



# MARINERS NEWS

## A LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Written by Pastor Rebecca Collison

Dear Friends,

October is here and leaves in the trees are not the only thing changing. Parking spaces are easier to find down near the boardwalk. Days are getting shorter. And Mariners is now in a new season of ministry.

As of October 1st, we launch as a Global Methodist Church. While the denominational logo of cross and flame have been replaced by circles representing the Trinity, we are continuing the Wesleyan understanding of our God- Father, Son, Spirit - who is full of grace and truth and who calls us to "make the world our parish." Familiar songs will still be sung, familiar faces will be seen, and familiar events like the Trail Run, will still occur. However, God is also doing a "new thing." And for that, we all need help.

The church-wide study, "Help is Here" by Max Lucado, will begin this month in various study group & small group opportunities to help us rely upon the Holy Spirit to do more than we can think or imagine. After all, we have never been in this place in culture, history, or even in our lives before - who better to help us navigate these new waters than the One who gives us life and supernatural power for the glory of God.

And this newsletter is the first installment of a monthly publication that will attempt to increase communications and make you aware of not only upcoming events, but also how our events, programs, and ministries all tie in with our mission.

Our mission statement of "Know God, Grow in Christ, Go in the Spirit" focuses on how we, as individuals, are called to be disciples and faithful followers of Christ. Discipleship means we intentionally hold ourselves accountable to our membership vows as Global Methodists, including:

- We commit ourselves to a life of personal and social holiness, going onto Christian perfection...
- We commit to practice the means of grace to keep our faith vibrant and growing...
- We will worship passionately in the spirit of our heritage of faith...love extravagantly with the mercy and compassion of Jesus Christ...witness boldly empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Our help - the Holy Spirit - is how we can covenant to "faithfully participate in the ministries of this church family through our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness." Because apart from our Lord and by His Spirit, we can do nothing and nothing we do will last. (ref. Jn 14:26, Jn 15:5, Acts 1:8)

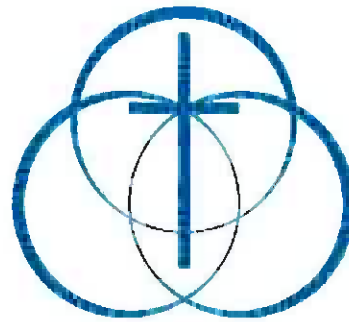
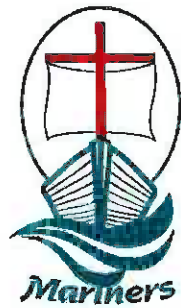
So, as the leaves change and the times change, may Christ continue to change us as we are all works in progress...as we continually fall on our knees in praise and thanksgiving for Jesus Christ who is the same - yesterday, today, and forever (ref. Heb. 13:8)

*Peace,  
Pastor Becky*

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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## NEW DENOMINATION, NEW LOGO



With our new membership as a Global Methodist Church now complete, our former Mariners logo has gone through a redesign. Thanks to the efforts of the logo committee (Chair Scott Carey, Dave Metzger, Dennis Rader, Liz Heinzelman, Russ Archet, Brenda Kerber, Cindy Hawkins, and Pastor Becky Collison) the logo is similar to the old one but with a new focus.

The logo is designed to reflect our tradition as a “seafarer’s house of prayer” – Mariners Bethel. The Trinity is displayed in this image: the circle overarching the boat represents the all-knowing, all-present God the Father; the red cross representing God the Son and his sacrifice for us on the cross; the sail and waves that show movement by unseen wind representing God the Spirit. The boat in a simple form shows us as vessels of God’s love and grace, sitting in the chaos of the water (world around us) and being lifted and led by our Lord.

Another logo you may see is that of the Global Methodist denomination. While the United Methodist logo was the cross and two-part red flame, the Global Methodist logo emphasizes who God is and who we are called to be as the church.

According to the denomination’s website:

“ the Global Methodist Church’s logo brings together in its three circles the one God – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit – who alone we worship. The circles intersect at the center of the cross of Jesus Christ, the symbol of our deliverance from our slavery to sin and fear of death. The outer circumference of the rings represents the globe. As a whole, the logo communicates God’s sending of the church into the world. The sky blue color reminds us that even though Global Methodists live all around the world, they are all united together in God’s great creation.”

Over the coming weeks, both logos will be seen as web presence, print, and other forms of advertising Mariners. A new look for a new day.

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## WHAT IS AN OPERATIONS MANAGER AND WHY DO WE NEED ONE?

