of a red flower, vibrantly growing when rooted in this sacred chalice of Christ’s blood and church.

Art speaks where words are unable to explain. There are no words that adequately convey this mystical process of how God has connected us through our church, but, I am grateful for the loss of words. You are so beautiful by yourself, but something utterly indescribable happens when you put your beauty and brokenness next to others! You become something greater than yourself! You become the church, a beautiful mosaic in human-form.

So, in this beautiful mosaic, what do you see? Go ahead... take a holy pause and stay awhile.

Happy anniversary, Church!

*Pastor Chas*

*P.S. A note from Sue Stockman, the artist who designed this mosaic: “It was an honor to be asked to interpret responses about such a wonderful thing as someone’s relationship with a church. I approach that space with responsibility and try to engage with my higher self in order to be a channel for all the voices that were raised. I really appreciated meeting everyone and being shoulder to shoulder with them in the vulnerable space of breaking tiles. It was a wonderful experience! It was a great concept that many hands make light work and it was a holy space of working together in order to co-create. The people are the church. It was very easy to fall in love with everyone at Holy Communion.”*

## Service of Light and Hope

Pastor Chas and Pastor Kimberly from Fallston Presbyterian will host A Service of Light and Hope on Tuesday, December 11 at 7:00. Do you know someone who has recently lost a loved one or is going through a particularly difficult time of transition in life? If so, the holidays can be emotionally tough and they may need a little extra “TLC.” If you are missing a loved one this Christmas, please bring a photo of your loved one to the service.



## “Thanksgiving” Worship

The Thanksgiving worship service and dinner will be held at Fallston United Methodist Church (1509 Fallston Road) on November 18th. Potluck meal begins at 5:30, and worship begins at 6:45. Please join in the potluck dinner by bringing a dish to share! If your last name begins with A - H bring side dish or salad, I - S bring main dish, or T - Z bring dessert. Participating churches include Fallston Presbyterian, St. Mark Roman Catholic Church, Fallston United Methodist, and Holy Communion Lutheran Church.



## Food Collection for Those in Need: Reaching Out to Share Christ’s Love

Again this year HCLC’s Reaching-Out Ministry will be collecting non-perishable foods for needy families in Harford County. Look for a narthex display soon of suggested foods to purchase. Our goal is to have every family spend \$5 to \$10 for food, as you are able. We have applied to Thrivent Financial for a \$250 grant to purchase perishable items. Food and purchase receipts (with items circled) are due at church by November 18. If you have questions, contact Bea Sherrill at 410-557-7243 or Joanne Cross at 443-981-3185.

# Holiday Safety

by: Barb Huber

The holidays are an extra special time of the year for many of us. Holiday safety is especially important as families decorate, bake and cook. What can your family and friends do this year to stay safe and accident free?

- Holiday decorations should be flame retardant/resistant and made from non-combustible materials.
- Artificial trees must be fire resistant and live trees fresh and watered daily.
- Place all trees and other decorations away from heat sources.
- Poinsettias are poisonous; keep away from children and pets.
- Keep candles away from other materials and do not leave unattended.
- Each year prior to use; check all holiday lights, condition of bulbs, wire, sockets and connections.
- Replace all damaged light. • Check labels to make sure lights and decorations are certified for outdoor use.
- Plug all outdoor decorations into circuits with ground fault.
- Turn off all decorations at night and when you are not at home.
- Cautions when children are around avoid small breakable decorations and decorations that look like candy or food.
- No unattended cooking.
- Wash, cook and store foods correctly.
- Wash your hands frequently.
- After holiday gatherings clean up completely as soon as the party ends.
- Make sure all gift choices are safe and age appropriate.

This represents a partial list of some of the safety concerns surrounding the holidays.

Wishing each of you a Blessed Holiday Season!  
Barb Huber RN, PHN



# The Sharing Table

It is our turn to host for The Sharing Table, a local soup kitchen for Harford County residents. On November 10, we will serve anywhere from 75 to 125 people or more (approximate), and volunteers are needed to cook and serve (one or both) at The Sharing Table in Edgewood. The Sharing Table takes place at Prince of Peace Catholic Church on Willoughby Beach Road. As you might remember, or for the edification our new members, we all cook the same recipe (this is NOT a potluck) to serve. We make the recipe, fully cooked, in advance of November 10.



