

DKG Maryland State News

Fall 2021

Volume 83 No. 3

International Conference Offers a Variety of Opportunities

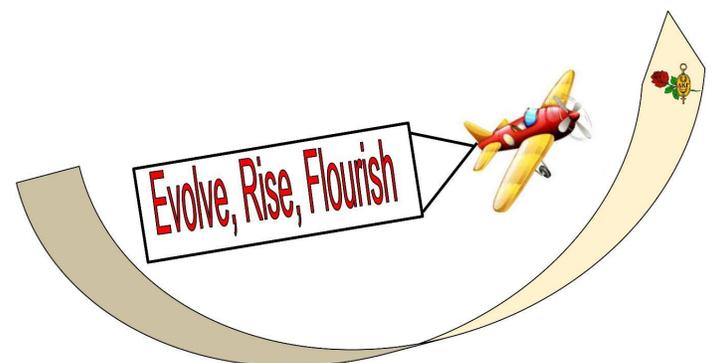
Dr. Marilyn Keane, DKG MD State President

This summer DKG members had two exciting opportunities to attend the Delta Kappa Gamma International Conference--one in Portland, Oregon, July 7 - 10, the other in Austin, Texas, July 21 - 23. Participants had the option to attend either in-person or virtually. Either way, there were a variety of informational sessions from which to choose.

Sessions covered three broad areas: chapter information and support, personal growth, and professional growth. Chapter information sessions encouraged participants to reflect on their own chapter needs and programs. These presentation topics included strengthening the chapter with talks entitled "Using DKG Publications for Personal, Professional, and Chapter Enrichment," "Strategies of Membership: Review, Renew...Revitalize," and "New Members/New Possibilities." Sessions examining personal growth and renewal included topics, such as "Light and Joy: Igniting Our Strength and Spark" and "Memoir Your Way." A variety of sessions focused on the classroom and students, such as "Successful Schools: Supporting Teacher Leaders through Teach-to-Lead," "Anxiety of Students and

Educators Before, During, and After the Pandemic," and "Creating User-Friendly Math Problems with EXCEL."

This variety of session topics catered to a wide range of needs and interests to enable chapter members to **Evolve, Rise, and Flourish** within DKG as well as in their personal and professional lives.





President's Message

Dr. Marilyn Keane, DKG MD State
President

Each August, as I walk through department stores, grocery stores, and watch advertisements on TV, the first signs of fall, Back-to-School sales, begin to appear. When my sons were young, the thrill of purchasing new notebooks, pencils, paper, and rulers was exciting, but for me it was a bit frightening. My husband would poke fun at me by singing the Staples commercial, "It's the most wonderful time of the year...They're going back!" Of course, I was a little less amused! With all the ups and downs, fall has always been exciting with the new faces, teachers, lessons, technology, opportunities, and DKG chapter and state programs.

This past year and a half changed our usual fall norms, but this fall we can potentially *reboot* our lives to resemble a semi-normal August/September with all the going back to school rituals and excitement. With this, reconnecting with our DKG sisters through in-person chapter meetings, Zoom meetings, and the November Society Workshop in Ashton are exciting opportunities for our state and each chapter member. Because of our personal and technological **evolution** over the past year and a half, our opportunities and multiple options to personally interact with each other, learn through multiple formats, and disseminate information has broadened our base of knowledge and will enable our society to **rise** to the current needs, and **flourish** as a professional society. Nothing replaces in-person opportunities, but utilizing multiple ways to touch base with our sisters (Zoom, Facebook, webinars, apps, etc.), thereby being able to have meetings with fellow sisters all over the state and virtually attend international conferences hundreds of miles away, is impressive and an important mechanism to keep us together.

Over the next few months, I encourage you to reflect upon the society's mission of promoting professional and personal growth for women educators and excellence in education. From the adversity of the past year, how can we/I **evolve** to promote professional and personal growth to **raise** excellence in education, so we will **flourish** personally and professionally? The world continually changes, but our mission and resilience are constant within our society.



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Visit our website at
<https://www.dkgmd.org>

Speakers Offer Enlightenment and Encouragement During International Conference

Janey Snyder, DKG MD Second VP

Becky Sadowski, DKG International President, was the keynote speaker at the DKG International Conference Banquet which was held on July 10, 2021 in Portland, Oregon.