By Dennis Rader

As the Church Operations Manager, I am responsible for the day-to-day business operations of the organization. I oversee:

- The administrative staff and makes sure the office runs smoothly.
- Ensure the staff has everything they need to do their job effectively and that they meet all deadlines.
- Establishes project schedules and sees that deadlines are met or adjusted when necessary.

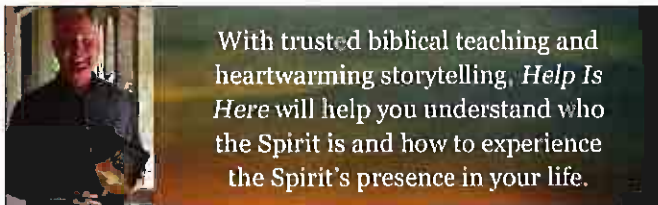
- Develops and implements operational procedures based on church policy.
- Manages budgets and financial reports.
- Awareness of all legal and reporting requirements for the organization and monitors adherence to them.
- And of course, assist the pastor, as necessary, to support the spiritual well-being of the church and supports any worship needs.

The goal is to have a church that runs smoothly so the focus and energy remains on our primary mission of making disciples for Christ.

Now, if that sounds like the Operations Managers do a bit of everything, it's because that's true! An operations manager, by definition, manages people, projects, and even communication. They don't need to be an expert at any one thing but they need to be able to be proficient at project management and integration of many things to build a highly productive team to achieve great results for their organization.

How is the Operations Manager "Integrated" at Mariners? The Mariners Operations Manager is part of and works with the Finance Committee to develop, implement, and oversee Mariners yearly budget ensuring effective utilization of each and every dollar. He also attends the Trustee meetings each month and works with them to ensure effective utilization of all facilities and assists with their maintenance oversight and upkeep. The Operations Manager works with the Staff Parish Relations Committee regarding staff salaries, hiring, and all other personnel issues, however, he does not attend their meetings as they are one of the few committees whose meetings are not public. And finally, he is a member of and attends all the meetings of the Church Council (formerly called the Shepherding Council) and is responsible to report on all business aspects of church operations.

If you have any comments or questions regarding this position, feel free to drop in and see me. I will be sure to make time to address any of your concerns, questions, or comments. I look forward to seeing you!



**HELP IS HERE!  
FINDING FRESH STRENGTH AND PURPOSE  
IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

As we embark on the journey as a Global Methodist Church, we have to know God's Holy Spirit is with us. Starting the week of October 8, we're offering Max Lucado's study, "Help is Here!" as a Small Group Church Wide study. For those of you who would like to join a Small Group, we'll watch the video in the Sanctuary Monday evenings, and then break out into various new Small Groups. We also have openings every day at various times of the week (except Saturday). Sign-ups and study guides are available (\$10) in Fellowship Hall between services. Study guides are recommended, but not mandatory.

The Holy Spirit doesn't have to be a mystery. Understand who He is and how He works and discover that His help is here when you need it. Any questions, contact Melinda Shue, our Small Groups Leader at [masfide19@carollna.rr.com](mailto:masfide19@carollna.rr.com) or 717-968-9963.

ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023 AT 6:30 P.M.  
IN THE SANCTUARY.



While in past years the Annual Church Conference was determined by the district superintendent and conference, we currently do not have a district superintendent who is locally overseeing these meetings. In order to be accountable to our church family, we will hold our own church conference to conduct the following business:

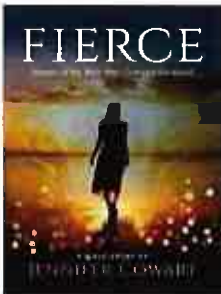
- approve the church budget for the coming year,
- approve leadership nominations, and
- review/celebrate church ministry and outreach.

All are welcome to attend. Those who are full Mariners Bethel Global Methodist Members may vote on business items.

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### WOMEN CENTRAL FALL KICKOFF

Written by Trina Williams



Women Central Fall Kickoff was a red-carpet event held on Wednesday, September 20. Formal attire was encouraged, but not required. Those in attendance were treated to free refreshments, pictures in their glamorous outfits, and a free movie, "Unashamed," featuring Chondra Pierce, a female Christian comedian. The goal was to provide a relaxed atmosphere for women to gather and enjoy each other's company, and to welcome women to the Fall Study. The evening was a great SUCCESS!

Beginning September 27 at either 10:00 A.M. or 7:00 P.M., women participated in a Biblical study written by Jennifer Cowart, based on the book, "Fierce: Women of the Bible Who Changed the World." Each 90-minute session consists of a 15-minute video, then breaks out into small group discussions.

