

THE SLATE

The Monthly Newsletter of

Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church
Cardiff, Maryland

From the Pastor's Desk

November 2026

To all the Saints

November is a month where people tend to list out the things we are thankful for, (*it's probably because of that one holiday called "Thanksgiving"*). Some even will list something each and every day on Facebook (*which is not something you will find me doing*). Don't get me wrong, it is good to be thankful, and I am thankful for many different things ... I just don't need the whole Facebook world to know it. Besides, a lot of times the things listed, after family and friends, are all material things which will eventually break and get replaced. *Okay, I'm done venting now.*

Don't take me as being the Scrooge or the Grinch of Thanksgiving, it is good to be thankful. The Bible even tells us that. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 says, "***give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.***"

Wait a second! Look at the verse again! Did you notice what that verse says? "*Give thanks in* ***ALL*** *circumstances.*" So ... does this mean I have to give thanks in those times when life isn't going like I planned it or when something bad happens? Hate to be the bearer of bad news but ... yup, that is exactly what it means.

We all know that bad things are going to happen. People will get sick, things will break or be stolen, feelings will be hurt by those we call our friends, and relationships are going to go through tough times and may even lead to a break-up. It may be hard to see these as times to give thanks ... but they are.

AND HERE'S WHY ...

Notice the word before that bold, italicized, and underlined ***all***. What is it? It's the word ***in***. We are told to give thanks ***in*** all circumstances, not ***for*** all circumstances. The evil, the bad things of life do not come from God, those are a result of sin being in the world. This is why we are not thankful ***for*** all circumstances. We are thankful ***in*** all circumstances because no matter what we are facing in life ... God is still in control and God's presence is still with you. This means that his love, his mercy, his compassion, and all the other wonderful things God is and does are still with you. They are with you because you are his dearly loved child. And to prove that, God sent Jesus, his only Son, so that anyone who believes in him may have eternal life.

So, in this month of reflection on what it is we are thankful for ... the thing I'm most thankful for is this ... the precious blood shed by Jesus and his victorious resurrection! For it is through this that *you* are claimed as one of his dear children. I'm thankful that God continues to go with you wherever it is that you go. It is my constant prayer that no matter what you experience in your life, that you remember that God is there with you and that can you lean on him all the time.

From my family to yours, may you have a blessed and thankful Thanksgiving!

Pastor Carroll

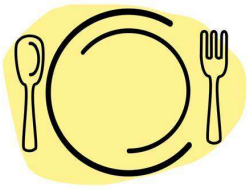


Slate Ridge Worship Services
Worship Services are live-streamed via YouTube (The channel is: youtube@slateridgechurch1239). Fellowship time, prior to the service, begins at 10:30am. The service begins at 11:00am and includes a Children's Message. Teachers are available to lead "Kids Church." The service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

Greeters/Ushers for November–the Scott Kefauvers

Closers for November	Liturgists for November
Nov 1 – Dave Stewart	Jeff Potter
Nov 8 – Brian Amos	Debbie Hess
Nov 15 – Scott Kefauver	Steve Hess
Nov 22 – Steve Hess	Luianne Potter
Nov 29 - Cathy Panos	John Johnson





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

Calendar

- Clean Plate is serving its monthly meal on November 4, from 5-7pm.
- The Session will meet on Wednesday, November 18, at 7pm.
- Decorating the windows and wreaths, Sunday, November 22, after worship.
- The Poinsettias arrive on Friday, November 27; decorating assistance welcome.
- The first week of Advent is November 29, and the Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated.
- Twelfth Annual Christmas Greens Sale, Saturday, December 5 and Sunday, December 6 as part of Delta's Christmas Fair. 8am to 3pm both days.
- Clean Plate Date Change for December. Second Wednesday of the month (December 9).
- Bible Study, Thursdays, at 10:00am in the Parlor.

Deacons' News



- Missy Kefauver is the Deacons' "card person" this month. 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.), please contact the church office.

World Communion Special Offering
The generous congregation of Slate Ridge Church contributed $555.00 to this campaign.

Per Capita 2026. The cost of Per Capita is $39.00 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.

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.

Nomination of Church Officers
Your Nominating Committee, headed by Elder Debbie Hess, is now working to find the best candidates for our open positions on Session, Deacons and the Board of Trustees.

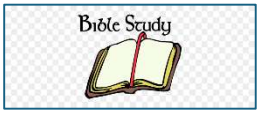
Thank you for Flowers
Flowers on the organ for Homecoming Sunday were given by Patti Gibney.



