The West Chapel (part of the UMD Chapel) was recently renamed the Garden Chapel. On October 16 members of the campus community were invited to celebrate the beautiful refurbishment of the space.

At the celebration, FM staff were acknowledged by the presenters for their many contributions to the project, including refinishing the woodwork and installing a new entrance sign.

The focal point of the space is a massive art piece, crafted of painted wood and many colorful leaf shapes. What visitors might not notice at first is that each shape is constructed of smaller needlepointed shapes.

The needlepointed leaf shapes were sewn by a group of UMD volunteers. FM volunteers Jeanette Payne, Jill Doty and retiree Mel Clarke enjoyed working on the project, which included artisans of varying skill levels who worked independently on their section of the piece. The pieces were later assembled together with wooden “branches” to create the final artwork.

The Garden Chapel is open daily for contemplation and prayer.