During her keynote address, Ms. Sadowski spoke about how DKG is a journey that is dependent on one's path. Each member should be open to the possibility of considering new ideas and then take advantage and explore the opportunities available through DKG.

She also emphasized the importance of increasing membership and suggested ways to do so. In addition, she spoke about the need for more people to be willing to be leaders and how to encourage people to take on such roles. She concluded by saying, "I believe in you and we can count on each other." Details of her talk will be included in the next DKG newsletter.

Nita Scott, DKG International Executive Director, was the keynote speaker at General Session 2 at the International Conference in Portland, Oregon.

During her speech, she commented on the sustainability of DKG and gave statistics about membership, encouraging all members to pull together. DKG chapters can be found in 17 countries with about 58,000 members, approximately 8% of whom are under the age of 46. In 1991, DKG International had 166,000 members, which means that it has lost almost 2/3 of its membership in the last 30 years.

Nita Scott also talked about the importance of taking responsibility to use one's voice and vote. Moreover, she encouraged DKG members to take on leadership roles and to make use of the leadership networking assistance that is available. In

conclusion, she said "Let's get going. Together we're stronger."

On July 8, 2021, **Leigh Wintz** spoke at General Session 1 at the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Conference that was held in Portland, Oregon.

Ms. Wintz began her career as a nurse and became a leader of healthcare organizations, which included being an assistant administrator of a 600-bed hospital. She works as a consultant for Tecker International where she offers approaches to management and development of associations as well as government and academic institutions.

In her message, "The Will to Govern Well: Sustaining Knowledge, Trust, and Nimbleness in a Time of Crisis," Ms. Wintz spoke about how people behave and why. She also talked about the relationships between associations (boards) and their members and gave suggestions as to how boards can get their members more involved and improve retention. In addition, she shared some of the qualities of good leaders. She also emphasized the importance of mutual trust and respect between leaders and members.

In July of 2021, **Dr. Eva-Marie Kangro**, Ph.D., psychologist and change management partner at Milton New Nordics, delivered the keynote address at General Session 1 at the DKG International Conference held in San Antonio, Texas.

Dr. Kangro was such a pleasant surprise to all. Her presentation was both informative and entertaining, thanks to her talents as a saxophone player, pianist, and ballerina. Using these abilities throughout her presentation kept the audience spellbound.

By posing questions, Dr. Kangro encouraged the audience to think about achievements, joys, and fulfilled dreams that were made possible thanks to other people. She went on to explain how thanking those people can have a positive impact on one's brain and mood. In addition, she spoke about the importance of laughter to one's mental health.

DKG International Conference Workshops Offer Valuable Information

Janey Snyder, DKG MD Second VP

Those DKG MD members who attended the 2019 State Convention were fortunate to hear keynote speaker **Dr. Donna Niday**. She has been involved with DKG for over thirty years and has served in many capacities, including State President of Iowa, chair of the International World Fellowship Committee, and Northwest Regional Director. Now a member of the Educators Book Award Committee, Dr. Niday presented a workshop that included very useful information at the 2021 DKG International Conference.

During her workshop, "Books That Spoke to Me: The Best Pandemic Reads," Dr. Niday recommended books to read in several categories and gave a brief synopsis of each one. She selected books that were meaningful to her and definitely will be meaningful to others. In addition, these books reflect the diversity of society and emphasize the importance of resilience, determination, and compassion, especially when faced with adversity. The following list, which includes adult fiction and non-fiction as well as children's books, has something for everyone.

1. Historical Fiction: **The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek** by Kim Michele Richardson
2. Memoir: **Born a Crime** by Trevor Noah
3. Fiction: **Where the Crawdads Sing** by Delia Owens
4. Holocaust Book: **The Nightingale: A Novel** by Kristin Hannah
5. Children's Book: **Last Stop on Market**

Street by Matt de la Pena

6. Chapter Book: **Survived Series** by Lauren Tarshis

7. Middle School Book: **Refugee** by Alan Gratz

8. Memoir: **Warriors Don't Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock's Central High** by Melba Patillo Beals

Educators are always looking for good literature to use in the classroom or to read for personal pleasure. Thank you, Dr. Niday, for providing this excellent list which serves both purposes.



