

UNITED EVANGELICAL, UCC

150 YEARS STRONG

1873-2023

Come Serve With Us

Worship 10am

www.unitedevangelical.org

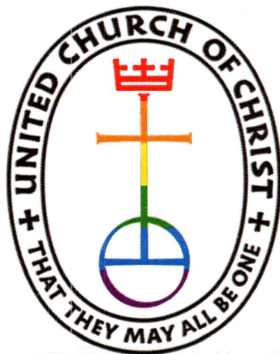
UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

150th ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATION

September 21, 2025



**UNITED
EVANGELICAL
CHURCH, UCC**

a just world for all.

**WELCOME TO
UNITED
EVANGELICAL
CHURCH**
and our



150th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

Founded in 1873 by German immigrants, this church is inexorably tied to the history and lives of Canton and Highlandtown in southeast Baltimore. 2023 marked our sesquicentennial anniversary (150) which we celebrate and honor today. This Anniversary Book begins with the liturgy for this morning's special worship service. It ends with the program for this evening's dinner and celebration at the American Legion Hall in Dundalk (see page 18 for a map and directions). But in between, are pages dedicated to a loving look, not only back, but at the present, our plans for the future, and the support of our friends and community.

In 1933 this church, then called the German United Evangelical Church, celebrated its 60th anniversary, with a program book much like this one. Opposite is the dedication page from that book. We'd like to dedicate this book, 90 years later, with those same words and prayers for the past, the present, and the future.

Sixtieth
Anniversary

German United
Evang. Church
Baltimore, Maryland

Dedication page of the
60th Anniversary Book in 1933



1873
1933

Dedication

To Those of Yesterday

the fathers and mothers of the faith who
organized or preserved for us our beloved
United Church

To Those of the Present

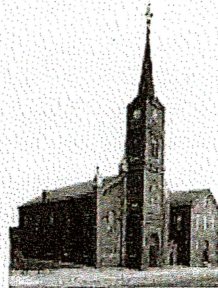
who are carrying on the duties and perpetu-
ating the influence of the work of those who
have preserved us in faith

And to Those of the Future

our children, and the strangers that shall come
into our gates and merge their interests with
those of others, and thus become living links
in the chain that binds our hearts in Christian
love

These Pages are Affectionately Dedicated

to the first in loving
memory;
to the second in grateful
recognition;
and to the last in hopeful
expectation of what shall
be done to the glory of
God by members and
friends of United Church



WELCOME TO UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH

and our

150th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

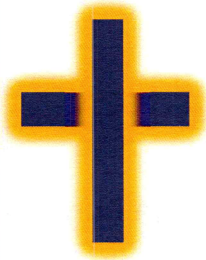


Some things to know...

Restrooms in the church: We have multiple restrooms. On this floor, through the Quiet Room doors, is an all gender restroom. Downstairs in the Fellowship Hall is an accessible all gender restroom as well as separate men's and women's rooms.

Worship Service: The Service begins at 3 pm and will end by 5 pm. The Liturgy begins on page 6.

Dinner: The buffet dinner, at the American Legion Hall in Dundalk, begins at 5:30 pm. On page 18 there's a map and directions to get to the Hall. On page 46 is tonight's menu as well as information about alcohol consumption.



**Participating
in this Afternoon's
Service**
(in Order of Appearance)



Aiden Borkman

Altar Server, Active Member of United Evangelical Church

Rev. J. Stephen Fair, O.C.C. + (Ret.)

Former Pastor of United Evangelical Church (1985-1990)

Rev. Dr. Marietta Hebert-Davis

Interim Pastor of United Evangelical Church

Rev. C. Jo Oatman

Chaplain, Bayview Medical Center

Former Pastor of United Evangelical Church (2002-2023)

Minister Lois Carrigan

Outreach Minister, New Covenant Community U.C.C.

Rev. Holly R. Jackson

*Associate Conference Minister for Justice and Witness
Ministries, Central Atlantic Conference, U.C.C.*

Rev. Craig Peterson

*Associate Conference Minister for Congregational
Development, Central Atlantic Conference, U.C.C.*



United Evangelical Church

150th Anniversary Festival Liturgy

Prelude: "Holy, Holy, Holy" (arr. John Purifoy)

Welcome and Introduction of Guests
Rev. Stephen Fair

*Opening Hymn: #544 The Church's One Foundation

*Call To Worship: Responsively
Rev. Dr. Marietta Hebert-Davis

Leader: The Church has gathered here for over 150 years. We are gathered in the place where the saints of old have gathered.

**People: We pray where our forebearers prayed.
We sing where they have sung.**

Leader: We preach where our predecessors preached, we celebrate the Sacred Mysteries where such celebrations have taken place for over a century and a half.

People: We receive the Holy Spirit where so many have begun their earthly journey. We receive the presence of Christ where so many have been fed with the Bread of life.

Leader: Come, let us worship and begin the next step of the Journey. In the name of the Creator, Christ and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Call to Confession: Leader

Rev. Jo Oatman

Siblings in Christ, we are united with Christ... to God,
our Creator.

*Prayer of Confession: Unison

Almighty God, maker of all things, judge of all people, we acknowledge and confess our manifold sins which we from time to time have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against your Divine Majesty. We do earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for these, our misdoings. The remembrance is grievous to us. Have mercy, have mercy upon us, most merciful God; for the sake of our Savior, Jesus Christ, forgive us all our sins; and grant that we may hereafter serve and please you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your name; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Leader: Holy God. Holy and Mighty. Holy, Immortal one

People: Have mercy on us

*Assurance of Pardon:

Leader: Listen now to the comforting assurance...the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace:

Leader: The peace of God be with you

People: And also with you

Leader: Share with one another a sign of the peace of God.



