

April 2023

# High Spire

Newsletter for Members and Friends of Towson United Methodist Church

Frogs croak, rain soaks,  
chicks peep, crickets leap,  
bees hum, robins come,  
birds sing, it's Spring!

-Unknown Author



Spring is a symbol for rebirth and offers an opportunity to reconnect with your friends and family! The sun is out and we are ready to kick off the season with **Palm Sunday Worship on April 2 at 10:15 AM** featuring TUMC youth in the **Children's Palm Parade!**

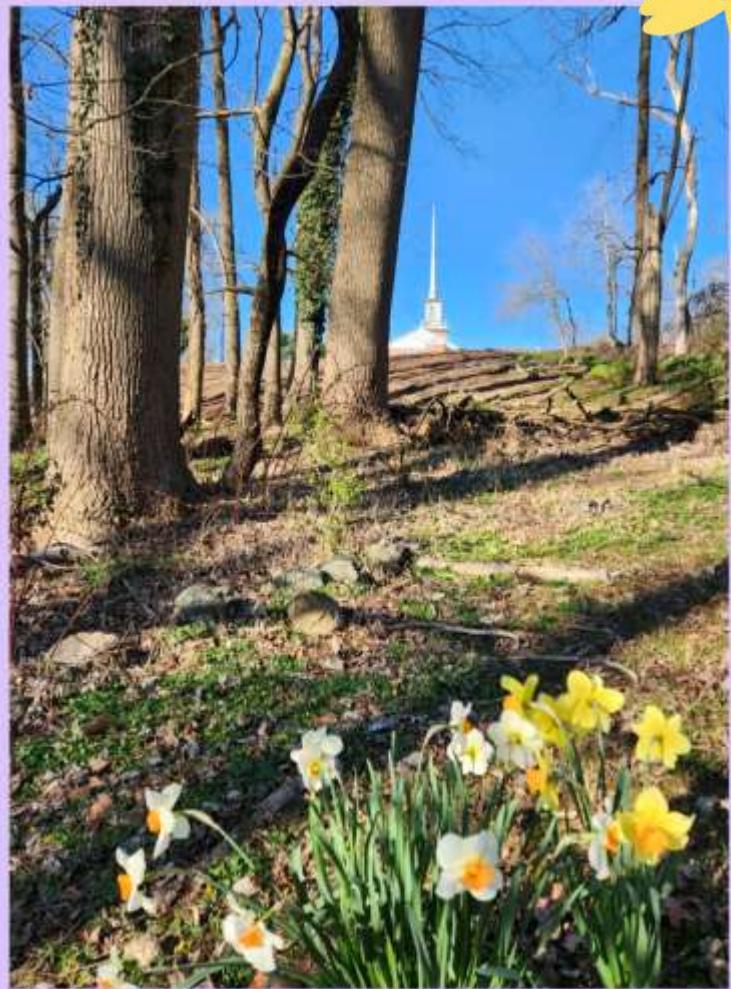
Join us for or **Maundy Thursday Soup Supper on April 6 at 6:30 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. Come enjoy dinner and a time of fellowship.

Our Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir will use song and scripture to present the account of Christ's death on the cross during **Good Friday Worship on April 7 at 7:00 PM**. There will be time for prayer and meditation.

We will celebrate Easter Sunday on **April 9 at 10:15AM**. During service, we will enjoy music lead by Dr. Roy Belfield Jr. featuring the TUMC Choir and a guest Brass Quartet! We'll continue Easter festivities with prizes, a guest appearance from the Easter Bunny, an Easter photo booth and our **Easter Egg Hunt!**

*All are Welcome!*

Photo taken by: Jamie Deady



## PASTORS & STAFF

Rev. LaTrelle Easterling  
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## New Associate Pastor at Towson UMC

Dear Church Family,

Beginning July 1, 2023, **Pastor Bee Myers** will be joining the Towson UMC staff as our Associate Pastor. I am so excited for you to meet her and get to know her.

Pastor Bee is from Dallas, Texas, and attended the University of Alabama for her undergraduate degree. After graduating, Pastor Bee spent 10 years in the field of broadcast journalism. During that time, she volunteered with a youth ministry which helped her to discover her call for ministry.



Before moving to Baltimore, Bee spent 2 1/2 years as a youth minister in Pensacola, Florida before serving as a hospital chaplain in the fall of 2021. Most recently, she served an appointment as a supply pastor for McDavid UMC in Florida before her husband's job transfer to Towson in January. Pastor Bee attends Asbury Theological Seminary and plans to finish her Master of Divinity degree in December. Pastor Bee and her husband, Britt, have one dog, Rudy, love sports and the outdoors, and are excited to be a part of the Towson UMC family in July!

