



July 2021

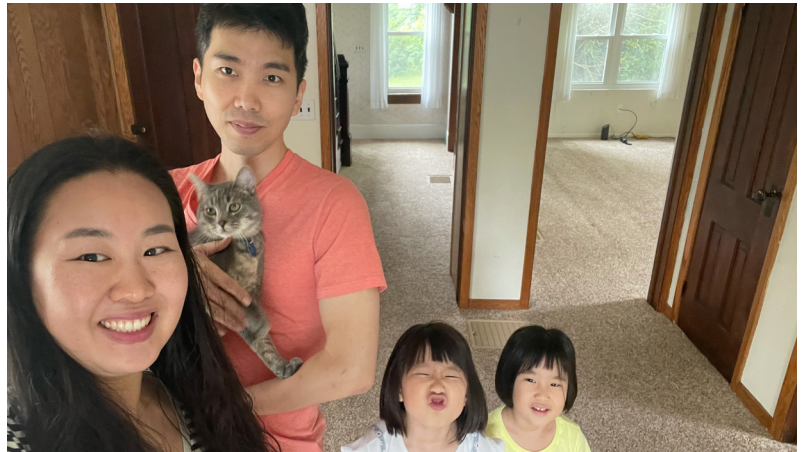
Volume 7, No. 6

The Octagon

Severna Park United Methodist Church News

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A New Journey Together

It is my pleasure to introduce myself to you. My name is Narae Kim, and I have been appointed to serve as an associate pastor at Severna Park UMC starting July 1st, 2021. I appreciate all of your warm welcome as I settle into this new position. My husband, Heerak Kim, is also a provisional elder and he is appointed to

Glen Mar UMC as an associate pastor. We have two daughters, Ana (6) and Ruah (4). Noel is our gray tabby cat.

I was born and raised in a pastor's family in South Korea. My love for the word of God and God's people grew as I served in church and on mission trips, but I never thought I would become a clergy.

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A New Journey Together

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Women pastors were rare in South Korea, and I wanted to work in the field of Art and creativity. I could not connect art and pastoral ministry together.

The Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference and the Methodist annual conference in South Korea have a sister relationship and exchange delegates every year. An elder from the BWC, Rev. Rod Miller, became a good friend with my family and he said to me, "Narae, you could be a good pastor." And his words gave me a seed in my heart and it started to grow. When I came here as a delegate in 2010, we visited Wesley Theological Seminary in DC. As I saw their emphasis on Art and faith, I knew this was the place I wanted to come. In 2012, I started the Master of Divinity degree at Wesley, and I met Rev. Ron. He was one of our leaders in PM&M (Practice in Ministry and Mission) class.

In my sermon on Sunday, I talked about Horton from "Horton Hears a Who!" hearing tiny Jojo. Horton's famous line, "A person is a person no matter how small" became the foundation of my pastoral ministry. Horton accepts and respects the tiny people living in a speck of dust, when he cannot even see them. When the majority of animals were mocking and harassing him, he stuck to his mantra, "A person is a person no matter how small."

We are beloved children of God and every one of us deserves to be treated with dignity, justice and fairness. When the system of the world did not allow the weak to have a voice, and kept the

minority oppressed and mistreated, Jesus broke the old system of discrimination, injustice and misunderstanding.

As a foreign Asian woman, I will bring my story and voice of a minority living in the United States. As a pastor, I will love you and serve you so that we can live out our calling as disciples of Christ. We are sent to see, hear and love the tiny people that the world cannot see. We are called to love them and treat them as God's beloved children just as Jesus did to them.

I am grateful and excited to serve SPUMC with Rev. Ron. I am looking forward to getting to know you better and joining in your faith journey together.

-Rev. Narae Kim



Food Frenzy & ASP Week of Service

A great big shout out goes to everyone who donated food for SPAN and to all the youth and adults who showed up to paint and collect, organize and deliver food as part of their week of local mission and service this year. We are so grateful for your ongoing support of ASP & SPAN!



A New Journey Together

ASP Auction

The ASP Auction took place on the last Sunday of June featuring great items to bid on, more desserts than we could possibly eat and a rookie auctioneer who performed quite admirably (way to go, **Bradley Hogan!**). **Rev. Lee** held court with her commentary and quips and a smaller than normal crowd meant there were some great deals to be had. In the end, the youth raised nearly \$7,000 to support the good and important work of the **Appalachia Service Project**. Thanks to everyone who came out and bid (or sent in their proxies) and to all of the generous folks who donated fabulous meals, baked goods, handicrafts, weekends away and lots more.



