

## United Parish of Bowie

### News and Notes

April 6, 2026

#### *Pastor's Notes*

*Rev. Dr. Scott Wilson*

Thanks to EVERYONE who helped out during Lent and Holy Week this year. We were able to have some fellowship time in our Lenten Dinners, some community gatherings with our friends at Village Baptist, some mission opportunities with Interfaith Easter baskets and the Spring Egg-Stravaganza and many different worship experiences. I was very moved by the experience of Maundy Thursday as one of the biggest attendance days I can remember since being here. (*This is interesting because many pastors know Maundy Thursday as the lowest attended service of the year!*) What if anything might that mean for UPB's strategy going forward?

In our Town Hall a few years back, UPB wanted to emphasize Outreach events, and thanks to several initiatives, we are adding some more events to the calendar. The first of which will be a Mother's Day Tea led by the Women's Circle on May 9<sup>th</sup>, open to the whole community. Invite your friends and neighbors!

In April we look forward to spring being in bloom, and as such we celebrate "Caring for God's Creation" on the third Sunday April, closest to Earth Day. Did you ever wonder what the Bible says about caring for this beautiful planet we are blessed to call home? Have you been looking at the astounding pictures being sent by Artemis II of our whole planet shot from a hundred thousand miles away? We are entrusted with the care of this magnificent and perfect creation of God as another aspect of Stewardship. Join us in worship as we consider what that means to people of faith.

See You Sunday.

## UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

<b>April 12</b>	Second Sunday of Easter	
	<b>John 20:19-31</b>	<b>“A Word for Those Who Doubt”</b>
<b>April 19</b>	Earth Day Sunday	
	<b>Ephesians 2</b>	<b>“Rooted and Grounded”</b>
<b>April 26</b>	Shepherd Sunday	
	<b>John 10:1-10 and Psalm 23</b>	<b>“I am the Good Shepherd”</b>

**UPB Spring Clean-Up:** Plans are being made for a Church Clean -Up Day on Saturday, May 16. Look for more details in the weeks ahead.

**Communion Servers Needed:** Anyone who is currently on the Parish Board, or has ever served on the Parish Board, is invited to sign up to be a Communion Server. There is a sign-up sheet In the Narthex.

**Spring Egg-Stravaganza:** Thanks to everyone who volunteered to help with this event.

**Art & Music Camp:** It's time to start planning for UPB's 16th Annual Art and Music Camp. This year's camp will be July 2024 and the theme is "Rainforest Falls- Exploring the Nature of God. If you are interested in helping in any way, please see Sue.

**Women's Circle:** The Women's Circle is open to all women. Women of our congregation and women outside our congregation. No commitment. Come and joins us, we welcome you. Second Saturday of each month. See Dawn. We will not meet in April, but plan to meet May 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Ladies Lunch: Is now the Second Wednesday** at First Watch. First Watch is located at 15471 Excelsior Dr, Bowie, MD 20716. Please let Sharon Doughty know you are coming, and yes, you can bring a friend.

## SERVICE & MISSION COMMITTEE

**Easter** -The Service and Mission Committee thanks everyone for helping to fill Easter baskets for the Bowie Interfaith Food Pantry!

**Bowie Food Pantry:** Please bring your non-perishable food donation, paper goods, baby items (diapers/wipes) and toiletries to the basket by the side door. Reminder when selecting items to donate to the Bowie Pantry, UPB also helps stock the rice shelf as part of the Pantry's adopt-a-shelf program. Thanks for your generous giving.

**Men's Fellowship**

**Men's Breakfast:** 2nd and 4th Thursday at 9 am at First Watch in Bowie Town Center.

**Men's Night Out:** 3rd Thursday at 6:30 pm at Glory Days in Edgewater

**Book Club**

1st Friday at 7:00 pm at the Barbato's. Contact Jan Barbato for info