**Maryland
State Organization**

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Bring Them One by One

Sharon Darling, Nu Chapter

As your new Membership Chair of DKG Maryland, I would like to share some insights. I recently attended a Zoom workshop for state membership chair training that DKG International offered, and I got some new ideas. The Membership Committee, composed of **Lillian Hairston** of Xi, **Sheri Grim** of Tau, and **Sharon Settle** of Alpha Alpha, will be meeting soon to look at these ideas and develop our goals for this biennium, which I am so excited about.

This committee also has Necrology as our responsibility. When a chapter member passes away, please be sure your president knows. There is a Form 6 Report of Death of a Member on the International website (under Membership) that needs to be sent to International, our state, and to me at darlingsh.abs@gmail.com. I also would like a copy of that member's obituary to put in our memory notebook.

Chapter members, please think about someone that could be an honorary state member. We have not had a new one for many years.

I look forward to being your membership chair and being able to see you face-to-face.

Leadership Development Committee

Plans to Evolve, Rise and Flourish!

Dr. Marilyn Keane, DKG MD State President

This biennium may only be a few months old, but the Leadership Development Committee (LDC) is actively planning the upcoming year's events centered on the theme, **Evolve, Rise, and Flourish**. Specifically, the LDC committee planned the committee chair meeting with a focus to align committee goals with the biennium theme as well as enact a plan to encourage chapter members/presidents to reflect on how the message of **Evolve, Rise, and Flourish** is used within their chapters to meet the needs of their members through intellectual growth, acquisition of skills, and the utilization of these skills personally and professionally.

This fall, the LDC is also in the initial stages of drafting the agenda for the May Leadership Development Conference in Bowie. The committee is planning a variety of workshops and speakers as well as the incoming president's training and the committee chairs' round table. The strength of our society rests in our membership! If you know a great speaker, engaging topic, or you personally would like to present, *please* share your talents! Make sure to take advantage of these opportunities to **Evolve, Rise, and Flourish**. Mark your calendar!

 **White Roses**

Jean Schwindaman
Delta Chapter

Jean Schwindaman passed peacefully with her beloved family by her side on Monday, July 26, 2021. She was on the annual family vacation and enjoyed time, just before she passed, with her husband of 67 years, Dale Sr., three children, five grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Jean was in *Who's Who in American High Schools* when she graduated from West Point High School in 1948. She went on to graduate Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor's Degree in Library Science from Mississippi State College for Women in 1952, where she was also voted Most Intellectual.

As her children grew, Jean went back to school to receive her Master's Degree in Library Science from the University of Maryland, graduating with a 4.0 grade point average. She was a Media Specialist in the Montgomery County Public School System up until her retirement in 1992. She was a member of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, Delta Chapter—a society of educators. Her love of books and reading carried into her retired life, as she was an active member of her book club. She also continued her passion for landscaping by spearheading the plantings in her yard—always keeping up with the seasonal beauty of the flora. She was an active member of the Garden Club of College Gardens for several decades.

"Love begins in a moment, grows over time, and lasts for Eternity."

-Diane Straub, Delta Chapter
Photo courtesy of Carol Schwindaman, Delta Chapter



Cora Roulette Dove
Pi Chapter

Cora Roulette Dove, Pi Chapter, passed from this life on June 28, 2021, just two weeks short of her 94th birthday. She lived her entire life on her family's farm near Sharpsburg, MD. She was predeceased by her husband, T. Russell Dove, and is survived by two nieces and a nephew.

Cora received a Bachelor's Degree from Shepherd College (now University) and a Master's Degree from the University of MD. She had a 37-year career as a teacher of Home Economics and Home Care Management in a variety of Washington County schools, retiring from the Career Studies Center. After retirement, she did evaluations for the External High School Certificate Program.

She was a lifelong member of Christ Reformed United Church of Christ of Sharpsburg, as well as being a member of Washington County Retired Educational Personnel Association and Maryland Retired School Personnel Association, Areme Chapter of the Eastern Star, and the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, serving as Regent of Antietam Chapter for fifteen years.