*Praise Song: (page 14) Canticle of the Sun (M. Haugen)

Prayer of the Day: Responsively
Minister Lois Carrigan

Leader: God be with you

People: And also with you

Leader: Let us pray

Unison: God of grace and God of glory, you are forever present in the church and in our lives. You called us into covenant with all people of all time and place. You have called us to proclaim the Gospel to all the world. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and enable us to share faith, hope, and love with the Canton community. This we pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

First Reading: The Acts 1:1-11

Second Reading: I Corinthians 12:1-12

Anthem: "We Will Keep Our Faith Alive!" (Price/Besig)

Gospel Reading: John 21:15-19

Sermon

Remarks of Guests

Hymn #341 Jesus Shall Reign

*Statement of Faith: Unison

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

Hymn: #695 As We Gather at Your Table

Order of Holy Communion

Rev. Holly Jackson and Rev. Craig Peterson

* Invitation to Holy Communion: Responsively

Leader: Our Savior, Jesus Christ has, throughout history, fed the church with his most sacred body and blood. Our predecessors gathered here for over 150 years to eat the bread, drink the cup, and experience Christ's presence.

People: This is the joyful feast of the people of God. All people, young and old, come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and gather about Christ's table.

Leader: This table is for all who wish to know the presence of Christ and to share in the community of God's people.

*Communion Prayer: Responsively

Pastor: God be with you

People: And also with you

Pastor: Lift up your hearts

People: We lift them up to God

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God Most High

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise

Pastor: It is indeed right and our bounden duty...
we praise with joy your holy name.

*Hymn of Praise: (page 15) I Know it was the Blood



*Words of Institution and Prayer of Consecration:

Pastor: We remember that on the night of betrayal... we may continue faithful in all things.

People: In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you, eternal God, and give thanks that you have called us to serve you. Amen.

*Prayer of Our Savior

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.:
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

*Agnus Dei (page 16)

(Michael W. Smith)



Distribution of Holy Communion

Anthem: "Here I Am Lord" (Schutte/Courtney)

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: Let us pray together the Prayer of Thanksgiving

People: Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us where you have fed your people with the bread of life for over 150 years. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Benediction: Leader

Rev. Dr. Marietta Hebert-Davis

Leader: As we celebrate the past 150 years, let us look to the future. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, let us continue to share faith, hope, and love in the Canton community and throughout the world.

Now, may the blessing of Almighty God, Creator, Christ, and the Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you always.

*Three-fold Amen

*Closing Hymn: #529 For All the Saints
(Verses 1,2,5, &6)

*Postlude: "Trumpet Tune" (Frederick Swan)

Canticle of the Sun (The Heavens are Telling)

Musical score for 'Canticle of the Sun' in G major, 3/8 time. The score consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'The heav-ens are tell-ing the glo-ry of God, and all cre-a-tion is shout-ing for joy. Come, dance in the for-est, come play in the field, and sing, sing to the glo-ry of the Lord. Praise for the sun, the bring-er of day, He car-ries the light of the Lord in his rays; The moon and the stars who light up the way Un-to your throne.' The score includes a 'Fine' marking at the end of the fourth staff and a 'D.S. al Fine' marking at the end of the fifth staff.

The heav-ens are tell-ing the glo-ry of God, and all cre-
a-tion is shout-ing for joy. Come, dance in the for-est, come play in the field,
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sun, the bring-er of day, He car-ries the light of the Lord in his rays; The
moon and the stars who light up the way Un-to your throne.

Canticle of the Sun (The Heavens are Telling). Words and music by Marty Haugen. (c) 1980 GIA Publications. Used by permission. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net A-716352

Music Festival, 1993. Local churches raised money for the SuperPantry.



I Know it was the Blood

Musical score for the hymn "I Know it was the Blood". The score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "I know it was the blood. I know it was the blood. I know it was the blood for me. One day when I was lost He died up - on the cross. And I know it was the blood for me." The score includes measure numbers 4, 9, and 12.

I Know It Was the Blood. African American Traditional. Public Domain



Hallelujah Chorus, 1986. Inviting members of the congregation to join the choir for a group sing.

Agnus Dei

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Ho -
5 ly, ho - ly are You, Lord God Al - might -
8 y. Wor - thy is the Lamb; Wor - thy is the Lamb. You are ho -
11 ly. Ho - ly are You, Lord God Al - might -
14 y. Wor - thy is the Lamb; Wor - thy is the Lamb. A - men.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 2/4 time signature. It features several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a group of notes) and rests. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words split across lines.

Agnus Dei. Words and Music by Michael W. Smith. (c) 1990 Sony/ATV Milene Music. All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI License #96147



