

DECEMBER 2025

# The Standfast

NEWSLETTER OF GARY MEMORIAL UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

Come visit us!

Sunday Service 11:30am

Gary Memorial UMC

2029 Daniels Rd, Ellicott City, MD 21043

Tel. 410-465-7345

(mailing address: PO Box 421, Ellicott  
City, MD 21041)

Pastor: Sam Moore

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Website:

[www.garymemorialumchurch.org](http://www.garymemorialumchurch.org)



## From the Pastor's Desk

We are just coming out of the Thanksgiving holiday and moving to the season of Advent leading up to the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior. Before we move entirely away from Thanksgiving, I want us to focus on the source of our blessings and remember, always, to be thankful – no matter our circumstances. Psalm 100 is a psalm of thanks.

- 1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
- 2 Serve the Lord with gladness;  
come into his presence with singing.
- 3 Know that the Lord is God.  
It is he who made us, and we are his;[a]  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
- 4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
and his courts with praise.  
Give thanks to him; bless his name.
- 5 For the Lord is good;  
his steadfast love endures forever  
and his faithfulness to all generations.

Throughout the Bible we are commanded to be thankful. A spirit of thanksgiving is one of the most distinctive marks of a Christian whose heart is attuned to the Lord.

First, we are to be thankful for the material blessings God gives us. Some people are never satisfied with what they have, but what a difference it makes when we realize that everything we have has been given to us by God!

Second, that God for the people in your life. It is so easy to take them for granted, or to complain or become angry because they don't meet our every wish. But we need to give thanks for our spouse, our children, our relatives, and our friends. Most of all, thank God for Christ and his love for you.

Third, thank God in the midst of trials and even persecution. We draw back from difficulties, but not one of us is exempt from trouble. Yet in the midst of trials we can thank God because we know he has promised to be with us and help us.

For every Christian, every day should be Thanksgiving Day!

Peace and blessings,  
Sam





## Upcoming Events

Sunday December 7- Angel Tree gifts due

Sunday December 14-Council Meeting following service

Sunday December 21-**Service at 10am** with Marriots Ridge High School Madrigals concert with celebration to follow

Monday December 22-Blue Service at Emory at 7pm

Wednesday December 24-Christmas Eve Service at Emory at 5pm

Wednesday December 24-Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at Gary Memorial at 7pm

Sunday January 4-Service at 11:30am

Come join us for the holiday season!





Can't make it to Standfast Hill? [Click here](#) to worship with us virtually!

Have you checked out Gary Memorial's revamped website?

We have reformatted and updated our website to make it more informative and user friendly. You can now view current and past issues of the Standfast Newsletter and also the weekly Sunday bulletin. We are sharing relative educational and spiritual content that we think you may find beneficial. We have also added a special history section about the church and background on the mill town of Daniels.

Check it out and let us know what you think. You can mail any ideas and suggestions you have for for additional content and features to [garymemorialatstandfast@gmail.com](mailto:garymemorialatstandfast@gmail.com).

Are you a Facebook user? Do you follow Gary Memorial on Facebook? Please help spread the word and create a greater awareness for the church by liking our page, sharing our posts on your Facebook page and inviting your friends to follow us.

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<https://www.facebook.com/patapscostatepark/>