In 1960, Cora was a founding member of Pi Chapter of DKG and maintained her membership for 61 years. She exemplified DKG's mission of impacting education and promoting professional and personal growth of women in education, as evidenced by the outpouring of love from her former students and colleagues over the years and following her death. Never seeking the limelight, she was a tireless behind-the-scenes worker and a dependable "encourager" for others. Cora was a beloved family member, mentor, teacher, and friend.

-Ann Marie Downey, Pi Chapter

Nu Chapter Accolade

Sharon Darling, Nu Chapter

Nu Chapter is very proud of **Heather Andrews**, an ESOL teacher in Talbot County. She has received the **2021 Teacher of the Year Award** for K-12 from the Maryland Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages Association. She was nominated for being a "fiercely advocating ESOL teacher and tutor for elementary and high school students and always going above and beyond to make English learners' families feel a great sense of belonging." When I read her acceptance speech, it made me think of many things that happened along my way in education as I am sure it may yours. With Heather's permission, I can now share it with others.

We've all been there. We're driving down the road when all of a sudden a flood of brake lights gleam in the distance. As you approach the area, road signs bombard you with the warnings: "Roadwork Ahead," "One Lane," "Flagman," "Detour," "Slow," and "Stop." The frustration mounts. As we drive over the road, it is bumpy and uneven. We may catch the rough edges of the shoulder or detour onto unfamiliar roads. With each passing day, there is more progress. The asphalt, layer by layer, is smoothed out, paving the way for the weary commuters.

I began paving the way to my career when I was young; I would play school in my basement, imitating my teachers, aspiring to be just like them. After graduating high school, my journey took me through community college and then to Salisbury University. I graduated with a B.S. in Elementary Education. Since I was unable to secure a full-time teaching position, I detoured off of the main road, spying an opening for an ESOL tutor at the local elementary school. I had no idea where I was going. Just like the backroads, my first experiences as an ESOL teacher curved like the winding roads. I was often lost and unsure, doubting my ability to find my way.

In 2008, I was afforded the opportunity to participate in the TARGET Program at Salisbury University--a grant funded Masters Program in TESOL. The program paved the foundation for Second Language Acquisition, theory and strategies, merging the experiences with the academic background just as two lanes merge into one.

My education paved the way.

Just as the asphalt is layered and compacted, my experiences extended beyond the classroom. Not only did I work with elementary students at several schools, I also worked with adult learners at Chesapeake College, as an ESOL teacher with the Summer Migrant Program in Sudlersville, and with Haitian Creole families in a family literacy program.

In 2011, I once again veered off the main road in a different direction. After being in the educational system for almost ten years, I moved into the fast lane and was the Resource Specialist and Nurturing Family Coordinator at Queen Anne's County Department of Social Services. I was also selected as the co-chair for the Queen Anne's County "Make a Difference Day." I worked extensively with families as well as those that identify as homeless.

In 2014, I swerved back onto the highway. I was hired as an ESOL teacher for Talbot County Public Schools. This is currently my 7th year at Easton High School.

My experiences paved the way.

Through this journey, I have had to ask for directions. My esteemed colleagues and the staff and administrators at each school I worked at--too many to mention--believed in me, kept me off the shoulder and on the right side of the road and helped smooth the path. My family--my husband, three children, and parents--sacrificed and supported me as I wound aimlessly, building my own route.

My mentors and family helped pave the way.

As ESOL professionals, we need to be cognizant of our own road. At times we need to slow down or stop, reflect on our teaching, rely on our navigation system of best practices. We must decide if we need to detour into the unknown or remain on the main highway. We, as ESOL teachers, need to dig down

through the layers, build from the ground up, layering not only with the acquisition of the English language, but with compassion and advocacy. Continue to be an engineering miracle, creative and innovative, as you build relationships with your students. Come to the realization that there will be potholes and jagged edges as we travel through the many barriers and obstacles that we face with the student population we work with. I know you will continue to resurface the road by going above and beyond--continuing to work extra hours, attending professional development, and enrolling in courses.

After 27 years of living on the shore, new roads abound. Some lead to nowhere, whereas others lead to open possibilities. The future of TESOL has not been set in asphalt. I challenge you to rediscover your own road and think about how you have paved the way and how we can continue to pave the way in the future.

