



EXHORTATION!

NEWS BULLETIN OF THE STRAWBRIDGE SHRINE

The Strawbridge Shrine  New Windsor, MD
The First Home of American Methodism

May 1, 2017

2650 Strawbridge Lane, New Windsor, MD 21776

Vol. XXIII, No. 1

The Way Forward

The Strawbridge Shrine Association Looks to the Future

What is the way forward? It starts by knowing where you came from.

There is a lot of talk these days about the future. In politics, everyone claims to be concerned about the future of our country. In our church, there is a Commission on the Way Forward that is charged with mapping a plan for the church's future.

With all this talk about the future, it's easy to see that a lot of people forget about our past. But knowing where we started, and how we got here, is essential to figuring out the way forward.

Our world is full of distractions and short-term activity. Our phones are filled with apps that provided short cuts and quick diversions. Even the word "app" seems to have been coined by people without the patience to finish saying "application." We want to binge-watch our favorite shows in one day instead of waiting all season. We want two-day shipping... no, overnight shipping... no, same day delivery!

At the Strawbridge Shrine, we embrace technology and change. As you look through this news bulletin, you'll see that the campus is filled with updates and changes. But we also respect the value in holding on to the things that ground us – especially when those things are really the stories of people who faced challenging times of their own and found novel and even inspirational ways of going forward. Where we stand today is the place where these forbears brought us.

But going forward for the Shrine Association means active good stewardship of the treasures we hold in trust for all United Methodists, and for all who love and appreciate history and heritage. It means we have to rely on you to provide

(Continued on Page 5)

Colonial Day

Saturday, June 16, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

When a movie is great they make a sequel. When a TV show is successful it is renewed for another season. And so it is with our Annual Colonial Day. When the last two years have gone so well, we plan for Colonial Day III.

The secret to the success of Colonial Day is that although it is supposed to be about history and learning, it is, in fact, really a lot of fun. Trying on some period outfits... watching a blacksmith work metal like it's pasta... seeing the weaver turn hundreds of moving threads into a beautiful whole... savoring the fresh-off-the-grill chicken or fish lunch... firing off a shot from a flintlock musket... relaxing to the dulcet sounds of the dulcimer... Colonial Day will delight all your senses.



As always, admission for Colonial Day is FREE! Grilled lunches are available for purchase to support the ministries of Strawbridge United Methodist Church. There will be games for kids, and our knowledgeable tour guides will be available in the historic buildings to help with your self-guided tour. Even the parking is free.

Bring your family, your church group, or your friends. Have relatives in town? Here's a great way to get them out of the house for a day! Come and enjoy that fresh country air. Bring your blanket or lawn chairs and make a family day out of it.

Don't wait for next year... you'll be lost if you haven't seen the prequel!

FALL/WINTER MEMBERS & CONTRIBUTORS

September 1, 2017 – January 31, 2018

SPONSOR

Lou & Judy Piel
Miss Dorothy M. Shindle
Walter Tegeler, W. S. Tegeler Monument Co.

SUSTAINING

John Danz, Jr.
Marian & John Goettee
Mr. Pat & Rev. Shari McCourt
Rev. Nancy Nedwell
Sally Stair
J. William & Marilyn Stonesifer
Wallace & Karin Wolff

DONOR

Nancy & Emora Brannan
Mr. Charles Coles
Mrs. Olivia H. Devilbiss
Michael Feely
Kim Talley
Bobby & Bonnie Graham
Mildred Harmon
Dan Hartzler
Barbara W. Kehne
Helen & Tim Kemp
Mr. Charles N. Mason, Jr.
Rev. Eugene & Mrs. Jane Matthews
Patricia Perkins
Diane Rey
Ronda Robinson
Pamela Rowley
Rev. Julian A. Tavenner
Linda Webb

IN MEMORY OF

In memory and honor of my England family
relatives and ancestors
by Diane Rey
In Memory of Gale Bixler
by Ronda Robinson