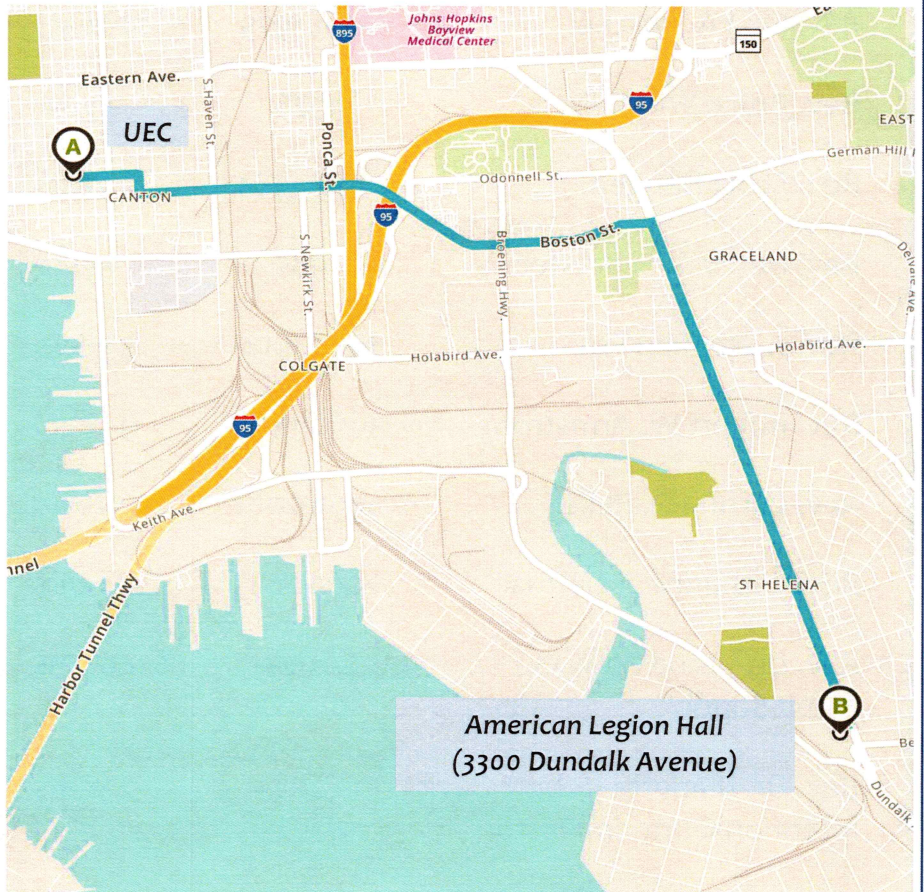
United Evangelical Church, United Church of Christ
To God be the Glory for the things God has done!
The good shepherds who have led God's flock:

Rev. D.A. Schwartz	1873-1889	16 years
Rev. Paul A. Menzel	1889-1896	7 years
Rev. William Batz	1896-1928	30 years
Rev. F.W. Schaefer	1926-1934	8 years
Rev. Titus Lehmann	1934-1961	27 years
Rev. Paul A. Rasche	1961-1975	14 years
Rev. Bruce Wickkeiser	1976	1 year
Rev. Scott Hengen	1976-1984	8 years
Rev. Henry A. Schaeffer	1985	1 year
Rev. J. Stephen Fair	1985-1990	5 years
Rev. Robert W. Armstrong	1990-1999	9 years
Rev. Corrine O. Baker	1999-2001	2 years
Rev. Catherine J. Oatman	2002-2023	21 years
Rev. Dr. Vertie Powers Pulpit Supply	2/2023- 10/2023	8 months
Rev. Dr. Marietta Hebert-Davis Intentional Interim Pastor	10/2023- 9/2025	2 years



Getting from UEC to the American Legion Hall

Head south on East Avenue and take a left on O'Donnell Street (heading east). Keep right onto Odonnell Street Cutoff toward I-95 S (Go for 0.5 mi). Continue on Boston St. (Go for 0.6 mi). Turn right onto Dundalk Ave. (Go for 1.9 mi). Turn right onto Dunhill Rd. (Go for 62 ft). Turn left into American Legion Hall.



**GET ON
THE BUS...
we are
going
to see...**



“Noah: the Musical”

At the Sight & Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA

Saturday, December 13, 2025 at 11 am

Followed by a smorgasbord lunch at the Hershey Farms Resort

Itinerary:

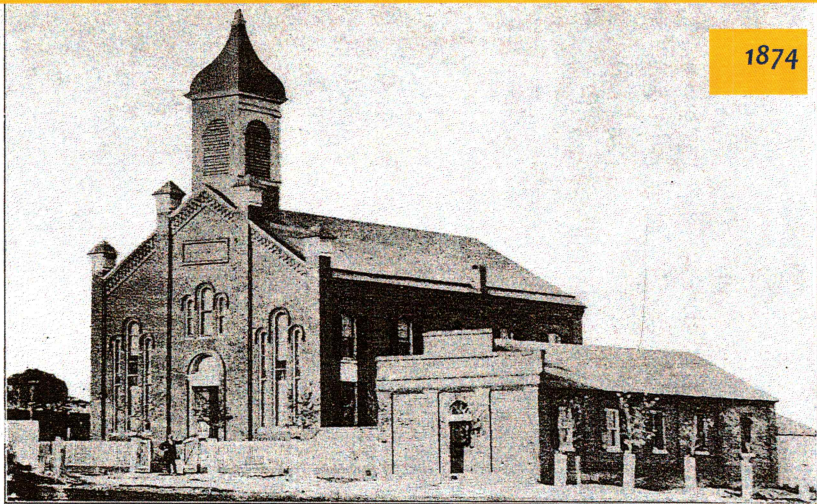
(times are approximate except for show time and meal reservation)

- ✓ Leave United Evangelical Church at 8:30 am. Arrive Lancaster PA (Sight & Sound) approximately 10 am
- ✓ Show "Noah: the Musical" 11 am-1:30 pm with intermission
- ✓ Eat smorgasbord at Hershey Farms Resort 2-3:45 PM
- ✓ Leave to return to Baltimore 4 pm. Arrive back at church by 5:30 pm



There is \$100 deposit per person to reserve your seat. If we go over 50 people, we will have a waiting list in case of last-minute cancellations. The final price for the entire trip (including bus fare, the show, and lunch) will be \$175 per adult. Children under 18 are welcome with an adult. The price for kids under 12 is \$125 each. The money is due to the church office by **XXXXXXXXXXXX**. If you would like to reserve seats on the bus, please contact the church office.

