

THE SLATE

The Monthly Newsletter of
Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church
Cardiff, Maryland

June 2025

From the Pastor's Desk

Peace be with you all,

I ran across the following excerpt from Frederick Buechner's book "The Magnificent Defeat" and thought it was worth sharing.

"On her deathbed, Gertrude Stein is said to have asked, 'What is the answer?' Then after a long silence, 'What is the question?' Don't start looking in the Bible for the answers it gives. Start by listening for the questions it asks.

We are much involved, all of us, with questions about things that matter a good deal today but will be forgotten by this time tomorrow – the immediate wheres and whens and hows that face us daily at home and at work – but at the same time we tend to lose track of the questions about things that matter always, life-and-death questions about meaning, purpose, and value. To lose track of such deep questions as these is to risk losing track of who we really are in our own depths and where we are really going. There is perhaps no stronger reason for reading the Bible than that somewhere among all those India-paper pages there awaits each reader whoever he is the one question which, though for years he may have been pretending not to hear it, is the central question of his own life. Here are a few of them:

- *What is a man profited if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? (Matthew 16:26)*
- *Am I my brother's keeper? (Genesis 4:9)*
- *If God is for us, who can be against us? (Romans 8:31)*
- *What is truth? (John 18:38)*
- *How can a man be born when he is old? (John 3:4)*
- *What does a man gain by all the toil at which he toils under the sun? (Ecclesiastes 1:3)*
- *Whither shall I go from thy Spirit? (Psalm 139:7)*
- *Who is my neighbor? (Luke 10:29)*
- *What shall I do to inherit eternal life? (Luke 10:25)*

When you hear the question that is your question, then you have already begun to hear much. Whether you can accept the Bible's answer, or not, you have reached the point where at least you can begin to hear it too."



When I read this as part of my daily devotional, it struck a chord. Maybe it is not answers we need to be searching for, but the questions we never thought of asking. There are many more questions in the Bible than the few listed above; and not all of them come with ready-made answers. But, as Rev. Buechner says, there are questions meant for each one of us. Finding those questions is the beginning of our understanding. Only then are we ready to hear the answer.

Continued on page 2

From the Pastor's Desk (continued)

Maybe that is a problem that the world needs to work on. Let's find the question(s) that are really important to us and then have an open mind and be ready to listen for the answer. Many of the important questions are in the Bible. That is where we can find God's answers and the meanings for our lives.

Pastor Carrall



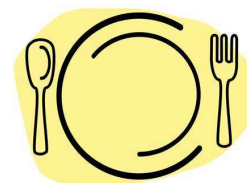
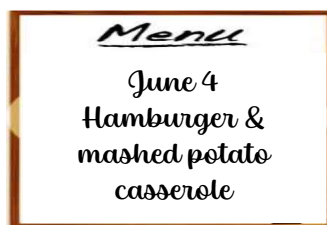
Slate Ridge Worship Services

Worship Services are live-streamed via YouTube (The channel is: @slateridgechurch1239). Fellowship time, prior to the service, begins at 10:30am. The service begins at 11:00am and includes a Children's Message. Teachers are available to lead "Kids Church." The service is posted weekly to the www.SlateRidgeChurch.org website and Slate Ridge's Facebook page.

Greeters/Ushers for June are the Scarboroughs.

Closers for June

June 1 - Brian Amos
June 8 - Bill Scarborough
June 15 - Steve Hess
June 22 - Cathy Panos
June 29 - Dave Stewart



Clean Plate at the Slate
Wed, June 4, 5-7pm
Fellowship Hall

Calendar

- **June 8: Pentecost Sunday (wear red) and Communion.**
- June 15: Graduates will be recognized in the worship service. **IF you wish to recognize a graduate in your family, please send photo and bio as soon as possible to Linda at srpc@verizon.net so they can be included in the slide presentation. **
- The Session will meet Wednesday, June 18, at 7pm.

Deacons News

- Ann Booze will be sending cards from the Deacons this month and next. Reach out to her if you think of someone who may like a card from us and might need a reminder of God's love for them.
- If a member of our church family, or of the local community may need a meal or two (because of hospitalization and recovery following surgery, etc.), the Deacons' Contact person for meal support is Janet Nicholson. Janet Nicholson's contact info: 410-937-7753.



