#### May-June 2022





Nine years ago, I attended a staff meeting of a large United Methodist Church in our region in which the senior pastor was announcing that a small Korean United Methodist church would be renting the large church's chapel to host Sunday morning worship services and weekday morning prayer services. While the senior pastor was proud that his church was hosting this new church, to be led by a newly commissioned bilingual United Methodist pastor, he was concerned that the church might be in competition with other local Korean churches. He told the staff that, in consideration of this, "We need to do our best to keep the church contained." One of the associate pastors was taken aback, and responded, "On the Day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit arrived, I don't think the disciples were trying to contain anything!"

Magothy United Methodist Church

Across town around this time. leaders of a small United Methodist church were discussing their future. While, for the moment, their finances were healthy enough to support a part-time pastor, a debate about whether or not to try to attract new members had arisen. "In order for our church to grow," one member said, "we need to invite people and plan some community gatherings to attract people." Several others disagreed. "We want to stay small. We know each other already and are happy, and we only need a few more people to help our church finances. We'll be fine if we could increase our 30 people on Sunday worship to 50." One church member, who had stopped coming 20 years before even said, "All I want

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The mission of Magothy United Methodist Church is to: -Share Christ's Love -Hear the Word of God -Serve People

Our vision: To build a Christian community that serves the least, the lost and the lonely

#### Pastor's Corner (continued from page 1)

from the church is to be there when I die."

In both of these situations, I was struck and saddened that there were leaders at a large church and at a small church where there was a desire to contain the Holy Spirit from doing God's work of welcoming new people. Remembering how I felt when I witnessed these conversations. I have come to wonder about how we at Magothy feel about welcoming new people. I am proud to serve as the pastor of a church that does a good job of welcoming visitors, but some concerns should arise for us. For a visitor looking for a church home, coming to a new church for the first time – or even the second or third time - can be difficult. Most people know each other, and worship rituals, while they can be holy, can sometimes seem strange for newcomers.

In Matthew 28:19, we find Jesus saying, "...go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..." In Acts 1:8, he says much the same thing: "...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." And on the Day of Pentecost, when the disciples were given power by the Holy Spirit to speak in many different languages, they indeed were not trying to contain anything! Acts 2:41 tells us, "about three thousand were added to their number that day."

Friends, the Holy Spirit will come upon Magothy so that we might be challenged to welcome newcomers and led to be a more holy people. We must be open to the Holy Spirit and willing to break down any uncertainty or traditions that seek to limit our growth, both numerically and spiritually. If we allow ourselves to be touched and led by the Holy Spirit, God will continue to bless our ministries and our connections throughout Anne Arundel County and the rest of the world. Thus, let us pray for this powerful divine influence as the Holy Spirit seeks entry into our hearts and our place of worship!

Pastor Martin



#### **Profiles of Our Church Members and Leaders**



#### This month's interview is with Bill Moran

Many know Bill as the fellow who brings tomato plants for the congregation every year. He works a good-sized garden (about 50 x 50) at home with corn, tomatoes, peppers, cabbage and broccoli. His favorite snacks bagels, coconut squares, and taffy.

Others know Bill as the fellow who makes the delicious creamed chipped beef for the Community Breakfasts.

Bill is an active participant in the Adult Sunday School class and in both the afternoon and evening Monday Bible Studies.

Bill has an identical twin brother – altogether 5 brothers and 3 sisters. Bill's family moved to Pasadena from South Baltimore when he was in grade school. He later attended George Fox Middle School but left after 9th grade to join the Navy. After active duty, Bill served in the Naval Reserve for 40 years.

In the Navy, he was a boiler room operator, experience that came in handy when seeking a civilian job with BG&E. At first, the Human Services representative at BG&E was not encouraging, but they lost a boiler operator the very next day and called Bill in to work – an opportunity door opened.

Bill had looked at homes in the Pasadena area but at first the homes he found were all electric. He was excited to learn of another area where the homes had oil heat instead. Another door opened. He found where there were two homes being built, so he and his brother flipped a coin to see who would get the preferred yellow one. Bill's brother still lives next door to him in that yellow house.

Bill and his late wife, Margarite had 3 daughters, and his grandchildren are 4 boys and 1 girl. Bill has been on many cruises – "We went wherever they were going", in part because his neighbor was a cruise director and his wife made small payments into a cruise account all year. For one cruise, the cruise director had bad news – it was overbooked and there were no rooms for Bill and friends. However the cruise line compensated with a free trip to Hawaii. Yet another door opened.

