

Prospect-Marvin Chapel UMC Newsletter
MARCH-APRIL 2026



GOOD NEWS MESSENGER

REV. KEYSTONE LEE –PASTOR

SUNDAY WORSHIP: MARVIN CHAPEL 9:30AM & PROSPECT 11:00AM

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Letter from the Pastor

This season, as one transitions from one season to another, presents numerous elements that prompt us to reflect on God's hand in various ways. Seeing hyacinths sprouting and breaking through the snow in a garden blanketed in snow, I reflect on the hand and providence of God who governs this land. However, these new, heart-wrenching events aren't the only ones happening around us. The diverse groans of many people from the numerous regions are also heard through various media. It also makes me realize that, as Christians who already know we are God's children, we must seriously and deeply consider how we should act at this time. For these reasons, the diverse meanings of both "omnipresent God" and "present God" flash through my mind, making my heart

race. Furthermore, the words "Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast. (Psalm 139:7-10)" and "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them. (Matthew 18:20)" confirm that God is truly at my side. Therefore, I pray that all may find comfort, courage, and even strength in God's providence. Suddenly, during this period of waiting for the resurrected Jesus, I reaffirm that for the resurrection to occur, one must first face death, which is the unwelcome, in some ways, rejection, and the fear itself. The trembling, pain, and hesitation that await that death are essential. At the same time, I can't hide

my mixed feelings of guilt, regret, and gratitude that Jesus, God, endured all these processes for me. Then I ponder the long-standing reasons our forefathers in the faith called this period Lent. The Western Church emphasizes the importance of the 40 days and anticipates the arrival of spring, signifying the resurrection. It is said to have originated from the ancient Anglo-Saxon word "lencten," meaning "the lengthening of the days." On the other hand, the Eastern Orthodox Church, particularly the Russian Orthodox Church, deeply accepts that all the suffering and shame Jesus experienced before the resurrection was to cleanse us of our sins. They emphasize rigorous abstinence, moderation, and repentance during this 40-day period. The Church strongly recommends fasting during this period, which they call "Velikiy post" (Great Fast). I sincerely hope that this precious time, called Lent or Velikiy post (Great Fast), will be a time for all of you to encounter Jesus directly and experientially.

~ Rev. Keystone Lee



**CHARGE WORSHIP CALENDAR
& PROSPECT WORSHIP LEADERS**

March 1 - Mike Peterson
Coffee & Donuts PUMC 10:30am

March 8 - *Joint Contemporary Service*
at **Prospect 10:00am**

March 15 - Peggy Slovikosky
Prospect UMW 9:45am

March 22 - Joe Slovikosky

March 29 - Palm Sunday 
Marlene Barbour

April 5 - Easter Sunday 
Joint Sunrise Service 6:45am
at Marvin Chapel with Nazarene Church
followed by breakfast.

Joint Morning Service 11:00am
at Prospect Laura Schmidt

April 12 - *Joint Contemporary Service*
at ***Marvin Chapel 10:00am***

April 19 - Devin Shaver
Prospect UMW 9:45am

April 26 - Mary Behanna

MARVIN CHAPEL WORSHIP LEADERS

Mark Arrington/Debi Constantinides

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Marvin Chapel 10:45am after service



CHARGE BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study will be held after Prospect service, 12:15pm, at Prospect:
"Having a Real Relationship with God"

**MARVIN CHAPEL CELEBRATES
FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

After Ash Wednesday church service on February 15th, Marvin Chapel members helped Debi Constantinides celebrate her February birthday with song and cake!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DEBI!



**MARVIN CHAPEL THRIFT SHOP
OPEN FOR BUSINESS**

Marvin Chapel Thrift Store opened for business on March 6th after a winter break. Come by for some great bargains!

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
Due April 26 to Laura Schmidt
or church email for
May-June 2026 newsletter
Photo credits for this edition to
Mark Arrington**

**PROSPECT UMW HOSTS
EASTER FESTIVAL**



Prospect UMW will host our annual Easter Festival for children of the local community on Saturday, March 28th from 10 a.m. until noon in the Social Hall. There will be games, crafts, cookies to decorate, pinecone bird feeders to make, and of course, an Easter egg hunt! The Easter Egg Hunt will start promptly at 10:10 a.m. Come join us and bring your children and grandchildren! Rain or Shine!

~Peggy Slovikosky, President UMW

**PROSPECT WITNESS & OUTREACH
NEWS**

Thank you to all who donated items for the Alan P. Linton Emergency Shelter in Frederick. Your generosity will help the unhoused who rely on the shelter for a warm bed and hot meal each night.

Opportunities to Serve during Lent:

1) Make a donation to Heifer International. We hope to raise \$500 to purchase a heifer for distribution to a family in need. For every \$1 donated, a paper cow is placed on the sanctuary wall, which we hope to encircle by Easter! Donation basket is in library.



2) Donate Easter dinner foods and fill Easter baskets for a Parr's Ridge Elementary School family in need. Signups are in the library.

3) Help with supplies for and assembly of 87 Easter baskets for clients of Heartly House, a support program and refuge for victims of domestic violence. Signups are in the library.



~Laura Schmidt, Chair

**PROSPECT SHROVE TUESDAY
PANCAKE SUPPER-A SUCCESS!**

Prospect's Shrove Tuesday Pancake and Sausage Supper was held on February 17th with a hungry crowd filling the Social Hall.



Thank you to all who donated supplies, worked in the kitchen or served, and to those who came for pancakes! A special thanks goes to Debbie Barneski for organizing and leading this successful event raising funds for church programs.

Debbie prepared her "secret" batter, while Roger made sure the sausages were golden brown!



Diann sold tickets with Connie at the bake table



Wanda poured customers' favorite juices and together with Kristen filled the orders



Doug and Vern manned the griddles



Laura, Mary & Mike served pancakes with a smile



Hailey and Lydianna kept tables fresh!



PROSPECT ITALIAN BUFFET
BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Due to lots of positive feedback from last year's customers, Prospect again hosted our Italian Buffet fund raiser on February 28th organized by Debbie Barneski. Lasagna, rigatoni, tortellini and spaghetti and meatballs were on the menu with salad, drink and delicious cakes rounding out the meal. Many thanks to all our patrons and especially to the hard working kitchen crew who made it such a success!



Salad prep by Marlene & Sharlene



On Friday the kitchen crew prepared lasagnas while Connie made the salad dressings



Mary, Debbie, Roger & Laura (behind camera) ready to serve customers



Wanda baked many delicious cakes to top off the meal!



Debbie & Kristen cook spaghetti "al dente"



Diann & Jimmy greet customers



Mike, Troy, Deb, Mary, Roger, Wanda, Diann, Kristen Ready and waiting for customers!!



Easter Festival
Saturday,
March 28, 2026
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

FREE CHILDREN'S EVENT

Easter Egg Hunt – Begins At
10:10 a.m.

Children's Crafts and Games
Decorate Your Own Cookie.

Inside activities rain or shine.

Bring your own basket.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

For information, call (301) 461-3380

Prospect United Methodist Church

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