-Heather Andrews

Congratulations!

Patty Simon, Mu Chapter

Congratulations to **Lorraine Johnson** of Theta and **Wendy Happel** of Mu for having their work accepted into the Spring 2021 display of the DKG Art Gallery! Past President Lorraine Johnson is a published author whose inspiring and uplifting poetry is known throughout DKG MD. Wendy Happel is a talented artist who not only draws, but also creates pictures out of jewelry. Lorraine's poem entitled "Motivation" and Wendy's colored pencil drawing entitled "My Girl, Abby" can be seen by going to the DKG website. Be sure to scroll down the homepage and click on the Art Gallery. The direct link is dkggallery.dkg.org. Thank you, ladies, for representing Maryland so beautifully.



"My Girl, Abby" by **Wendy Happel** can be seen at the DKG Art Gallery.

Theta Member Celebrates Major Birthday

Yvonne Stone, Theta Chapter President

Ethel Adams came to Theta Chapter in May of 2021. She has served Delta Kappa Gamma International for over 50 years. The sisters of Theta Chapter feel that we are truly blessed and honored to have her as a full-fledged member of our chapter.

We gathered on August 17, which was the 101st birthday of Sister Adams. She really made our day.

The celebration was held at William Paca Elementary School, and the entire staff that was present on campus came to acknowledge her.

We all feel that it is a privilege to be in the presence of such an outstanding example of a Key Woman Educator as Sister Adams. She enhances our lives with her dignity and grace.



Theta Chapter members celebrate Sister Ethel Adams' 101st birthday with gifts, flowers, and cake.

Alpha Beta Keeps a Full Summer Schedule

Carol Howard, Alpha Beta President

Eighteen members of our chapter gathered together at Spring Cove Marina in Solomon's for our last meeting of the year on May 27, 2021. The scenic setting was a lovely backdrop as we ate subs, socialized, conducted business, and made tentative plans for the upcoming 2021-2022 year. Highlights of our meeting were a trio of recorder players (**Marci** and **Janet** were joined this time by **Donna!**) playing the Delta Kappa Gamma song, recognition of six members (**Marci, Jeanette, Janet, Ethel, Christy,** and **Anne**) who had perfect attendance this year, and a raffle for a "Rest and Relaxation" basket provided by **Vanessa** and **Ethel**, with the profits going to World Fellowship and Schools for Africa. For those of you curious about the contents of the basket, these were the items: rejuvenating vitamin C masks, coconut and rose petal foot masks and cozy socks, eucalyptus spearmint mandarin body wash and body cream, honey and pear foaming sugar body scrub, Ghirardelli milk chocolate caramel candy, and South African Cabernet Sauvignon Rose wine.

Although summer is a time when things typically slow down, members of our Finance and Standing Rules Committees have met to have things in place for the upcoming year. In addition, some of our members have been supporting our community through our literacy grant and service project. This year the winner of our literacy grant, Reading Camp Calvert, had a virtual camp for a 2-week period from July 11-23 with the theme being the Olympics. Students, nominated for the program mainly due to their lower reading achievement and/or dislike of reading, were provided books on their level not only on the theme but also according to their interests. All campers also received a book called *Freddy Ramos Adds It All Up*, which touched upon topics such as dealing with learning difficulties, bullies, and personal/social attributes. Students were given the choice of two meeting times and attended three meetings via Zoom, and then an in-person mini Olympics was held outside on the last day of camp as

a culminating activity. It was exciting to hear about the reading that campers accomplished as well as have them share activities that they completed and see in person the fun they had while learning about the countries that were participating in the actual events. Alpha Beta was one organization that helped support this camp by providing money for books and art supplies for projects that enhanced the theme. Likewise, some members have also been periodically visiting our four Little Free Libraries (which was our service project and was highlighted in the Summer 2021 issue of the DKG Maryland State News p.10) located in Calvert and St. Mary's counties to place new and used books for children and adults. We also have started supporting a fifth library since an organization in Lusby (via Facebook) requested sponsors to provide children's books. Both county libraries are participating in summer reading programs that are being held across the state. A request was put out to sisters to not only keep track of the pages that they read for the reading challenge the libraries are having, but then to save any physical books that were read so that they could be added to our collection of books to be reused in our LFL barns!