United Evangelical Over the Years



1874

The Church and School Building in 1874

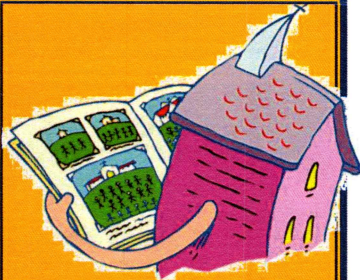


early 1900s



circa 1923

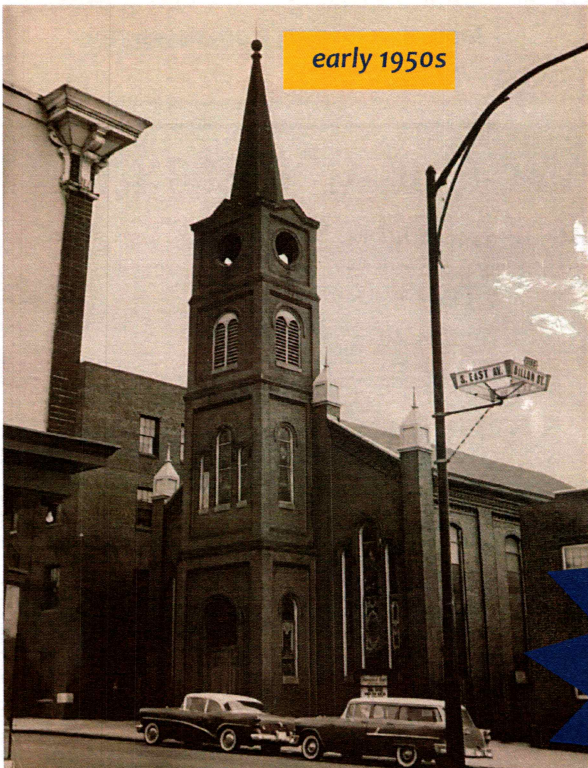
Our Church and Parish Hall



Church Archives

Many, many, many THANKS to Rob Gundlach who, with help from Fran Foster, has taken the lead in digitizing 150 years worth of documents and photographs and creating the UEC archives. Rob and Fran have spent hours scanning and organizing content.

uecarchives.com



In the 1930s, the church sold symbolic bricks for 2 cents each to raise money for a new Sunday School Building and Parsonage.

United Evangelical Over the Years



Groundbreaking on the new church, January 20, 1957 (from newspaper clipping).

UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH

East Avenue and Dillon Street

Baltimore 24, Maryland

cordially invites you to

the

“BURNING OF ITS CHURCH MORTGAGE”

Sunday, the sixteenth of April

Nineteen hundred and sixty-one

at four o'clock

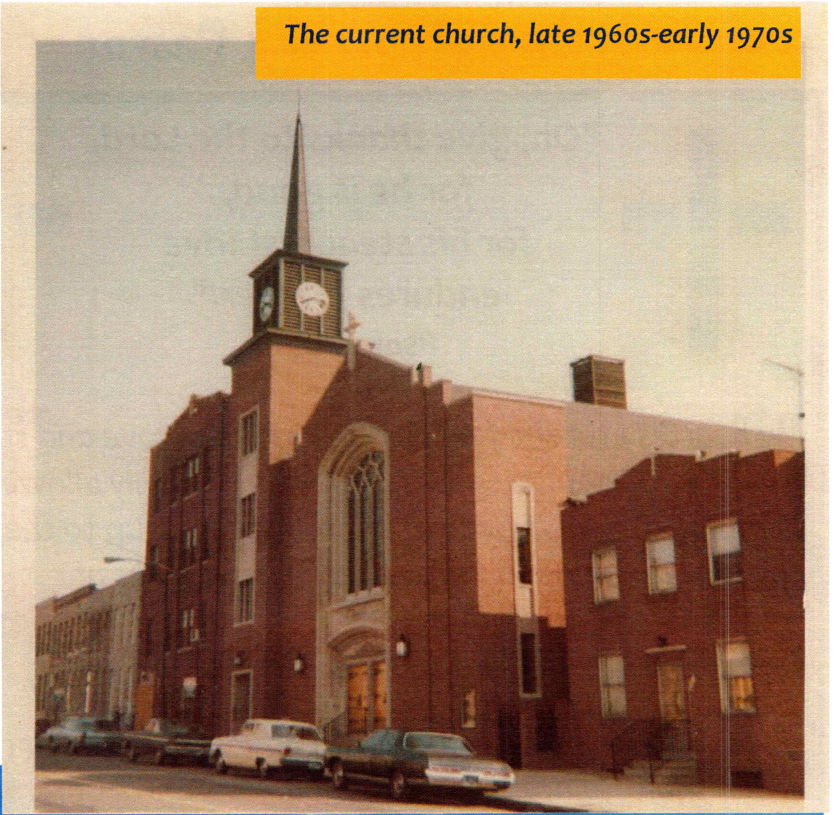
Reception

immediately following service

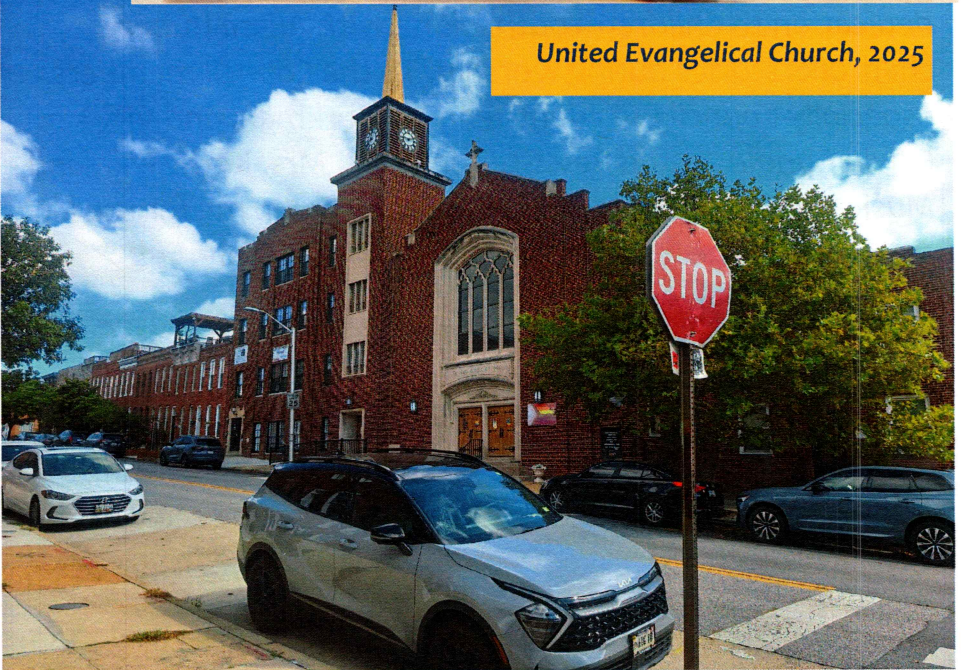
Fellowship Hall

Invitation to the Mortgage Burning, 1961!