God bless you all,

**Rev. Stephanie Roberts White**

*There are two boxes located in the foyer. One for Pastor Christine and one for our new associate pastor. Over the next few months, we invite you to leave prayers, notes of encouragement, and more for Pastor Christine and for our new associate pastor. We appreciate your blessings, words of affirmation and gratitude.*

# Sermon Series: A Living Hope

April 16 to May 21



## Prayer Service in the Chapel

through May 28  
Sundays at 9:15 AM

Join Pastor Christine in the chapel for reflective music, scripture reading, reflections, and prayer time for one another, communities, and the world. From 9:45 AM to 10 AM, the chapel is open for a space to pray. On the third Sunday of the month, we will share in holy communion.



## Sunday Worship Service

Sundays at 10:15 AM

What does it mean to have the living hope of Jesus? This Easter season, we'll talk about how we can embrace this new way of living in Jesus!

April 16

*Fullness of Joy* 1 Peter 1:3-9

April 23

*Special Music Sunday*

April 30

*Guardian of the Soul* John 10:1-10

May 7

*Like Living Stones* Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

May 14

*Always be Ready* 1 Peter 3:13-22

May 21

*Casting your Cares* 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

*"By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."*

1 Peter 1:3 NRSV

April 2023



Join us in the Fellowship Hall at Towson UMC for a night of music and song featuring some Broadway favorites!

### Show Dates:

Friday, May 5 at 7:30 PM  
Saturday, May 6 at 7:30 PM  
Sunday, May 7 at 2:00 PM

## Coffee Hour in the Parlor

Enjoy refreshments and fellowship on Sunday mornings, in the parlor, before worship. The Hospitality Ministries Committee finds joy in baking all the delicious goodies for you, family and friends to enjoy!

Interested in bringing in baked goods, fruit or other treats for our church family? Hospitality is need of volunteers. Sign up in the parlor!



## Vacation Bible Camp Hero Helpers

Our 2023 Hero Hotline Mission is to serve, lead, and have fun at Vacation Bible Camp! We need help and would love decorators, leaders, and assistants to join our mission. Visit [towsonchurch.org/news](http://towsonchurch.org/news) to register to volunteer! *Registration for children will begin in May.*

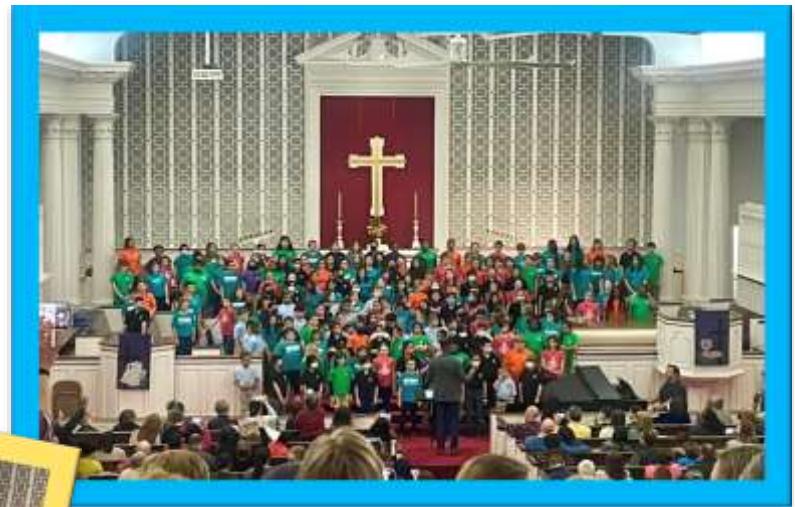


### Speaking of heroes...

Towson United Methodist Church Custodian, Bob, continues to use his super powers to keep our church home beautiful! Check out his newest super tool... a brand new Backpack Vac!

## New Additions to our Church Family

On Sunday, March 26, we gathered for worship and witnessed the Reaffirmation of Faith and Baptism for the Connor Family. Please welcome our newest church family members, Matt Connor, Devin Connor and Chloe Olivia Connor!



## Youth Choir's Sing at Towson UMC

The Maryland Young Voices Festival, consisting of over 200 singers, musical leaders and volunteers presented an amazing event at Towson United Methodist Church! We brought in the Spring season with beautiful music from the following youth choirs across the DMV:



Mary Baldwin University Choir  
All Children's Choir of Annapolis

Baltimore Children's Choir  
Children's Chorus of Maryland

Deer Creek Youth Choir  
Maryland State Boychoir  
Strathmore Children's Choir

*Thank you for coming out to lift  
these young voices!*

# Towson United Methodist Church is Thankful for your Blessings!



## Tornado Victims in Mississippi

At least 25 people are dead in Mississippi following a terrifying and destructive tornado. The violent twisters formed amid a severe weather outbreak that unleashed damage from Louisiana to North Carolina.

