



Charge Clarion

April/May 2026

Pastor Dave's Corner:

"You and I are called to become other Christs, to be living manifestations of God in this world. God dwells in us in such an intimate way that we indeed are becoming manifestations of God's glory in this world. That is the great mystery. That is the great promise. That is the promise of the Spirit."—(Henri Nouwen, Finding Our Way Home in an Age of Anxiety)

What do you see in the picture? Cup and grapes? A shepherd and sheep? What else? Each item is meant to remind you of one of the "I am" statements we heard during our Lenten journey. They're also markers or "sign" posts on our journey through the Gospel of John.

Take the cup and grapes. Does it remind you of "I am the vine"? Does it remind you of anything else? Perhaps Jesus turning water into wine at the Wedding at Cana at the beginning of John's gospel?

Through each of the "I am" statements, Jesus is teaching something about God revealed through him, the Word made flesh. But Jesus doesn't just reveal that he is the Great I AM through words. He does it through actions too.

In the synoptic gospels, those actions are called "miracles." But John wants us to understand them more deeply. They are more than miracles. They are "signs" that reveal something about who Jesus is and who God is revealed through him.



Sometimes the sign and the "I am" statement appear together. Jesus feeds the 5,000 and then says, "I am the bread of life," but sometimes they don't. Jesus turns water into wine in chapter 2 but says "I am the vine" in chapter 15 during the Last Supper. That can make it a challenge to understand what Jesus might want us to know. Traditionally, the best wine was served first, but at Cana, the finest wine was served last. Does that mean we only enjoy the best wine at the end of the party? Or does it mean that now that Jesus has come in the flesh, the finest wine is available here and now to all those who remain connected to Jesus, the true vine and source of the finest wine?

Our journey through the "I am" statements emphasized how Jesus reveals who he is through words. But Jesus also did that through the "signs" he did. Jesus is what he says and does. The signs and "I am" statements work together to reveal that the Word made flesh isn't some abstract idea but the way to truth and life.

To help us remain connected to Christ as we begin our journey to the cross and the final act, the Good Shepherd lifted up, I invite you to embark on a treasure hunt of sorts. Take some time with John, find the 7 "signs" and link them with the 7 "I am" statements and then, reflect on what Jesus might want you to know, "so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name" here and now through what you say and do to the glory of his name (John 20:31, NRSVUE). Amen.

I want to take a moment to remind all of us about scammers. There have been reports at some churches of congregants receiving suspicious emails or text messages that appeared to come from their pastor asking for money, gift cards, personal information, or even copies of their church directory. Please know: **if you receive one of these messages purporting to be from me, it is a scam.** I will never ask you for financial help, sensitive information, or favors like purchasing gift cards through email or text. If you ever receive a message that doesn't feel right or raises concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me or the church office directly. Thank you for staying alert and for looking out for one another. ~ PD

Maundy Thursday Service

Service will include feet washing program.

April 2, 2026

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Simpson UMC

16901 Hardy Rd, Mt. Airy, MD 21771

Stations of the Cross

April 3, 2026

3:00 pm

St. Michael Catholic Church

1125 St. Michaels Rd, Mt Airy, MD 21771

Good Friday Service

April 3, 2026

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Morgan Chapel UMC

6750 Woodbine Rd, Woodbine, MD 21797

Easter Sunday Sunrise Service

April 5, 2026

6:30 am – 7:30 am

Air View Farm

1878 Woodbine Rd, Woodbine, MD 21797

Easter Sunday Services

9:00 am at

Jennings Chapel UMC

&

11:00 am at

Poplar Springs UMC

Easter Egg Hunt



Saturday April 4th
Morgan Chapel UMC

9:30 am – 10:30 am



Earth Day was first celebrated on April 22, 1970, and only in the USA. Today it's celebrated in 193 countries!



"She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue."

Proverbs 31:26



Thursday, May 7th

Saturday, May 16th



Monday, May 25th



Join us for Vaction Bible School.

Date: June 29 - July 3

Time: 9 am to Noon

Ages: Pre-K to 8th grade

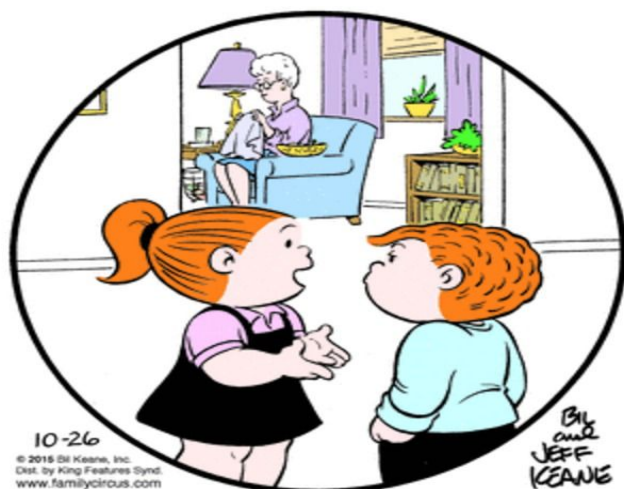
Contact info : Please email Valerie Spampinato at PoplarVBS@gmail.com with questions or if you are available to help.