You can also deliver the fully cooked recipe to our church refrigerator the week of November 6 if you are only able to volunteer to cook (call Hailea Cole for availability). If you are helping to serve, then just report directly with the food to the Sharing Table at Prince of Peace Catholic Church in Edgewood (Willoughby Road). We warm all casseroles on site.

## SHARING TABLE FUSILLI

1lb Fusilli (Little spindles, cork screw, spirals) cooked  
2 Medium sized (28 oz) cans of tomatoes  
2 Green peppers – chopped fine  
3 Onions – chopped  
2 Teaspoons of dry mustard  
2 Teaspoons Worcestershire Sauce  
1-1/2 lbs Grated Sharp Cheddar Cheese (Reserve some to sprinkle on top)  
2 lbs Hamburger – COOKED

Mix all ingredients in a large pot, divide among two medium aluminum baking pans. Sprinkle remaining cheese on top. Casseroles will be warmed on site the day of service. If you are unable to serve, but would like to provide a casserole, please cook in advance and make arrangements to drop off at church and place in the church refrigerator (Hailea is in the office on Tuesdays, Wednesday, and Thursdays). Thank you for your help.



# Sunday School

by: Carrie Dorsey

"It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas..." I am sure that anyone who has been to a retail store in the last couple of weeks has seen the Christmas decorations. This means it is time to start our preparations for the children and youth to show all of us the true meaning of Christmas.

Auditions for "New Star, A Comedy" will take place on Sunday November 4th, following the 2nd service. Copies of the script are in the narthex, next to the television (you may also contact me directly at [carriedorsey@yahoo.com](mailto:carriedorsey@yahoo.com)). The script is subject to some revisions as we want to ensure that all the children who wish to participate can.

Please note: ALL children can a part in the play! Non-character parts and emerging readers will be in our Children's Choir, singing and dancing to spread the Good News!



## Audition and Rehearsal Schedule:

**Sun Nov 4th @- 11:45 - 12:30 - Auditions**

**Sun Nov 11th @ 9:45 - 10:15 - New Star and Old Star-- read through lines, practice delivery; also, all children practice songs during Sunday School from this Sunday until the performance**

**Sun Nov 18th @ 11:30 - 12:30 - All speaking parts-- read through**

**Sun Nov 25th @ 9:45- 10:15 - New Star and Old Star--read through**

**Sun Dec 2nd @ 9:15 - 10:15 - All speaking parts - run through (attempt to have lines memorized except New Star and Old Star)**

**Sun Dec 9th @ 11:45 - 1:30 - All cast and crew-- movement, props and run through (\*\*Lunch will be provided\*\*)**

**Sat Dec 15th @ 2:00- 4:00 - All cast and crew-- run through and dress rehearsal (\*\*Holiday snack provided\*\*)**

I would like to extend a personal invitation to our confirmation students, high school students, and anyone else who would like to volunteer your time to assist with the production. I love to see the excitement of the children as they prepare and then perform. These are very formative experiences in the spiritual and faith life of the young. I still have memories of playing the part of Gabriel in a Christmas play as a child and sitting with a sherrbet container turned drum playing The Little Drummer Boy. Volunteers Needed!! Substitute teachers and youth helpers!! Please let me know if you are able to give some of your time for a Sunday a month or a Sunday a quarter. For questions or to volunteer please e-mail me at [SundaySchool@HolyCommunionFallston.org](mailto:SundaySchool@HolyCommunionFallston.org).

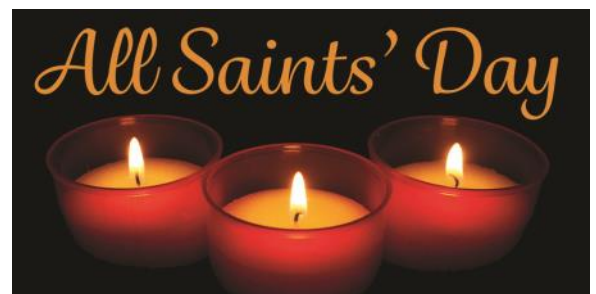
# Community Christmas Tree Lighting Tree

There will be a Community Christmas Tree Lighting held Sunday, December 2 at 6:00. The tree lighting will take place at Fallston United Methodist Church, 1509 Fallston Rd, Fallston, MD . Please bring cookies to share!



## All Saints Day

All Saints Day is November 4! We will be commemorating all the saints of the church at both services. All Saints Day celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ. On this day, we remember all who have died in the faith, and now serve God around the heavenly throne. Please bring a memento or picture of your loved one with you on November 4th to place at the altar and create a physical space of remembrance.



