

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

ACTIVITY REPORT TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL
ROBERT M. ARMSTRONG, PASTOR
March 1, 1991 -March 31, 1991

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Church continues to make progress during this last month. Attendance for March was 19% over that during the month of March in 1990. While attendance is only one measure of our effectiveness, acceptance of the Lenten Program on Healing and Prayer in the New Testament is reflected in the 14% increase in attendance this year in comparison to last year's Wednesday evening attendance. This seems good when you consider the newness of this concept for many members of the congregation. Because of Pam Georgiadis schedule, the Lock-In program for our young people which we approved last Council meeting had to be moved from April 5, 1991 to April 12, 1991.

The new monthly program called Community Forum - Faith is Alive which you approved last meeting, was presented by Marty Clement to the congregation at the worship services on March 3 and 10, 1991. It will be tested through June of this year and will supplement the Bible classes which she leads. The new membership class will meet on April 11, 1991.

While our attendance for the Tableau showed a 14% increase over that of last year, we need to get with John Cain so as to get coverage for this and other events. That event is very special and should get stronger support from the community. We did get a good picture of the Blessing of the Palms but need a picture to promote the Tableau. Perhaps a Lenten advertisement next year will help us do a better job of promoting these events.

With the support of our Association and our colleagues in the other churches in the area, We were successful in changing the parking policy at Key Center. Members of the Council have received a copy of the letter from the President of that Hospital noting the change.

PROGRESS NOTES (These notes summarize progress in following a program recommended by the Pastor and presented to the Council in September 1990)

1. Systematic Approach to Ministry to the Shut-Ins

Due to Lenten activity, February brought an increase in

visits to shut-ins from 9 in February to 12 in March. Hospital visits increased from 10 in February to 15 in March. Paul Bauersfeld and I are starting back through our list of shut-ins so as to try to maintain a pace of one visit to each shut-in in each quarter of the year.

2. Preaching Planned in Advance

We have been able to maintain a schedule of preaching planned in advance and to change the bulletin board regularly. Judging by the increased church attendance, the focus of the preaching seems to have proved acceptable. Your Pastor had some questions about the reception of the prayer and healing program in Lent since it introduces a new concept. Attendance at these Wednesday services has increased 14% in comparison to the Lenten Series of last year.

3. Implementation of Faith is Alive

The faith alive program has included recognition of the contribution of Margaret Myrick in honor of her Faith Alive on March 3, Elizabeth Erdman on March 10, William Voelker on March 17, Helen Weininger on March 24, and Florence Gundlach on Easter Sunday, March 31, 1991.

4. Developing a Marketing Plan

The draft of the marketing plan needs to be reviewed by the New Members Committee next month so it can be formally presented to the Council in the May meeting. Copies of the plan have been prepared for the new Council members.

5. Pastoral Support of All Church Groups and Activities

The Pastor attended the meeting of the Brownie Troop which meets at the church. We have 22 girls who belong to this troop. We need to do a better job of coordinating their program with other programs in the church. This troop gives us the base for the building of a Girl Scout Troop in the future.

6. Confirmation Class

Confirmation Class for this year was concluded with an examination by Council members on March 14th and formal confirmation took place on Palm Sunday. Confirmands were invited to take their first Communion on Holy Thursday. Three members examined the eight Confirmands. Plans are underway for a Graduation trip to the Aquarium with Lois Long and the Pastor on April 6th and the inclusion of the Confirmands in the service of April 7 in which we honor the Confirmands in the Class of 1941.

7. Deepening the Spiritual and Prayer Life of the Church

The Prayer Group, led by Priscilla, meets on Tuesday evenings at 7:15 PM. in the Library of the Christian Education Building. Meeting there has proved to be of great value to the class in eliminating interruptions.

Sunday morning Bible Study led by Marty Clement has, for a number of reasons, continued to be small. It is hoped that now they have a permanent meeting place in Friendship Hall the group will be able to grow.

