

NEWS FROM BATZ'S CORNER

Hi,

A SAFE AND HAPPY SUMMER TO YOU AND YOURS!.

The Church Council, Pastor and Staff wish you God's blessings and pray that all is well with you and your family. Here are the latest happenings at Church.

**SUMMER AND FALL CALENDAR 2000**

**AUGUST**

**Thursday, August 24, 2000**

**CHOIR**

The senior choir will start to rehearse for the 2000 – 2001 church season the end of August. It is hoped that this year you will decide to join the choir. If you like to have a good time the choir room on Thursday nights at 7:30 p.m. is the place to be.

**Wednesday, August 30, 2000**

Spaghetti Dinner Meeting 7:00 p.m. Friendship Hall

**SEPTEMBER**

**Friday, September 1, 2000**

**LABOR DAY WEEKEND BLOOD DRIVE**

The Labor Day Blood Drive will be from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Once again the American Red Cross will give a **TEE SHIRT** to all donors. For an appointment please call the church office at 410-276-0393 or Darlene at 410-675-3932. At the July 3, 2000 blood drive which was held at United Church, the goal that the American Red Cross set of 25 donors was exceeded! There were 35 donors which means that the blood drive helped 105 people. This is due to the caring people of this church and community. If you would like to be a part of this great cause please call for an appointment. Thank you! God Bless, Darlene

## **SEPTEMBER CONTINUED**

**Sunday, September 10, 2000**

### **CHURCH COUNCIL SPAGHETTI DINNER**

The United Church Council is sponsoring another Spaghetti Dinner. There was such a good turn out the last time that it is being tried again. The extended hours are from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. There will be carry-outs during the entire serving time. If you enjoyed the HOMEMADE plain and meat sauces, large meatballs, desserts, garden salad and garlic bread please do attend again and bring a friend with you this time. You will have a tough time beating the price of \$6.00 for adults and \$3.50 for children under 12.

**TO ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS; PLEASE BRING IN A HOMEMADE DESSERT!**

**Wednesday, September 12, 2000**

The Ladies Organization of United Evangelical Church, will hold their first luncheon – meeting of the 2000 – 2001 season on Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon. For more information call Olga deBloom, President at 410-444-8088 or church office 410-276-0393.

**Sunday, September 17, 2000**

The Senior Choir will return to once again praise the Lord with music and anthems starting on the above date.

**Sunday, September 24, 2000**

Sunday, September 24, 2000, will be the 127<sup>th</sup> Birthday Sunday of United Evangelical Church U.C.C. In celebration of this occasion there will be a special Worship Service at 10:30 a.m. For more information watch the weekly bulletins.

## **OCTOBER**

### **ALL CHURCH SOUB BEEF LUNCHEON AND DINNER**

**Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**

Put these two (2) dates on you calendar for now and more information will be coming in the September newsletter.

## OCTOBER CONTINUED

### ANTIQUA TRUNK RAFFLE

A beautiful antique trunk is to be raffled off as first prize. Also, there is a second prize of two Airline tickets to anywhere in the U.S. in accordance with the guidelines of U. S. Airs frequent flyer mileage program. The third prize is a singing fish, which is mounted on a plaque. When a button is pushed the fish sings two different Songs. This is a real conversation piece.. All of the above were donated to the church by Mr. Frank Tribull. The drawing will be held on Sunday, October 22, 2000 at 9:30 a.m. Chances are one for \$1.00 or six for \$5.00. If you are interested in purchasing some chances see any church council member or call the church office. 410-276-0393 Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

### COOK BOOKS

The United Church Council has decided to update the old Church Cook Book, by adding new recipes. Only a few were turned in. So the book will be published with what was received. Hopefully this book will be ready for sale at the All Church Sour Beef Luncheon and Dinner, on Wednesday and Thursday, October 18 and 19, 2000. Anyone interested in organizing this Cook Book please call church office 410-276-0393 , Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. ANY HELP WILL BE GREATFULLY APPRECIATED!