## Upcoming Youth Dates:

**November 6th**—S'mores night for Gathering participants

**November 11**—Family Yoga

**November 18th**—Veterans Breakfast and thank you bags for Vets- all Veteran's, their families, and everyone interested in making bags for the VA

**November 30th**—Youth Night/Parent's Night Out we will be making animal toys For the local Humane Society.



# What It Is To Worship

*by Pastor Bob Ridenour*

The word “worship” means “to give honor to.” It comes from an old word “worth-ship” meaning “one worthy of reverence, honor and awe.” In church we honor God with praise and awe and reverence. The center of worship is God alone.

Sometimes it seems that we have that we have forgotten this central principle. Worship often seems to center, not upon God, but upon us. Something here is wrong.

I have heard worship in church compared to a play, a dramatic presentation. This is correct—but only if everyone fulfills their proper role. A faulty view of this “play” goes like this: we, the congregation are the audience. Pastor, the choir, and readers and other assistants are the actors. God is the prompter, telling the actors what to do and to say. This is a faulty view of worship. However common it may be.

A more faithful view is this: in this drama, you and I (the congregation) are the actors. We all bring God praise and honor. Clergy and lay assistants are the prompters, helping us (the actors) in our acts of praise. God is the audience. God is the one toward whom the “play” is directed. The entire drama is directed to, and in honor, of God. Worship is not only what the leaders (clergy, choir, etc.) say or do. Worship is what we all do and say.

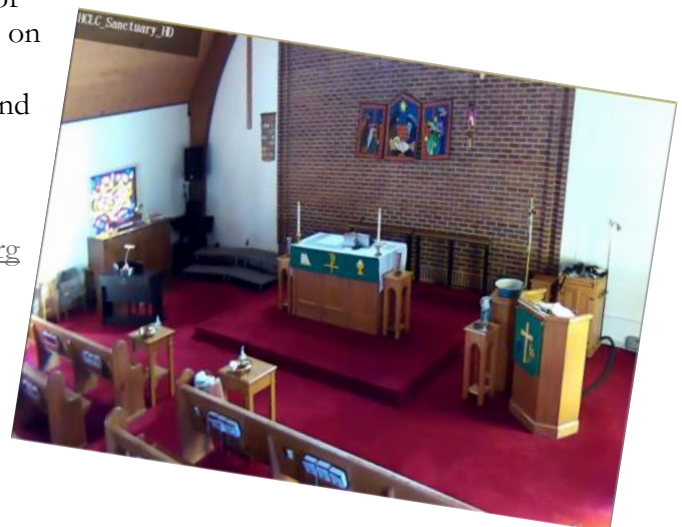
The act of worship is called “the liturgy,” meaning “the work of the people.” That is what worship is—our work. You and I are the principle actors. We do the main work of giving praise and honor to God. To be certain, worship includes things such as learning and praying and giving and eating and drinking and doing justice in the world. Still, all of these are ways of giving God honor and praise. So—worship is much more than coming to church to see and hear somebody else praising God. In truth, worship is the joyous “work” to which we are all called—to praise and honor God now and always.

## Traveling? Not Feeling Well? Can't Come to Church? Holy Communion Comes to YOU!

People get sick. People travel. We understand that and try to find new ways that you can still remain connected with our community. While you are away, join any service by watching our webcam at [webcam.HolyCommunionFallston.org](http://webcam.HolyCommunionFallston.org)

This is an innovative way to connect the gifts of technology to practical faith. However, this gift of technology comes with its own limitations, in that, this webcam can never fully create the sense of community that one is part by actually being in the pews. The webcam is on for all services and only shows the front portion of the sanctuary. The webcam works on most devices (smartphones, tablets, PCs, iPhones®, and iPads®). It does not work on Amazon Kindle Fire® tablets.

Let us know if you are watching our services. Please send comments or issues relating to the broadcast to [webcam@HolyCommunionFallston.org](mailto:webcam@HolyCommunionFallston.org)



# Youth News

by Bridget Strama, Youth Leader

## Family Yoga

Come worship with your body and breath! We will be hosting family yoga after second service on Sunday, November 11. This session will be geared towards everyone, regardless of age or ability. Invite your friends, and come prepared to reconnect physically, mentally, and spiritually!



## Kindness Rocks

Our Kindness Rock event was a huge success! Be on the lookout in our community for the beautiful rocks decorated by the Congregation of Holy Communion.