A Clean Plate meal in 2024

Clean Plate at the Slate Menu Board

June 4 - Hamburger & mashed potato casserole
July 2 - Baked Chicken
Aug 6 - Pulled pork, pulled chicken
Sep 3 - Ham with mac & cheese





Pentecost Special Offering

The Pentecost Special Offering campaign began on April 21, the day after Easter and runs through June 8/Pentecost Sunday. By supporting the Pentecost Offering (one of the four annual Presbyterian Church (USA) Special Offerings), you are helping to nurture the faith of children, youth, and young adults.

Prayer Chain. Would you like to join our prayer chain to pray for the needs of your church family? If you would like to be added – or if you have urgent prayer needs yourself - please contact Linda in the Church Office. Linda will initiate the prayer chain with our prayer partners.



275th Anniversary Celebration, October 26, 2025 – Put this on your Calendar!

The 275th Celebration of the founding of Slate Ridge Church will be on Sunday, October 26. More information will follow.

Per Capita 2025. The cost of Per Capita remains at \$38.00 per member which goes to the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. The Session Finance Committee elects to pay the Per Capita on all our active members. We thank all who contribute their portion.

Praying for

- Our country.
- Margie Heaps, fell and broke 8 ribs.
- John Fenwick is recovering from an appendectomy.
- Becky Fitzgerald is recuperating a broken femur.
- Joann Kefauver's daughter, Michelle MacKeith, colorectal cancer. She will begin radiation (5-days/week; 5-weeks) on May 27.
- Patti Hushon Lovelidge, pancreatic and liver cancer.
- Terri Robinson's sister-in-law, Tracy Knox, is on the lung transplant list.
- Pam Birely Moore's friend, Mike Bastendorf, needs a liver transplant.
- Bill's friend, Opher and family, prayers for safety and protection.
- Doug and Margie, prayers for safety and protection.
- Sandy Scarborough, constant pain.
- Mark, Alzheimer's; Danielle, unknown issue; Shelby, Crohn's; Anna Deaver, coma, Sterling Care. Steve, motorcycle accident; Scott Grimm, diabetes; Sheryl Shubert, stage 2 breast cancer; Jen, cancer; Natalie, cancer; Scott Shubert, thyroid cancer; Louise Geczy, breast cancer; Davy Jones, chemo treatments; Sonya, issues after breast cancer surgery; Brian's friend, Don Ayres, lung cancer; Danielle, breast cancer; Rose Fiori, suffering with cancer; Cindy Seibel, maintenance course of treatment.



With sympathy for the families of

- Debbie Stewart's mother, Margaret Grafton.
- Paul R. Butler.
- Donald Schubert.

Please pray for our military

- PFC Aidan Seibel, U.S. Army, Ft. Riley, KS
- Army Spec. Chandler Schmidt, Ft. Polk, LA





A Few Thoughts That Went Through My Mind!!

Early last month I was lucky enough to spend a few days at the ocean before the crowds arrived. Sitting on the balcony early one morning, wrapped up in a cozy blanket with a great cup of hotel coffee, I pondered the following:

So many people say I wish I could bring him back....why don't we ever hear someone say I can't wait to go meet him where he is....isn't that the better place? Don't miss your opportunity to prepare for going to where our loved ones who died in Christ are....that's a much better option and it will last for eternity!

God's handiwork is massive! The waves beating against the shoreline create a triumphant sound of victory as they hit the beach, dressed in white caps as they turn around and go back out only to turn around and do it again! How magnificent was our Master's plan! He controls when they come in and when they go out, and with how much force they do it! The ships on the horizon help us to see where the skies stop and the water begins....without them, it's so hard to tell!

God's plan for this world was perfect. He left no stone unturned. It was quiet there that morning....just a few people walking, some with arm and arm, some hand in hand, some just walking with friends....or their favorite pet....but all seem to be enjoying the moment....enjoying what God has created! I'm reminded God made them all. It's almost impossible to believe that God even knows the numbers of hairs on each of our heads, all the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky!

Remember to not let any day pass without acknowledging how great our Heavenly Father is....and how great is what He created....now, can you even begin to imagine how great heaven is going to be? Plan on seeing me there....I look forward to seeing you!!



Happy Pentecost!