In response to interest expressed by various members, to open up some some new opportunities for our members and the community at large, Marty Clement is developing a plan for a monthly Community Forum -Faith is Alive -Series which she presented at our last meeting and then to the church on Sunday March 3rd. Our next event will be a program entitled "Our Church Speaks About War and Peace in the Middle East" and will be held on April 21, 1991 if we can secure our speaker. Programs are scheduled for Sunday, May 5th, and for Sunday, June 3, 1991.

8. Developing More Practical Assistance to Members and Neighbors Needing Assistance with Food, Clothing, and Shelter:

The Pastor has been working with SEEC (Southeast Emergency Committee) to insure more efficient use of our resources in helping those in need. He has spearheaded the development of a brochure which will be printed and distributed by SEEC to all members of our congregation and the Pastors and members of 24 churches serving our area.

In cooperation with the Canton Baptist Center, we have submitted a grant application to the Maryland Food Committee for a SUPER PANTRY. This program will be a one day a week effort to provide assistance to welfare mothers in order to get them off welfare. The program involves nutrition education, assistance in developing self-esteem, training in developing a job search, and assistance in using the available resources for health services and special education related to a job search. Support will be given members in the job search process. The grant has been acted upon and approved and financed by the Maryland Food Committee. We will review it with the Council before implementation. The plan is to begin this program on Friday October 4 and each Friday through November 1991.

9. Developing a Community "Think-Tank":

The Pastor is currently developing a "think-tank" group of key Pastors, Social Workers, and Administrators, which will give us input concerning the program planning of churches and community organizations in the area. This group will meet on

April 10 at St. Brigid's over lunch and to explore "what's happening" in our community and the social, health, and church organizations in Canton-Highlandtown. This will be an emphasis once we get past Lent. We need to develop a community Good Friday Service for next year to supplement the Blessing of the Palms which took place at O'Donnel Square this year.

OBSERVATIONS

1. Church Attendance

Church attendance statistics indicate that we are increasing our attendance at Sunday Morning Worship. In March we showed an increase of 19% for the month and a 14% increase in attendance at Lenten Services this season.

We need to continue to work at building our approach to the single young adults and to families who have children and who fall in the age range of 20 to 60 years of age. Currently we are working with five couples who are planning marriages in the church and have indicated a desire to attend worship services. Our membership class consists of William McGinty, Dawn Bridges, Dave Baker, Patricia Canapp, Ann Hager, Tony Picorello, Chris Baker and Shelia Birmingham, Deborah Blunt and Emma McLewee. We are attempting to involve William Rugemer and Alice Leftridge and Jennine Champainy and Lonnie Holmes.

2. New Committees to Meet

The Committee on the serving of alcoholic beverages in the church itself as well as in programs sponsored by the church. the Church and on Fundraising was appointed (see attached).

The Committee to review our present fund-raising strategy and to develop a strategy for new methods of fund-raising at United was appointed (see attached).

These two groups are made up of Council members and ad-hoc members including interested persons from the congregation as a whole. They are limited to about seven persons each. Each of these groups will prepare and submit a written report for review by the Council.

The Church has been informed about the membership of the Committees and they we will be convening this month.

3. Assisting Older Members to Remain at Home

This program will be presented as part of our Faith is Alive-Community Forum on June 2, 1991 at 9:15AM. The program will provide technical information for those interested in using potential resources of the city, state, and the hospital

systems. This project was slowed up by work on the current projects of the Church and the Lenten program.

4. Recruiting Youth Group Leaders

Pam Georgeadis has agreed to be the Intermediate Youth Group Leader joining Lois Long who now meets with the Confirmands. In various conversations, it is apparent that we have a need for leadership for a young adult group. At the last meeting we attached for your review, we have a plan for a Lock-In program in the Spring on April 5th. Because of Pam's schedule it was moved to April 12th. The program will include a spiritual lesson, physical activity, games and some self development programs. I will be involved with the spiritual lesson relative to Easter.