If you spot one of these painted rocks around HCLC or in the nearby community, please share it on our Facebook page.

**Kindness Rocks!**

## Youth Night/Parent's Night

Our next Youth Night/Parent's Night Out is scheduled for November 30 at 6:00pm-8:30pm. It will be an evening of exploring how to put our faith into daily living. Parents may drop off potty trained children ages 3-10 for a Bible message, games and crafts. Pizza and snacks will be provided. Email Bridget at [youth@holychurchfallston.org](mailto:youth@holychurchfallston.org) to sign up!



## Veterans Breakfast

Join us Sunday, November 18 for a special Veterans Breakfast between services. We will be making thank you bags for veterans. Donations of individually wrapped snacks and puzzle books are greatly appreciated. All Veterans, their families, and everyone interested in making bags for the VA are invited to attend!



## Think Tank

The Think Tank will gather for their next meeting on Thursday, November 22nd from 7-8 pm at the church. Come out and help brainstorm and plan for our upcoming youth and family events.





# Lovin' Life Seniors

by Nancy Campbell

## LOVIN' LIFE SENIORS

Our goal is to offer friendship and support to one another through social events. Please join us! Invite your friends! Our 2019 schedule and sign-up sheets for upcoming events are posted on the senior's bulletin board in the hallway. Please read the Sunday bulletins and Bread and Wine for any changes to the schedule below. All activities take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays of the month unless otherwise noted.

### 2018 CALENDAR

Tuesday, November 13 at noon

Mountain Branch Restaurant—Rte.152

Tuesday, December 11 at noon

Union Hotel—Port Deposit or Manor Tavern—Monkton

### 2019 CALENDAR

Tuesday, January 8 at noon

Basta Pasta—Rte.152

Tuesday, February 12 at noon

Mamie's Restaurant—Aberdeen

Tuesday, March 12 at noon

Fisherman's Catch—Forest Hill Bowling Lanes

Tuesday, April 9 at noon

Sunshine Grille—Fork Road

Tuesday, May 14 at noon

Della Rose's Restaurant—Fountain Green and Churchville Roads

Tuesday, June 11 at noon

Bayou Restaurant—Rte.40 Havre de Grace

Tuesday, July 9 at noon

Baldwin's Crab House—Rte.40 Joppa

Tuesday, August 13 at noon

Friendly Farm—Upperco

Tuesday, September 10 at noon

Crab Feast at church

We welcome new ideas as well as new members.

Contact Ellen Priebe 410-679-8655; Frances Gosnell

410-893-4622; Nancy Campbell 410-836-7688.

## "Good Grief" Group

The Good Grief group meets, on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm. Their next meeting will be **November 20th** at the church.



# November Birthdays



11-01-- Jeanette Hastings

11-02 – Gail Amrein

11-02 - Cory Flohr

11-03 - Anna Eyler

11-03 - Timothy Gray

11-03 - Madison Tacka

11-04 – Stephanie Eckels

11-06 – Thomas Bagwell

11-06 - Tyler Dix

11-06 - Alice Oberender

11-09 - Carl Henderson, Jr

11-14 - Carol Jenkins

11-17 - Sandy Fleming

11-17 - Anna Seidl

11-17 - Chris Sulin

11-18 - David Snyder

11-19 - Hillary Griffin

11-20 - Nancy Collins

11-20 - Art Romain

11-21 - Amber Deems

11-21 - Elyssa Hoffmann

11-21 - Arlene Weber

11-23 - Diane Pfeifer

11-24 - Charlie Rudolph

11-25 - Thelma Maisenholder

11-25 - Nancy Murray

11-26 - Susan Dulaney

11-28 – Natalie Schronsky

11-29 - Tina Salvo

11-30 - Kelly Clavell

Happy Birthday

Do you have an **November** birthday but do not see your name printed here? That means we do not have your complete information on file. Please contact Hailea in the church office to update your information.

## Christmas Concert

There will be a Christmas Concert featuring the Canterbury Ringers, an English hand bell ensemble, at 3:00pm on Sunday, November 25th at St. Mark's Catholic Church, 2407 Laurel Brook Road, Fallston.

All proceeds will be donated to the Welcome One Emergency Center (FCCA). Tickets are \$10, and children under 12 are FREE. Tickets available at the door or in advance at 443-910-1037.



# Holy Communion Lutheran Church

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