What is Women Central? WC provides a place where women of all ages meet, discuss, and study in-depth current Biblical studies that affect women. All women are welcomed, both members of Mariners and others from the community. For information, please contact Joanne Trois, [jtrois53@gmail.com](mailto:jtrois53@gmail.com), or call the church office.

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### TIME FOR CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICES



It's time again for the ARMOR Children's Christmas Program. Upcoming practices will include Sundays - 10/1 from 10:30-11:30 A.M., and 10/15, 10/29, 10/ 5, 11/19, and 11/26 - all from 1- 3 P.M. Additional practices will be held in December. The show will be on Sunday, Dec. 17. For more information about participating or volunteering to help, email [kidschurch@marinersbethel.org](mailto:kidschurch@marinersbethel.org) or call Michelle at 302-236-6759.

## METHODIST WOMEN MEETS THE 2ND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH



The women of Mariners are invited to join this group of servant-hearted women whose purpose is to use their gifts to develop a creative, supportive fellowship, and through missions, to participate in the global ministries of the church. The next one is scheduled for Monday, October 9th at 1:00 P.M. A craft demonstration will be given, and enjoy delicious refreshments. (Bring a Cool Whip lid for the project). It's always a great time of fellowship.

Also, mark your calendars for Sunday, November 5th and Sunday, December 3rd for our annual knife, card and book sale in Fellowship Hall, held between services. It's a great time to pick up a few Christmas gifts!

With the affiliation of the Global Methodist Church, the United Women in Faith will be voting on a new name at their upcoming meeting.

Lastly, we would like to acknowledge the fine efforts of **Ruth Davis, Jane McLaren and Cora Burgan** for their outreach and visitation to members of our congregation.



RAISING CANE  
MEETS THE FIRST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH IN THE HOPE CENTER  
FROM 10:30-11:30 A.M.



Bring your Bibles, your cane, and share your favorite Scriptures. You really don't need a cane!

MEN'S 2ND SATURDAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST  
MEETS THE SECOND SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH IN FELLOWSHIP HALL AT 7:30 A.M.

Chris Brown and his team will be serving up pancakes, eggs & sausage with a side of Tony Evans' study, "The Power of the Holy Spirit's Names."

## MARINERS PANTRY

We are collecting 'your choice' of grains and sauces during October. Grains: rice, pasta, barley, egg noddles, or cereal. Sauces: tomato, pasta, salsa, alfredo, soy.

Engage your inner-chef and donate something yummy!



## JOIN OUR TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS

We have many opportunities for you to serve!

- Praise and worship band ~ instrumentals and/or vocals
- Audio and video support in the tech booth on Sundays and for special events
- Support our children's ministries in the nursery and in Sunday school classes
- Drivers needed for various ministries like Feed My Sheep or Angels on the Go
- Ushers and greeters during Sunday services
- Trail Run (October 22) ~ cooks, servers, dishwashers, registration check in, and clean up

Check the church bulletin boards, or contact the office and we will help you find a way to give to others by using your gifts and talents. It's a "win-win."



## NEW DAY, NEW WAY PRAYER WARRIORS NEEDED

Join in the New Day, New Way prayer focus in October on three Tuesdays (10/10, 10/17, 10/24 ) from 6 A.M. to 6 P.M. with prayer slots available at 20-minute increments. Sign up at All Hands on Deck Tables. The sanctuary will be open for prayer with the specific request for God's provision of financial and people resources needed to fulfill the vision He is unfolding before us. Folks can pray at home if it is not possible to be at the church in person.

Ahead of our Stewardship Sunday, October 29, we need to saturate the ground with prayer for God's provision in the days ahead. Often, we have been diligent in our planning, asking God to bless our work. As a church, Mariners has been blessed by God providing what we need in terms of the disaffiliation and meeting our bills. Yet currently our expenses are greater than our income. Our reserves have been emptied by our payment to the United Methodist Church. And almost every ministry area is crying for more volunteers help to accomplish the mission before us. And yet we do not fear – for when financial and people resources are limited, our reliance and dependence is upon God who is the owner of cattle on a thousand hills (Ps. 50:10-15). Nothing is too hard for our Lord, for He who gives the Vision will supply the Provision.

On the subject of prayer, John Wesley – founder of Methodism – said the following:

"I continue to dream and pray about a revival of holiness in our day that moves forth in mission and creates authentic community in which each person can be unleashed through the empowerment of the Spirit to fulfill God's creational intentions...In using all means, seek God alone. In and through every outward thing, look only to the power of His Spirit, and the merits of His Son. Beware you do not get stuck in the work itself; if you do, it is all lost labor. Nothing short of God can satisfy your soul. Therefore, fix on Him in all, through all, and above all."

