



THE VINE

Aspen Hill Christian Church

13501 Georgia Avenue, Aspen Hill, Maryland 20906

(301)871-7222

Pastor: Dr. D. Robert Chance

MAY 2024



BY CHANCE

Build Good Habits

We all have habits. Some of our habits are good ones and some of our habits are bad ones. Bad Habits are hard to break. Good habits are hard to keep doing.

I have some good habits, we all do. I brush my teeth twice a day, I use dental floss every day, and I take a shower every day. OK, those are some good health habits, and they

are important in order to stay clean and green. I have some more important habits that are good ones too. I read the newspaper every day, usually around four a.m. (the timing could be seen as a bad habit) but it's when I wake up and I might as well do something constructive as lay there and fight going back to sleep. I keep up with my professional reading on a regular basis and I try to read some fun things in order to be a more rounded person as well. I give my best and then some to my job each and every day. I try hard to see the best in people and to give grace rather than judgement. I give faithfully and regularly to the church because I'm grateful for all the blessings the Lord bestows upon me and for all the good ministries our church does. Those are all some of my "good habits". Can you name some of your good habits? It's worth doing.

Sad to say, I also have some bad habits. I don't always jump to grace, sometimes I jump to judgment first. Just like the old song from the 1960's said, "You always hurt the one you love the most", I too often take out my frustrations on the one I love the most. I get angry quickly and can fire off like a rocket (I blame it on my "Scottish/Irish" genes although I know that's just an excuse. I have to work at not holding grudges. I have a bad habit of forgetting good things that people say to me and at the same time remembering and holding on to the hurtful or thoughtless things people send my way. A good habit would be to hold on to the good things people say and let go of the bad things. Those are some of my "bad habits". Can you own up to some of your bad habits? It's worth doing.

The thing about habits that I notice is that I do them whether they are the good ones or bad ones by habit. That is to say I don't always think about them, I just do them. That's the definition of a habit isn't it? A habit is something we do as a regular tendency or practice without thinking about it too much. To me it's both a noun and a verb depending on how we use it.

Let's all work on increasing our good habits and giving up our bad habits. First we would have to write down both our "good habits" and our "bad habits". Then we can start thinking about what we're doing and pledge to keep up one good habit a day and add some new ones and at the same time stop one bad habit a day.

One last thing. Going to church on a regular basis is one the best habits we can develop and practice. At the same time letting go of excuses about why we don't go to church or do good things for others are bad habits we can do better without. I look forward to seeing you in church...as a matter of habit!

D. Robert Chance

*NEWS AMONG OUR
CHURCH FAMILY
PRAYER LIST*

Please let us know if you know of someone who is sick or is a shut-in. Thank you.

Edwina Meheaux – Please keep in your prayers. Give her a call on the phone.

Patty Collins- Please keep Sam's Splaine's mother Patty, in your prayers. She loves telephone calls too.

All those who suffer from grief and loss and who struggle with illness in any form.

There are always others—keep all in your prayers, named or unnamed. Let us know if we've missed someone.

...



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Erica Hanson
- 4 Bette Cox
- 11 Franklin Payne
- 15 Arlyn Sanchez & Eric Burch
- 19 Andrew Bennett
- 21 Cecilia & Lloyd Samuels
- 25 Monica Hanson
- 29 Beth Appleyard
- 29 Dominique Jordan

PLEASE LET THE CHURCH OFFICE KNOW IF YOUR BIRTHDATE AND/OR ANNIVERSARY DATE IS WRONG OR MISSING, SO WE MAY CORRECT IT.

***UPDATED CHURCH DIRECTORY
AVAILABLE***

THE 2024 CHURCH DIRECTORY IS AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE DURING OFFICE HOURS. ONE COPY PER HOUSEHOLD, PLEASE.

NEWS FROM OUR MINISTRIES



FELLOWSHIP...Amy Buckingham/Mary Chance

Fellowship hour after church continues to grow. We still need folks to sign up to sponsor one. They do not have to be big and fancy. Just a little snack and drink to have while we visit each other.

Please check your calendar and pick a Sunday to do fellowship.

Also mark your calendars for June 23. We will have a picnic after church. Burgers and hot dogs will be provided. Just bring a side or two to share. The sign-up sheet will be put out soon.



PROPERTY...John Small

If you are interested in helping with our property ministry to keep our church facilities in good condition, please contact me (johnsmallmb66@gmail.com).

We have had several large building expenses but due to your generosity are able to keep our building in excellent condition.



OUTREACH...Connie Spoon

The Outreach Ministry of Aspen Hill Christian Church provides a wide variety of community support throughout the year. This includes providing fully stocked back to school backpacks, Thanksgiving baskets, and Christmas toys for local children in need. Consider becoming involved with these events as they occur. Our food pantry is stocked with non-perishable items. Please contact the

church office for assistance.

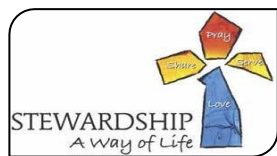
WORSHIP...Gwen Mott via Carol Knott



On Sunday, May 12 we will be celebrating Mothers' Day. All women of the church will be honored. Plan to attend this Sunday.

On May 19 our church will celebrate Pentecost Sunday which falls 50 days after Easter.

