

# MAYO CONNECTION

JUNE 2021 EDITION

MAYO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



REV. AMANDA MCMURTREY, PASTOR

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# *Message from the Pastor*

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

I found myself this past month at a memorial service for a beloved mentor and teacher from my home church. I found myself gathered with so many persons who helped raise and shape me as a youth in that church. Sitting right in front of me was my youth choir director and I found myself filled with memories of choir practice. She always challenged us to not only capture the proper notes but to also capture the meaning of the words we were singing.

When I think of June one of my first thoughts is of Father's Day and I was remembering that one of the first anthems we ever did in my youth choir days was "This Is My Father's World." I can still hear her saying, "You can't sing the words if you don't know the words purpose. Who wants to read the first verse out loud?" It really is a great song. Do you remember the words?

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears all nature sings,  
And round me rings the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,  
The morning light, the lily white, declare their maker's praise.  
This is my Father's world: he shines in all that's fair; in the rustling grass  
I hear him pass; he speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er forget that though the wrong  
Seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world: why should my heart be sad?  
The Lord is King; let the heaven's ring! God reigns; let the earth be glad!

What a wondrous reminder of the true celebration of God our Father, who creates the beauty of the earth, who walks with us through life, and who serves as our King so we might know His kingdom!

The original poem was penned by Maltbie D. Babcock who served as a Presbyterian Minister at Brick Church in NY. He was known for taking nearly daily walks along a cliff that overlooked Ontario Lake. As he departed for his walks he would often remark, “I’m going out to see my Father’s world.” The original poem had 16 four-line stanzas and it was after his death that it was adapted by Franklin L. Sheppard to be set to music.

Something I learned this week is that Babcock died at the age of 42. As I both approach my 42 birthday and remember my beloved mentor and teacher, I am drawn to their insight about my Father’s world and the need to be out in it. Their lives remind me that it is not about the years we get, but what we do with those years that matters most. As we enter the month of June how will you honor our Holy Parent?

Will you go out into the world to see what beauty you can find? Will you persevere through a wrong, knowing God is still King? Will you face our mortal nature by remembering that our hearts should not be sad, for God reigns in an eternal kingdom? I implore you to hear the wisdom offered from these wonderful persons and challenge yourself to:

1. Know the meaning of your words before you sing or speak them.
2. Go out and see our Father’s world.

Who knows where we might be led, who we may encounter or the lives that will brush up against each other as we walk?

May God be with you,

Pastor Amanda



PS. Bonus trivia – The pastor before Babcock was also a hymn writer. You may know the hymn of “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” by Dr. Henry Van Dyke. Brick Presbyterian Church in New York City has produced some great composing clergy!





## **UMW Lunch Out Returns!!**

**Every 1st Wednesday of the Month @ 12 Noon**

*We are limited to 6 people, but let's eat!*

***June 2nd — The All American Steakhouse***

*139 Mitchells Chance Rd, Edgewater, MD 21037*

*Please RSVP to Pastor Amanda by May 31st at [mayopastoramanda@gmail.com](mailto:mayopastoramanda@gmail.com)*

## **June Worship Schedule**

**@ 8:15 AM || Outdoor (weather permitting) Casual Service**

*Worship is about a half-hour in our church parking lot. It includes word, sermon, and prayer service. This is the perfect fit if you like to start your day early, have additional plans on a Sunday, or just like being outside for worship.*

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**@ 10:15 AM || Indoor || In-person Traditional Worship**

*Service is about 45-60 minutes long and is held in the sanctuary with social distancing. It includes word, sermon, prayer service, and music. This is the perfect fit for those who want to connect with God through a traditional structure of worship. Starting the first Sunday in June (June 6th) we will begin to offer our fellowship hour following the 10:15 AM service. At this time we will offer beverages and prepackaged food items.*

***Please don't bring homemade food at this time.***

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**Virtual Worship || Available each Saturday beginning at 12 Noon**

*Tune in each and every Saturday on our [YouTube Channel @Mayo UMC](#) for virtual worship. The service parallels the 10:15 AM traditional structure of worship with a few changes. This is a great option if you are traveling or just need or want to worship from home.*



### **Men's Breakfast**

**Every 3rd Saturday of the Month @ 8:00 AM**

*June 13th —MUMC Fellowship Hall*

### **Out In The "Virtual" World with Pastor Amanda**

**Sunday, June 13th @ 5:00 PM || Let's travel to Syria**

*Last month we joined Pastor Amanda in Jerusalem, this month join her as she shares her own pictures of Damascus and other parts of Syria.*

*Zoom link will be available by email closer to date.*

*Calling*  
**ALL ABLE-BODIED  
PEOPLE!**



**WE NEED SOME YARD WORK HELP!**

Beloved, our church and parsonage is blessed with lovely grounds and gardens. We are seeking some able-bodied folks who would be willing to help with the upkeep of our gardens. If you can help please call Carol Hurley at 410-562-3235.

Even an hour of your time would be a great help!



### **Pastor's Suggested Reading**

*Here are two books that I found insightful and challenging. Let me know what you think! Feel free to email me at [mayopastoramanda@gmail.com](mailto:mayopastoramanda@gmail.com) or make an appointment to discuss a book over a hot beverage!*

#### ***Compassion by Henri Nouwen, Donald McNeill and Douglas Morrison***

*Henri Nouwen was a prolific Christian author and is nearly universal as required reading by all pastors. "In this provocative essay on that least understood virtue, compassion, the authors challenge themselves and us with these questions: Where do we place compassion in our lives? Is it enough to live a life in which we hurt one another as little as possible? Is our guiding ideal a life of maximum pleasure and minimum pain? Compassion answers no."*

#### ***With Head and Heart: The Autobiography of Howard Thurman***

*"Howard Thurman was a singular man — a black minister, philosopher, and educator whose vitality and vision touched the lives of countless people of all races, faiths, and cultures."*



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# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



## Liturgists Needed!

*It has always been the practice of the Methodist Church that laypersons share in the leading of worship. Being a liturgist is a great way to help with worship.*

*A liturgist helps with the word of worship, meaning they help to lead the call to worship, opening prayer, and share the Scripture reading. If you have an interest, please let Pastor Amanda by emailing her at [mayopastoramanda@gmail.com](mailto:mayopastoramanda@gmail.com) know.*

*If you can read, then you can lead!*



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mailing list

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You **Tube**™

# PRAYER REQUEST

Beloved, we seek to keep an active list of those who need ongoing or long-term prayer throughout the month. However, over time this list needs to be refreshed to ensure it serves as the helpful prayer tool it is designed to be for the congregation.

If you have someone you would like listed on the long-term prayer list please submit their name to [mayoumcmd@gmail.com](mailto:mayoumcmd@gmail.com) or call 410.798.6110 and leave a voice message by the 15th for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Please continue to pray for our shut-ins,

**Doris Haschert**

**Leila Youngren**

and for all those who are confined to their homes during the pandemic. Let us also continue to pray for victims of COVID-19, our national and local leaders in our government, the victims of the recent violence around the world and other victims of natural disasters, our military personnel and their families, and all those in need of healing.

## LET US PRAY

THE POWER OF PRAYER