We asked how Bill came to be at Magothy UMC. Bill says he was walking past one day, and for an unknown reason felt drawn to stop in to the church. That was about 35 years ago, on the day when Bill Buck's son was christened. Bill remembers that day well — memories like Mr.Gosnell who proudly shook everyone's hand as the greeter. The people at Magothy were so welcoming that Bill kept coming back. A door opened and Bill walked through it. Although he was working varying shifts and had travel for his Reserve duty, the people at Magothy, including Mary McCann, were always understanding about his absences and continued to be welcoming and friendly. Bill says that the people at Magothy help everyone who comes here, and that has inspired him.

Bill's favorite hymn is "He Touched Me." Over the years, Bill enjoyed singing in Magothy's choir – ranging from 12 to 20 people, and in the Men's Chorus that traveled around with the then Pastor. He remembers singing with many, like Al Granofsky and Jim Dressinger, Penny Pelagini, Bill Buck and others.

## Draw the Circle Wide Musician in Free Concert

**'Draw the Circle Wide':** Mark Miller, musician, songwriter and professor at Yale and Drew Universities, will perform in a live concert, "Love and Justice for All," at 3 p.m. on June 18 at <u>Severna Park UMC</u>., 731 Benfield Blvd, Severna Park, MD. Admission is free, sponsored by The Baltimore Washington Conference..

Miller believes music can change the world, and his dream is that the music he composes, performs, teaches, and leads will inspire and empower people to create the beloved community.

#### **Doorstep Mission- Our Food Pantry**



Prices are rising and times are tough for many - you may know someone who's struggling to get enough food for themselves or their family, or even their pet. Please help them to find the help they need at Doorstep Mission here at Magothy. We are glad to provide food and a kind word to anyone in need. Tell that person that the Doorstep Mission staff is in at the pantry **every Thursday from 10:00 – 12:00**, **Sundays 10:05 – 10:30, and Saturdays by appointment**.

With your help, Doorstep Mission served 30 families and 77 individuals in April, and 29 families and 72 individuals in May.

Our **next Food Bank pickup is Thursday**, **June 23rd for a 9:30 a.m. appointment**. We will need drivers (with trucks) and helpers, so please let Ellen and the DSM Team know you're available to help out.

This month we especially need: condiments like catsup and mustard, mayonnaise in plastic, jelly/jams in plastic containers, hearty soups, shaped pasta (like macaroni, ziti or bowties – not so much spaghetti), pasta sauce (preferably in plastic jars or cans), pancake syrup and shelf-stable cartons of milk (not the refrigerated kind), canned carrots, canned mixed vegetables, canned potatoes and canned yams. We can also use paper bags, personal care items (full size or small) and food for dogs and cats.

### Gotta Break Eggs for a Great Community Breakfast!

Mark your calendar to join in for the next Breakfast on Saturday, June 18th serving from 7 to 10:30 a.m. Our community breakfast is amazing!

**Bring the family and neighbors!** This fresh, hot, bottomless breakfast served each 3rd-Saturday is only \$8 for adults; free for children 11 and under.

Don't miss the chipped beef! Or are you more a scrapple fan? French toast, blueberry pancakes, scrambled eggs? ... more variety than we have room to type! No matter what you're craving, you can't miss with this delicious assortment and friendly crew.

Scrambled eggs, with and without peppers and cheese — both dishes are very popular at the Community Breakfast. They're best when freshly cooked and steaming hot, so there's almost always a batch underway. But we need YOU to make that happen!

Do you want to be part of a team that makes many people happy? The Community Breakfast team needs helpers in the kitchen who can help

make the fluffy, delicious scrambled eggs for the Breakfast, one Saturday morning each



month. You're sure to love being on this team of can-do volunteers!

To sign up or to learn more, please contact Robin Bartlett robinbartlett1518 @gmail.com

## Magothy UMC Donations to Missions - Update

Our Treasurer, Felicia Granofsky, reports the following recent **contributions to missions that flowed from gifts given by our congregation in their offerings.** By noting an amount for UMCOR Ukraine or MANNA in the "for" section on your check or on your offering envelope, your gifts are directed to these funds.

#### **UMCOR** donation:

Magothy recently sent a donation to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) for **\$1,450 for the people of Ukraine!** Our congregation is a blessed congregation when it comes to helping those in need!

#### **MANNA Fund:**

One of our mission statement goals is to Serve People. Our Manna Fund fulfills this goal by being a resource to provide hope and financial assistance to individuals in need.

Some of the financial aid we have provided to our congregants as well as non-members include help with rent, gas and electric bills, clothes for an interview, hotel stay when the weather was freezing cold, phone bills, and doctor expenses. The Manna Fund serves people through the generous support of this fund by Magothy congregation donors.

## **Combined Worship Service and Feast Too!**



Annapolis District Superintendent, Rev. Sarah Schlieckert

On May 29th, the 5th Sunday in May, at 10:00 a.m. we held a joint ONE SERVICE Worship Service in Fellowship Hall. The service included our 9:00 Traditional, 10:30 Contemporary Praise, and the 11:30 Deaf Church congregations. Our District Superintendent, Sarah Schlieckert preached a message titled, "What's Next?"

