



Charge Clarion

August/September 2026

Pastor Dave's Corner:

"See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves"—(Matthew 10:16 NRSVUE)

In recent months, several members of our church family have been targeted by increasingly sophisticated scams. They may come by phone, claiming a loved one is in trouble. They may come by text or email warning that an account has been compromised or asking you to click a suspicious link. Some impersonate banks, government agencies, trusted businesses, or even your pastor. While the details differ, they all have one thing in common: they try to create fear and urgency so we act before we have time to think.

I nearly became a victim myself. Just before our 2025 Good Friday service, my laptop wouldn't start and everything I needed for worship was on it. My wife wisely suggested waiting until Best Buy opened, but I let my anxiety get the better of me. I searched online for Geek Squad support and unknowingly reached a convincing imposter. Only after they began accessing my computer did I realize something wasn't right. I immediately shut everything down and later had my computer checked for malware. Thankfully, no lasting damage was done.

I am reminded that Jesus tells us to be "wise as serpents and innocent as doves." Compassion and trust are Christian virtues, but so are wisdom and discernment. St. Paul echoes that truth when he writes, "God did not give us a Spirit of fear, but of power and love and self-control" (2 Timothy 1:7, New English Translation). Scammers know that frightened people make hurried decisions. The Holy Spirit, however, invites us to slow down, think clearly, seek wise counsel, and act with discernment. Fear narrows our vision; the Holy Spirit empowers our judgment.

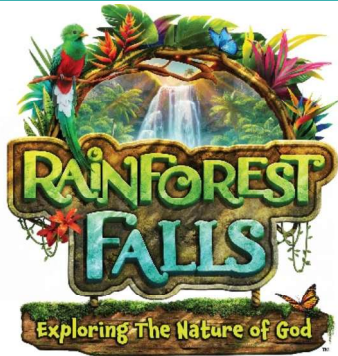
If you receive an unexpected request for money, gift cards, passwords, or personal information, don't let fear make the decision. Pause before you act. Take a deep breath. Pray. Call someone you trust, a trusted family member, friend, your bank, or the church office. Verify the story. Fear urges us to act immediately; wisdom invites us to slow down.

Jesus never promised we would live in a world without wolves. But he did promise to be with us and to give us the wisdom we need. May God give us hearts that remain compassionate and minds that grow ever wiser through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Your brother in Christ,
Pastor Dave



On June 14th Mikell Christian, Sophia German, Mikey Lorah and Emma Reifsnider were confirmed as full members in the United Methodist Church. D.S. Miller (2nd from right) presided.

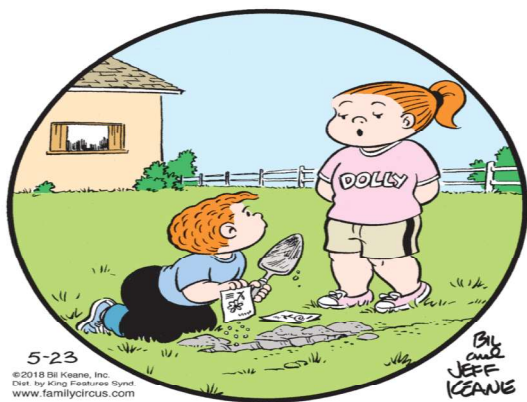


We had amazing week with the kids during our Rainforest Falls VBS. We learned that God is our creator, God knows everything, God is our safe place, God is love and God is Forever! We sang songs, played games, did experiments, had Bible adventures and learned scriptures that will stick with us! We can't wait to do it again next year. Thank you to everyone who helped!

-Valerie Spampinato



The Poplar Springs Annual Community Picnic on July 4th was a great time of fellowship, tasty food and good music!



© 2018 Bill Keane, Inc.
Dist. by King Features Syndicate
www.familycircus.com

**"If you really want them to grow fast,
you hafta say a prayer to
your gardening angel."**

Hidden Valley Ranch Oyster Crackers

- ¾ c. Salad Oil
- 1 pkg. Hidden Valley Ranch Mix
- ½ tsp. Dill
- ¼ tsp. Lemon Pepper
- ¼ tsp. Garlic Powder
- 16 oz. Plain Oyster Crackers

Whisk together salad oil, ranch mix, dill, lemon pepper and garlic powder. Pour over crackers and stir well to coat. Place on baking sheets and bake at 275° for 15-20 minutes.

Makes 11 to 12 cups.

