

THE TOWER MONTHLY

LOVELY LANE | BALTIMORE CITY STATION

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Lovely Lane United Methodist Church

MOTHER CHURCH OF
AMERICAN METHODISM



2200 Saint Paul Street
Baltimore MD 21218-5805

Worship 11:00 AM

Office Hours
Monday — Friday
9 AM — 2 PM

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PASTOR
Rev. Debbie Scott
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John Strawbridge

ORGANIST
Bill Scanlan Murphy

PASTOR EMERITA
Rev. Nancy Nedwell

SEXTON
Ivan Reyes

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Lena Leone



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

We journeyed through Lent starting with a service on Ash Wednesday joined by visiting Penn State students. Each Sunday a group gathered to have conversation after worship focused on devotional readings from Brian McClaren. Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, the break of dawn for our Sunrise Service and last but not least the Festal Service for Easter morn concluding with the Hallelujah Chorus. Ahhhh, we can take a deep breath now. Easter has come and gone.

Like many pastors, I take the week after Easter off to recover from all the demands of the season. My thanks to Rev. Emora Brannan for filling in for me the Sunday after Easter, known as low Sunday.

Many of us are familiar with Howard Thurman's piece, The Work of Christmas begins, not ends with the Christmas Eve Service. I found this haunting, powerful benediction written by one of our United Methodist Bishop's, a dear friend of Martin Luther King, Jr., to be a reminder that the work of Easter does not end when the last Hallelujah is sung, or when the last lily is carried from the church. The work of Easter is truly summed up in the words below:

*And now, may the Lord torment you.
May the Lord keep before you the faces of the hungry,
the lonely, the rejected and the despised.
May the Lord afflict you with pain for the hurt,
the wounded, the oppressed, the abused, the victims of violence.
May God grace you with agony, a burning thirst for justice and righteousness.
May the Lord give you courage & strength & compassion to make ours a better world,
to make our community a better community, to make our church a better church.
And may you do your best to make it so, and after you have done your best,
may the Lord grant you peace.*



(Benediction given by Bishop Woodie White at 1996 General Conference in Denver, CO)

The Work of Easter has just begun. As Easter people may we work for God's kingdom to be the community of love that Jesus called us to create.

**Grace and Peace,
Rev. Debbie Scott**



From the Lay Leader...

Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed!

Now what?

Recently I'd been watching a favorite TV show with anticipation as the series wound up to its last episode... the series finale. After so many ups and downs for the characters and twists in the story, it all came down to this ultimate show. The chapter that would wrap up the entire story into some kind of ending. And when that ending finally came it was followed by an equally big reaction: Is that it?

That happens so often with our favorite show, movie franchise or book series. It's almost impossible for everyone's expectations to be fully and satisfactorily met in one final act. The finales are never what we imagined them to be in our own minds, and so we feel disappointed... let down.

That time we spent... those enjoyable wasted hours... now leave a hole waiting to be filled. We feel anxious and unsettled.

As Christians, we have just come through the our annual re-telling of the greatest story ever told. But it's not a long story. From Christmas to Easter is only four months. One third of the year. What do we do with the rest of our time? How do we feel now that the series is ended? I don't think any of us would say we were disappointed by the ending, but it would still all be a waste if we cannot answer the question; "Now what?"

The Bible gives us some indication of "Now what." Because the story does not end with the death or even the resurrection of Jesus. In the different gospels, Jesus appears to the disciples and gives them notes on how to continue the story. He shows them symbolically that they should continue to be fishers of people – pulling in vastly more than they ever have. He tells Peter to "Feed my lambs." And he instructions the disciples to go forth and make disciples of all peoples.

Our modern culture and technology have given rise to a new form of story that has come to be known as "Fan Fiction." Mostly writing on-line, followers of popular books and TV shows are continuing the stories of their favorite characters. Some create in keeping with the style of the original, others work in new and surprising ways. Some of these efforts have even become popular successes in their own right.

In the Bible, the subsequent acts of the Apostles and their writings fill out the New Testament and continue the story of Jesus' ministry and influence on earth. And the real answer to "Now what?" is that now the story has gotten so much bigger. It's no longer just Jesus' story but it can belong to anyone who loves the story and wants to pick up the thread.