November Birthdays

3	Sadie Gibney	18	Jacob Howell
7	Joan Jones	19	Emily Wagner
9	Ben Smith	22	Todd Fleischmann
12	Debbie Hess	26	Rhett Gibney
17	Greg Hunt	30	Todd Gibney





Bible Study. Bible study continues on the book of Revelation on Thursdays at 10:00am in the Parlor.

North Harford Dance

Dance has already started! Classes will be on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in Hyde Hall from (approximate times) 5:30pm to 9:00pm. No Dance on November 2, 11, and 28.



Twelfth Annual Slate Ridge Christmas Greens and Decorations Sale, Saturday, December 5 and Sunday, December 6. Time: 8am to 3pm both days.

This event is our primary fundraiser for the year and is scheduled as part of the Delta Christmas Fair weekend. Currently, if you have any containers (mugs, bowls, etc.) that could be used as part of our beautiful flower arrangements, we would appreciate them. We would especially appreciate donations of jelly jars (quilted or not); regular and small sizes. Please mark your calendars and plan to stop in to shop in our Fellowship Hall and see it overflowing with wreaths, swags, Christmas floral arrangements, a bake table and a Christmas "flea" table.





Clean Plate Date Change. Due to the conflict with our annual Greens Sale, our Clean Plate meal will be on the **Second** Wednesday of the month **(December 9).**

Hawk Country Puppy Parlor

There's something new at North Harford High School! They are launching the Hawk Country Puppy Parlor Dog Bathing program and have asked local churches to share this info with their congregations. They are offering services including dog bathing, teeth brushing, ear cleaning, nail trimming at a reasonable cost while providing their students with valuable real-world experience. Check it out! Schedule by contacting aimee.densmore@hcps.org. See attached flyer, page 9.

Winter Undergarment Donation Drive

Six hundred forty-nine Harford County Public School students experienced homelessness during the recent school year. New undergarments are one of the greatest unmet needs. Sizes range from Pre-K through adult sizes for high school students, male and female. Priority donations: new underwear, bras, undershirts, socks, thermal underwear, and base layers. This Winter Undergarment Donation Drive is being shared by Pamela Smith, Office of Title 1, Homeless Liaison and donations can be dropped off at the A.A. Roberty Building, 102 S. Hickory Ave., Bel Air, MD. See attached flyer, page 9.

Do you Need a Ride within Harford County.... Or Could You Volunteer to Be a Driver?

Har-Go Rides is a service to assist seniors needing rides to medical services within Harford County if certain conditions are met and it is a service that the seniors must pay for. On the flip side, the Har-Go program welcomes volunteers to become drivers, again, with some conditions met. See attached flyers. Page 10.



News from Rev. Bob Crilley

"For those of you who remember when Bob Crilley was pastor here at Slate Ridge, I received an email from him recently, and thought I would share with you an update on his family..... I will quote his email..." shared by Phyllis Fenwick.

"My oldest daughter, Kat (I think when we were in Cardiff, we called her Katie," but she now prefers Kat) lives in Chicago and works as a licensed psychologist. She never married and doesn't have any children, but is open to both, if she ever met the right person."

"My middle daughter, Jessica, fell in love with and eventually married, a Danish attorney, so she lives in Copenhagen, Denmark. She works in the field of tech support for companies around the world. She and Pierre, her husband, have my only grandson - a seven-year-old by the name of James. We get a chance to see him usually once a year, as either they travel over here or we go over there."

"My youngest daughter, Rachel, worked as a minister for several years in South Korea, where she met and got married to a South Korean man names Jongmin. Recently, however, she was accepted into a PhD program in Church History at Baylor University in Waco, Texas (about 1 1/2 hrs. south of us), so she now lives over here and we are trying to arrange for her husband to immigrate over to this country to join her. They have been married about three years, and hope eventually to have children, but putting that off for now."

"Judy has been a hospital chaplain for the past 20 years at Parkland Hospital in downtown Dallas. She loves it, but she is eyeing retirement at the age of 70, which will be next August. Meanwhile, I have been here at First Presbyterian Church in Grapevine since 1993, and continue to pastor to an ever-changing congregation in an ever-changing world."