The current church, late 1960s-early 1970s



United Evangelical Church, 2025



Words from the Pastor



**"Oh, give thanks to the Lord,
for he is good,
for his steadfast love
endures forever!"**

Psalm 107:1.



My heart is grateful for the outpouring of love and support from the UEC Congregation. God has certainly allowed spiritual growth in both of us. You stepped up to the challenge with open arms to learn new ways of worshipping God from the lens of an African American woman who is an Ordained UCC Clergy.

A special thank you to the youth Conner, Dakota, and Aiden's faithfulness in serving God. Mrs. Carol Borkman's dedication to Children/Youth, along with Alissa Huber's children's stories during worship. To the Council members, especially Council President Jennifer Borkman, and VP Calvin Gundlach, and Rev. Stephen Fair, Mrs. Kathy Fair, and Music Director, Robert Gundlach have shown me for the last two years in the midst of the church transition.

Jesus' ministry is never to be done in isolation. The UEC Breaking News staff, Kelli, Steven, and Josh's weekly creativity, Kelli for countless hours of creating slides for every church event. Thank you to the church office staff, Abby Markowitz and Denise Glover for assisting me with special projects.

You smiled through a few frowns when learning some new songs of African descent but you were willing to learned them. You welcomed a different style of Worship with “Amen” responses, the use of the clappers, tambourines, being “voluntold” to read scripture, and lastly getting up out of your seats to say “Neighbor O Neighbor.”

I witnessed as you enjoyed the seminary students on Good Friday exposing you to different interpretations on the “7 Last Words,” of Jesus Christ. You opened my eyes to the special event of Tinsel Sunday celebrating Jesus’ birthday. And those wonderful prizes at Bingo, thanks to Barb Matthew.

Many thanks to UEC volunteers, Mrs. Kathy Miller, Bobby Brackett, Patricia Rayside, Laura Crane, Shaniqua (NeNe) Jones, Pete and Pam Koutsoutis.

To Council member Travis Hogan through his health challenges always showed up support the needs of the church. Thank you, Pam G, for accompanying me on some of the sick & shut-in visits. Mrs. Mae Savage, (best hugger) in the world. Lastly, thank you to the Search & Call committee as they work tirelessly to assist UEC in choosing the next part-time Settled Pastor. I will miss you only for a moment because I will return you are my new family in Christ.

Rev. Dr. Marietta Hebert-Davis
Intentional Interim Pastor



**HAPPY 150TH
ANNIVERSARY!**



**OFFERING ON SITE PREPARATION
OF PIT BEEF, HAM & TURKEY**

**WE CAN HELP DESIGN A MENU
FOR YOUR NEXT EVENT**

**GIVE US A CALL
STEVE JANKIEWICZ
410-790-3497**



Congratulations

United Evangelical Church

On celebrating your
150th Church Anniversary

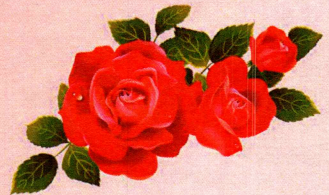
Lovingly Submitted,

The Glover Family

Dorothy, Cherisse, Denise, Patrice,

The Grandchildren &

Great-Grandchildren



United Evangelical Church, UCC

Happy 150th Church Anniversary

We celebrate not just the longevity of UEC but the lives touched, the souls comforted, and the community strengthened by your collective faith.



New Covenant Community United Church of Christ

1000 S. Rolling Road Baltimore, MD 21228 • 410.744.5700 •

Rev. Dr. Brian Murray, Pastor • www.newcovucc.org.com



May all experience
the Lord's love,
peace, and power
every day of your
lives!

Happy Anniversary
to our
Church Family

With love from the
Church Council

MUSIC ON THE SQUARE

A BALTIMORE ROOTS MUSIC
CONCERT SERIES

CHURCH ON THE SQUARE
1025 S POTOMAC ST, BALTIMORE

2025 - 2026 SEASON

10.2 RAY WINDER



11.13



GERALDINE

12.12 FROM CHINA TO APPALACHIA



1.9



MADISON BAILEY

2.7 ACROSS THE HARBOR



3.13 RAKISH



4.10 CALEB STINE + SPECTATOR BIRD



5.8

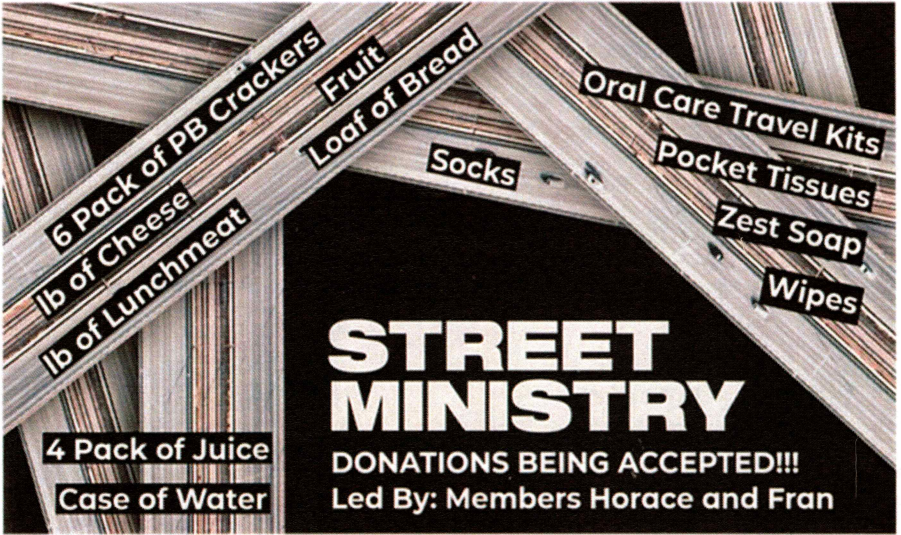


SONGWRITERS IN THE ROUND
HOSTED BY LETITIA VANSANT

*Thanks for many
wonderful memories.*

BEST WISHES!