Recipe by Guinie Warfield

Page 140 of JCUMC Heavenly Recipes Cookbook

Morgan Chapel Food & Pet Pantry

Poplar Springs & Jennings Chapel support the Morgan Chapel Food & Pet Pantry. Please bring your canned goods or check to church on the 1st Sunday of the month or take them directly to the back of the Morgan Chapel church, open the door, and leave them in the foyer. **Thanks for giving!**



Every
Donation
Makes A
Difference

MORGAN'S COFFEE HOUSE

6750 Woodbine Rd – Woodbine, Md. 21797

410-970-485

coffeehouse@morganchapel.church

Doors open at 5:30pm & music starts at 7pm

- ♦ Free Admission ♦ Food for Sale ♦
- ♦ Donations Encouraged ♦

August 21: Hot Pepper Jam Band

September 18: Fruit Jar Howlers

Happy Birthday

August

10-Matt Watkins
Lance Williams
12-Ronnie Mertz
14-John Frank
Jeri Koteles
19-Sheryl Bennett
21-Claire Greisler
Jeremy Johnson
27-Faye Hodiak
Josie Lambert
29-Karen Wick

September

1-Vaughn Turner
2-Parker Dowdy
9-William Spampinato
7-Luann Hash
8-Kip Cordisco
Madison Wick
9-Larry Phebus
Kody Silverman
Vincent Sampinato
11-Darlene McCarron
12-Steve Kimos
13-Christina Van Norman
16-Richard Hodiak
Michael Johnson
17-Pastor Dave Norton
18-Belinda Norton
19-Greg Hood
Mary Pat Johnson
20-Marshal Fleming
David Owens
Mark Shaffer
21-Joanne Widmaier
22-Jase Roeder
Carl Bokma
23-Dawn Watkins
24-Shelby Bennett
28-Johanna Williams
Zachary Thomas
29-Courtney Floyd Ueltschy
30-Christy Wamsley



There will be combined worship services with Jennings Chapel, Poplar Springs, Daisy and Lisbon UMC on August 9th and 16th

Sunday August 9

10 am at Jennings Chapel

Please bring chairs as the service will be held in the outdoor worship center

Sunday August 16

11 am at Lisbon UMC

Church Conference Forms
will be available August 17th
and are due October 1st

Church Conference for the
Poplar Springs Charge will be held
on Saturday, October 10, 2026, at
Damascus UMC at 9:00 am



Monday, September 7



**PATRIOT
DAY**

**WE WILL NEVER FORGET
9/11**



Sunday, September 13th

Grandparents day was established to honor
the role grandparents play in families and
society; it was first celebrated in 1970.

Happy Fall, Y'all!



First day of fall is September 22nd

**The Jennings Chapel Fall Festival
Saturday, October 3 from 10am – 2pm**

**Joins us and explore the many rooms of
homemade baked goods, jewelry,
holiday items, books and a silent auction.**

**There will also be apple dumplings, a plant
sale and white elephant outside.**

Lunch will be available for purchase.

**Come out and enjoy the fellowship, bargains
and yummy treats!**



Lectionary

August & September 2026

August 2, 2026

- Genesis 32:22-31
- Psalm 17:1-7, 15
- Romans 9:1-5
- Matthew 14:13-21

August 9, 2026

- Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
- Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b
- Romans 10:5-15
- Matthew 14:22-33
- NL: Esther 4:1-17

August 16, 2026

- Genesis 45:1-15
- Psalm 133
- Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
- Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28
- NL: Esther 7:1-10

August 23, 2026

- Exodus 1:8-2:10
- Psalm 124
- Romans 12:1-8
- Matthew 16:13-20
- NL: 1 John 1:5-2:2

August 30, 2026

- Exodus 3:1-15
- Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b
- Romans 12:9-21
- Matthew 16:21-38
- NL: 1 John 4:1-6

September 6, 2026

- Exodus 12:1-14
- Psalm 149
- Romans 13:8-14
- Matthew 18:15-20
- NL: 1 John 4:7-21

September 13, 2026

- Exodus 14:19-31
- Psalm 114 or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21
- Romans 14:1-12
- Matthew 18:21-35
- NL: Genesis 6:5-22; 8:6-12; 9:8-17

September 20, 2026

- Exodus 16:2-15
- Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45
- Philippians 1:21-30
- Matthew 20:1-16
- NL: Genesis 12:1-9

September 27, 2026

- Exodus 17:1-7
- Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
- Philippians 2:1-13
- Matthew 21:23-32
- NL: Genesis 39:1-23

*“Behold, how good and pleasant it is when
brothers dwell in unity!”*

- Psalm 133:1

August 2026

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
						<i>1</i>
<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>
Morgan Chapel Food & Pet Pantry collection		SPRC Meeting, Jennings Chapel, 11am				
<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>
Combined Service at Jennings Chapel, 10am				JC Ad Board meeting, 7pm		
<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>
Combined Service at Lisbon UMC, 11am	Church Conference forms available		JC Trustee Meeting, Jennings Chapel, 6pm		Morgan's Coffeehouse, Hot Pepper Jam Band, 7pm	
<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>					

September 2026

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
		<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
		Poplar Ad Board meeting, 7pm				
<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
Morgan Chapel Food & Pet Pantry collection	Labor Day			Poplar Choir Practice, 3pm in the sanctuary JC Ad Board meeting, 7pm	Patriot Day	
<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
Grandparents Day				Poplar Choir Practice, 3pm in the sanctuary	Morgan's Coffeehouse, Fruit Jar Howlers, 7pm	
<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
		First Day of Fall		Poplar Choir Practice, 3pm in the sanctuary		
<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>			



POPLAR SPRINGS U.M. CHARGE

2601 Jennings Chapel Road

Woodbine Md. 21797