

UNITED EVANGELICAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
3200 DILLON STREET,
BALTIMORE, MD, 21224
(301) 276-0393

LOVE GIFTS, MEMORIALS,
AND SPECIAL PRAYERS
8-19-91

LOVE GIFTS

A long standing tradition at United has been to make love gifts as expressions of appreciation for the life and work of family members, members of the church, or in support of the mission of our community of faith. Inquirers have asked the Council how they can make these gifts and what kinds of gifts might be acceptable. This booklet will provide some direction for giving.

Should you wish to make a love gift, please call our church office at 276-0393 and speak with the Church Secretary. She will take down the information so that the gift can be listed in the church bulletin at your request. Some persons have asked for suggestions as to kinds of gifts which could be appropriate. Some gifts have a specific cost but most depend on the giver. For your information, we have listed some of these below.

THE UNITY CANDLE - UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Unity in the Community of Faith -to celebrate the anniversary date of your baptism or the unity of your family or household in the family of the church, you can request the lighting of the unity candle in a service of worship. The donation for lighting the candle ranges between \$10.00 and \$25.00.

Anniversary of a Marriage or Reaffirmation of Vows - to celebrate the anniversary date of your marriage or the reaffirmation of vows, you may request the lighting of the unity candle in a service of worship.

For those who have been married in the church in the previous week, the Unity Candle will be lighted on the succeeding Sunday in Celebration of the Wedding.

A GIFT OF CHURCH BULLETINS FOR SUNDAY

Church bulletins can be given as a love gift or memorial in appreciation for the work of the church, in memory of someone you love, or as a memorial to one called to the eternal life. The contribution for this varies with the size and length, cost of the bulletins, and the cost of printing but is approximately \$25.00.

GIFTS TO THE IMPROVEMENT FUND

Gifts can be given to the improvement fund for the purchase of equipment, the redecoration of the Sunday School, Church or Office or other needs in the building, for the purchase of a computer, the building of a wheelchair ramp and other improvement projects.

GIFTS AS AN EXPRESSION OF THANKS TO GOD FOR BLESSINGS

Gifts can be given as an expression of thanks to God for answered prayer, for healing, in celebration of a graduation from school or college, in thanks for help in securing a job or promotion, in thanks for the purchase of a house, or the finding of a new apartment, or the purchase of an automobile. Small or large, all gifts are appreciated. Remember Jesus' appreciation of the widow's mite.

LOVE GIFTS IN SUPPORT OF THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE CHURCH

Approximately fifty percent of our income comes from regular envelop gifts in support of our operating budget. Any additional gifts to support the budget are very much appreciated since we constantly run at a deficit. Please use the special envelopes in your box.

LOVE GIFTS IN SUPPORT OF THE POOR

United has a history of feeding the hungry and assisting those needing shelter, clothing, and medical or psychological care. We also run an emergency pantry and have special programs to assist those on welfare to find jobs. We currently meet special needs during the Christmas and Thanksgiving Seasons. Love gifts can be earmarked for this purpose.

PENNIES FOR HEAVEN

Each Sunday gifts of pennies will be received in a jar placed in the Narthex so that members can bring in their extra pennies in support of the youth work of the church including the confirmation class, youth groups, and for special programs for young people. Should you wish to make a larger gift, this can be given as a love gift and designated in remembrance of a son or daughter, and earmarked for this part of our mission.

THE LOVE GIFT OF PRAYER

"More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of". In the Narthex at the rear of the church is a sign up sheet so that persons who come to church can request prayers for individuals and situations. These will be remembered during the Worship Services and in the time of General Prayers.

MEMORIALS

For them death is past and pain has ended and they have entered the eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord

Should you wish to make a memorial in memory of a loved one, please call the Church Office at 276-0393 and talk with the Church Secretary.

Suggestions for Memorials include but are not limited to the following:

MEMORIAL CARDS AT THE FUNERAL HOME

When a loved one or friend passes away, we sometimes find it difficult to think of an appropriate or lasting expression of sympathy. Memorial Cards are an alternative or addition to flowers.

A Card and special envelope for your gift can be obtained from the church office or the funeral director. Just fill it out and deliver or mail the card to the family as you would a sympathy or Mass card. Please us a check. Place it in the envelope and clearly mark it. Mail or deliver the envelope to the church. Specify the person whose memory is being honored.

The family will be further notified by an announcement in the church bulletin that a donation has been made in memory of their loved one. For those who are not members of United Evangelical, an acknowledgement of the gift and a copy of the announcement of the gift in the bulletin will be mailed to them.

MEMORIAL REMEMBRANCE IN A SUNDAY SERVICE

We have established the tradition of making memorials in thanks to God for the gift of the lives of loved ones who have died. Memorials will be included in the church bulletin and can include those in remembrance of the anniversary date death of a loved one. Memorial prayers will be said in the worship service on that Sunday.

TOTENFEST OR ALL SAINTS DAY

Each year in November, a Sunday is set aside to remember those who have gone before us in the faith. A memorial bulletin is printed to list the names of all those whose family and friends wish to have them remembered. At this service all those who have been buried by the church in the current year, whether members or not, are remembered and their families are invited to this special service of remembrance. In the service of worship, a rose will be given

to a representative of each family who has lost a loved one.

MEMORIAL BOARD OF REMEMBRANCE

In the Narthex of the Church is a Memorial Board which lists the names of those whose families or friends wish to have them remembered. This board is also used to celebrate special events such as the life and work of a member or a gift to the church from a group. A plate is engraved with the name of the individual or group and date of celebration. In case of a death, the date will be engraved, and an announcement will be made when the plate is installed. Special memorial prayers will be said. The cost of the memorial is \$150.00.

MEMORIALS AT CHRISTMAS - THE CHRISTMAS FLOWER FUND

During the Christmas season a memorial bulletin is printed to enable members of the church and their friends to remember those who have gone before us in the faith. Christmas flowers to be displayed in the chancel may be given at this time in memory of a loved one and the flowers removed at the end of the service on Christmas Day. Often key members of families are remembered at this time including Grandmothers and Grandfathers, Aunts, Uncles, Mothers, Fathers, Brothers and Sisters, Sons and Daughters, Grandchildren, Friends, and others.

MEMORIALS AT EASTER - THE EASTER LILY FUND

At Easter a memorial bulletin is printed to enable members of the church and their friends to remember those who have gone before us in the faith. Lilies to be displayed in the chancel may be given at this time in memory of a loved one and the flowers removed at the end of the Easter Sunday Service. Often key members of families are remembered at this time including Grandmothers and Grandfathers, Aunts, Uncles, Mothers, Fathers, Sons and Daughters.

MOTHER'S DAY TRIBUTES

Each year a Mother-Daughter banquet is held prior to Mother's Day and a special Mother's Day Memorial Bulletin is published to honor living mothers and to remember the love of mothers who have been called to the eternal life. These names are remembered on Mother's Day with Special Prayers.

REMEMBERING FATHER ON FATHER'S DAY

A special Father's Day Memorial Bulletin is published each year to honor living fathers and to remember the love of fathers who have been called to the eternal life. These names are remembered on Father's Day with Special Prayers.

REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

The ongoing life of the church depends on contribution of members to the capital improvement of the buildings. One way of insuring building improvements and maintenance and that the mission of this great church will continue is to remember the church in your will. Should you need assistance in this matter, please call the church office and arrange a meeting with the Pastor or the President of the Council.