Shared by *Pastor Carroll*

Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church Income and Expenses (May 2025)

	2025	2024
Income	\$ 5,568.10	\$ 5,087.02
Expense	- <u>7,445.60</u>	- <u>7,456.53</u>
Net Income	\$ - 1,877.50	\$ - 2,369.51



Summer Music Schedule

July 20 - Exact Change

August 20 - Rose Barranco



June Birthdays!

1	Kenneth Ruiz	15	Hunter Stokes
2	Mary Gerlach	18	Phyllis Fenwick
2	Barbara Stewart	19	Michael Heaps
5	Brandon Warner	19	Sarah Virden
5	Lacey Warner	22	Edwin Barton
9	Jessica Vogel song	26	Andrew James Dorville
10	Abigail Davis Sliger	27	Hanna Morales Hess
10	Andrea Potter Schmitt	27	Kelly Farmer
11	Brian Amos	28	Marian Glass
11	Becky Fitzgerald	30	Kevin Gibney



June Anniversaries!

3	Brandon & Emily Warner
6	David & Joy Howell
10	Robert & Carol Wise
14	John & Phyllis Fenwick
22	Edward & Angela Norris
23	Jeff & Luianne Potter
24	Jim & Patti Gibney
25	David & Lindsay Howell
25	Stan & Fran Mathews



A Prayer for our Fathers

Lord, please take care of our dads.
 Though they are brave and protective,
 they must also be frightened sometimes.
 When money runs low and when we need things,
 Lord, when their hearts break because they can't do it all;
 Please help us to let them know how much we love them.
 And how much You love them.
 Amen!

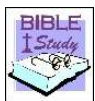


Flowers

- Flowers were given by Patti Gibney in loving memory of her mother, Norma Jean Boyd, on May 25.

Letter from the Kennedys


- A letter from the Kennedys is posted on the bulletin board across from the office.



Bible Study. "The Chosen" Each Thursday we continue to watch one episode of "The Chosen" and then discuss what we have learned. Time is 10:00am, in the Fellowship Hall. All are invited. Bring your friends.

☞ Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. ¹³ This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit.

1 John 4

Month of June 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 Pastor C. Fitzgerald Worship Service Children's Message & Kids Church 11:00am	2	3	4 Clean Plate 5-7pm 	5 Office Open 9:00am ~ 3:00pm Pastor in the office 9:30-2:30 Bible Study ~ 10am	6 Office Open 9:00am ~ 3:00pm	7 AA Meeting, 4:30pm
8 Pastor C. Fitzgerald Worship Service Children's Message & Kids Church 11:00am PENTECOST Communion	9	10 Office Open 9:00am ~ 3:00pm	11	12 Office Open 9:00am ~ 3:00pm Pastor in the office 9:30-2:30 Bible Study ~ 10am	13 Office Open 9:00am ~ 3:00pm	14 AA Meeting, 4:30pm
15 Pastor C. Fitzgerald Worship Service Children's Message & Kids Church 11:00am Father's Day Graduates Slides	16	17 Office Open 9:00am ~ 3:00pm	18 Session 7:00pm	19 Office Open 9:00am ~ 3:00pm Pastor in the office 9:30-2:30 Bible Study ~ 10am	20 Office Open 9:00am ~ 3:00pm	21 AA Meeting, 4:30pm
22 Pastor C. Fitzgerald Worship Service Children's Message & Kids Church 11:00am	23	24 Office Open 9:00am ~ 3:00pm	25	22 Office Open 9:00am ~ 3:00pm Pastor in the office 9:30-2:30 Bible Study ~ 10am	23 Office Open 9:00am ~ 3:00pm	24 AA Meeting, 4:30pm
25 Pastor C. Fitzgerald Worship Service Children's Message & Kids Church 11:00am	26	27 Office Open 9:00am ~ 3:00pm	28	29 Office Open 9:00am ~ 3:00pm	30 Office Open 9:00am ~ 3:00pm	31 AA Meeting, 4:30pm

Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church

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Cardiff, MD 21160 410-451-5177

Visit our YouTube channel to Livestream or visit later:

www.youtube.com/slateridgechurch

Visit our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/slateridgechurch.

Visit our Website: www.slateridgechurch

*When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

*It is well with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

