



THE GRAPEVINE

at Arnolia United Methodist Church

July / August 2025



Our Mission:

**FOLLOW JESUS.
GROW DISCIPLES.
SERVE OTHERS.**

Purpose Statement:

GATHER as followers of Jesus Christ;
GROW as disciples;
GIVE of ourselves; and
GO into the world in service.

Beloved people of Arnolia,

It's an honor and privilege for me to be beginning my second year here. Arnolia truly is a lovely community, and I'm excited to see where God takes us. As a gathered and growing community of Jesus followers, we have made a significant spiritual impact this year. We've celebrated a baptism and received two new members who made their first public professions of faith in joining Arnolia, with more to come this summer. Throughout the first five months of 2025, we have averaged 40 weekly attendees at worship, with 5 joining us online live and an average of 37 views of our livestreams. We also have two people calling in to hear our worship recording. Our weekly pastor's study has had 13 participants so far this year. We've run Arnolia 101 twice already this year. Our newer visitors have testified to the loving environment and sense of belonging they felt at Arnolia.

We have also worked hard to connect to our communal neighbors through various ministries. This spring, we hosted our largest flea market fundraiser, raising over \$4,700 thanks to the efforts of many volunteers. The thrift store, supported by numerous volunteers, serves hundreds of community members and has raised nearly \$20,000 for our ministries and community partners in the first five months of the year. Since Holy Week, we've been receiving prayer requests through the thrift store, and so far, we've received requests from over 10 community

members. The faithful stewardship of our building has helped provide affordable before- and after-school care for children through Active Minds and affordable preschool through Woodhome. This summer, they both have summer programs hosted here at Arnolia, and this fall, Woodhome is expecting to welcome its largest cohort since 2020. While we do have space use agreements with each of them, your generosity helps maintain the building and keep the space use rates relatively low for both of our educational partners. We continue to make monthly donations to ACTC to help purchase food for their food pantry. At Oakleigh Elementary, we have equipped thirteen children with a bag of food every week of the school year through our backpack buddies ministry. We were invited to their end-of-year festival and received prayers from over 20 families, as well as shared community resources. We are also now the official non-profit sponsor for the food pantry at Oakleigh, enabling them to obtain food at a lower cost through the MD Food Bank. And to top it all off, we have sent at least three Cadillacs full of items received and collected for Helping Up Mission so far this year.

So far this year, our income (\$127,940.64) has almost kept up with our expenses (\$128,206.53) as the summer slump in giving has arrived. We celebrate that giving from Arnolia community members has increased by 8.6%, thanks to five brand-new givers and 63% of active givers, who have increased their generosity. The collective generosity of all of you has enabled us to support our ministries and ministerial partners with over \$14,000 (approximately 10% of our expenses), dedicated to ministries beyond Arnolia through direct contributions and the faithful giving of our Mission Shares to the Baltimore-Washington Conference.

This year, the leadership team finalized our values and adopted the new vision from the United Methodist Church (UMC) as our own. As a community of faith at Arnolia United Methodist Church, we are committed to living out our faith and embodying God's love through community, discipleship, evangelism, generous hospitality, inclusivity, justice, & prayer. Our vision is that we form disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously. I'm excited for all that we will continue to do as we follow Jesus, grow disciples, and serve others here in Parkville, MD and beyond.

Blessings,

-Rev. Yost

Where We Stand

at Arnolia United Methodist Church

“BUILDING COMMUNITY: A THIRD SPACE INITIATIVE”

Greetings,

In light of our values and vision, we have a big dream for the coming years, and we'd like to offer you the opportunity to partner with us. Our big dream is to continue doing the great work we are already doing while establishing ourselves further as a third space within our community where we can connect with our neighbors more intentionally. (A third space is a space where people connect outside of their home, work, or school.) Our building is already linked to our surrounding community most days of the week, including many Saturdays throughout the year. As a result, we'd like to see how we can better open ourselves to love, serve, and lead within our neighborhood. As a leadership team, we have identified three specific needs to invest in becoming a third space.

First, our kitchen is commercially licensed and presently has one cook who uses our kitchen once a week. Over the past few months, our current commercial stoves and ovens have proven themselves to be unreliable. Thus, to serve our present community partner faithfully, our stoves and ovens need an immediate upgrade. We have contracted out the removal, disposal, and replacement of our stoves and ovens with a new set that is more efficient and easier to maintain than our old one. This upgrade will also enable us to connect with one to two other local chefs who would need to utilize our kitchen or potentially host more food-based ministries out of our kitchen in the future.