UMM Man of the Year: Todd Popham

On Father's Day, as is the annual tradition, the United Methodist Men presented their 2021 Man of the Year award to Todd Popham. Todd was recognized for his outstanding leadership over the last decade during which he has been the Chair of the Trustees, SPRC, Intentional Faith Development Team and most recently, the Regathering Task Force that helped guide our church through the pandemic. Additionally, Todd served as a Vice President of the United Methodist Men and one of their chief cooks for the their Saturday morning meetings. Todd has exhibited such competence and a servant-leader's heart in all that he has done and a willingness to step forward to lead in new areas all the time, even as he mentored his successors. A well-deserved honor for a great man and a beloved leader in our congregation. Todd and his

wife Alicia have recently relocated to the Lewes, DE but they have promised to stay connected and we look forward to seeing them back among us from time to time.



A New Journey Together



Graduates 2021

CONGRATULATIONS to our 2021 high school and university graduates!

We wish all of you God's blessing and guidance on your next steps!

High School

Archbishop Spalding: Kylie Spath

Broadneck HS: Hartley Acosta

Home School: Fran Zyla

North County HS: Joey Cherowitzo

Old Mill HS: Amber Schmidt, Grace Koehler

Severn: Annie Mitchell, Michaela Leikin

Severna Park HS: Blake Bierdeman, Aneka Fredriksson, Greta Fritz, Maddy Koul, Ariana Lecouras, Nick Patzkowski, Sophie Piepmeier, Jack VanVeelen, Haley White, Tim Zyla

South River HS: Bronwyn Patterson

College and Universities

JANSEN DIKE: BS in Computer Science, minor in Math from Salisbury University

CLAIRE DOMSHICK: BS in Psychology, minor in Sports Business from the University of Oregon

PAUL FORD: BS in Music Education, Towson University

LEXI HAHN HOGAN: Dual Bachelors in Early Childhood and Special Education, Towson University

SHELBY HOGAN: BSN in Nursing, Summa Cum Laude, minors in Psychology and Applied Youth Development, York College of PA

1LT, DAN LEE: F-16 Fighter Training, United States Air Force

JOHN McNERNEY: BS in Electronic Media and Film, minor in Business Administration, Towson University

TOMMY PARKER: BS in Mass Communication, minor in Marketing, Towson University

CARL PROEBSTLE: Assoc. Degree in Computer Science, Summa Cum Laude, Anne Arundel Community College

JOSH SANTANA: Bachelors in Music Performance, Towson University

NOAH YOUNG: BS in Marketing, Salisbury University

Youth News

The UMYF recently celebrated a very interesting year with awards and recognitions. The year was accomplished by the work and commitment of both youth and adult leaders, as they spent months on zoom and months distanced and masked on the parking lot. Share in our joy.

Upcoming Leaders: David Young, Kyra Hoffmaster

Spirit Award: Stephen Nunn, Marielle Unger

ICU Leaders: Tim Zyla, Fran Zyla, Kylie Spath, Sophie Piepmeier, Blake Bierdeman, Will Mumford

“Lifetime Achievement” : Fran Zyla, Maddy Koul, Blake Bierdeman

Unsung Heroes:

7th grade: Kelsey Vickerman

8th grade: Brooke Hughes

9th grade: Danielle Sexton

10th grade: Chris Nunn

11th grade: Drew Trull

12th grade: Ariana Lecouras

Officers – Senior High – Sophie Piepmeier, Tim Zyla, Kylie Spath, Olivia Unger, David Young, Lilian Cross, Josie Dike

Middle High – Marielle Unger, Chase Bierdeman, Kate Edwards

Counselors: Sarah Davis, Delanie Colborne, Tricia Ferrell, Maddy Finnerin, Bella Hahn, Shelly Hoffmaster, Bradley Hogan, Lexi Hahn Hogan, Kevin O'Donnell, Sandy O'Donnell, Tommy Parker, Tim Reardon, Alison Shepherd

SUMMER SCHEDULE: UMYF resumes July 11 and goes every week until September, 6pm

SUPER 6th resumes July 11 at 4:15 pm, through July. Starting in August, Super 6th will join MYF at 6pm.

Thanks to Our Newest Teacher

The Intentional Faith Development Committee, and everyone who took his class, wish to thank Adam Shephard for his leadership with our recent World Religions class.

Adam led this 6-week zoom class with such knowledge, energy and humor. Adam was engaging and interacted well

with the class. We appreciate his time and expertise. Adam is a teacher at Archbishop Spalding High School, where he teaches several courses besides World Religions, including film making. He is married to Alison, and is the father of Nora and Eliot. He serves on our IFD Committee. We look forward to more classes as time allows. Thanks again, Adam!

UMW News

Like everyone else, the UMW is finding their way back to meetings and greetings! We are sponsoring a summer read which will culminate in an evening book discussion in late September. The book we have chosen is *Lady in the Lake* by local author and former Baltimore Sun reporter, Laura Lippmann. It's a mystery, set in 1960's Baltimore, that centers around a would-be journalist trying to uncover the truth behind a woman found dead in Druid Lake Park Fountain. A limited number of books will be available after July 10th at the Welcome Center for \$11. Feel free to purchase elsewhere if you want it sooner or if you prefer an e-copy.

