

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

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

SUMMARY AND HIGHLIGHTS

The Church continues to make progress during this last month. Attendance for August was 4% over that during the month of August in 1990.

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

We began to share the deficit with the membership each Sunday. Cal Gundlach has given Millie the figures for our performance for reporting in the weekly bulletins. Harvey and I began to think about the plan for the Dinner Dance for the fall and set the tentative date for Saturday November 3, 1991. I have discussed with Bill and Ruth Voelker the possibility of leading this activity. Ruth Beckwith is proceeding to secure Entertainment Books for Sale and on Sunday, September 1st we introduced the Pennies for Heaven program. The booklet describing the Memorial and Gift Programs is attached. In addition, for your information, our Treasurer, Fred Long prepared the attached analysis of our cumulative income to date using a method developed by Lou Parker. It compares our performance in 1991 with that of previous years.

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

VISITS TO SHUT-INS =2;calls=3	JULY	5
VISITS TO SHUT-INS =8;calls=4	AUGUST	<u>12</u>
VISITS TO HOSPITALS=8;calls=0	JULY	8
VISITS TO HOSPITALS=17;calls=0	AUGUST	<u>17</u>

Paul Bauersfeld and I were unable to maintain our schedule of visits in August partly because of the holiday and vacation schedules and partly because of the intense heat.

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 4% during the month of August when compared to August 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 Henry Will on August 4th, Sam Jones, Jim Talagsen, and Helen Bogucci, on August 11th, Rosemary Clapin on August 18, and Marcella Surdel on August 25.

4. Pastoral Support of Church Groups and Activities

The Pastor attended the Lock-In for Young People on August 23rd and presented a lesson. He planned to attend Bowling on August 22nd but was called to the Good Sam hospital for Anna Price's surgery.

5. Deepening the Spiritual and Prayer Life of the Church

The Prayer Group, Bible Study Groups, and Community Forum led by Priscilla and Marty have prepared a promotional brochure which you reviewed and approved in preparation for the fall season. This brochure was distributed on Sunday, August 25th.

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. The brochure developed by the Pastor and the "Bugs Committee" of SEEC was distributed to our members at the August 7th church service to enable them 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 4:30 PM.

We are part of a grant from the Maryland Food Committee for a SUPERPANTRY. On Sunday August 25th, we announced the availability of a job for a Child Care Worker Fridays in the Fall beginning October 4, 1991 (9:00-2:30 PM). We also inserted an ad in the Guide announcing the availability of this position.

7. Developing a Community "Think-Tank":

The "think-tank" group of Pastors, Social Workers, and Administrators has not met over the summer. We have promoted

the Head Start Program to be hosted by St. Brigid's in October 1991.

OBSERVATIONS

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

a. Attendance

Church attendance statistics indicate that in August our attendance at Sunday Morning Worship increased by 24%.

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 formed a new members class. The first meeting was on August 7th but was not effective. The next new members class will be on Sunday September 15th and 22nd at 9:30AM. New members will be received on September 22, 1991 at 10:30 AM.

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. In the absence of our chair, Harvey Jacob, our work has been delayed until September.

2. New Committees

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 is going to meet again on September 18, 1991 at 7:30 PM. 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 was completed

over the summer and is ready for your review tonight. In our June 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. Jim Slechta has Surgery

We are sorry to report that on Sunday, August 18th, Jim went to the GBMC Hospital to have a serious operation on his tongue. On Wednesday August 28th, he went home. Both the work of the Pastor and Millie has been effected by his illness. Jim Talagsen has seen to it that the church is ready for Sunday. We want to be as supportive as possible to Millie and Jim at this time in their lives.

5. Church Repair Projects

With the leadership of Sam Jones, the church office was reorganized during Millie Slechta's vacation. With the help of Ben Long and John Strong old furniture and files were removed. Diane and Jenifer Borkman washed the walls of the Office and the Rest Room. Henry Will gave us two new files. Ruth Beckwith worked with me on the design of a Record Retention Policy.