5. Acquiring a Computer

Harvey Jacobs is leading us in thinking about the use of a computer to enhance the administration of our church. While this project was put on a back burner because of the development of the Church Directory, we are now ready to move forward with it as a part of the redesign of the office.

6. Church Directory

These are now being printed.

7. Membership on the United Chesapeake Center Board:

The attached materials help to explain the work of the United Chesapeake Center Housing project. Your Pastor is now on that Board. The project is being interpreted to our church and the ground breaking will be on October 27, 1991. Church members are encouraged to get their names on the waiting list.

8. Promoting the INDECCO PROJECT

On April 18 and 19th, we will be signing Senior Citizens up for this project as per previous discussions (see insert). This project will rent apartments for \$210 to \$300 per month. Ruth Beckwith and Grace Fader will help welcome the 125 persons who have expressed interest in signing up for this low income housing opportunity. For us it means an opportunity to meet potential new neighbors who might be interested in our church.

9. Changing the Parking Policy at Key Center

Our efforts to change the parking policy for clergy at the Key Medical Center have been successful. The support of Dr. Hamilton and other clergy in our community was essential to the successful conclusion of this issue. Members of the Council received copies of the letter re this policy change.

10. Repair of the Church Clock

Thanks to Harvey Jacob, the parts for the tower clock have been machined in his plant. Harvey and Ben Long installed the mechanism in the clock and now the clock not only strikes but also lets people in the neighborhood see the time. With Harvey's leadership and personal effort through Bob Bishop, John Strong, and Ben Long, the lighting for the clock has also been maintained.

11. Church Repair Projects

With the leadership of Sam Jones, Jim Talagsen, John Strong, Art Jones, Henry Will, George Hammerbacher, Ben Long, Robert Gundlach, Wayne Schaefer, Jim Slecta and others a number of major repair and maintenance projects have been undertaken. These include seeing to the cleaning of the rugs in the sanctuary and offices, the communion silverware, and the maintenance of the washing machine in the parsonage. The men of the church have been instrumental in setting up and removing staging for the Tableau, preparing the Sanctuary for Easter, setting up tables for Lenten special events, closing the building, opening the buildings and maintaining access to the parking lot. The women, (notably Marty Craig and her daughter) have contributed immeasurably in providing the new Church banner for the Blessing of the Palms, (Elizabeth Erdman and Helen) setting up and taking down the Altar, and the delicious cooking which led to additional financial contributions to the Church.

12. Church School Easter Event

The Church School under the leadership of Carol Rowell and Ed Meyers and the staff had a wonderful Easter event for the children which included a special movie, Easter eggs, and a gift of crosses. We thank each and every one of them for their diligent work on behalf of the children. Lynn Sanders led the Children's Choir in a number of presentations throughout Lent. This was capped by their special music on Easter Day at the 10:00 AM service.

13. Through Wonderful Music the Choir Contributed Joy to the Season

Rob Gundlach did an outstanding job in providing the leadership of our music during the entire Lenten Series and on Easter. In his support of the Children's Choir, leadership of the Senior Choir, and development of our soloists, and his musicianship, our people were blessed again with fine music.

14. Thank you Millie and Grace

All of us deeply appreciate the hard work of Millie Slehta during this Lenten season, in getting out the many bulletins, the Memorial Booklet, and handling a very busy telephone (and she did it while testing out typewriters and answering a very busy door.) We appreciate Grace' work in reception and in answering the telephone especially on April 1st so the Pastor could have a day off. We also thank her for copying this report for the Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Complete the review of the marketing plan at the next meeting of the New Members Committee.

2. Time for Testing

The Faith is Alive program, Celebration of the Anniversary Date of Baptisms, and more intensive baptism counselling sessions seem to be working. These need more time for testing out. The new focus will be in recognizing those who teach Sunday School. We need to build a closer working relationship between the Sunday School and the Church and find new ways to teach children the importance of Sunday worship in the church.

