

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

ACTIVITY REPORT TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL
ROBERT M. ARMSTRONG, PASTOR
June 1, 1991 -June 30, 1991

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Church continues to make progress during this last month. Attendance for June was 23% over that during the month of June in 1990.

Our Vacation Bible School this year included the combined cooperation of St. Brigid's, Messiah Lutheran, Holy Evangelists (only in sponsorship), and United. This idea came out of our "Think-Tank" Ministerium which met on Wednesday, May 8, 1991 at our Church. Pastors from St. Brigid's, Messiah, Canton Baptist, and I were involved along with children and teachers from the various churches. Approximately eighty children were involved. The school ran from June 24 -June 29th. The program served over 80 children. This was an exciting and very satisfying program. There was ample volunteer help to carry out the program. It will be followed up by a Retreat for Pastors which will be held on July 3rd so that we can plan the fall program. That program will include preaching for each other.

Plans for the redesign of the office and the purchase of a computer are in the formative stage.

A Plan to manage the budget for the last six months of 1991 and deal with the deficit was received and approved by our Council at its last meeting on June 4th.

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

June showed 5 in May compared to 10 in June. Hospital visits also showed 12 in May and 20 in June. 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. This however, has been too many to sustain and especially in June.

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. Attendance increased by 23% during the months of June when compared to June 1990. Judging by church attendance, the focus of the preaching seems to have proved acceptable.

3. Implementation of Faith is Alive

The faith alive program has included recognition of the contribution of Marie Ickrath, guest and Community Forum Volunteer and Lillian Sauer on June 2nd, The Rev. David Cockcroft, guest Pastor on June 9th, Carol Borkman June 16, Etta Kahler and William Gonce, guest, on June 23rd, and Gina Long on June 30th.

4. Pastoral Support of All Church Groups and Activities

The Pastor attended the Dinner of the Shot Tower District, Boy Scouts of America on Saturday, June 15, 1991.

5. Deepening the Spiritual and Prayer Life of the Church

The Prayer Group, Bible Study Groups, and Community Forum led by Priscilla and Marty are preparing a promotional brochure for your review and approval in preparation for the fall season.

6. 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. Attached is a copy of the brochure developed by the Pastor and the "Bugs Committee" of SEEC to enable members of churches in the community to refer those who need help with food, clothing, or shelter. Referrals are made to the SEEC office for screening. Note that an emergency number is provided. A number is also provided to help those who request help on weekends or after 4:30PM.

In cooperation with the Maryland Food Committee, Canton Baptist Center and SEEC, we are part of a grant from the Maryland Food Committee for a SUPER PANTRY. Work on this program is continuing.

7. Developing a Community "Think-Tank":

The Pastor has developed 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 currently consists of Rev. Joe Bohenic, Rev. Lee Hudson, Rev. Carol Flannagan, Betty Brocato (Office Manager at St. Brigid's), Pat Skarupa,

Parish Visitor at St. Brigid's, Rev. John Spencer, of the Canton Baptist Church and myself. It will meet on July 3rd for a day long retreat at St. John's Church. One proposal is for a pupit exchange in beginning in September of this year.

OBSERVATIONS

1. Church Attendance, New Members Class, New Members Committee

a. Attendance

Church attendance statistics indicate that in June our attendance at Sunday Morning Worship increased by 23%.

b. New Members Class

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. This summer we will form a new members class.

c. New Members Committee

The Committee has recommended a "Bring A Friend to Church Sunday" and that we develop more imaginative advertising in the "Guide". It also recommended that we find out about new people moving into the community, and develop an "Ask the Pastor" column in the "Guide". Other ideas are also being explored and will be reviewed at subsequent meetings.