UMW is planning a program in October open to all women of the church. Details to be announced. We're also working on utilizing Breeze to connect all the women of our congregation to allow for easier communications of events and UMW Circle happenings. Watch your email for more information.

A New Journey Together

Building Spruce-Up

A great big thank you to **Martha Hollidge**, **Carol Rice** and **Karleen Leasure** who painted Rev. Narae's Office and doors/frames throughout the entire office complex. **Roger MacWilliams**, **Dave McKinney**, and **Bob Wimbrow** have been busy of late doing the endless and thankless job of replacing ceiling tiles so thanks go out to them, as well.



Thank You!

Matthew and I felt so blessed and humbled by the love you showed us during my last weekend as your pastor. Being part of the ministry of SPUMC was an incredibly formative and life-giving experience, and I will never forget it!

We've settled into our new home in Idlewyld now, and Deacon is loving his new "school" (daycare) where he gets to have water day every week and play with lots of new friends. Matthew is enjoying his new position at the Board of Child Care, and I'm just getting settled into my new office at Hunt's.

Thank you to everyone who organized the celebrations, and to each of you who contributed to the love offering. Your kind words and warm hugs filled me with so much love and joy, and your gifts set us up so well to begin this new season in Towson.

May God be with you till we meet again,

-Rev. Carissa



A New Journey Together

Worship (Indoors) with Us This Summer!

We are worshipping together on Sunday mornings at **9am in Fellowship Hall** (with the adjoining courtyard also available to anyone still more comfortable outdoors) and at **10:30am in the Sanctuary**. If you haven't been back in a while, we'd love to see you again real soon. We are offering **Sunday School for children through elementary school at 9am** (mostly outdoors – check-in for your kids is in the Education Wing) and Nursery Care (up through age 5) during the 10:30am service. We are continuing to Livestream our 10:30am service on Facebook and YouTube and if you miss it on Sunday morning, it's available for viewing any time during the week.

If you have been coming back to worship, we encourage you to **invite family, friends, and fellow church members** that you haven't seen here and miss. Our plan is to continue with this interim schedule as we rebuild our in-person congregation and work through transitions in our music program for the rest of the summer and then move back to our “regular” worship schedule beginning the second Sunday in September. Thanks for your patience and ongoing support.

In August, we'll begin a new worship series called “**What's So Amazing About Grace?**” and we'll kick off the fall with “**Back to the Future**” beginning September 12.





Let's Make VBS Amazing!

Vacation Bible School returns this summer, August 2-6! We need your help to make it a success. You're invited to make a donation by dropping off items at church, or by ordering them online and shipping them directly to 731 Benfield Road. Check out the VBS page on our website for more information.

severnaparkumc.org/vbs

Financial Snapshot

In this period of transition coming back to in-person worship and more and more programming taking place at church (UMYF, outdoor groups meeting again, etc.), things are transitioning with our finances as well. At the end of May, our income was about \$50,000 below where it was a year ago. We are counting on members and friends to continue to support the church with your giving throughout the summer months. You can give online, via text, by check, in-person or drop-box donations. We are grateful for your ongoing generosity and all the ways you help make ministry possible.

severnaparkumc.org/giving-options

Intentional Faith Development

This very fancy title describes a "committee" or group of people committed to keeping adult education interesting and vital for the congregation. We have some requests for all of you to consider:

Have you ever wanted to teach or lead a course/book/study? We would be happy to talk with you and equip you to do that!

Might you be interested in joining this committee? We meet only once a month (most months) for about 30-45 minutes—we are efficient!

DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY has been one of the most excellent adult learning experiences ever conducted here. There are 4 parts; we do recommend Part 1 first, then encourage any of the others. *Have you missed this? Would you like to try a more in depth, longer Bible study? Is there a specific study you missed and would like to do?*

If you want to respond to any of these questions, please email our chairperson, Jillian Beam. jrbeam128@gmail.com

Baptism Class

Our next baptism class will be held on **Sunday, September 19**. This is a great opportunity to learn more about what this sacrament means to us here at SPUMC. Please let Beth know in the church office if you will attend, have any questions, or would prefer to Zoom in.

bfrank@severnaparkumc.org

Spark in the Park

Family Ministries is heading outside this summer with a series of Spark in the Park meet ups at various parks in the area. Come to meet your new pastor, reconnect, cool off with an ice pop, and enjoy the summer sun with your church family! The next event is on **July 14, 5-6pm** at Kinder Park's small playground. Make sure to sign up for the church eNews to stay in the loop about park gatherings. Contact Erica with questions.

ebenjamin@severnaparkumc.org



Severna Park United Methodist Church
731 Benfield Rd. Severna Park, MD 21146
410.987.4700 | severnaparkumc.org