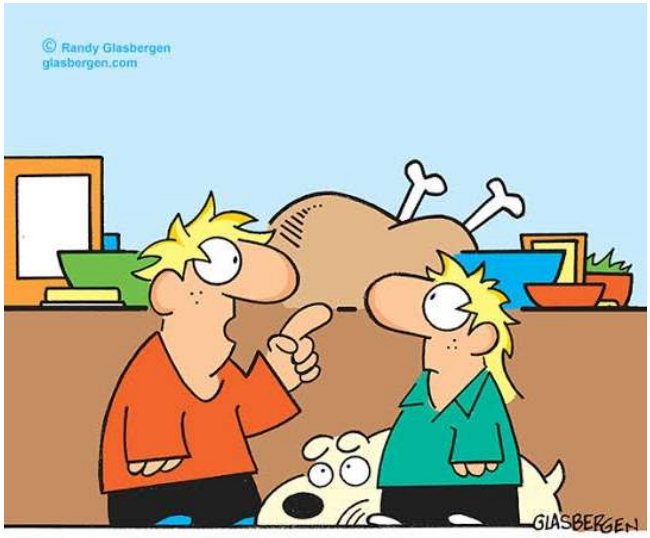
Bob and Judy have really been blessed by God.
Take care and may God bless you.
Submitted by Phyllis Fenwick



Thank you to all who work in front of, and behind the scenes.... in all ways, to keep everything running smoothly!

Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church
Income and Expenses (September)

	2026	2025
Income	$ 10,849.44	$ 6,074.75
Expense	- 10,321.24	- 14,543.03
Net Income	$ 528.20	$ - 8,468.28



"On Thanksgiving the Four Basic Food Groups are 'more', 'a little more', 'a lot more' and 'too much'."

Praying for



Our country and world-wide concerns in the Middle East. Our servicemen and women involved in conflict. Violence. Weather-related disasters. Back-in-school students, teachers, bus drivers, and especially those who have experienced shootings in schools. All suffering in physical pain or grief and their medical teams to care for and assist them.

- David Robinson, hospitalized with serious health issues.
- Jerry Booze, health issues.
- Marian Koegel is battling Lupus.
- Mrs. Pat Brocker, wife of former Pastor James Brocker, is in grave condition.
- Janet Whiteford's nephew's son, Nate, age 30, is struggling.
- Lynda Garvine, following surgery and a blood clot, is finished with the IV antibiotics and now on oral antibiotics; waiting for an MRI in December to determine if infection is gone.
- Kelly Farmer, health issues.
- Sandy Scarborough, constant pain, and Lupus.
- Mackenzie and Connor Stokes are expecting babies to arrive in November.
- Debbie's friend, Mary Claire, treatment for the third time, battling breast cancer.
- Alex McComas's 6 yr-old granddaughter, Lily, has an inoperable tumor on her brain stem.
- Jim Rothschild, anesthesiologist in a war zone. Prayers also for wife Emily and son at home.
- Mark, Alzheimer's; Danielle, unknown issue; Anna Deaver, coma - at Sterling Care; Davy Jones, chemo treatments; Danielle, breast cancer; Tracy Knox, on lung transplant list; Mike Bastendorf, needs liver transplant; David McLaughlin, now in assisted living; Opher's family and Doug and Margie – safety and protection; Mark, prostate cancer; possibly leading to paralysis; Krista, recovering after eye surgery; Raygan in Texas, PT and rehab following severe scooter accident; Jason Powers, recovering after suffering paralysis in spinal surgery; Nathan's friend's family is struggling; Paul, radiation and surgery to follow in treatment of prostate cancer; Robbie Cromwell, awaiting kidney transplant; Mark Hess, continued prayers; David Davis, prostate cancer; Cindy Seibel, chemo; Roland Wilson, stroke; Betty Jo Wood, stroke; Bill's friend, Dr. Amy Pedone's husband is seriously ill.

WITH SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS

- For the family and friends of Karen Hurt, a well-known member of the Delta community (bus driver), who passed unexpectedly on October 17.
- For the family of Elder David Yensan, known from the pulpit supply circuit, and friend of Pastor Carroll, Pastor Ken, and many churches including Grove (his home church), Slateville, Highland, and Churchville, who passed unexpectedly on October 27. Prayers for his wife, Rosie, his family and his grandson, Marcus Webster, who is also part of the pulpit supply group.

JOYS

- Nathan's grandfather (Pastor Carroll Fitzgerald) is walking without pain after breaking his ankle.
- Nathan's grandmother (Becky Fitzgerald) is now walking without a cane after hip surgery.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

- CPL. Aidan Seibel, U.S. Army, Ft. Drum, NY
- SGT. Chandler Schmidt, Ft. Johnson, LA

Honoring our Fifty-Year Members

HOMECOMING

We are blessed to be able to recognize and celebrate the lives of these long-time members of Slate Ridge.