St. Michael's Food Cellar

Jennings Chapel supports the St. Michaels food cellar. Please bring your canned goods to church on the 1st Sunday of the month or take them directly to St. Michael's Catholic Church.

Morgan Chapel Food & Pet Pantry

Poplar Springs supports 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!**



"The two places we know we're always welcome are church and Grandma's house."

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

April 17: Hayden Shaw & This Side of Pleasant

May 15: Shannon Leigh & the Good Bygones

Happy Birthday

April

2-Marissa Hensel
6-Sean Floyd
7-Dean Browning
Donna Owens
8-Isabel Kimos
Bucky Knill
9-Dave Brunson
15-Dave Walter
16-Laura Nichols
21-Merhlyn Barnes
22-Jacob Lambert
26-Ron Thomas
28-Carl Boring Jr.
29-T.J. Spampinato
30-Colin Spitz

May

2-Joanne Hamilton
3-Doris Johnson
4-Craig Watkins
6-Patti Owens
11-Donna Schulze
14-Carli Ellenwood
Anthony Bokma
15-Gabriella Bokma
16-Traci Duvall
18-Linda Reed
23-Emma Reifsnider
Laura Reifsnider
24-Connie Anderson
(Horner)
25-Mary Johnson
Jared Wamsley
27-Aaron Browning
Colleen Ellenwood
28-Denise Freitag
29-Judy Gaardsmoe





**Howard Chapel-Ridgeville
Pancake Supper for Lunch that benefited the
Morgan Chapel Food Pantry.**



**The Youth Spagehetti Dinner
on March 14th
at Poplar Springs UMC
was full of good food and great
fellowship.**



**New parking stops have been
installed in the Jennings
Chapel parking lot along the
roadside hill thaks to
Junior Johnson & crew,
Larry Phebus, Dave Walter,
Mason Wick and
Jim Widmaier.**



Lectionary

April & May 2026

April 5, 2026

- Jeremiah 31:1-6
- Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
- Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43
- John 20:1-18 or Matthew 28:1-10

Narrative: John 20:1-18

April 12, 2026

- Acts 2:14a, 22-32
- Psalm 16
- 1 Peter 1:3-9
- John 20:19-31

Narrative: John 20:19-31

April 19, 2026

- Acts 2:14a, 36-41
- Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
- 1 Peter 1:17-23
- Luke 24:13-35

Narrative: Acts 9:1-19a

April 26, 2026

- Acts 2:42-47
- Psalm 23
- 1 Peter 2:19-25
- John 10:1-10

Narrative: Acts 16:16-34

May 3, 2026

- Acts 7:55-60
- Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
- 1 Peter 2:2-10
- John 14:1-14

Narrative: Acts 17:16-31

May 10, 2026

- Acts 17:22-31
- Psalm 66:8-20
- 1 Peter 3:13-22
- John 14:15-21

Narrative: Philippians 1:1-18a

May 17, 2026

- Acts 1:6-14
- Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
- 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
- John 17:1-11

Narrative: Philippians 2:1-13

May 24, 2026

- Numbers 11:24-30
- Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
- 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21
- John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

Narrative: Acts 2:1-21; Philippians 4:4-7

May 31, 2026

- Genesis 1:1-2:4a
- Psalm 8
- 2 Corinthians 13:11-13
- Matthew 28:16-20

*"Do not let your heart be troubled.
You believe in God; believe in me also."
- John 14:1*



April 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>
				Maundy Thursday, Simpson UMC, 4pm	Stations of the Cross at St. Michael Catholic Church, 3pm Good Friday Service, Morgan Chapel, 7pm	Easter Egg Hunt, Morgan Chapel UMC, 9:30am Annual PS Cemetery Assoc. Meeting, 1 pm
<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>
Easter Sunday Morgan Chapel & St. Michael's food pantry collection		PS Ad Board meeting, 7pm				
<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>
Annual JC Cemetery Assoc. Meeting, 1 pm		JC Ad Board meeting, 7pm	Tax Day	Hub Bible study 7pm via Zoom	Morgan's Coffeehouse, Hayden Shaw & This Side of Pleasant, 7pm	
<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>
			Earth Day	Hub Bible study 7pm via Zoom		
<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>		
				Hub Bible study 7pm via Zoom		

May 2026

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Morgan Chapel & St. Michael's food pantry collection		Poplar Ad Board meeting, 7pm		National Day of Prayer Hub Bible study 7pm via Zoom		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Mother's Day		JC Ad Board meeting, 7pm		Hub Bible study 7pm via Zoom	Morgan's Coffeehouse, Shannon Leigh & the Good Bygones, 7pm	Armed Forces Day
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
				Hub Bible study 7pm via Zoom		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Memorial Day		BWC Annual Conference	BWC Annual Conference Hub Bible study 7pm via Zoom	BWC Annual Conference	
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POPLAR SPRINGS U.M. CHARGE

2601 Jennings Chapel Road

Woodbine Md. 21797