3. Strengthening Our Youth Program

Effort needs to be made to recruit a new youth leader for the young adult group.

4. New Member's Class

A new member's class ^{will begin} began to meet on Thursday evening April 11, 1991 at the church at 7:30 PM. Four persons attended the first meeting. We plan to have three meetings of this class prior to accepting these new persons as a part of the church.

5. Rehabilitation of the Office

Last meeting we spent much time in discussion operating problems in developing our church office. With Sam Jones assistance, we have acquired a new typewriter for Millie. This was a very valuable contribution to our mission. He has also be of assistance in looking into the purchase of a new copy machine. To save time in the future, your Pastor recommends that a plan for the office be developed by a committee consisting of no more than five persons and that the final plan be presented to Council at a future meeting. It this way much of the thinking will be done outside our meeting and our time in the meeting can be used more efficiently. The Committee needs to consider the most effective way to organize the office, recommendations for its redecorating, to suggest new desk and chair equipment, the location and placement of that equipment, a color scheme for painting and decorating and the integration of files and equipment such as the new computer into our plan. Underlying such a plan should be a fiscal plan for implementation and recommendations for financing.

6. Rental of Fellowship Hall to the Montessori School

On Tuesday March 19, Harvey Jacob, Sam Jones, Jim Talagsen and the Pastor met with Marsha Hettinger, to review the

possibility of renting space in Fellowship Hall to the Montessori School. Marsha is the Administrator of the Montessori Society of Baltimore. This is an international program to provide advanced education for children 3-6 years of age. The program provides reading, mathematics, a foreign language (French), physical education, and library training for these children. Currently, we are one of two sites being considered for this purpose. If we were able to make an arrangement with the School, we might have the opportunity to reach some families with children in the new Harbor apartments, town houses and condominiums. In addition, we might be also be able to reach the families of children of faculty members at Johns Hopkins. The possibility of such a rental to this or another appropriate group requires that Council approve such an effort to rent with the understanding that each contract with a service organization of this type would have to be reviewed and approved by Council.

7. Better Response from the Guide

While we showed an increase in attendance for the Tableau of 14%, we did not get adequate publicity from the Guide. We did receive good publicity for the Blessing of the Palms (see insert), however, and for our Dance Class. These produced good attendance at the events. We need to take the Editor John Cain to lunch so we can establish a better working relationship with him. It may be helpful to take a big Lenten advertisement out next year listing all our Lenten Programs and using a picture of the Tableau as the centerpiece.

STATISTICAL REPORT
March 1991

	Total
VISITS TO SHUT-INS =9; calls=3	<u>12</u>
Ruby Lambert 3-3	
Lillian Walsh 3-12 Call	
Lillian Walsh 3-13	
Margaret Waltimeyer- Admission to Canton N.H. 3-13	
Cathrine Lambert 3-12 Communion	
Donna Pate 3-12 Communion	
Lillian Walsh 3-13	
Julius Will Call re Visit 3-21	
Julius Will Call re Visit 3-25	
Michael Cerko 3-29	
Margaret Waltimeyer 3-29 Canton N.H.	
Lillian Walsh 3-31	
VISITS TO HOSPITALS= 15;calls=0	<u>15</u>
Paul Doering Key Center 3-3	
Andrew Rupalt Key Center 3-3	
Cathrine Stevens Key Center 3-3	
Ody Doering Franklin Square 3-17	
Darlene Watters Church Home 3-19	
Darlene Watters Church Home 3-20	
Ronald Mack VA Hospital 3-20	
George Tuerk Mercy 3-20	
Cathrine Stevens Key Center 3-21	
Ody Doering Franklin Square 3-21	
Andrew Rupalt Key Center 3-21	
Ruby Lambert Key Center 3-29	
Donna Pate GBMC 3-29	
Andrew Rupalt 3-29 Key	
Edna Oberlander 3-30 Mercy	
COMMITTEE MEETINGS	<u>1</u>
Florence Gundlach-Grace Fader 1941 Confirmation	
COUNCIL MEETINGS	<u>1</u>
Seventh Meeting 3-5	
ADMINISTRATIVE MEETINGS	<u>8</u>
Blessing of the Palms 3-4	
Dick Peterson- Young Life 3-8	
Marty Clement - Community Forum 3-8	
Harvey Jacob - 3-12 Planning	
William Gonce 3-14 Planning Call	
Bill Voelker Consultation 3-20	
Marsha Hettinger Montessorri School 3-19	
Young Life 3-18	
COUNCIL MEMBER INTERVIEWS	<u>0</u>