2. New Committees to Meet

a. Committee on the Serving of Alcoholic Beverages:

The Committee on the serving of alcoholic beverages in the church itself as well as in programs sponsored by the Church met again on June 26, 1991 at 7:30PM. This Committee developed a GUIDELINE FOR CHURCH MEMBERS ("Followers of the Way") on the use of alcohol in order to see if we can get a consensus on this matter in the church. To accomplish this a Guideline for Church Members was prepared and studied by committee members. Next steps include the development of a method by which we can involve the congregation in both the study of the scriptures regarding this matter and the study of the suggested guideline developed by the members of the committee.

b. Committee on Fundraising

The Committee to review our present fund-raising strategy and to develop a strategy for new methods of fund-raising at United was not able to meet this month. Work is proceeding on our brochure re Memorials and Love Gifts and will be completed over the summer. At our last meeting, our Council agreed to the following new fundraising projects - a Dinner Dance, Collect "Pennies for Heaven", and Sell Entertainment

Books at Christmas time. In reviewing the budget, we agreed that a Capital and Equipment Budget needed to be developed for next year.

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.

The Church has been informed about the membership of the Committees and members from the congregation have been invited to serve.

3. Acquiring a Computer and Office Re-design

Harvey Jacob 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. Members of the committee include Harvey Jacob, Millie Slecta, Grace Fader, Sam Jones, and George Hammerbacher.

4. Church Directory

We expect to receive the Directories in July.

5. Church Repair Projects

With the leadership of Sam Jones, we have researched the safety of the electrical system in the parsonage. Two replacement air conditioners were purchased - one for the office and one for the parsonage.

6. Communication to the Members re the Deficit

Cal Gundlach, Fred Long, and Harvey Jacob met to plan regarding reporting to the congregation about the deficit. The first report was made on June 30th at the time of concerns.

7. Development of a Teaching Tool Regarding Marriage

Attached you will find a new teaching tool which the Pastor has created to be use for pre-marital counselling. It is distributed for your review and comments. Note that Jesus had little to say about marriage and the family but a great deal to say about his gift of "eternal life".

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. 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. We have added the Unity Candle lighting to celebrate the wedding anniversary of members, a

reaffirmation of wedding vows, their affiliation with the church as members, the anniversary date of their baptism, or other celebrations of their unity with our household of faith. These need more time for testing out to see if they are effective. A 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. Rehabilitation of the Office

With Sam Jones assistance, we have acquired a new air conditioner for Millie. This was a very valuable contribution to our mission. The Committee needs to consider the most effective way to organize the office, to make recommendations for its redecorating, to purchase a new computer and 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 into our plan. Underlying such a plan should be a fiscal plan for implementation and recommendations for financing. Harvey has distributed planning kits to members of the committee.

5. Approval of the Fall Program on Deepening Our Spiritual Life

Attached for your review and approval, we have a draft of an announcement of the fall program designed to deepen the spiritual life of our church.

6. Approval of a Pulpit Exchange with our "Think-Tank" Colleagues

We have a proposal for your approval from the "Think-Tank" for a pulpit exchange for the fall 1991 involving St. Brigid's, Holy Evangelists, Messiah Lutheran, and Canton Baptist Churches.

7. Approval of Use of Building for a SEEC Seminar on Conflict Management July 12, 1991

8. Proposal of a new fall program called "New Creations" -designed to help those who have suffered woundedness in the course of living and to reach out to new persons who may be interested in joining our church.

9. Request approval for formation of a parish visitors group (see proposal)

STATISTICAL REPORT
June 1991

Total

VISITS TO SHUT-INS =5; calls=4 10
 Pomella Henning 5-11
 Charles Walters (Sonny) 6-3
 Rosemary Clapin 6-3 Call
 Harvey Jacob 6-3 Call
 Millie Slechta 6-3 Call
 Lois Schwait Manor Care 6-5 re George Tuerk
 George Tuerk 6-5
 Edna Miller 6-12
 Pomela Henning 6-14
 Mariana Carrigan 6-27