JOINT SHRINE/UMHS/HSUMC

Ms. Janet Argenbright
Richard Buckingham
Dr. & Mrs. Carroll A. Doggett
Carrie Harnick
Richard & Linda Hedges
Duncan Hodge
John & Martha Lipscomb
Rev. Galen & Mrs. Carolyn Menne
Rev. Robert E. Mitzel
Mrs. Eleanor Packard
Lou & Judy Piel
Peggy Rhorer
Richard Rhorer
Miss Dorothy M. Shindle
Rev. Errol Smith
Marian Tatum-Webb
Rev. Charles I. Wallace, Jr.
Linda Webb

CONTRIBUTING ORGANIZATION

United Methodist Women,
Deer Park United Methodist Church
United Methodist Women
Nichols-Bethel United Methodist Church
United Methodist Women
Providence-Fort Washington UMC
Historian, St. Paul's United Methodist Church
(Kensington, MD)
Stone Chapel United Methodist Church
Towson United Methodist Church
Rev. Margery Schammel, Pastor

IN HONOR OF

In honor of John Strawbridge
by Catherine & Thomas Abendroth
In honor of John Strawbridge
by Elizabeth Strawbridge

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE STRAWBRIDGE SHRINE ASSOCIATION

The mission of the Strawbridge Shrine is to preserve the foundational legacy of early Methodism and to continue the faith journey so that future generations might know the love of God and participate in God's work in the world.



Major Restoration Work on Historic Buildings

Keeping Stewardship over United Methodist Treasures

It was many weeks before the winter cold and rain finally abated enough - but major restoration work has been completed on several of the historic structures on the Strawbridge Shrine campus. This vital work has been made possible by thanks to a much needed grant from the Baltimore-Washington Conference Trustees, and the hard work of the all-volunteer Property Committee.

First up was a new roof on the Historic Tool display house. That was followed by a new period-appropriate cedar shingle roof on the Evans House, which replaces the roof that was put on after the original shingles had decayed.

And just getting finished in time for the opening day of the season, was the replacement of several rotted logs in the re-creation of the original Log Meeting House. When it was built in 1982, the Meeting House was constructed out of 1760 era logs that had been reclaimed from a demolished building (which gave it another authentic connection to the time of Robert and Elizabeth) But in order to be both attractive and safe, a number of those logs needed to be replaced.

On The Horizon: A (New!) Visitors Center

By Wallace Wolff, Architect and Shrine Board Member

For many years there has been increased visitation to the Strawbridge Shrine. The groups have varied in number and ages, but have included school-age young people, people interested in local history and colonial history, as well as church leaders and members. There have been Methodists and people of other denominations. They have come by car, tour bus, and motorcycle.

To meet this increasing demand, our Board of Directors envisions a new Visitors Center; a small building (about 4,000 square feet) where visitors can get a good introduction to Robert Strawbridge and his ministry in the establishment of the first Methodist congregations in the country.

The building would be comprised of a display room showing many eighteenth century artifacts and featuring interactive displays about the lives of Robert and Elizabeth, a gift shop area, and an office. There would also be a meeting room for seminars, discussion groups, lay leadership conferences, and other get-togethers. The board would additionally like to have an adjacent



outdoor patio area to enjoy in the warmer months, possibly for picnics or even wedding parties.

The design would be reflective of the three historic buildings on the site, and would fit comfortably in the rolling countryside of Maryland (please see the Spring 2016 issue of *EXHORTATION!* for a rendering of the design). It is our hope

that this building would be a place for visitors to get a sense of the origins of Methodism in America and, equally importantly, to enjoy sharing Christian fellowship and activities reflective of our contemporary life together.