GROUP MEETINGS	<u>15</u>
SEEC Meeting	
Lenten Service 3-6	
Confirmation 3-7	
SEEC "Bugs Committee" 3-8	
Membership Class 3-12	
Lenten Service 3-6	
Lenten Service 3-13	
Confirmation 3-14	
Confirmation 3-21	
SEEC "Bugs Committee" 3-22	
SEEC Super Pantry Committee 3-22	
Blessing of the Palms 3-24	
Tableau 3-27	
Tenebrae 3-28	
Good Friday 3-29	
BAPTISMS=0, Counselling=1	<u>1</u>
Shelia Burlingham-Chris Baker Counselling	
WEDDINGS=0, Counselling=8	<u>8</u>
Kathleen Klinetob 3=2 Counselling	
William Rugemer Call 3-6 Counselling	
Jeanine Chapainy-Lonny Holmes 3-8 Counselling	
Mary Long 3-14 Counselling	
Amy Hager-Tony Picarello 3-13 Counselling	
Dave Baker-Pat Cannapp 3-26 Counselling	
Mary Long Call 3-19 Counselling	
FUNERALS=3, Visit to Funeral Home=0; Counselling=4	<u>7</u>
Charles Kanely call to daughter 3-2	
Charles Kanely CVAK Funeral at Church 3-4	
Earnest Dimmick call to daughter 3-4	
Earnest Dimmick Funeral Connely 3-6	
Paul Doering call to Marcella 3-5	
Paul Doering Funeral Connely 3-7	
Charles Kanely -Charles Stack Organist 3-2	
COUNSELLING SESSIONS	<u>8</u>
CONFERENCE MEETINGS	0

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE - MARCH 1991

<u>8:00AM</u>	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>	<u>4th</u>	<u>5th</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Net</u>
1990	56	53	50	55	00		214
1991	68	64	53	67	00		252
Net	+12	+11	+03	+12	00		+ 38
<u>10:30AM</u>	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>	<u>4th</u>	<u>5th</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Net</u>
1990	74	116	90	137	00		417
1991	91	92	93	221	00		497
Net	+17	-24	+03	+ 84	00		+ 80
Net 1990-1991	+29	-13	+06	+96			+118

LENTEN SERVICES BEGINNING WEDNESDAY MARCH 6TH

<u>7:30PM</u>	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>	<u>Total</u>
1990	60	65	49	174
1991	72	41	64	177
Net	+ 12	-24	+15	+ 3

Total +29 -13 +06 +96 +118 +121
 (March -Four Sundays Plus three Wednesdays in Lent -excludes
 Tableau, Holy Thursday, and Good Friday and Easter - see
 below)

% Change in Sunday attendance for March = +19%

% Change in attendance for Lenten services in March =14%
 first six weeks.