The Deasel Family



Please support our Street Ministry by donating items. Donations are accepted Sundays before and after worship and by appointment. Give us a call at 410-276-0393 or email us at uecucc@comcast.net.



God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

The United Church of Christ (UCC) is a distinct and diverse community of Christians who come together as one church to join in faith and action. With more than 5,100 churches and 1.1 million members across the US, the UCC serves God in the co-creation of a just and sustainable world.

The UCC is a church of firsts, a church of extravagant welcome, and a church where "... they may all be one" (John 17:21). The UCC has no rigid formulation of doctrine or attachment to creeds or structures. Its overarching creed is love. UCC pastors and teachers are known for their commitment to excellence in theological preparation, interpretation of the scripture and justice advocacy. Even so, love and unity in the midst of our diversity are our greatest assets.

To learn more about the UCC visit www.ucc.org.

**OPEN AND AFFIRMING
COALITION**
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



**United Evangelical Church
Open and Affirming Covenant**

We, the congregation of United Evangelical Church, UCC, reaffirm our mission statement that reads "We seek to continue Jesus' mission of: Reaching out. Embracing everyone. Enriching all. Becoming living examples. Bonding all with the love of God." Therefore we declare ourselves to be an open and affirming congregation, welcoming into the full life and ministry of the church persons of every race, culture, age, gender, sexual orientation, ability and economic status.

We recognize that there remains differences of opinion among us, and while we do not seek to erase our differences, we believe that through our diversity, all can grow and practice a unity of faith that transcends our differences.

Believing that every person has worth as a unique creation made in the image of God, we welcome all in our journey together in faith toward a greater understanding and mutual respect.

UEC in our Community

UEC youth group painting our East Avenue stormdrain to remind people "a healthy harbor starts here."



2010 youth work trip to Hiram Farms, TN.

UEC marching with the Faith Communities of Pride in the Baltimore Pride Parade.



In June 2025, three of our members were honored by BRIDGE Maryland for their leadership in the community. From left to right: Kelli Crews, was honored for her media and staff support for BRIDGE and Fran Foster and Horace Oxendine for their leadership in our Street Ministry.



Fabuliss Finds

Custom orders accepted
Check us out on Ebay and Instagram

@fabulissfinds

Find something
Fabuliss!

fabulissfinds@gmail.com



Clarence Rowell Thanksgiving Baskets

Several years ago, after our beloved Clarence Rowell passed, we reinvigorated the Thanksgiving Basket Ministry which had been something dear to his heart. Each year, we collect food for 25 baskets that are delivered to the families of children at one of our local schools. Each basket also includes a gift card for a turkey purchase.



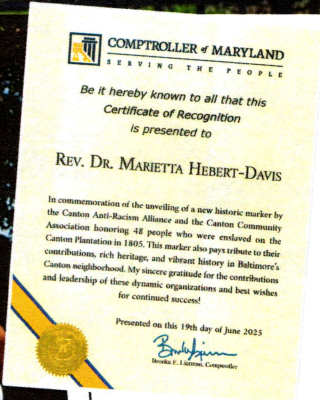
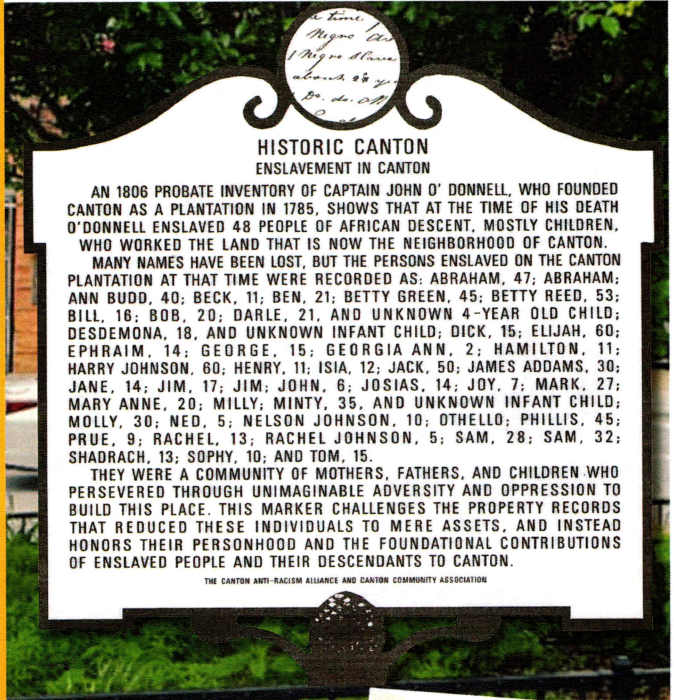
Family Fun Bingo

Family Fun Bingo is another United Evangelical tradition. Food, Fun, and Fellowship for All. And really cool prizes!



Juneteenth 2025 in Canton

Juneteenth, officially Juneteenth National Independence Day, is a federal holiday in the United States. It is celebrated annually on June 19 to commemorate the end of slavery in the United States.



