

METRO UMC MESSENGER



SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

ABOUT US

VISION STATEMENT

*Transforming the World
through Jesus Christ*

MISSION STATEMENT

*Passionate Christians Making
Disciples of Jesus Christ*



MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

I hope this message finds you in good health and high spirits. As your pastor, it is my duty and privilege to guide our church family not only in faith but also in understanding the practical aspects that enable our church to thrive and serve our community effectively. Today, I want to address the significance of your generous donations to our church. Your financial contributions play a crucial role in several key areas: church services, maintenance, outreach programs, and mission shares. Let me elaborate on each of these to provide clarity on how your donations make a meaningful impact.

Church Services:

Our church services are the heart of our spiritual community. They offer a place for worship, fellowship, and spiritual growth. Donations help cover the costs of utilities, such as heating, lighting, and sound systems, which ensure a comfortable and engaging environment for all attendees. Additionally, funds support our worship team, Sunday school materials, and special events that enrich our spiritual journey. For example, the beautiful music you hear during our services is made possible by the instruments and personnel funded through your generosity.

Maintenance:

The church building and grounds require regular upkeep to remain a safe and welcoming space for everyone. Maintenance includes everything from routine cleaning, repairs, and landscaping to larger projects like roof repairs or upgrading outdated facilities. Consider the installation of the air condition in the kitchen, the handicap push plates on the doors in the Narthex or the replacement of the fire monitoring panel, which is currently in process. Your contributions make these essential improvements possible.

Outreach Programs:

Our outreach programs are a vital part of our mission to serve and uplift the local community. These programs include food giveaways and community meals. For instance, our weekly food pantry provides much-needed sustenance to families in need. These initiatives are only possible with your financial support, which enables us to purchase supplies, fund activities, and extend a helping hand to those who need it most.

Mission Shares:

The connectional system and Mission Shares (formerly known as apportionments) are two of the defining traits of United Methodism. They allow local churches to reach beyond their walls and be in ministry in significant ways in their backyards and across the globe.

The United Methodist Church's special giving structure ensures your generosity blesses as many people as possible in sustainable, strategic ways. Through your support, and the support of Metropolitan, we fund hundreds of projects each year.

We give to minister in Jesus' name. Together United Methodists do remarkable ministry work around the world. We care for survivors recovering from earthquakes and storms; we invest, long term, in vulnerable communities; we implement the most effective solutions to diseases like malaria; we equip the next generation to lead the church and society. In all of this, we share the good news of Jesus Christ.

We give because God first gave to us. About 11 cents of every dollar put in the local church collection plate supports General Church and Conference Mission Shares. Together these pennies are transforming the world.

Your donations are not just financial transactions; they are acts of love and commitment to our shared mission. They enable us to worship together, maintain a beautiful and safe church environment, and extend God's love to our neighbors through various outreach efforts. Every dollar given is a testament to your faith and dedication to making a difference.

I encourage you to consider the impact of your giving, no matter the amount. Together, we can continue to build a strong, vibrant church community that serves as a beacon of hope and love in our local area. Thank you for your ongoing support, and may God bless you abundantly for your generosity.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Faye





UNDERSTANDING TITHES, OFFERING AND GIVING IN THE CHURCH

When it comes to church finances, terms like tithes, offerings, and giving often come up. These practices are rooted in Biblical teachings and play a significant role in the life of a church community. Let's delve into what these terms mean, their scriptural basis, and how the money collected is used to support the mission and ministry of the church.

Tithes: The Biblical Foundation

The term "tithe" comes from an Old English word meaning "tenth." Biblically, it refers to giving one-tenth of one's earnings to God. This practice is rooted in several scriptures:

- **Leviticus 27:30** (NIV): "A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord."
- **Malachi 3:10** (NIV): "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."

Tithing is seen as an act of obedience and trust. By giving a portion of their income, believers acknowledge God's sovereignty and provision.

Offerings: Beyond the Tithe

Offerings differ from tithes in that they are given freely and voluntarily, above and beyond the tithe. Offerings are acts of generosity stemming from a grateful heart. Several scriptures highlight the importance of offerings:

- **2 Corinthians 9:7** (NIV): "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
- **Proverbs 11:25** (NIV): "A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."

Offerings can be given in various forms, including money, time, and talents, and are often used to support specific needs within and beyond the church community.

Giving: A Broader Perspective

While tithes and offerings are specific types of giving, the term "giving" encompasses all forms of generosity. This includes supporting the church, charitable donations, and acts of kindness toward others. The Bible encourages a lifestyle of giving:

- **Luke 6:38** (NIV): "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."
- **Acts 20:35** (NIV): "In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

How Is the Money Used?