So what would it look like if we did not think of the Bible as having come to an end? What if we rejected the notion that the Bible is finished? What if you or I had another New Testament book to write? What would your gospel look like? What would your epistles say?

Jesus has guided us to think in exactly this way. God is the author of an open-ended story, and he left us with a cliff-hanger. He invites us to continue the narrative in new ways and new tongues. If fishermen and shepherds no longer speak to us, we have the chance to tell the stories of disciples who are engineers or taxi drivers.

Where once you were only the audience, God has made you the author. What happens next is the story you will tell. The witness you will give. Do not let the story end.

Peace,
John Strawbridge
LAY LEADER





Our Easter Altar

We thank our members and friends for placing flowers on the Lovely Lane Altar, to Honor and Remember their Loved Ones.



By Anonymous:

In memory of Meriyamoh Abedoh

By Dan & Sasha Bailey:

In honor of Leroy Bailey and Paul Cassarino

In memory of Deborah Bailey, Marilyn Bailey and Phylis Cassarino

By Helen & Melvin Boore:

In memory of Mrs. Janice C. Boore and Dr. Burwell F. Powell

By Emora & Nancy Brannan:

In memory of their Parents

In honor of their Children & Grandchildren

By Henry & Linda Chen:

In honor of Emora & Nancy Brannan, Nancy Nedwell, and Dee Shaw

In memory of Beth Glasgow, Adele Daly, Bob Shaw and Dick Wilson

By Anonymous:

In honor of Sarah Scribner, John Strawbridge, Lenore Baier and Cathy Dryden

By Aimee & Ken Delany:

In memory of Dorothy Sauer, Paul Schuette and Terry Schuette

By Susan Denny Conner & Family:

In memory of her parents, Mr. & Mrs. C. Sherman Denny, Jr., grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. C. Sherman Denny, Sr., and grandparents Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Rigby McDorman

By Betsy Fisk:

In honor of my Fabulous Family

In memory of my husband, George Fisk

By Marian Munn Griffin:

In memory of Albert & Frances Munn, Dalton Munn, Albert Munn, Jr., Daisy Munn Trobaugh & Mike Griffin

By Joanna & Donald Kann:

In memory of Dr. Frederick & Joan M. Barkalow

In honor of Rev. Debbie Scott, Rev. Nancy Nedwell, Rev. Dr. Emora & Nancy Brannan, and All of Our Friends at Lovely Lane

By Sharra Kelly:

In memory of Robert Weiblen, Llyod & Frances Casto

In honor of Mary Hines

By Etzie Scott Heyl

In loving memory of the 3 Holmes Sisters:

Edna Holmes Brown, Martha Holmes Tracey & Ethyl Holmes Dyer

By David & Judy Hughes:

In memory of Esther M. & Raymond L. Hughes Jr., and John L. Hughes



By William Kilmon:

In memory of Eleanor H. Kilmon, Nadine M. Kilmon, Eleanor K. Doerr, Linton E. Kilmon, Sr. & Linton E. Kilmon, Jr.

By Mr. & Mrs. Richard T. Kircher:

In memory of Mary R. Eliason Kircher, Henry C. Eliason & Katherine R. Eliason

By Susanna Maddox:

In Honor of the Maddox Family

By Isaac & Ruth Mawokomatanda:

In honor of Lovely Lane UMC

By Jackie Noller:

In memory of her parents, Robert & Twyla Noller and her husband, Robert Castadot

By Dennis M. Nonemaker:

In memory of Albert E. & Mabel B. Nonemaker, Margaret E. Nonemaker, William J. Burgan and Loved Ones

By Eleanor M. Packard:

In memory of John Neal Packard, Mr. & Mrs. Albert Rogers Munn, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Earl Packard, and Mr. & Mrs. L. G. Yongue

By Rev. & Mrs. Carl Ford Peterson:

In honor of Dolores Shaw and Nellie Bearce Ford, Grandmother

By Carole Quinan & Family:

In memory of her parents, Alberta L. & W. LeRoy Conklin, and her brother, Daniel L. Conklin

By Mary & Joe Schrufer:

In memory of Winifred Douthat, Walton Douthat and Dorothy Douthat

By Rev. Debbie Scott

In memory of My Parents, Gale & Marie Scott

In honor of My Sister, Wendy Joy Scott, Our Wonderful Church Staff & Our Fabulous Congregation