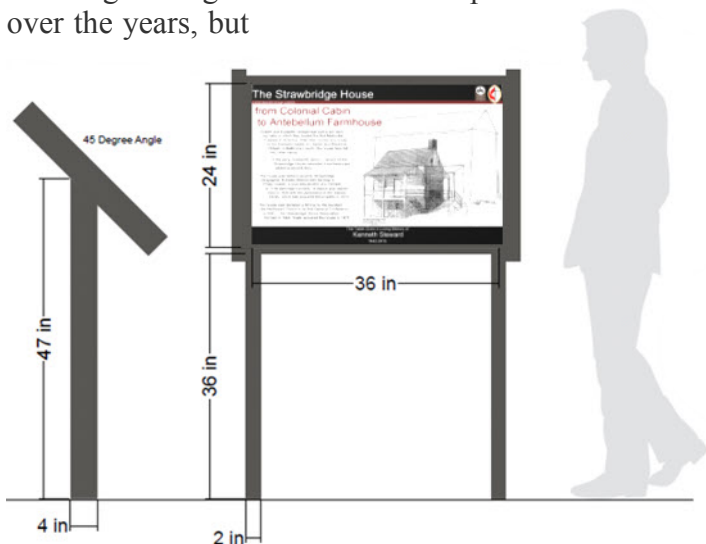
We welcome your thoughts as this vision develops. Share your ideas about what the new Visitors Center needs to be. Send us your thoughts in an email to info@strawbridgeshrine.org, visit our website to leave your feedback, or make your notes on the back of your membership form. Keep watching our website and this news bulletin for news about a capital campaign to fund our collective vision for the future!

Past, Present and Future: A Sign of the Times

New Wayside History Signs, A Gift in Memory

The old expression says, “Nothing is permanent except change.” At the Strawbridge Shrine, one of the on-going challenges is to recognize the changes that have occurred over the years, and to present that story to the future generations in our present time.

The Strawbridge House itself is a good example of this. The original log house has been expanded over the years, but



it still stands in the heart of the current structure. A new historical marker will soon help to make both past and present clear by showing visitors what the house looked like in the 1760's, and how it sits within the newer facade.

This new display is made possible by a gift of memory: Barbara Steward, the mother of the late Ken Steward who was a member of the Shrine Association Board and frequent Robert Strawbridge re-enactor, has made a generous donation in Ken's memory to fund this engaging display which will greatly enhance the visitor experience. The gift also makes possible a second history marker which will highlight each of the sites in the Robert Strawbridge Historic Cluster, and help visitors locate those historic places on a contemporary map.

The Shrine Association is also grateful to Allison Burdette, graphic artist for the Baltimore-Washington Conference Communications Office, for her talents in creating imagery for the sign, and to Conference Archivist Robert Shindle for the text. Installation is expected this spring.

The Way Forward

(Continued from Page 1)

on-going financial support. It means we have to have foundational funds – like the Endowment Fund and the Preservation Fund – to keep our historic places protected from time itself. It means we need operational funds to keep the site open and keep our programs vital. And it means we need planned giving to secure the future.

Included in this news bulletin is your annual membership form. Whether you are renewing your past support, or are just joining in the effort; know that without your gift, we will not only fail to go forward, but we stand to lose our past.

Please fill out and return your form. You will see a variety of opportunities to contribute your part in ways that are meaningful to you. Whether you opt for membership, or also want to support the Preservation Fund, or want to give someone else a gift with a contribution In Honor or In Memory, your support will be a step you can be proud of. You will know that you have not taken the shortcut, or been distracted from the way. You are the link between the past and the future. You are the way forward.

New: Cooperative Membership Option

One of the keys to the success of John Wesley’s Methodist movement, was ensuring that his societies stayed “in connexion.” Robert Strawbridge believed greatly in this concept, and rode many thousands of miles to keep his circuit of class meetings and societies connected.

Today, our success in preserving the stories and places of our history also relies on staying connected and supporting one another. The Strawbridge Shrine Association, the United Methodist Historical Society of Baltimore-Washington, and the nationally based United Methodist Historical Society have created a cooperative membership option for people like you who are interested in history and committed to helping support that mission and ministry of heritage.

Now you can join all three organizations for a reduced rate on an individual membership. You will receive the newsletters of each organization: *EXHORTATION!*, *The Long Road*, and *Historian’s Digest*. Plus, as an added bonus, you will receive the quarterly publication of the General Commission on Archives & History: *Methodist History*. This excellent and thoroughly researched journal is a must read.

Look for the the cooperative membership option on the membership form which accompanies this news bulletin, or download it from our website.