The money collected from tithes, offerings, and other forms of giving is vital for the:

church's operation and mission. Here are some of the key areas where these funds are typically allocated:

1. Operational Costs: This includes salaries for church staff, utility bills, maintenance of the church building, and other administrative expenses.

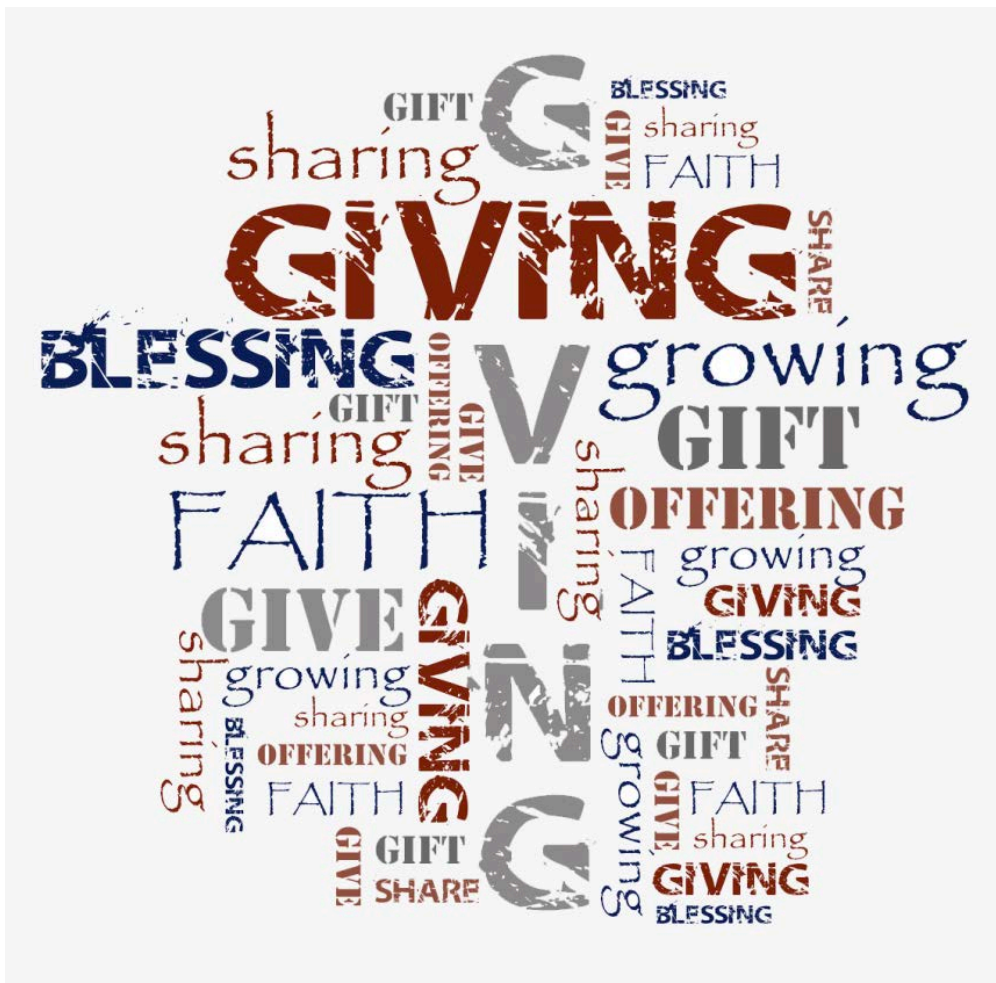
2. Ministries and Programs: Funds support various ministries such as youth groups, adult education, worship services, and outreach programs.

3. Missionary Work: Many churches allocate a portion of their budget to support missionaries and mission projects both locally and globally.

4. Community Assistance: Churches often use funds to help those in need within their community. This can include food pantries, emergency relief, and other forms of assistance.

5. Building Projects: Contributions may also go toward building improvements, expansions, or new construction to better serve the congregation and community.

Tithes, offerings, and giving are integral aspects of the Christian faith, rooted in scripture and tradition. They not only support the church's operational needs but also enable it to fulfill its mission of spreading the gospel and serving the community. By understanding and participating in these practices, believers can experience the joy and blessings that come from living a generous life. May we all be inspired to give generously, cheerfully, and with a heart full of gratitude, trusting in God's provision and faithfulness.



DIRECTOR

of Music & FINE ARTS



Drew THOMAS

Drew Thomas is Metropolitan's new Director of Music and Fine Arts. He will lead the Music Ministry, which includes the Praise and Worship Team, Men's Choir, A.C. Kane Choir, Children's Choir, the Liturgical Dance Team, and the Puppet Ministry.