COMPARISON OF EASTER AND PALM SUNDAY 1990-1991 (Two Services)

<u>Palm Sunday 1990</u>	= 260	<u>Easter 1990</u>	= 248
<u>Palm Sunday 1991</u>	= 288	<u>Easter 1991</u>	= 248
Net	+28		0
(or 11% increase)		(or 0%)	

COMPARISON OF HOLY THURSDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY 1990-1991

<u>Holy Thursday 1990</u>	= 77	<u>Good Friday</u>	= 23
<u>Holy Thursday 1991</u>	= 87	<u>Good Friday</u>	= 65
Net	+ 10		+42
(or 13% increase)		(or 55% % increase)	

COMPARISON OF TABLEAU 1990-1991

<u>Tableau 1990</u>	= 118
<u>Tableau 1991</u>	= 134
Net	+ 16 (or 14% increase)

COMPARISON LENT SERIES ATTENDANCE IN 1990 - 1991
SIX WEEKS

<u>1990</u>	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>	<u>4th</u>	<u>5th</u>	<u>6th</u>	<u>Total</u>
	$\frac{88}{}$	$\frac{60}{}$	$\frac{65}{}$	$\frac{49}{}$	$\frac{60}{}$	$\frac{37}{}$	$\frac{359}{}$
<u>1991</u>	$\frac{96}{}$	$\frac{61}{}$	$\frac{76}{}$	$\frac{72}{}$	$\frac{41}{}$	$\frac{64}{}$	$\frac{410}{}$
<u>Net</u>	$\frac{+8}{}$	$\frac{+1}{}$	$\frac{+11}{}$	$\frac{+23}{}$	$\frac{-19}{}$	$\frac{+27}{}$	$\frac{+51}{}$

% Change in Series = 14% increase



CANTON CLERGY LEAD PALM SUNDAY CELEBRATION-Clergy from four Canton churches celebrated blessing of palms on O'Donnell Square marking the beginning of Palm Sunday and Holy Week. Leading the worship service were, from the left: Rev. Lee Hudson, Messiah Lutheran Church; Fr. Joseph Bochenek, St. Brigid's Catholic Church; Rev. Carol Cole Flanagan, Chapel of the Holy Evangelists; Rev. Robert Armstrong, United Evangelical Church; and Rev. Miguel Vilar, Hispanic Missioner of Maryland.

Photo by John Cain

UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH
3200 DILLON STREET,
BALTIMORE, MD, 21204
(301) 276-0393
(301) 276-0621

SPECIAL COMMITTEES - 1991

COMMITTEE ON ALCOHOLISM: The purpose of this committee is to study the issue of the use of alcoholic beverages by members of our church and its use in activities sponsored by the church and to make recommendations to the Church Council for a policy regarding this matter. These recommendations will be sent to the Council for its review and response.

Members:	Address:	Phone:
1. Sharon Daniloski	908 S. Fagley St.	342-8153
2. Arthur Jones	7235 Gough St.	Unpublished (not to be given out)
3. Fred Long	903 S. Conkling St.	276-0364
4. Lena Manning	738 S. Linwood Ave.	327-8848
5. Lynn Sanders	407 S. Robinson St.	675-4459
6. Lori Stinchcomb	2905 Fait Ave.	732-4668
7. Dale Sanders	407 S. Robinson St.	675-4459

COMMITTEE ON FUND RAISING STRATEGY: The purpose of this committee is to study current methods of fund raising and to study and recommend new methods of insuring the continued ministry of the church. These recommendations will be forwarded to the Church Council for study and review.

Members:	Address:	Phone:
1. Ruth Beckwith	2 Warren Lodge Ct. Apt. C	666-9459
2. Grace Fader	3602 Foster Ave.	675-5906
3. George Hammerbacher	4 Veitch Ct.	256-4356
4. Harvey Jacob	2361 Boston St.	675-3146
5. Sam Jones	1618 Ellingson Rd.	687-1946
6. Jim Talagsen	92 Kingston Park Lane	686-6723
7. Bill Single	5501 Daybreak Terrace	866-2159
8. Bill Voelker	270 S. East Ave.	342-2875