The Worship Service was followed by a Bringa-Dish Feast in Fellowship Hall. A Bring-a-Dish Feast is a meal to which each of the guests contributes a favorite family-sized dish to share with others. It was a Feast!

## **Church Sign Communicates, Congregation Prays**

Early last weekend, someone stole the 19 tiny chairs and two larger chairs placed outside of <u>Faith UMC</u> in Rockville as a memorial to the victims of the school shooting in Uvalde, Texas. The congregation replied: "Someone



stole the chairs, we remember anyway." And, on the flip side of their sign on busy Montrose Road, "Chair thief, if you need more, let us know." On Sunday, the congregation prayed for the victims and their loved ones and the person who stole their chairs.



# Street Care Ministry - Went Out on May 25th !

The Street Care Ministry team went out on Wednesday, May 25th from 3 to 5 p.m. Magothy United Methodist Church is continuing our Street Care ministry in partnership with Bright Mind Enrichment. This ministry involves offering necessities (socks, hygiene items, small nut-free snacks, etc.) to homeless people in the community, and beginning to build

relationships with this vulnerable population.

There is a bin in the Fellowship hall to collect the needed items and they can also be



dropped off in the Office. Please contribute any of the listed items as you are able. We are currently in need of:

- Socks
- Hygiene items (especially female products) and packs of baby wipes
- Nut-free snacks (soft foods preferred)
- Deodorant
- Shampoos\*
- Soaps

\*Small bottles are preferred for portability. For more information, please contact Pastor Martin (pastor@magothy.org)

# Wave Bye-Bye to Our Hall's Old HVAC System

On Thursday evening, June 9th, the old heating and air conditioning system (HVAC) was loaded onto a trailer and taken away by a huge dumptruck. Friday afternoon, the new system was already hooked up and making the Fellowship Hall comfortable. Thanks to Brumwell Instant for the great work and cooperative spirit they have shown on this capital improvements project.

It's a tough time for Magothy families, but the congregational meeting May 5th explained the need. We have already been blessed to receive some generous donations specifically marked



for "HVAC" to help cover this unexpected expense, and hope to receive more. The Cool Fest music festival fundraising is intended to help to close whatever gap remains after congregational gifts. Thank you all for your support.

### It's Beautiful at Magothy in Springtime!





#### The 9 a.m. Sunday Worship Summers in the Woods!

During the summer months, Magothy's 9 a.m. Worship Service moves to the Chapel in the Woods, an outdoor amphitheater worship area, when weather permits. Wayne shifts from Baby Grand to electronic keyboard, and nature becomes the backdrop for hearing God's Word. If you have not yet experienced it, we suggest you try the early morning cool of our Chapel in the Woods on a Sunday morning in June.

Just follow the boardwalk!

The boardwalk to the Chapel in the Woods is located at the back of the church parking lot, past the Fellowship Hall.



## **Bible Study Opportunities**

The Monday afternoon Bible Study meets on Mondays in the church Library– We are studying Matthew. New members are welcome.

Monday evening Bible Study meets on Mondays at 7 p.m. in the church Library. New members are welcome! We are beginning a study on Romans.

For more information, please contact Pastor Martin (pastor@magothy.org)

While you can tell from this picture that the group actually does study the Word, they have a good time together, too!



Monday Afternoon Bible Study

## **Cool Fest Music Festival - Fun Food!**

The menu for our Cool Fest Magothy Music Festival is full of fun food offerings. We also have a children's activity area bursting with fun. Can you be there for an hour on June 26th between 4 and 8 p.m. to help us to serve the community as they enjoy a summer afternoon under the tall trees of Magothy? Please say yes!

In addition to inviting and introducing new folks to Magothy, this event is a fun-filled fundraiser for the HVAC system replacement in Fellowship Hall and for other building/property improvements like the sidewalk repairs. Name that food game - Can you match the name to the picture?

- $\diamond \quad Corn \ Dogs$
- ◊ Walking Taco
- Snow Cones
- ◊ GF Felafel
- ◊ Nachos
- ◊ Pop (in Iowa)
- $\diamond$  H<sub>2</sub>O













## **Egg Hunt Pictures**

A great time was had by all at the Magothy annual Egg Hunt. Some were newcomers to Magothy. Many thanks to Jane Hartlove and Darlene Wehn for the leadership of this fun activity!









Talented artists in the church family volunteered to do face painting... treats, being lovingly welcomed ... so many things showed made this event special for the community. Thank you, all!



A customer came to the Niftee Thriftee one day looking for a bunny costume someone had donated. And Jane just happened to be looking for a bunny...