When did your love for music start? At age 9. I was walking around for offering and the drums caught my attention. My heart has been for music ever since!

What's your favorite scripture? Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV), "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Who is your favorite gospel artist or group? There are so many to choose from, but my Top 5 are: Luther Barnes, Tye Tribbett, Doobie Powell, Tim Riddick, Ricky Dillard & New Generation.

What is your favorite song? Lord I'm Available to You

What's your go to praise and worship song and why? Big by Full Gospel Tabernacle! This song decrees and declares that our God is Big, Strong, and Mighty. He's so good to me and He is my God and my refuge. He's the rock on which I stand! He is my fortress and my light! He holds the oceans in his hand and there is ABSOLUTELY NOTHING THAT MY GOD CANNOT DO! (My life testimony!)

Who has inspired you in how you lead the music ministry? Bobby Burwell, Cliff Jones, Judith McCallister, Antwon Cooks, and Janae Jones.

What do you hope to bring to your role as the Director of Music and Fine Arts? It's my prayer that I lead this music and fine arts ministry with a different perspective and push that is uncomfortable but yet needed in order to get to that next level in everyone's intimate praise and worship unto our risen King!

PRAYER REQUESTS

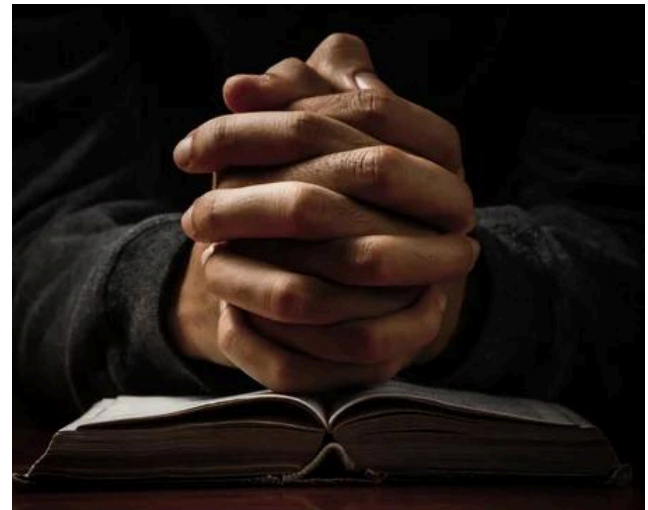
As we come together in faith and fellowship, let us remember the power of collective prayer. The Bible reminds us in James 5:16, "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." With hearts full of love and compassion, we lift up the needs of our community, trusting in God's grace and mercy to bring healing, comfort, and strength.

In this spirit, we invite you to join our prayer list, a sacred space where we can lift each other up in times of need, gratitude, and celebration. Whether you are seeking healing, guidance, comfort, or simply wish to offer praise, your intentions are welcome here. Please take a moment to reflect upon the following prayer requests and join us in lifting these concerns to our Heavenly Father.

We would like to pray for:

Aaron Kane
Frank Boone
Girard and Edith Myers
Vernon Myers
Vivian Lewis
Merton and Kathy Myers
Kelston Whitaker
Thomas and Evelyn Dashiell
Felicia Greenfield and son Wilbur Greenfield
Spencer Stanislas, Jr. and Ayesha Claytor-Stanislas
Greg & Vivian Claytor
Vincent and Ethel Cooke
Michelle Jordan
Shannon Stewart
John Jenifer, Sr., the Wood and Jenifer family
Shirley Jenifer
Clifford Samuels
Debra Newsome
The Cooper Family

Marjorie Neal
Ralph Shade
Ryder Turner



To add your name or prayer requests to the list or to include someone you know who could use our collective prayers, please reach out to us. Let us come together in faith, knowing that where two or three gather in His name, there He is with us (Matthew 18:20). May our prayers be a source of strength and solace, and may they bring us closer to the heart of God.