6. Communication to the Members re the Deficit

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

7. Our Youth Program

Pam Georgiadis had a Lock-In for August 23rd. This program was advertised in our Bulletin in August. Seventeen young people attended and had a very satisfying program. I did a

program on dealing with conflict. Pam did an outstanding job for our young people and we thank her.

8. Meeting with Dr. Thomas Hamilton, Conference Minister

I met with Dr. Hamilton to review our strategy and to pick up his input and evaluation. I shared our July Report with him. In addition, I showed him around the area so that he could see its strength and the great promise for the future of our church. Tom was pleased with our progress and offered to preach for us on November 10th.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Results of Program

The Faith is Alive program seem to be working and should be continued. 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. This program also shows promise. The celebration of the Anniversary Date of Baptisms, and more intensive baptism counselling sessions do not seem to be productive. These will now be dropped.

2. Rehabilitation of the Office

With Sam Jones leadership, we will be completing the office as Millie gets past her needed support to Jim following his surgery. Marty Craig has made new drapes for the Office and Rest Room and will install these when the walls are painted.

3. Review of the Work of the Pastor

It is important that we conduct an annual evaluation of the work of the Pastor to be sure that we pick up the input from the Council as we plan the program and strategy for this next year.

4. Complete Record Retention Policy for Review and Approval by the Council.

5. Develop for Review and Approval by the Council a Draft Proposal of Strategy for 1991-1992 Program Year.

STATISTICAL REPORT
August 1991

	Total
VISITS TO SHUT-INS =8; Calls=4	<u>12</u>
Magdaline Oeh Greenery NH 8-8	
Margaret Fitzberger Greenery NH 8-8	
Minnie Crawford Greenery NH 8-8	
Julius Will Call 8-9	
Roberta Deasel Call 8-9	
Jessie Bradford Call 8-9	
Augusta Davis 8-9	
Margaret Hannon 8-9	
Howard Jenkins 8-9	
John Finnerty Call 8-14	
Wil Mac Glen Meadows 8-16	
May Goetz Manor Care 8-21	
VISITS TO HOSPITALS=17;calls=0	<u>17</u>
David Jones Sinai 8-1	
Ed McGovern Mercy 8-8	
Sadie Zinn Key Center 8-13	
Ed McGovern Mercy 8-14	
David Jones Sinai 8-14	
Jim Slecta GBMC 8-18	
Jim Slecta GBMC 8-19	
Anna Price Good Sam 8-19	
Mini Bark Franklin Sq 8-19	
Jim Slecta GBMC 8-20	
Roy Jones Franklin Sq 8-21	
Mini Bark Franklin Sq 8-21	
David Jones Sinai 8-21	
Ed McGovern Mercy 8-22	
Anna Price Good Sam 8-22	
Anna Price Good Sam 8-23	
Elaine Smith Church Home 8-23	
COMMITTEE MEETINGS	<u>0</u>
COUNCIL MEETINGS	<u>1</u>
Tenth Meeting 9-3	
ADMINISTRATIVE MEETINGS	<u>11</u>
Don Green Epoch House re McNeal	
Office Reorganization 8-5 & 8-6	
Placement of Barrels for Parsonage 8-5	
Sauer Beef Dinner with Art and Grace 8-8	
Ruth Beckwith Record Retention 8-13	
Tom Hamilton - Review Program -8-13	
SEEC Interviews for Superpantry 8-13	
Ruth Beckwith Record Retention 8-14	
John Cain Du Burns Center 8-16	
Bill and Ruth Voelker re Memorials and Gifts 8-20	
Halley - Long 8-28 Scouts	