	Date Joined
Sara W. Babb	July 17, 1938
Margaret J. Tarbert	July 6, 1947
Ray A. Wise	April 4, 1948
Joyce W. Myers	June 28, 1952
Robert W. Lloyd	June 28, 1952
Patricia A. Kefauver	January 1, 1956
Barbara D. Johnson	January 1, 1956
Charles W. Jackson	January 1, 1956
Joan H. Jones	January 13, 1957
Glenn E. McLaughlin, Jr	June 30, 1957
Mary D. Gerlach	December 29, 1957
Leslie E. Whiteford	November 18, 1959
Sandra L. Scarborough	April 10, 1960
Barbara S. Stewart	April 10, 1960
Valerie D. Jones	December 31, 1961
Carol M. Metz	December 31, 1961
Merrilee A. Cox	December 30, 1962
John M. Dooley	December 30, 1962
Roberta F. Jackson	December 29, 1963
David V. Thompson	December 27, 1964
Gary E. Thompson	December 27, 1964
Debra G. Ruiz	January 16, 1966
Jean S. Childs	January 16, 1966
Beth M. VanHart	April 3, 1966
Barbara V. Miller	May 22, 1966
William H. Scarborough	August 18, 1968
Marian T. Koegel	March 30, 1969
David E. Stewart	March 30, 1969
Michael T. Heaps	December 21, 1969
John C. Johnson	February 14, 1971
R. Scott Heaps	December 12, 1971
James C. Gibney	October 22, 1972
Patti Lynn Gibney	October 22, 1972
Kim Marie Fleischmann	June 2, 1974
Terry B. Jones	June 2, 1974
Lisa M. Jackson	June 2, 1974
Luianne M. Potter	June 2, 1974
Thomas R. Wise	June 2, 1974
Gerald E. Booze	June 2, 1974
Juanita Maye (Ann) Booze	June 2, 1974
Phyllis L. Fenwick	June 2, 1974



Slate Ridge Poinsettia Tree

Poinsettias will be placed in the traditional fresh Poinsettia Tree in honor or in memory of loved ones. They will be enjoyed by all during the Christmas season and can then be removed and enjoyed in your home following the last worship service at Slate Ridge prior to Christmas Day.

Each plant will cost $8.50 and can be ordered by dropping off the order/payment or by mailing it to: Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church, 1630 Chestnut Street, Cardiff, MD 21160. **NO LATER THAN Sunday, NOVEMBER 22.**

Person Ordering _____ Phone _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

_____

I have enclosed $8.50 for each Poinsettia. Total _____

Yes, please send a card to the person(s) being honored.

Their address is: _____

_____

* *



Homecoming Fifty-Year Members, 2026. Left to right: Joyce Myers, William Scarborough, Marian Koegel, Mary Gerlach, Patti Gibney, Barbara Johnson, John Johnson, Luianne Potter, Phyllis Fenwick.

Month of November 2026

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 Pastor C. Fitzgerald Worship Service Children's Message & Kids Church 11:00am	2 NO DANCE	3 Office Open 9:00am-3:00pm	4 Clean Plate 5-7pm  Dance 5-9pm	5 Office Open 9:00am-3:00pm Pastor in the office 9:30-2:30pm Bible Study 10:00am Dance 5-9pm	6 Office Open 9:00am-3:00pm	7 AA Meet 4:30pm
8 Pastor C. Fitzgerald Worship Service Children's Message & Kids Church 11:00am	9 Dance 5-9pm	10 Office Open 9:00am-3:00pm	11 NO DANCE 	12 Office Open 9:00am-3:00pm Pastor in the office 9:30-2:30pm Bible Study 10:00am Dance 5-9pm	13 Office Open 9:00am-3:00pm	14 AA Meet 4:30pm
15 Pastor C. Fitzgerald Worship Service Children's Message & Kids Church 11:00am	16 Dance 5-9pm	17 Office Open 9:00am-3:00pm	18 Session 7pm Dance 5-9pm	19 Office Open 9:00am-3:00pm Pastor in the office 9:30-2:30pm Bible Study 10:00am	20 Office Open 9:00am-3:00pm	21 AA Meet 4:30pm
22 Pastor C. Fitzgerald Worship Service Children's Message & Kids Church 11:00am Decorating Wreaths and Windows 	23 Dance 5-9pm	24 Office Open 9:00am-3:00pm	25 Dance 5-9pm	26 NO DANCE Office Closed 	27 Office Open 9:00am-3:00pm Poinsettia Tree Decorating 	28 AA Meet 4:30pm
29 Pastor C. Fitzgerald 1st Day of Advent Worship Service and Communion Children's Message & Kids Church 11:00am	30 Dance 5-9pm					Greens Sale 8am-3pm AA Meet 4:30pm