Prayer requests can be submitted through the church's website metroumcindianhead.com/Prayer-Request or by clicking the QR code.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



SEPTEMBER

- **Saturday, September 21** at 10:00 am - Anniversary Choir Rehearsal
- **Sunday, September 22** at 10:00 am - 156th Church Anniversary
- **Wednesday, September 25** at 6:00 pm (*Via Zoom*) - Fasting & Intercessory Prayer
- **Thursday, September 26** at 7:00 pm (*Via Zoom*) - Bible Study
- **Saturday, September 28** at 11:00 am (*In Person*) - United Methodist Men Meeting
- **Sunday, September 29** at 11:00 am (*In Person*) - United Women in Faith
- **Monday, September 30** at 7:00 pm (*Via Zoom*) - Unified Board

OCTOBER

- **Sunday, October 6** at 11:00 am (*In Person/Via Zoom*) - Member Town Hall Meeting
- **Tuesday, October 8** at 7:00 pm (*Via Zoom*) - Finance Meeting
- **Thursday, October 10** at 7:00 pm (*Via Zoom*) - Bible Study
- **Sunday, October 13** at 10:00 am (*In Person*) - Youth Sunday School
- **Sunday, October 13** at 11:00 am (*In Person*) - Trustee Meeting
- **Thursday, October 17** at 7:00 pm (*Via Zoom*) - Bible Study
- **Thursday, October 24** at 7:00 pm (*Via Zoom*) - Bible Study
- **Saturday, October 26** at 7:00 pm (*In Person*) - United Methodist Men Meeting
- **Sunday, October 27** at 11:00 am (*In Person*) - Youth Sunday School
- **Sunday, October 27** at 11:00 am (*In Person*) - United Women in Faith
- **Monday, October 28** at 7:00 pm (*Via Zoom*) - Unified Board
- **Thursday, October 31** at 7:00 pm (*Via Zoom*) - Bible Study



 **METROPOLITAN**
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Wednesdays at
6:00 pm

Led by
Sis. Ava Morton &
Bro. John Countryman

21 / DAYS OF FASTING & INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Join us by Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/96616749159> Meeting ID: 966 1674 9159

Or by telephone:

(301) 715-8592 Meeting ID: 966 1674 9159

When asked for the Participant ID,
enter #, then press # again to enter the call.

Ezra 8:23

So we fasted and
petitioned our God
about this and he
answered our prayer.

 **METROPOLITAN**
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

BIBLE STUDY

WITH PASTOR FAYE

THURSDAYS 7 PM VIA ZOOM

GENESIS to REVELATION

*A Comprehensive
Verse-by-Verse
Exploration of the Bible*



**THIS WEEK LESSON: CHAPTER 3
THE FLOOD (GENESIS 6-8)**

***To connect using your smart phone,
tablet or computer (video & audio)***

<https://zoom.us/j/97076134594> Meeting ID: **970 7613 4594**

To connect using your telephone (audio only)

(301) 715-8592 - Meeting ID: 970 7613 4594

When asked for the Participant ID, enter #
Then press # again to enter the meeting.

*Purchase book through Amazon or call Metropolitan on
(301) 375-9088 to get details about how to get the book.*

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

156TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

Sunday, September 22, 2024
10:00 AM

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Bryan K. Fleet, Pastor
Huntingtown Two Point Charge

DONATION REQUESTED: \$156.00

*Payments can be made in either a
lump sum or in installments*

*Donation envelopes are available
in back of Fellowship Hall*



Metropolitan United Methodist Church
3385 Metropolitan Church Road
Indian Head, MD 20640
Pastor Faye A. Johnson
www.metroumcindianhead.com

Sunday School Superintendent

Are you passionate about Bible study and eager to make a positive impact in the spiritual growth and discipleship of the youth? Metropolitan is seeking a committed individual to serve as the Youth Sunday School Superintendent.

Key Responsibilities

- Curriculum Planning and Implementation
- Teacher Recruitment and Training
- Program Administration
- Communication and Coordination
- Spiritual Guidance and Support

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Teachers Needed

Metro UMC is seeking Sunday School Teachers for 2nd & 4th Sundays for the Preschool/First grade class and the Elementary/Middle/High School class
If interested, please see Pastor Faye



Youth Sunday School

2nd and 4th Sunday of the Month (During Service)

GROUPS

Pre-K/First Grade
Elementary/Middle/High School
REGISTRATION REQUIRED



Returns
October 13th





What is the significance to the TREE OF LIFE?

It connects us to our ancestral roots and divinity.