### God Provides...

## National Guard Returns - Boosters & Vaccinations!

On Sunday morning, May 29th, the Maryland National Guard returned to Magothy to host another COVID Vaccination and Booster clinic. Nine people left better protected from the virus, and the Guard left after joining us for the bringa-dish Feast.

Thank you to the Maryland National Guard!







### **Annual Conference Discusses Disaffiliation Process**

The Baltimore Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church recently held its annual gathering virtually. Pastor Martin and Bill Buck attended as representatives of the Magothy UMC congregation. Among the many items on the agenda for the Annual Conference was instruction on the disaffiliation process that is currently defined for any congregations that wish to leave the United Methodist denomination.

Many individuals and churches are seeking to renew their vision as United Methodists, focusing on vitality as they make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Others are exploring a different future and may be considering withdrawing their membership or leaving the denomination. For individuals and churches discerning their future, especially for those considering leaving, the conference has provided several resources on the Conference website:

https://www.bwcumc.org/administration/resources-for-disaffiliation/

# VBS at Magothy is Out of this World!

Magothy's Vacation Bible School (VBS) which is scheduled for evenings (5 p.m. to 7:45 p.m., including dinner) for one week: from Monday, June 27th, through Friday, July 1st.

Bringing the Good News of Christ to children and their families is an important part of Magothy's mission. Please donate some time to our VBS to help with this important evangelism effort. Robin Kirkpatrick, Arlene Gassmann and Pastor Martin have been planning a session that's Out of This World, and sure to engage the K-5 youngsters. There will be games, crafts, music and stories, and YOU can be part of it all. Just contact Robin Kirkpatrick (rrjoness@hotmail.com) (315) 212-5006

#### Come to VBS at Magothy



- ⇒ Crafts
- ⇒ Games
- ⇒ Storytelling
- ⇒ Music

## Watch for UFOS!

Join us for FREE Dinner and VBS\* June 27 thru July 1 5:00 to 7:45 each evening

#### All children K-5 are welcome

\*VBS is Vacation Bible School, a fun summer tradition in many churches.



Magothy UMC, 3703 Mountain Road Pasadena, MD 21122 (410) 255-2420 or Pastor Martin and let them know which days/times you cn help during the one-week program.

We need your help to get the word out about this fun program, too.

Please pick up a few flyers at your church service and pass them on to family, friends or neighbors to invite them to join in!

The flyer will also be posted to the church's Facebook page, so you can "share" it to your Facebook friends.

## First Magothy Music Festival Launches in June

There's still time to encourage <u>your</u> favorite musical performer or band to get onto the program schedule for June or July at our Cool Fest Magothy Music Festival. We have a few spots still open. (Sorry, August is currently filled.) Please give contact information for your favorite local, musicallytalented folks to Pastor Martin so he can fill them in on the festival and sign them up. We are especially looking for high school and college-aged performers to increase diversity of music available.

++"Fair Food" stands will offer tasty treats to tickle the tastebuds of our guests as they enjoy the music.

++We have 3 music venues for lots of choices:

Bands will play on the **Fellowship Hall stage**.

Folk, acoustic and open mic performers will be making their music in the **Chapel in the Woods amphitheater.** 

While all this is going on, praise, classical and more intimate music will be filling the historic **White Chapel in the church** with music.

++Square dancers will perform outdoors each festival date.

++Loads of fun for young ones:

Bounce houses and children's activities designed by our Magothy Cooperative Preschool partners make this a family-friendly festival.



Magothy UMC, 3703 Mountain Road, Pasadena, MD

#### Butterfly Garden - Priscilla Would Have Loved It!

Out in an island in the church parking lot, near the woods end, is a small butterfly garden, planted and maintained by the Magothy Cooperative Preschool. The school uses the garden to teach about the circle of life and the natural habitat of monarch butterflies.

As you'll see on one of the plaques in the garden, it was recently expanded and improved thanks to donations to the memory of Priscilla Ward, a longtime member of Magothy UMC and lifelong teacher. We think that Priscilla would have loved this living memorial.

Magothy United Methodist Church 3703 Mountain Road Pasadena, MD 21122 www.magothy.org www.facebook.com/magothyUMC

Church Office: (410) 255-2420 Secretary@magothy.org

Pastor: The Reverend Martin P. Brooks Office (410) 255-2634, Cell (410) 739-1488 pastor@magothy.org



#### Regular Worship Schedule (except 5th Sundays)

9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in the Chapel in the Woods (weather permitting), else in the historic White Chapel in the church

- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School Classes for Adults (September thru May only)
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Praise Service in the Fellowship Hall
  - Sunday School for children and youth following Children's Time at 10:30 service
- Holy Communion is shared the first Sunday of every month

5th Sundays: Combined Service

- 10:00 a.m. One Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall
  - Sunday School for Children follows Children's Time in the service