### HEAT FUND RAFFLE TICKETS

Please find enclosed in this news letter the HEAT FUND RAFFLE TICKETS BOOK

Included are two Raffle Books. This year each book contains 11 tickets for the sum of \$10.00 per book. If you purchase both books you will be getting two more tickets toward winning the 1<sup>st</sup> prize of \$300.00 or the 2<sup>nd</sup> prize of \$200.00 or maybe even the 3<sup>rd</sup> prize of \$100.00. This raffle is very important to United Church because it helps us to heat the church building, Sunday School and the parsonage when it is occupied. Please do what you can to purchase these raffle tickets. We are confident that you will do your best as you have in the past. If you would like to assist in the drawing of the winning tickets please be present between Worship Services on Sunday, October 22, 2000. If you want more Raffle Ticket Books to buy or sell please contact the church office at 410-276-0393 or see any church council member.

INTERIM INTERLUDES "YOU CANNOT BE GRATEFUL AND UNHAPPY AT THE SAME TIME"

"Pastor, I've noticed that when we go on our church bus trips, we might say a prayer before we leave asking God to protect us, but we never remember to thank God after we come home."

This comment by one of you got me to thinking!

In Luke 17:11 Jesus is on his way to Jerusalem after teaching, preaching and healing – first to the few who were his close followers, then to the crowds who swarmed around him, and then to the curious officials, the grumbling Pharisees and Scribes. But now, as he traveled closer and closer to Jerusalem, he was with his trusted small group of apostles.

They came to the region between the Galilee and Samaria where there was great animosity between the Jews and the Samaritans. Jesus *SAW* ten lepers trying to come as close to him as possible. Because lepers had to live away from other people, they had to yell loudly to get his attention. "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" Jesus looked at them, as if he was *SEEING* right through them, and instructed them to go to their priests who would pronounce them healed and welcome them back to the community. As they hurried to the synagogue, they were cleansed.

If I asked you what do you think should happen next, I feel you would say something like, "Well, they would be so thankful to God that they would celebrate!" But this is what really happened.

Only one of the men *SAW* that he was healed and turned back, praising God with a loud voice! He fell down at Jesus' feet and *thanked* him. And, as a outcast, a foreigner, this man did not even belong to any church! Jesus asked, "Didn't I heal ten men? Where are the other nine? Does *only this foreigner* return to give glory to God?"

Jesus said to the man, "Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has made you well."

Could it be that the other nine thought their healing was a natural process of nature instead of a sign of God's love? Or as believing synagogue members, did they just take God for granted?

Could it be that as receivers of God's gifts, we take God for granted? Do we forget to *see* God's love all around us?

Only one, the outcast, *SAW* that it was God who healed him. Does it take an outcast to recognize grace for what it was – a gift to be cherished?

What do *YOU* DO when *YOU* SEE?

When Jesus *SAW* the lepers begging for his healing, he had compassion and responded. The only one who really *SAW* God's healing and grace, was the outcast. For him, celebrating was not enough! He *SAW* it was God at work and immediately returned to praise God with great thanksgiving.

Gratitude may be the purest measure of one's character and spiritual condition. The grateful person regards other's acts of kindness, and experiences of God's grace, with profound gratitude. Life, health, friendship, love are all gifts of God's overwhelming grace to be treasured and guarded with gratitude.

When, in a sudden moment – gazing at a beautiful garden or listening to one's favorite music – we are struck by the truth of this amazingly free 'no strings attached' gift, gratitude flows naturally from us, without effort. "At such times, we don't need to work at feeling thankful; we just are. At such times, gratitude opens our hearts fully and we take in the love and joy of every moment. Through the gift of a grateful heart, we merge with God and remember our rightful home."\*

\*(From ATTITUDES OF GRATITUDE by Ryan)

What do you see? And what do you do?

With gratitude and thankfulness,

*Pastor Baker*