All are welcome to be a part of this new day and new way God has opened before us. To God be the glory. For more information, contact Pastor Becky or the church office.

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### FINANCES AND GIVING

January - September 2023 Contributions:

Actuals: \$671,610\*                      Budget \$833,337.                      Variance (\$161,727)

\*Excludes disaffiliation payment

Mariners offers several ways to give in the spirit of worship and generosity.

- Log into [www.MarinersBethel.org](http://www.MarinersBethel.org) and click on the "Giving" tab at the top of the page.
- Send a Text to "84321"
- Mail checks to Mariners Bethel Global Methodist Church, 81 Central Avenue, Ocean View, DE 19970
- Place cash or check offerings in an envelope with your name clearly written on the outside and drop off at one of the offering boxes located inside the church building.
- Scan on the QR code shown above to give via Church Center.

For assistance contact our Financial Secretary, Marty Quillen, [FinancialSec@MarinersBethel.org](mailto:FinancialSec@MarinersBethel.org) or leave a voice message at 302-542-1959.

## ENRICHMENT OF HOPE AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

Thank you all for your love, prayers, and support over the past months as we prepared for the 2023/2024 school year. We are happy to update you on how things are going. We are one month in, and everything is great! The students love coming each week and are already participating in some awesome activities. We currently have a cooking class led by Connie Sprenkle, and the students LOVE it. The South Coastal Library is here monthly with some furry friends, supplied by the PAWS program. Students have the opportunity to read a book to (and to snuggle) with a dog. We also have a few of our regular pickleball players coming in to teach the students the game. In addition to all of these super fun activities, the students are learning about the love of God and how they fit into the world today. Each day they are here, we read a short story or share a personal experience and tie it to scripture to remind students of the love God has for them and help them to understand their purpose and identify in Christ. This month's theme is 'Being True to Yourself,' where they discover the different masks we wear and how they can separate us from Christ. We currently have 15 students enrolled and are at capacity. God is so GOOD! Any new applications received will be placed on a waitlist until we are able to take on additional students. However, we need your help! We need additional volunteers in all areas (kitchen, homework help, activities, and transportation). Would you prayerfully consider joining the after-school program to help enrich the lives of students and families in our community? Please contact Tiffany Kelley for more information on how you can get involved at [familyandyouth@marinersbethel.org](mailto:familyandyouth@marinersbethel.org)



### TRUNK OR TREAT

Mariners will have its annual free, family Halloween event on Tuesday, October 31st from 5:30 - 7:00 PM outside of the Hope Center. There will be lots of trunks, our beloved DJ Randie, a balloon twister, bounce house, hayride, food, and more! You DON'T want to miss this awesome event. If you are interested in getting involved, check out the "All Hands on Deck" table in the lobby for ways you can help out. Thank you for making this event so special for our community!



### CELEBRATIONS



#### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- |                                                                   |                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 10/1 - Gavin Tritapoe                                             | 10/16 - Don Degidio, Janie Rudakiewicz          |
| 10/4 - Jane McLaren, Jack O'Day                                   | 10/17 - Jane McCabe                             |
| 10/6 - Dakota Degidio                                             | 10/18 - Brooke Good, John Mendenhall            |
| 10/7 - Mark MacMicking, Bonnie Cannon                             | 10/19 - Mark McCowan                            |
| 10/8 - Dennis Rader                                               | 10/19 - Jean Ronat (Turning 101 this year!)     |
| 10/10 - Patricia Morris                                           | 10/23 - Barbara Denner, Thomas Palmer           |
| 10/11 - Sally Baker, Gary Ringold                                 | 10/26 - Ada Carr                                |
| 10/12 - Harold Beam, Chris Brown,<br>Dawn Malmberg, Dorothy Rader | 10/27 - Kari Zook                               |
| 10/14 - Rob Gano                                                  | 10/29 - Kathleen Evans (Turning 103 this year!) |
|                                                                   | 10/31 - Jim Jewell                              |

#### OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- |                                    |                            |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 10/2 - Russell & Janie Rudakiewicz | 10/4 - Chris & Wendy Megee |
| 10/17 - Tom & Jeanne Pekar         |                            |



# **Mariners Bethel** Global Methodist Church

*Navigating the seas of life together with Christ at the helm*

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**Senior Pastor**

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*The purpose of Mariners News is to share the message, mission, and ministry of the church.*

*The release date is the 1st of each month; the submission deadline is 10 days prior.*

*All submissions should be sent digitally, if possible, to administrator@marinersbethel.org.*

*Any questions. contact the office.*