Slate Ridge Presbyterian Church
1630 Chestnut Street, Cardiff, MD 21160
410-452-5177

Visit our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/slateridgechurch
Visit our Website: www.slateridgechurch
Visit our YouTube channel to Livestream or visit later:
www.youtube.com/slateridgechurch



"Let us come before him with Thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. For the Lord is the great God, the great king above all gods."
- Psalm 95: 2-3

Winter Undergarment Donation Drive



Let us come together to support our youth in need

Urgent Needs

- 649 Harford County Public Schools students experienced homelessness during the recent school year.
- New undergarments are one of the greatest unmet needs.
- Sizes range from Pre-K through adult sizes for high school students, male and female.
- Priority donations: new underwear, bras, undershirts, socks, thermal underwear, and base layers.

Your past support with school supplies, coats, and water has already made a meaningful difference.

Lower Body Coverage

- New underwear: briefs
- Boxer briefs
- Panties

Upper Body Coverage

- Daily and T-shirt bras
- Bras / sports bras
- Undershirts

Specialty and Seasonal Items

- Socks
- Thermal underwear and base layers

All donations can be delivered to:

Pamela M. Smith, Harford County Public Schools,
A.A. Roberty Building, 102 S. Hickory Avenue,
Bel Air, MD 21014. Phone: 410-809-6194.

Disclaimer: This flyer and its content are **not endorsed** by or affiliated with Harford County Public Schools (HCPS). They are intended solely to simplify and communicate an important message shared by Pamela M. Smith, Office of Title I, Homeless Liaison. This material should not be interpreted as an official communication, publication, or endorsement by HCPS.

Help provide everyday essentials this winter.

Hawk Country Puppy Parlor Dog Bathing

Keep your dog clean, comfortable, and smelling great between grooming appointments. Professional supervision and affordable care all for just $15.

New Program launched by North Harford High School, our students will be providing basic dog bathing and care services, giving students valuable real-world experience while serving the community.

SERVICES

- Dog bathing
- Drying
- Teeth brushing
- Ear cleaning
- Nail trimming
- Exposure & Enrichment

OUR PROGRAM

North Harford High School students will gain hands-on learning and experience while serving their local community.

REQUIREMENTS

A current rabies vaccination and a completed animal release form are required for your pets first visit.

COST

Only $15!

Location: 211 Pylesville Rd, Pylesville, MD 21132

Schedule Today!
Email: aimee.densmore@hcps.org

HAR-GO RIDES

Lifting Seniors Up!

We Need Volunteer Drivers!

Volunteers keep our program running.
We couldn't run this program without them!

Are you looking for a way to give back to the community?
Are you retired and looking for something helpful and fulfilling to do in your spare time?
You've come to the right place!

Har-Go Rides is a non-profit community organization in Harford County. We are sponsored by Presbyterian Home of Maryland out of Hart Heritage Estates. We are looking for compassionate people with a desire to help seniors by becoming volunteer drivers.

All volunteers must complete registration paperwork, a background check, driving record check, and AARP Safe Driving Course, paid for by Har-Go Rides. Volunteers must have a valid driver's license and a reliable, safe vehicle. Volunteers receive additional auto insurance through our program.

If you are interested in this volunteer opportunity please reach out to Sarah at rides@hargorides.org or 667-469-8244. You can also find us on Google, Instagram, or Facebook by searching Har-Go Rides.

Hart Heritage
A Presbyterian Home of Maryland Assisted Living Community

Are you looking for affordable transportation to your medical appointments?
You've found us!

HAR-GO RIDES

Lifting Seniors Up!

Clients must be:
60+ years old
Harford County Resident
cognizant and able to conduct their personal business
independently mobile and able to enter a vehicle easily

Walker, canes, and rollators are allowed
Rides are for any medical appointments
it's free for one additional passenger to ride along

We are not wheelchair accessible
We do not provide rides for errands or social meetings
No smoking, eating, or drinking during rides
No pets other than certified service animals

All fees and trip costs go to covering the programs overhead expenses; we are a non-profit program.
Rides are not guaranteed; we make every effort to find a volunteer to fulfill the ride, but sometimes there is no one available.
Maximum of 10 rides a month

Hart Heritage
A Presbyterian Home of Maryland Assisted Living Community

667-469-8244

Call or email us!
rides@hargorides.org

Find us on Facebook and Instagram!
Or visit our website at hargorides.org