Stay Up-to-Date

For the latest on news and events, visit us at:

www.StrawbridgeShrine.org

www.Facebook.com/StrawbridgeShrine

Twitter: [@StrawbridgeShri](https://twitter.com/StrawbridgeShri)

www.YouTube.com/StrawbridgeShrine



New: The Preservation Fund

Protecting the Irreplaceable

As the Strawbridge Shrine Association Board of Directors looked at plans for the future, one thing became clear: we could not make definitive plans for the next steps, until we had done our duty to care for the things we already have. An assessment of our historic structures revealed some serious needs to correct the natural ravages that time takes on wooden buildings. Out of this was born the Preservation Fund. Established this past winter with a wide mailing to many of our supporters, the Preservation Fund is a bulwark against neglect. It is a way to ensure that problems are recognized and corrected before major damage can happen. It is the sacred trust of stewardship that we owe to our common heritage, and to the memory of the men and women whose faith and perseverance guaranteed our present.

Thanks to a generous grant from the Baltimore-Washington Conference Trustees, we have been able to address those immediate needs (see article on page 3). But going forward, we want to be one step ahead of time. With a healthy Preservation Fund, the Association can continue a program of on-going maintenance and restoration that will protect those things which cannot be replaced.

Please consider your opportunity to give to this fund when you fill out your Annual Membership form. Look for the blank marked “Preservation Fund” and know that while you are contributing to a historic landmark, you are actually supporting the future.

The Strawbridge Shrine is open April - October

Fridays 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Saturdays 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Sundays 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

And most days by appointment

The Strawbridge Shrine Association

The First Home of American Methodism

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR DONATION

Type of Membership:
(please select one)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership.....\$25.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining.....\$100.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Couple's Membership.....\$35.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor.....\$250.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Church / Church Group.....\$100.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron.....\$500.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth (under 20 yrs. of age)...\$5.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor.....\$1,000.00 |

Date of birth: _____

- Combined Membership Special Rate.....\$75.00**

Includes membership for one individual in:

- ✓ The Strawbridge Shrine Association
- ✓ The United Methodist Historic Society (Baltimore-Washington)
- ✓ The Historical Society of the United Methodist Church (National)

Plus subscriptions to *Exhortation!*, *The Long Road*, *Historian's Digest* and *Methodist History*

Additional Contribution:
(please select as many as apply)

- In addition to membership I / We are adding a donation of \$ _____
- I would like to support the Preservation Fund with a donation of \$ _____
- I / We do not wish to become a member, but please accept a donation of \$ _____

Special Gift:

- A donation of \$ _____ In Memory of _____
- A donation of \$ _____ In Honor of _____

Member Information:

(please print)

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

E.MAIL _____

PHONE (BEST) _____

Please make your check or money order to:

Strawbridge Shrine Association, Inc.

2200 St. Paul Street
Baltimore, MD 21218

The Strawbridge Shrine Association, Inc., is a non-profit 501(c)(3) entity. Your contribution is tax-deductible.



STRAWBRIDGE SHRINE ASSOCIATION

2200 ST. PAUL STREET
BALTIMORE, MD 21218-5805

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BALTIMORE, MD
PERMIT NO. 853

EXHORTATION!

The News Bulletin of the Strawbridge Shrine
is published by:

Strawbridge Shrine Association 501(c)(3)
2200 St. Paul Street
Baltimore, MD 21218

Driving Address:

2650 Strawbridge Lane
New Windsor, MD 21776

Editor / Communications Coordinator:

John Strawbridge
info@strawbridgeshrine.org



Daniel Hartzler – Co-President
Rev. Dr. Wm. Louis Piel – Co-President
Rev. Douglas Tzan – Vice-President
Rev. Sue Bowen – Treasurer
Bonnie Graham – Assist. Treasurer
Marian Goettee – Tour Coordinator
John M. Strawbridge – Communications
Helen Kemp – Curator

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



COMING UP!

Saturday, June 16th

Annual Colonial Day at the Strawbridge Shrine

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM - Period crafts people, food, and fun!

Saturday, October 27th

Annual Meeting of the Starwbridge Shrine Association

10:00 AM at Bethel/New Hope UMC

Sunday, December 9th

Candlelight Advent Service in the Old Log Meeting House

4:30 PM