(photo by Jessica Gallagher/The Baltimore Banner)

This year on June 19, the Canton Anti-Racism Alliance dedicated an historic marker to honor the 48 enslaved people and their descendants who worked in the neighborhood of Canton. Rev. Dr. Marietta Hebert-Davis (left) was asked to give the invocation prayer at the service. In the photo at left, she, and Ms. Denise Glover also of United Evangelical (right) joined with Sheila Anderson (center) of the Anti-Racism Alliance to lead the attendees in song during the dedication.



COMPTROLLER of MARYLAND

S E R V I N G T H E P E O P L E

*Be it hereby known to all that this
Certificate of Recognition
is presented to*

UNITED™ EVANGELICAL CHURCH, UCC

In commemoration of the unveiling of a new historic marker by the Canton Anti-Racism Alliance and the Canton Community Association honoring 48 people who were enslaved on the Canton Plantation in 1805. This marker also pays tribute to their contributions, rich heritage, and vibrant history in Baltimore's Canton neighborhood. My sincere gratitude for the contributions and leadership of these dynamic organizations and best wishes for continued success!

Presented on this 19th day of June 2025

Handwritten signature of Brooke E. Lierman.

Brooke E. Lierman, Comptroller



Sour Beef & Oktoberfest

Baltimore Sun article, 1990s

Sweet taste of sour beef

■ **Supper:** The unlikely dish that features beef marinated in vinegar served with a gravy thickened with ginger snaps is a favorite for church dinners.

By JACQUES KELLY
SUN STAFF

For those whose fine-dining ideal involves folding chairs, crockery bowls and noisy acoustics, there is nothing like the bountiful fall fare of a warm church hall on sour beef supper night.

Their idea of bliss is an evening heavy on the ginger-snap gravy and homemade potato dumplings, along with a seat at a communal table filled with happy and satisfied eaters.

"I come to these dinners because the food is so good and I meet so many nice people," said Sarah McCardell, a North Baltimore resident who scans the sidewalks for church supper signs. She also checks the local listings in papers such as the *Catholic*



Busy Robert Armstrong, pastor of United Evangelical Church, oversees the dumpling making in the kitchen of his church in Canton. Preparation for the sour beef dinner, which continues today, began a week ago.

Review.

Churches schedule sour beef dinners only once a year because of their labor-intensive requirements — boiling potatoes for the dumplings, a lengthy marinade for the meat and the trick of perfect, no-lump gravy. Crab cake, ham, spaghetti or oyster suppers are more commonplace.

"I'm very proud of our gra-

vy. It's smooth as velvet," said Grace E. Fader, a longtime member of the United Evangelical Church, at Dillon Street and East Avenue in Canton, where the sour beef supper opened yesterday.

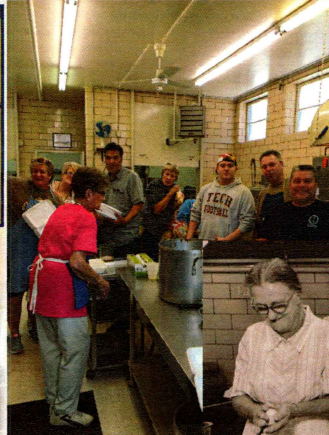
An all-volunteer kitchen normally feeds about 1,400 people for the annual event, which continues today as long as the steaming bowls of

grandmotherly fare hold out. They'll go through 1,000 pounds each of potatoes and beef before it's over.

This event and as others like it attract a dedicated and hungry band of church members, their friends and people who want the kind of traditional supper they had as children, not the Caesar-chicken salad cuisine that so many restaurants feature today.

Perhaps the mileage record holder for church-supper attending goes to Charles Biddison, a retired Cockeysville bill collector who puts 200 to 300 miles a week on his car searching for the obscure but tasty church-hall dinners he savors.

"Where can you go and get a dinner [See Supper, 6B]



For decades, United Evangelical sponsored Sour Beef and Dumpling dinners. From 2007-2017, the church hosted an annual Oktoberfest Street Festival and the dinners moved outside to Dillon Street. Sour beef and dumplings is a tradition in Canton as the article says, "At the turn of the [19th] century, one in four people here spoke German as their mother tongue."

BALTIMORE CITY



LIU ZEN/STAFF PHOTO

A brigade of volunteer cooks prepared the annual sour beef and dumpling dinner for United Evangelical Church.

KELLY

From 1B

et of lettuce, tofu and reduced-calorie salad dressing.

"We used 20 50-pound bags of potatoes and 1,050 pounds of beef. It hit it pretty close and I ran out nicely," Fader said.

Why do some Baltimoreans cherish an invitation to a sour beef dinner?

At the turn of this century, one in four people here spoke German as their mother tongue. That's reason enough why local restaurants, seeking to develop a faithful clientele, promote the dish on their menus.

And because the dish requires days of preparation — and that special skill to make and boil a potato dumpling — it cannot be turned out on 30 minutes' notice.

People mark their calendars for Fader's church dinner. There's an official program, with patrons and sponsors. If it's an election year, the spotlessly clean church hall is visited by political hopefuls.

To miss campaigning at a sour beef dinner is an act of political suicide in some parts of Baltimore.

"There have been times when we had so many people I had to close the door," Fader said.

The sour beef dinner will never have as many followers as an oyster-and-bull roast or crab feast, but it

remains a close cousin to these neighborhood events.

And like the oyster roasts, there is also the question of how much to eat.

"Years and years ago, we gave our diners four dumplings instead of three. But today, people are satisfied with three," Fader said.

If you're up for a sour beef dinner, this is the high point of the season. Here's a listing of some dinners.