COUNCIL MEMBER INTERVIEWS	<u>0</u>
GROUP MEETINGS	<u>3</u>
SEEC Conflict Management 8-2	
Membership Class 8-7	
Lock-In 8-23	
BAPTISMS=0, Counselling=0	<u>0</u>
WEDDINGS=0, Counselling=4	<u>9</u>
Cynthia Goff Counselling 8-1	
Karen Meyers Counselling 8-21	
Donna Raditz Open Church 8-22	
Bill Rugemer-Alice Leftridge 8-27 Counselling	
Donna Raditz Open Church 8-30	
FUNERALS=2, Visit to Funeral Home=0; Counselling=2	<u>4</u>
Norfanan Toland re Mary Stolte Counselling 8-1	
Mary Stolte Skarda Funeral 8-3	
Joseph Buckler, Sr. Counselling 8-24	
Joseph Buckler, Sr. Skarda Funeral 8-26	
COUNSELLING SESSIONS	<u>3</u>
CONFERENCE MEETINGS	<u>0</u>

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE - August 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	49	50	53	50	00		202
1991	56	53	49	56	00		214
Net	+ 7	+ 3	- 4	+ 6	00		+ 12
<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	55	70	65	90			280
1991	65	75	78	69	00		287
Net	+10	+ 5	+13	- 21	00		+ 7
Net 1990-1991	+17	+ 8	+ 9	- 15	00		+ 19

1990-1991 % Change August

% Change in Sunday attendance for August = +4%.

<u>COMPARISON JANUARY TO JUNE - 1990 AND 1991 TOTALS</u>						
	<u>FOR THE MONTH</u>					
<u>1990-</u>	<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>FEBRUARY</u>	<u>MARCH</u>	<u>APRIL</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUNE</u>
1991	+42	+77	+118	-232	+84	137
%	+9.2%	+14%	+19%	-19%	+15%	+30%
<u>1990</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>SEPT</u>	<u>OCT</u>	<u>NOV</u>	
1991	+112	+19				
%	+24%	+ 4%				

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

Rev. Robert M. Armstrong
UNITED EVANGELICAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
945 S. East Avenue,
Baltimore, Maryland 21204
(301) 276-0621

August 16, 1991

Dr. Thomas Hamilton
Central Atlantic Conference
916 S. Rolling Road,
Baltimore, MD 21228

Dear Tom:

Attached is a completed brochure which can be used in the evangelism program. Note that the focus in the center page is on meeting the spiritual needs of people.

Also for your information I have included a comparative income statement in thousands. This was developed by Lou Parker, our former Treasurer. It shows that the increased attendance in the church is tracked by a substantial increase in giving even in this recession year.

The dates which I suggest for your preaching at United are October 27th, November 3rd, or November 10th. Let me know which one would be best for you.

Look forward to seeing you in September.

Kindest Personal Regards,

Bob
Robert M. Armstrong,
Pastor

cc: C. Rowell
H. Jacob
C. Gundlach
F. Long
W. Voelker
S. Jones
J. Talagsen
L. Parker

Church Council

UNITED EVANGELICAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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 (301) 276-0393

COMPARATIVE INCOME IN THOUSANDS
 TO DATE 7-31-91

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>		<u>CUMULATIVE</u>			
	<u>86</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>91</u>
JAN	6.9	3.8	6.8	6.5	5.0	5.4
FEB	11.2	9.5	12.1	13.2	10.0	12.1
MAR	23.4	17.1	19.4	21.6	14.7	23.3
APR	36.0	27.1	27.0	33.5	27.1	33.4
MAY	41.2	36.9	43.0	36.7	32.0	43.0
JUNE	47.2	41.6	50.5	39.7	38.2	50.0
JULY	50.6	45.5	57.3	48.6	44.3	60.8
AUG	55.1	50.8	66.5	53.0	50.1	
SEPT	62.5	59.1	76.9	59.7	63.4	
OCT	77.4	77.0	98.4	80.9	80.3	
NOV	86.9	87.3	102.1	91.1	88.8	
DEC	104.5	99.1	114.8	108.5	112.6	

NUMBERS FOR EACH MONTH ARE TOTALS UP TO AND INCLUDING THAT MONTH I.E. 91.1 POSTED FOR NOVEMBER 1989 INDICATES THE TOTAL FOR ALL SOURCES OF INCOME TO THAT POINT OR FOR \$91,000.