VISITS TO HOSPITALS=16;calls=4 20
 Catherine Steever - St. Joseph's 6-3
 George Dimick - Johns Hopkins 6-3
 David Jones - Shock Trauma 6-5
 Catherine Steever - St. Joseph's 6-5
 George Dimick - Johns Hopkins 6-11
 David Jones - Shock Trauma 6-10
 Sherry Moressey re Cass Meyers 6-17 Call
 Cass Meyers - Pennsylvania re Ed Meyers 6-17 Call
 George Dimick - John's Hopkins 6-20
 David Jones - Sinai 6-20
 Linda Loudermilk 6-23 Counselling re Danny Loudermilk
 Linda Loudermilk 6-24 Counselling re Danny Loudermilk
 Danny Loudermilk Key Center 6-24
 Ed McGovern Mercy 6-24
 Ethel Ross Good Sam 6-26
 Myrlin Navarro 6-26 Visit at Hopkins re D. Loudermilk
 Danny Loudermilk Key Center 6-26
 David Jones Sinai 6-27
 Edward McGovern Mercy 6-27
 Danny Loudermilk Key Center 6-29
 Danny Loudermilk Key Center 6-30

COMMITTEE MEETINGS 1
 Committee on Alcohol Policy 6-26

COUNCIL MEETINGS 1
 Nineth Meeting 6-4

ADMINISTRATIVE MEETINGS 10
 Vacation Bible School 6-4
 Mark Grutkowski Guide 6-4 Guide Call
 Association Ministerium 6-6
 Bill Voelker - Review 6-7
 Think-Tank John Cain 6-12
 Robin Luetke - Guide 6-13
 Vacation Bible School 6-18

Bill Gonce - 6-18 Call
United Chesapeake Center 6-18
Superpantry 6-20

COUNCIL MEMBER INTERVIEWS

0

GROUP MEETINGS

9

Crab Cake Luncheon 6-7
Crab Cake Supper 6-7
SEEC 6-7 St. Casimir's
Shot Tower Scouts Dinner 6-8
Vacation Bible School 6-24
Vacation Bible School 6-25
Vacation Bible School 6-26
Vacation Bible School 6-27
Vacation Bible School 6-29

BAPTISMS=1, Counselling=2

3

Victoria Bond 6-2
Robert Bond-Sherry Bond 6-2 Counselling
Margaret Price 6-9

WEDDINGS=1, Counselling=5

7

Shelly Bielski-Frank Short-Counselling-6-13
Lambert-Bishop Rehearsal 6-20 Counselling
Lambert-Bishop Wedding 6-22
Tina Oppel 6-25 Call Counselling
Tracy Shaw Counselling 6-25
Stacy Pomphrey - Counselling 6-27
Marie Peterson - Counselling 6-28

FUNERALS=4, Visit to Funeral Home=0; Counselling=4

8

Thelma Rief Skarda 6-6 Call
Thelma Rief- Skarda-Hoffman 6-10 Funeral
Mildred Benner - Skarda-Hoffman 6-17 Call
Mildred Benner - Skarda-Hoffman 6-19 Funeral
Harry Liebig Matthews 6-20 Call
Harry Liebig Matthews 6-21 Funeral
George Dimick 6-25 Zeiler Call
George Dimick 6-28 Church Funeral

COUNSELLING SESSIONS

4

Amy Picarello (3 calls) 6-9
Kimberly McNeal 6-23
Amy & Tony Picarello 6-16
Amy Picarello 6-25

CONFERENCE MEETINGS

0

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE - June 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	40	53	42	39	00		174
1991	50	58	55	47	00		210
Net	+10	+ 5	+13	+ 8	00		+ 36
<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	79	75	59	64			277
1991	92	98	85	103	00		378
Net	+13	+ 23	+ 26	+ 39	00		+101
Net 1990-1991	+23	+ 28	+ 39	+ 47	00		+137

1990-1991 % Change June

% Change in Sunday attendance for June = +23%.

COMPARISON JANUARY TO JUNE - 1990 AND 1991 TOTALS

		<u>FOR THE MONTH</u>			
<u>1990-</u>	<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>FEBRUARY</u>	<u>MARCH</u>	<u>APRIL</u>	<u>May</u>
1991	+42	+77	+118	-232	+84
%	+9.2%	+14%	+19%	-19%	+15%

For the period January - June 1991, with the exception of April, we show a consistant increase in monthly attendance to date in 1991.