



THE VINE

Aspen Hill Christian Church

13501 Georgia Avenue, Aspen Hill, Maryland 20906

(301)871-7222

Pastor: Dr. D. Robert Chance

JUNE 2025

Surprised by Kindness



I think we're all conditioned to think that people are basically self-centered, uncaring and unkind. We do see a lot of it of course and maybe that's why it's easy to become accustomed to seeing what we expect. No doubt there's plenty of self-centeredness and unkindness in the world but all too often we fail to see or take note of the kindness and helpfulness that's out there too.

Recently, Mary and I had the joy of attending two of our grandchildren's college graduations. Marybeth and Carter each graduated from Virginia Tech University in Blacksburg, Virginia. We were on campus for several days as we went to Carter's graduation ceremony, Marybeth's graduation ceremony and then a graduation ceremony for the whole school. Yes, I was worn out with graduation ceremonies by the end of the week.

Because of the size of the Virginia Tech campus and all the varied locations of the ceremonies we had to take our mobility scooters to get around from place to place. I haven't gotten over being embarrassed to have to use a mobility scooter to get around. But, when it comes to longer distances I feel a little out of place using the scooter. The days are long gone when I backpacked ten or twelve miles a day with a 50-pound backpack on the Appalachian Trail for five to seven days in a row. My walking distances are highly limited. It comes with age. It's humbling to be sure.

What surprised me was how helpful and considerate people were in reaching out to help us open doors while on the scooters, hold the elevator doors open for us as we accessed the elevator, reach for things that were just a bit beyond what we could reach and help us safely through the street cross walks. On the one hand I felt like a person with a lot of need but people were so nice and gracious and kind I felt OK about being helped by complete strangers. There was never a single incident when someone didn't randomly appear at just the right moment to help us. I was seriously amazed how the kindness of complete strangers helped me live with and overcome my embarrassment at using a mobility scooter.

We all need to be reminded of people's basic decency and kindness. We hear too much and see too much of the opposite characteristics of some people that we forget to see and note the kindness and consideration of others, especially complete strangers. Our grandchildren and children went out of their way to help us of course and for that I am proud and pleased but to see the kindness of complete strangers was an amazing and surprising thing for me to experience. I know Mary felt the same way.

Let's keep remembering to see the good in people and not let the bad rule the day. Let's keep reaching ourselves to be kind to strangers, helpful to others and considerate wherever and however we can.

As the Bible says, "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." Hebrews 13:2



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- Patty passed away on Sunday, May 18. Please keep the Splaine family in your prayers.

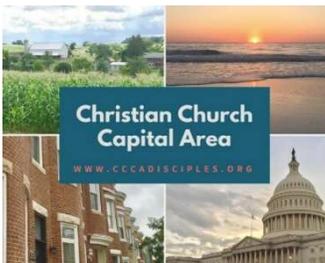
Susan Montgomery needs our prayers as she recovers from some difficult surgery.

Carol Knott recently had surgery and is recovering at home.

David Jordan who is struggling and appreciates our prayers as well.

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.



CCCA DECEMBER PRAYER CALENDAR

Please lift up the following congregations in your prayers this month

June

- 1 - The Commission for Camp & Conference and all the campers, directors, counselors, and staff at the Christian Church Conference Center at Bethany Beach / Indonesia
- 8 - Shepherd Park Christian Church, Washington, DC - <http://www.shepherdparkchristianchurch.org> / Hungary
- 15 - The National Convocation, North American Pacific/Asian Disciples and Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries - www.nationalconvocation.org / Cambodia
- 22 - For all congregants, clergy, and churches in transition due to closure / Korea
- 29 - Michigan Park Christian Church, Washington, DC - <http://www.mparkchurch.orgS> / Colombia

CHURCH DIRECTORY

We do our best to keep the church directory up to date. But we need your help to do that. Anytime your phone number, email or address changes please let the office know with either a phone call or an email so we can keep our records current.

A new Directory will be coming out soon so now is the time to call the office and be sure we have your correct address, email and other vital information.



Church Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday and Friday 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

Wednesday 8:00 – 2:00 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



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSIERS THIS COMING MONTH HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

Miller June 02
Jasneth Jordan June 07
Sasha Treasure June 13
Cassie Chance June 19
Kenny Vincent June 20



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

None showing in this month



Congratulations to our Graduates 2025

Marybeth Appleyard	Virginia Tech University
Carter Buckingham	Virginia Tech University
Colson Knight	Sherwood High School
Jayna Knight	Sherwood High School

NEWS FROM OUR MINISTRIES



Fellowship / Amy Buckingham and Mary Chance

Please be sure to sign up to provide the Fellowship Period following our Worship Service. The sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Room.