Second, to expand our ability to host educational and other community events while also enriching our Sunday morning worship experience and increasing accessibility, we need to upgrade or replace our projector system. After receiving multiple quotes from local businesses, we plan to purchase two large-screen TVs for the front left and right of the sanctuary and install them ourselves, which will help reduce the cost.

Lastly, with the age of our gathered community and the dream of serving more people in our surrounding neighborhood, the team has identified the need for an emergency station to be available. While we presently have basic first aid supplies, we hope to expand them to include an automated external defibrillator (AED), which uses auditory instructions to walk the user through helping someone experiencing sudden cardiac arrest through electric shock.

In total, we plan to conduct a brief capital campaign to equip Arnolia to be a third space by raising \$15,000 beyond our regular giving and fundraising efforts. We invite you to join us in whatever way you can. Could we count on your intentional investment in the expansion of communal presence where we can connect with our surrounding neighbors to love boldly, serve

joyfully, and lead courageously? We hope that you can invest in this initiative in one or more ways:

- Be in prayer for our community as we undertake this capital campaign and foster new connections with our neighbors.
- Be present in our worship, ministry, and fundraising efforts in whatever manner you find best for you at this time.
- Share with Arnolia your generosity by giving to this campaign in addition to the generous giving you already do
- Join our leadership team in recruiting community partners who may be interested in supporting our vision of becoming a third space for Parkville residents.
- Bear witness to the dreams, values, and vision of your beloved Arnolia by sending in your testimony about why you love and support Arnolia. You can send in your testimony to Rev. Yost or coordinate a time when you can record a video testimony with Rev. Yost.

To have some fun this summer with our capital campaign fundraiser, July and August will be our Arnolia Third Space: Beard or No Beard competition. We will have two jars in the sanctuary to donate to the Arnolia Third Space campaign. Your donation into the Beard Jar or the No Beard Jar will determine if Rev. Yost will keep their beard in September or shave it off. You will also be able to share this fundraiser through social media and with your friends and family.

Blessings,

Rev. Yost & Craig Nickerson

Get Involved

at Arnolia United Methodist Church

2025 FALL FLEA MARKET



Arnolia's 2025 Fall Flea Market will be held on Saturday, September 20th from 9am to 2pm.

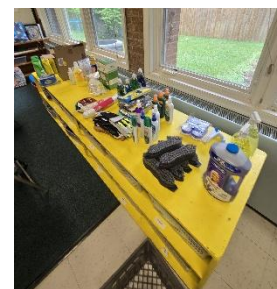
The May 2025 Flea Market was very successful due to the generous donation of goods and time by Arnolia's volunteers.

Please consider volunteering to help with the Fall Flea Market. The week of the Flea Market, we will need volunteers to set up tables and displays in the Thrift Store. Home baked goods can be donated to sell at the bake table. Monetary donations can be made to offset the cost of our food purchases. On the day of the Flea Market, volunteers can help the vendors find their spaces, work at the check-out tables, help in the kitchen or serve the food. Volunteering for the flea market gives you a chance to spend time with fellow church members and members of the community! Check the bulletin board outside the sanctuary for the volunteer sign-up sheets. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.



UMCOR Cleaning Buckets (Disaster Relief)

Thank you to everyone who donated items for the "cleaning buckets." We have 12 buckets completed.



HELPING UP MISSION



Through the month of July, we will be collecting some of the most needed items for the **Center for Women and Children** at the Helping Up Mission. See the list of needed items below and on the Missions bulletin board/table. As always, direct any questions to anyone on the Missions Committee.

- Backpacks
- Fleece Throws
- Portable Mesh Laundry Bags
- Ladies Shaving Cream
- Infant Tylenol
- Similac Sensitive Orange Can
- Diamond Art

Connections

Church Email, Website, and More

Have you updated your address book? Our email address is: arnoliaumc@arnolia.org

Rev. Yost is available by

Rev.Yost@arnolia.org

Sign up with the Church Office to receive emails each week! Visit our website (arnolia.org) for updates on upcoming events!

Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/arnoliaumc/

Church Office Hours and Address

Mondays – Thursday: 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
1776 E. Joppa Road
Baltimore, MD 21234

The Grapevine Schedule

The Grapevine is published bi-monthly. Updates will be available on our website and in bulletins as well as in email announcements. Please make sure you email or drop off your articles to the church office. To keep postage costs down, we will mail the Grapevine only to those who are homebound or who live far away.

Mailing The Grapevine

To keep postage costs down, we will mail the Grapevine only to those who are homebound or who live far away.

Grapevine Edition Due Date for Articles

September / October	08/08/25
November / December	10/10/25
January / February	12/12/25

at Arnolia United Methodist Church



04	Karen Long
11	Don Krebs
19	Paige Davis
	Donald Rathmell, Jr.
23	Helen Grauer
29	Rich and Beth Krebs – 53 years
31	Drennan Nickerson



02	Mike and Paula Pfeifer – 56 years
08	Margaret Braun
09	Wayne and Rebecca Penley – 28 years
10	Debbie Rust
12	Cameron Ready
14	Dick and Carole Disharoon – 21 years
19	Dick Disharoon
20	Tara Catterton
29	Gary Collins

If your info is missing or incorrect, please inform us so we can correct our errors or deletions. Also, if you were not acknowledged, please let the office now so we may update our list.

JULY 2025 – Arnolia United Methodist Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	1 Thrift Store not accepting donations	2	3 Thrift Store Closed	4 <u>Independence Day</u> <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>	5
6 10 am Worship Service	7	8	9 7:30 pm Rejuvenate	10 10 am – 2 pm Thrift Store Open	11 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>	12
13 10 am Worship Service 11:15 am Leadership Team	14	15	16	17 10 am – 2 pm Thrift Store Open	18 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>	19
20 10 am Worship Service	21	22	23	24 10 am – 2 pm Thrift Store Open	25 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>	26
27 10 am Worship Service 11:15 am - SPRC	28	29	30	31 10 am – 2 pm Thrift Store Open	1 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>	2

The Church Office is open Monday – Thursday from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

AUGUST 2025 – Arnolia United Methodist Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	31	1 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>	2
3 10 am Worship Service	4	5	6	7 10 am – 2 pm Thrift Store Open	8 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>	9
10 10 am Worship Service 11:15 am Leadership Team	11	12	13	14 10 am – 2 pm Thrift Store Open	15 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>	16
17 10 am Worship Service	18	19	20	21 10 am – 2 pm Thrift Store Open	22 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>	23
24 10 am Worship Service	25	26	27	28 10 am – 2 pm Thrift Store Open	29 <i>Pastor's Sabbath</i>	30
31 10 am Worship Service	1	2	3	4	5	6

The Church Office is open Monday – Thursday from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Serving on Sundays at Arnolia United Methodist Church

Volunteers

Your commitment to the roles below is a gift for our Sunday morning worship life. Thank You

The Ushers for this schedule: Joan Bond, Jim McGee, John Gorsuch, and Jerry Finley.

Date	Greeters	Presenters	Acolytes	Readers	Comm. Stewards	Comm. Helpers
July 6, 2025	Janice Lark	Arlene Chen	Faith Hovatter	Beth Krebs	Mike and Paula Pfeifer	Paxton Catterton
July 13, 2025	Rae Virgilio	Paula Pfeifer	Beth Krebs	Rich Krebs		
July 20, 2025	Barbara Conrad	Arlene Chen	Tad Wolfe	Paxton Catterton		
July 27, 2025	Jerry Finley	Drennan Nickerson	Faith Hovatter	Paula Pfeifer		
Aug. 3, 2025	Doug Thomas	Paula Pfeifer	Paxton Catterton	Tad Wolfe	John and Gail Gorsuch	Beth Krebs
Aug. 10, 2025	Karen Long	Drennan Nickerson	Janet Hovatter	Andrew Virgilio		
Aug. 17, 2025	Janice Lark	Arlene Chen	Beth Krebs	Conner Goble		
Aug. 24, 2025	Rae Virgilio	Paula Pfeifer	Tad Wolfe	Beth Krebs		
Aug. 31, 2025	Jerry Finley	Arlene Chen	Faith Hovatter	Paula Pfeifer		

If you are unable to fill your assignment, please contact someone on the list to fill in for you. Please let the church office know of any changes or contact Sue in the church office for any assistance.

Thanks,
Sue Jackson
410-665-7005