By purchasing a leaf, an acorn or a foundation stone, you will:

- Memorialize or honor someone special in your life
- Leave a permanent memorial to family and loved ones
- Support and commit to the spiritual development and growth of our church

Leaf: \$250

Acorn: \$500

Foundation Stone: \$1,000

Monthly Installment Payment Plans Available

Pick up a brochure in the Fellowship Hall, contact Sis. Sheila Myers on (301) 326-0369 or see Sis. Nickki Harris



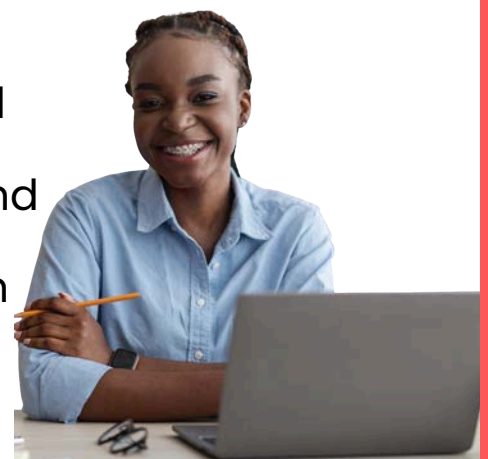
**METROPOLITAN
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Membership Secretary

Are you an organized and detail-oriented individual with a passion for community and service? Metropolitan is seeking a dedicated Membership Secretary to help us grow and connect with our members.

Key Responsibilities

- Maintain accurate and up-to-date membership records
- Assist with member communication and outreach
- Coordinate new member orientations and welcome events
- Provide administrative support to church staff and committees
- Handle confidential information with the utmost integrity



Lay Leader

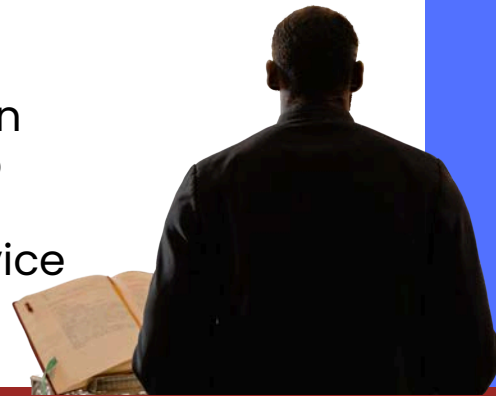
Are you passionate about your faith and eager to make a difference? Metropolitan is seeking dedicated and inspirational Lay Leaders to help guide the congregation.

Role Responsibilities

- Provide spiritual guidance and support to our congregation
- Lead worship services and prayer meetings
- Organize and participate in community outreach programs
- Collaborate with church leadership to plan and execute church activities

Qualifications:

- Strong commitment to Christian values and teachings
- Excellent communication and leadership skills
- A heart for service and a spirit of compassion



Metropolitan UMC *Community Dinners*



**OPEN TO ANYONE
WHO WANTS A MEAL**

Join us for our
Community Dinners

EVERY WEDNESDAY
from 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Free to the Community!

GRAB AND GO!

Sponsorship opportunities available.
Please see Pastor Faye A. Johnson

Bring a Friend!



WEEKEND BACKPACK FOOD PROGRAM

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

STARTING IN OCTOBER

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS:

STOCKERS

PACKERS

DRIVERS

For more information, contact
Sis. Sheila Myers on (301) 326-0369 or see Sis. Nickki Harris

Dust Off Your Metro UMC Church Bank



Don't have one? See Sis. Diane Butler
SAVE YOUR LOOSE CHANGE FOR METROPOLITAN

Get a bank. Fill it up. Bring it back to church.
Get it back...and REPEAT

Ways to Give

Offering envelopes are available at Metropolitan.
If you would like the offering to be applied to a specific ministry or program, please make note of that on the envelope or check.



BY MAIL

Send your checks or money orders to Metropolitan UMC
3385 Metropolitan Church Road
Indian Head, Maryland 20640

PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH



ONLINE

Give online using our Church Center App



Select Metropolitan United Methodist Church



IN PERSON

Give in person on Sundays or drop contributions off in black box at

Metropolitan Church

Sun: 9-11 am;

Mon-Wed: 9 am - 12 pm

Sat: 9 am - 11 am

METROPOLITAN UMC FOOD PANTRY GIVEAWAY



Wednesdays 4:00 - 4:30 pm

Saturdays 10:00 - 11:00 am

**OPEN TO THE
COMMUNITY**

3385 Metropolitan Church Road, Indian Head, MD

SERVICE **TIMES**

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sundays at 10:00 am

Join us for In-Person or Virtual Worship Services

Join us on Zoom

Connect using your smartphone, table or
computer (video and audio)

Meeting ID: 961 1274 4083

Connect using your telephone (audio only)

Dial: (646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 961 1274 4083

When prompted for the Participant ID, enter #

Then press # again to enter meeting

Join us of Facebook

Visit our YouTube Channel

BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays at 7:00 pm

GET **STAY** CONNECTED



CONTACT US:



(301) 375-9088



www.metroumcindianhead.com



metroumc.ofc@gmail.com



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Indian Head, Maryland 20640



YouTube

DOWNLOAD OUR CHURCH CENTER APP