We provide coffee, you provide cookies, pretzels, whatever you like. We depend on our members and friends to provide as much of the Fellowship as possible. Thanks for signing up.

Next on the calendar is our Picnic following the church service on June 22. See Mary Chance for details and offers to help. Mark your calendar and dress comfortably.

The Fellowship hour is growing so come on over, bring our visitors with you and enjoy being together around the tables.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Christian Education...We have an Adult Sunday School Class each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Small Conference Room. We have Children's Church during the Worship Service for children in the Fellowship Hall.

We are one teacher short, if you would like to be a teacher for the Children's Church please see Mary Chance. We provide the lesson plan, the materials, a Bible focused time of fun and learning for the children. A special thank you to our teachers who rotate each Sunday.



June 1 is the Sunday we remember the anniversary of when we joined the church.

June 8 will be the day we celebrate Pentecost this year. This is the Sunday we commemorate the day the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles. It has become traditional to wear **red** symbolizing the fiery presence of the Holy Spirit. Learn more by rereading Acts 2:1-31.

June 15 is Fathers’ Day. How will we honor our fathers and special men in our lives who have helped shaped the person we have become? June is a busy month with special worship services.

June 22 is Graduate’s Sunday, and we honor our Graduates.

Don’t miss this time of worship! In Person and Online Worship Services are available every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. www.aspenhillcc.org /go to “See Us on YouTube link and click on the current week or any week in the past that you would like to see.

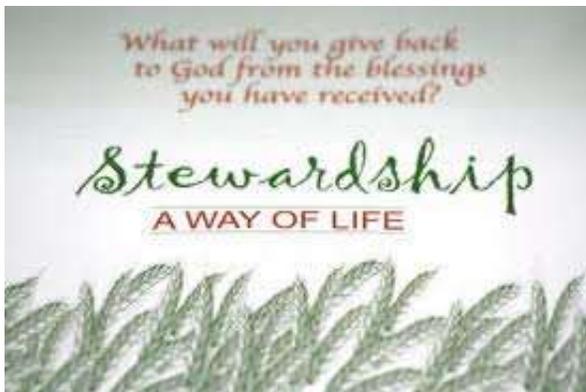
Average Attendance for April 2025

Month...	In Person 41	Online 20	Total 61
YTD...	In Person 36	Online 21	Total 57



John Small

The property is in relatively good shape. There have been a few minor things fixed with special thanks to Roberto Lopez.



To make giving as convenient as possible. We offer several options for you to contribute.

- Mail Slot – You can place your offering in the secure mail slot located at the church entrance.
- Online Giving – Visit our website <https://aspenhillcc.org> to make your donation.
- Sunday Service – Offering will be collected during our Sunday worship services.
- Mail – You may also send your gift by mail to the church office.

Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure, you use it will be measured back to you. - Luke 6:38 NIV



Outreach ... Connie Spoon

Many thanks for the Week of Compassion contributions which totaled \$ 1,935. These funds will be available immediately to help so many in need around the world. God bless you! Our food pantry is available for anyone in need. Please contact the church office for assistance.



Board Meeting

Highlights From The Board

- The Board rescheduled its meeting for May until May 21.
- Special thanks to Linda, Jane and Mary and Karen for putting immense amounts of time into dealing with several

outstanding issues at this time.



Our Annual "Hot Button Campaign" this year will focus on refilling the broken Piggy Bank due to unusual and unanticipated expenses this past winter. Look for more to come! Our goal will be around \$12,500.00

We have special speakers for each of the Sundays of June, and each Sunday will have a different focus on what our special offering will go to. Basically, this year we are trying to recoup some of the money we had to spend on unexpected things both of a physical nature (like a new furnace) and a nonphysical nature like the expense of looking for a new Administrative Assistant. We look forward to a successful Hot Button Campaign called "Refiling Our Piggy Bank".



Welcome Cyndi !

Please join us in giving our new Administrative Assistant a warm welcome. Cynthia (she goes by Cyndi) Carr joined us on May 12, and we are looking forward to a long and happy relationship. Cyndi lives nearby in Leisure World. She has served several churches in the past and has prior church experience to call upon. Feel free to stop by, introduce yourself or give Cyndi a quick call on the telephone to welcome her.

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Silver Spring, MD 20905