By Roger & Barbara Tinius:

In memory of John & Hannelore Tinius and Theodore & Clarissa Kammar

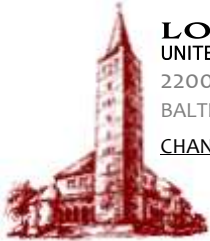
**The Paschal or Easter Candle is given to the Glory of God and
In Loving Memory of Our Parents
E. Oliver & Myrtle Brannan and Rev. Al R. & Buena Crumpler
By Emora & Nancy Brannan**

The Altar Palms are given in Memory of Juanita Mangual-Salas by Ivan Reyes



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 11 AM Worship Service 12 PM Fellowship Hour 12 PM Grace UMC Tour 12 PM Public Tour	29 6:30 PM Baltimore Tai Chi	30	1 7:30 PM BFMS Dance	2 6 PM Grace Abounds Youth Dance Ministry	3 4 Buck-I-Serv OSU Overnight Arrives 8 AM Martial Arts Class 9 AM Church Work Day 10:30 AM UMC of Mantua Tour	4 Buck-I-Serv OSU Overnight Arrives 8 AM Martial Arts Class 9 AM Church Work Day 10:30 AM UMC of Mantua Tour
5 11 AM Worship Service 12 PM Fellowship Hour 12 PM Public Tour 12:30 PM Church Council Meeting	6 6:30 PM Baltimore Tai Chi	7	8 7:30 PM BFMS Dance	9 6 PM Grace Abounds Youth Dance Ministry	10 8:30 AM BLS Event	11 Buck-I-Serv OSU Overnight Departs 8 AM Martial Arts Class 10 AM MD House & Garden Pilgrimage Tours
12 11 AM Worship Service 12 PM Fellowship Hour 12 PM Public Tour	13 1 PM BLS Spring Show Rehearsal 6:30 PM Baltimore Tai Chi	14 1 PM BLS Spring Show Rehearsal 3:45 PM United Methodist Communities Tour	15 9 AM BLS Spring Show Rehearsal 7:30 PM BFMS Dance	16 7 AM BLS Spring Show Performance 6 PM Grace Abounds Youth Dance Ministry	17 7 AM BLS Spring Show Performance	18 8 AM Martial Arts Class 10 AM Oakland UMC Tour 2 PM Hiss UMC Tour
19 11 AM Worship Service 12 PM Fellowship Hour 12 PM Public Tour	20 6:30 PM Baltimore Tai Chi	21	22 7:30 PM BFMS Dance	23 6 PM Grace Abounds Youth Dance Ministry	24 12 PM BLS High School Awards Ceremony	25 8 AM Martial Arts Class
26 11 AM Worship Service 12 PM Fellowship Hour 12 PM Public Tour	27 6:30 PM Baltimore Tai Chi	28	29 Annual Conference 7:30 PM BFMS Dance	30 Annual Conference 6 PM Grace Abounds Youth Dance Ministry	31 Annual Conference	1 Annual Conference 8 AM Martial Arts Class

OUR MISSION: To celebrate the vision of God’s Good News in Jesus Christ in liturgy, learning, and life, through the revitalization of our congregation, the restoration of our building, and the strengthening of our traditions, while recognizing our unique presence and mission in Baltimore City.




LOVELY LANE
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TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL
 THANK YOU FOR PROMPT DELIVERY!

MAY SCHEDULE

	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26
Altar Flowers	In Honor of Be Kind to Animals Week	In Honor of All Mothers	OPEN	In Honor of Memorial Day
Tower Lighting	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
Greeters	Dennis & Angie Ferguson	Susanna Maddox & Mike Rouse	Nancy & Emora Brannan	Cathy Dryden & Dean Uhler
Liturgists	Laura Gamble	Sefi Abedoh	Carrie Harnick	Johnnie/Marisa Olszewski
Tour Guides	Mike Rouse	John Strawbridge	Lenore Baier	Carol Curtis
Fellowship Hour Hosts	Sefi Abedoh & Lee Enos	Rev. Deb Scott & Keith Simmers	Carrie Harnick	OPEN