Finally, Alpha Beta would like to honor and celebrate two of our sisters, **Kristin Halstead** and **Crystal Hill**, who, along with all the Calvert County Public School media specialists, were recognized at the end of the 2020-2021 school year for winning the **American Association of School Librarians' 2021 National School Library of the Year Award**.



Alpha Beta raffled off this beautiful "Rest and Relaxation" basket.

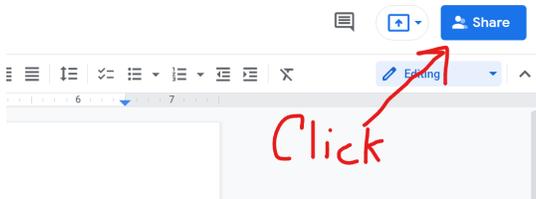
Tech Tip

How to Share a Google Document

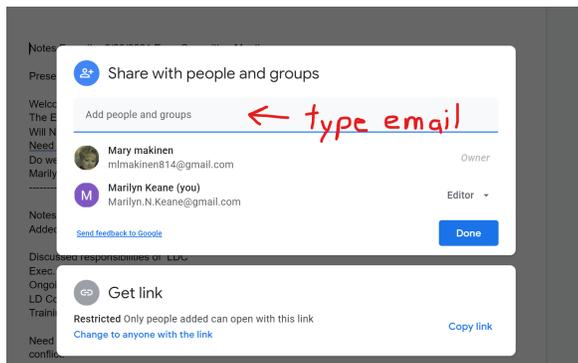
Dr. Marilyn Keane, DKG MD State President

Before the pandemic, anything related to Google Docs scared me! This past year, I learned *a lot*, and I am excited to share a little of what I learned.

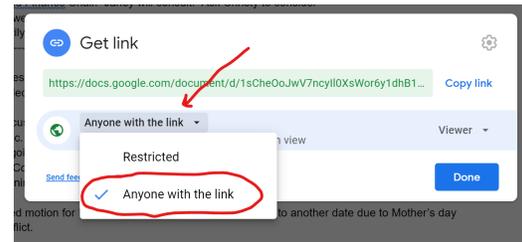
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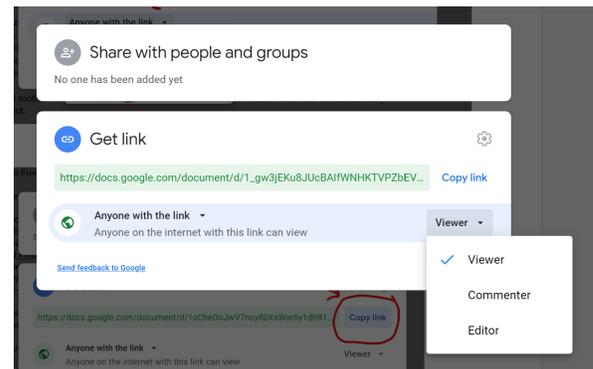


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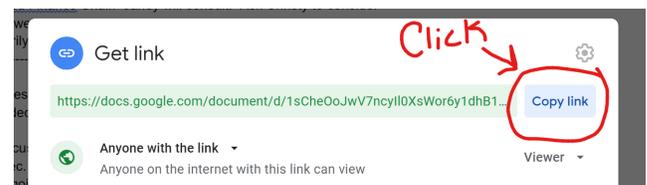


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If you would like to see a video tutorial on this, or if there is a tech tip you would like to share or learn, please send an email to Dr. Marilyn Keane at Alcatraz46@yahoo.com.



DKG Maryland State News

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Save the Date! Mark Your Calendar!

DKG Maryland State Organization In-Person Workshop

Saturday, November 6, 2021, 8:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.

Join in the Learning, Networking, and Fun!

Ice Breakers
Chapter Success Stories
Technology Updates
Movement
Program Ideas
And More!

Location: Ashton United Methodist Church
17314 New Hampshire Ave.
Ashton, Maryland 20861

Registration and workshop details coming in September!