The twisters' terrible toll can be linked to their utter ferocity, the vulnerability of the region they struck and for sweeping through at night, when it was difficult to see them coming. One of the hardest hit communities and one of the poorest in the United States is Rolling Fork, Mississippi.

Members of TUMC have been in communication with Rolling Fork United Methodist Church in Mississippi who serves many of the residents of this devastated area. Message from Rolling Fork UMC:

*We are working on figuring out the best way for you to help our church and community! We are so overwhelmed right now with the devastation in our community. Our church building is thankfully standing with only windows on the back of the building broken. None of our beautiful stained glass windows in the sanctuary were harmed! Our Family Life Building next door will probably be a total loss. Our parsonage down the street was heavily damaged. Our pastor, Mary Stewart, was home, but thankfully unharmed! Another praise report! Please know that we appreciate your offers of help, and we NEED your help and prayers!*



Rolling Fork UMC is asking that donations be made to UMCOR and earmarked for their rebuilding and support of their community. UMCOR responds to natural or civil disasters of such magnitude that they overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own. Through UMCOR, United Methodists extend loving care to people within the United States. When disaster strikes, it is local churches that provide the first response to their communities. This basic understanding—that disaster response is local—forms the foundation for UMCOR's US disaster training and response. When responding to a disaster in the United States, UMCOR provides training, financial assistance, expertise, community collaboration to churches and partners making them more resilient to disasters. Please send your donations to TUMC with a notation for "Mississippi Tornado UMCOR" or donate at [towsonumc.org/give](http://towsonumc.org/give).

Thank you in advance for your generosity and prayers.

## Food for the Pantry this April

Cereal	Cake Frosting	Vienna Sausage
Granola Bars	Box Crackers	Spam
Ground Coffee	15oz Chili	Chunky Soups
Tea Bags	Canned Ham	10oz. Soups
Cake Mix	Mustard	Ketchup

*Please place food donations in the Sharing Bins located in the main lobby of the church.*

## Hampton Lane CDC Update



At the end of December, our center director, Erin Rigley, fell and hit her head while working at the center. The injury has caused significant trauma and Erin has been unable to return to work.

Members of the church staff and the CDC staff and teachers have stepped up and worked hard to maintain the integrity of the center. We are grateful for the work they have done and are doing.

The reality, however, is that the center cannot be sustained without a director. With no clear return date for Erin, the CDC Board (along with the Church Leadership Board) has made the difficult decision to hire a new center director. We will keep the church informed of the progress.

We would also like to take up a special collection for Erin as a thank you gift for her service with us at the Center. If you would like to support this gift, you can leave a monetary donation at church (make sure your check and/or envelope is marked "for Erin") or you can scan the QR code and give online. Thank you for your generosity and care for Erin and her family.

## April Mission of the Month:

Araminta is on a mission to reduce the threat and trauma of trafficking through prevention strategies, educational services, and restorative services for survivors of what is universally defined as modern slavery.

You can give by visiting [towsonchurch.org/give](http://towsonchurch.org/give). Click "give securely here" then open the "Fund" drop down menu. Select "mission of the month."



*If you know a community organization or loved one who is seeking resources to take action against trafficking or provide survivor assistance, visit [aramintausa.org/resources](http://aramintausa.org/resources) to learn more.*

## Moment on Missions 2022

The Mission Team wishes to thank the entire congregation for their interest in helping others.  
Here is how we helped our community in 2022:

\$580 + 2500	Manna House	\$640	Earls Place
\$715 + 3000	ACTC	\$3235	Afghanistan Relief
\$870	Heifer International	\$697	The Well
\$836	Araminta	\$1020	Migrants
\$3551	Ukraine	\$884	AMES UMC
\$1825	UMCOR	\$812	Board of Child Care
\$530	First Fruit Farm	70 bags	Thanksgiving Baskets delivered to ACTC



High Spire April 2023  
**Towson United Methodist Church**  
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**MAY 6 - 10AM TO NOON**

# **PET FAIR**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



**PET FOOD GIVEAWAY | PHOTO BOOTH  
BLESSING OF THE PETS | MEMORIAL SERVICE  
RESOURCE TABLES | VENDORS & MORE  
AT TOWSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