Tonight and Thursday, Zion Lutheran Church, near City Hall Plaza and the city's oldest German congregation, holds its meal in the church basement at Holliday Street near Lexington Street. Dinner tonight lasts until 7 p.m.; lunch tomorrow is from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Christ Evangelical and Reformed Church, Beason and Decatur streets in Locust Point (South Baltimore near Fort McHenry), holds its dinner Nov. 2 from 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Nov. 3 from 11:30 a.m. until the food runs out. Some sour beef fanciers consider this to be one of the best events of its kind.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Roman Catholic Church, 3420 Foster Ave. in Highlandtown, holds its dinner Nov. 7 from 1 to 6 p.m. and Nov. 8 from 5 to 8 p.m. This is the largest sour beef dinner in Baltimore and there can be some waiting before you are served. The crowds do not seem to mind.

Sour Beer & Oktoberfest



Tinsel Sunday

Tinsel Sunday is United Evangelical's annual Christmas party tradition. The day starts with a children's program during worship and then after, moves to the Fellowship Hall for a "Happy Birthday, Jesus" party that includes crafting, Santa, and cake.



Easter

For years it was the tradition of the men of UEC to reenact the Last Supper in a Tableau.



In 2024 and 2025, United Evangelical hosted a 7 Last Words of Jesus Christ Good Friday Service with seminary students from Howard University School of Divinity and Lancaster Theological Seminary.



Church Picnic



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Acknowledgements and Thanks

Keeping a church running for 150 years is no small feat. We'd like to take the space to acknowledge and honor some of the volunteers who currently keep this church going on a regular basis.

Church Council

Patti Baier, Jennifer Borkman (President), Terri Bragg, Laura Crane, Pam Georgiadis, Calvin Gundlach (VP, Treasurer), Alissa Huber (Secretary), Travis Hogan, Josh Jankiewicz, Steven Jankiewicz

Altar Committee

Patti Baier, JoAnn Johnson, Trish Lewis

Children's Church

Carol Borkman, Alissa Huber

Worship Lectors

Terri Bragg, Kelli Crews, Kathryn Fair, Rev. Stephen Fair, Alissa Huber, Barb Matthew, Carol Rowell, Susan Rowell

Worship Greeter (and Giver of the Best Hugs)

Mae Savage

Additional Worship Volunteers

Aiden Borkman, Calvin Gundlach

Office and Building Volunteers

Bobby Brackett, Laura Crane, Travis Hogan, Kathy Miller

150th Anniversary Committee

Kathryn Fair, Rev. Stephen Fair, Pam Georgiadis, Rob Gundlach, Travis Hogan, Alissa Huber, Jeane Huber, Pam Koutsoutis, Pete Koutsoutis, Patricia Lewis.

Search and Call Committee

Terri Bragg, Laura Crane. Pam Georgiadis, Kate Gray, Calvin Gundlach, Travis Hogan, Alissa Huber, Shaniqua (NeNe) Jones, Pam Koutsoutis, Pete Koutsoutis.

UEC Staff

Rev. Dr. Marietta Hebert-Davis, Pastor

Robert Gundlach, Director of Music

Kelli J. Crews, Media Ministry Developer

Joshua Jankiewicz/Steven Jankiewicz, Media Ministry Team

Denise Glover/Abby Markowitz, Office Staff

In Loving Memory

UEC's oldest member, Mrs. Ameila Margaret Lamm, mother of Ms. John Lamm, passed on March 27, 2025 to be with our Lord at the age of 101 years old. Ameila was Baptized and Confirmed at First German United Evangelical Church at an early age and accepted and believed in Jesus Christ under Pastor Reverend William Batz.





**Dinner buffet at the
American
Legion Hall
begins at
5:30 pm.**

*(Catering by
Chesapeake Smoke Barbecue)*

Salad with Italian & Ranch dressings

Dinner rolls

Turkey and Ham

Kielbasa & Sauerkraut

Baked Ziti

Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Macaroni & Cheese

Corn

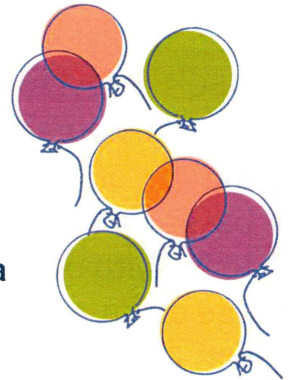
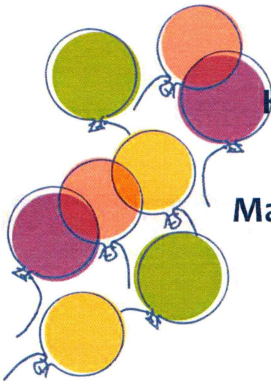
Green Beans

Anniversary Cake

Assorted Desserts

Soda, Water, Iced Tea

Coffee



Disclaimer Information about Alcohol:

There is a cash bar at the American Legion Hall. United Evangelical Church will is not providing alcoholic beverages at our 150th Church Anniversary Dinner; and takes no responsibility for any impairment due to the consumption of alcohol from any third-party provider. Any persons who choose to consume alcohol at the UEC Anniversary Dinner must be (21) years of age and older.



Anniversary Dinner Program



Gathering

Opening Prayer

Rev. Stephen Fair

Dinner

Introduction of Guests

Remarks from Guests

Historical Presentation

Raffle—Must be present to win!

Remarks and Presentation by Interim Pastor

Rev. Dr. Marietta Hebert-Davis

Announcements of Upcoming Events

Closing Prayer

Rev. Stephen Fair

Keep up with us!

Visit us at www.unitedevangelical.org
and at United Evangelical Church on
Facebook and Youtube.

Check out upcoming events, recent videos, photos and conversation.
To join our email mailing list, and receive announcements and
upcoming events, send us an email at uecucc@comcast.net.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10 am

*Services are in-person and streamed live on FaceBook.
Services are also uploaded to our Youtube channel.*

*Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of each
month. The communion table is open, without condition,
to all who wish to know the loving presence of Christ.*

*The church entrance is on East Avenue,
just north of Dillon Street.*

*No matter who you are, or where you are on
life's journey, you are welcome here.*



**UNITED
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