What is Pentecost? This is a good time to turn to your bible and reread Acts 2:1-21. What better way to celebrate Pentecost? By joining us in Worship, May 19th.



STEWARDSHIP...

Please Don't forget to send your offering in or place it directly in the offering plate on Sunday morning. You can also mail it to the church or drop it in the mail slot outside the main doors. We will soon be launching our Annual Every Member Commitment program. Be on the lookout for a thoughtful and creative and important EMC effort as we seek your pledges for our 2024 ministries. The cost of living is somewhere around 2.5 % so any increase in your giving of less than that is actually a cut in your giving. Faithful Living Equals Faithful Giving!

Your offering makes the Lord's ministry possible! Thank you for all you do!





FACTS & FIGURES: WORSHIP ATTENDANCE FOR APRIL

The good news is attendance is increasing and heading in the right direction. The bad news is there is a long way to go to reach pre-pandemic numbers. If you haven't returned yet, now is the time and please invite and bring friends and family to join you.
(INCLUDES BOTH IN PERSON AND ONLINE)

April Average Total: 39 (27 in person /12 online) 😊

Year to Date Average: Total: 52 (36 in person /16 online) 😊

"I was glad when they said unto me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1

Are you inviting friends, neighbors, co-workers to church? Sharing the Good News of Jesus and of our church are a privilege and responsibility of every one of us.

11:00 AM Sunday

The Worship service will also continue to be offered live and online. Keep checking www.aspenhillcc.org, click on the You Tube link and choose the date you want.

Worship in person at 11:00 every Sunday & Live on our YouTube Channel



We are doing our best to get people back in person, but we do understand that some people cannot make it to church on certain Sundays. To view online click www.aspenhillcc.org, then click on the Watch Us Live on YouTube icon. Once at our YouTube Page be sure to click the thumbs-up icon and subscribe to our channel. You can also make any nice comments you want to, that helps us be more visible. Comments help drive our visibility to others up. Share the links for our weekly worship with your friends and neighbors.

Please submit your articles, updates, and information we might like to include in future newsletters to Rosemary for possible inclusion in the future.

The deadline for the June newsletter is May 19th.

**NEW Church Office Hours:
Monday-Friday 9:00 AM-3:00 PM**



Please let the office know how you would like your newsletter delivered! USPS, Email or Both.
office@aspenhillcc.org or call 301-871-7222



The Aspen Hill Christian Church has helped support our community during these challenging times. Through donations of essential items, financial contributions, and acts of kindness, Aspen Hill Christian Church is making a tangible difference in the lives of those who need it most.

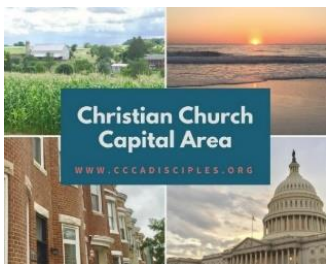
Help us re-stock our food pantry.



Items needed:

- Canned vegetables
- Canned fruit
- Soup
- Beans
- Juice boxes

Items may be dropped off in the wooden box outside the Fellowship Hall or bring them to the church office during office hours.



2023 Capital Area Prayer Calendar for This Month

5 - First Christian Church, Boonsboro, Maryland - www.fccboonsboro.org / China

12 - Haitian Pentecostal Church, Salisbury, Maryland -

[https://www.facebook.com/pages/Haitian-Pentecostal\[1\]Christian-Church-Disciples-of-Christ/678345385664027](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Haitian-Pentecostal[1]Christian-Church-Disciples-of-Christ/678345385664027) / Venezuela

19 - Capital Area Disciples Women - <http://www.cccadisciples.org/disciples-women> / Philippines

26 - Hospital, Military, and Institutional Chaplains, and clergy serving as Professors and in Non-Profit settings / Israel/Palestine

COMING ATTRACTIONS Be sure to put them on your calendar.



May 12 - Mother's Day Flowers for every mother present.

May 19 - Pentecost...Celebrate the Holy Spirit



June 09 - Graduates Sunday...Let the office know if you have a 2024 graduate.

June 16 - Father's Day...A gift for every father present.



June 23 - Hello Summer Cookout Sunday

Congratulations to our Graduates. Graduate's Sunday is June 9. Come and celebrate our graduates with us.

Brooke Appleyard is graduating from Cave Hill Senior High School in Roanoke, Virginia and will be attending Virginia Tech in the Fall.

Conner McChesney is graduating from Clear Spring High School in Clear Springs, Maryland. He enlisted in the Marines and starts basic training in Parris Island, South Carolina.

Max Konzman is graduating from Blake Senior High School in Silver Spring, Maryland.

***If you have a graduate from a Trade School, High School or College or Graduates program let us know.**



Repairing the Drain Disaster Hot Button Campaign Coming in June

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

(2 Corinthians 9:7)



This year we are focusing on finding as much help as we can in order to pay for our major drain disaster ” that occurred during the week before Easter.

How much can we raise? That will depend on the faithfulness and response of our members and friends. Anything we raise will help repay the \$20,000 plus it has already cost us, and we had to borrow against our Memorial Funds. We had to pay the bills right away and now we hope to recoup as much of that \$20,000 as we can.

This is a major challenge and a wonderful opportunity for all of us to step up and swing for the fences! Thank you for sharing your gift in making this possible. You'll be hearing more over the next few weeks.