

# The United Endeavor

News From United Evangelical Church

November 2002

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

### **Ready?**

November already??!!! Oh my, I must be getting old, time is just flying by. As a child the months always seemed to be long enough to accomplish what was needed for that time of the year. As an adult, the months seem to say to me "Ready or not, here I come." Not that I am complaining, fall is my favorite season, and November promises to bring many favored sensations. November brings to mind images of snow flakes flying against a backdrop of leaves yet to be raked. In Cleveland snow was always something else that said "Ready or not, here I come." November reminds me of cold, rainy days which bring excitement and gratitude for a dry, warm house. November symbolizes the beginning of a time of hibernation, a closing down, due to the snow and cold, and the loss of daylight.

November is also the closing of the church year. The first Sunday of Advent, which this year is Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, marks the beginning of the Christian church year. Just as Christians we are different from the world around us, so is our year different from the calendar year. Advent is a time of preparation, a time of active waiting, as we look forward to the promised "new thing" that God is bringing (Isa. 43:19ff). Yet to enter the New Year, it is important to close the last one. Symbolically we here at United do this with Totenfest, a final farewell to the

saints who have gone home to be with the Lord.

This last Sunday of November is also known throughout the Church as "Reign of Christ" Sunday. I think it very appropriate that we celebrate Christ's Reign by recognizing the everlasting life that only his presence brings. It is this presence of Christ that is our peace and hope and joy which is celebrated during Advent. Advent is a call to get ready for this presence, to prepare the way of the Lord, for ready or not, he is coming. This is exciting, no wonder we spend the whole month of December celebrating the "new thing," that God brings.

I am struck by the fact that the whole church calendar is affected by the presence of Christ, from the first day to the last. My prayer is that as we close this year and prepare to enter the next, that the whole of our lives will be affected by the presence of Christ. That as our calendar is different, so will our lives be different so that the world may be affected by our presence. This is a powerful prayer, so I ask "Are you ready?"

In Christ,  
Rev. Cathy

**ENCLOSED PLEASE FIND**

**ADVENT OFFERING**

**ENVELOPES**

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

On November 24<sup>th</sup>, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service we will have our Annual Meeting. At this meeting the budget for 2003 will be submitted to you. There will also be an election for new council members. This is your opportunity to address any issues you feel are important to the church. Please make every effort to attend.

## **BIBLE STUDY**

We have been studying some of the books of the prophets. It is quite remarkable how God used these people to tell of future events. Some of these events have yet to occur. Come learn with us what the past has revealed and what the future holds in store for us. 9:00 a.m. Sunday in the Quiet Room.

## **NEW MEMBER CLASS**

If you have been attending United and are considering joining, there will be new member classes on Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Please see Rev. Cathy if interested in attending.

## **LECTORS**

We are putting together our lector reading schedule for 2003. If you would like to be a lector, (one who reads scripture in the worship service) please contact Rev. Cathy.

## **FELLOWSHIP**

All the figures from the Sour Beef & Dumpling Dinner have not been compiled enough to report to you in this endeavor. However I would like to thank all of you who volunteered to help with the dinner. I know you worked very hard and in some cases long hours. I thank you, the Church thanks you, and God thanks you.

God Bless you,  
Bob Osburne,  
Fellowship Chairman.

## **CHILDREN'S PAGE**

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

#### **CHURCH SCHOOL**

When the Church School resumed in early September, a new format was implemented in hopes of better serving the spiritual needs of our congregation, particularly our youth and their families. Church School now begins at 9:30 a.m. with the children involved in Christian education experiences based on the lectionary used during church worship. The new dimension that has been added to the spiritual training of our children involves them and their teachers joining in the 10:30 service with Reverend Cathy or someone from the church or church school leading them.

We feel that this experience is not only very beneficial and meaningful for the children but for the rest of the congregation as well. Parents are encouraged to share this church experience with their children and to participate in the remainder of the service. Younger children may be dismissed after the children's part of the service and return to the Nursery Department with Carol Borkman until the end of the service.

As part of the Christian Education program, there is a Bible Study Group. Which meets during the Church School hour that all are invited to attend and to participate.

We feel that this new format offer a special opportunity for the entire church family to expand their spiritual growth. Won't you come join us each Sunday morning as we continue to expand our horizons in the spiritual growth of our church.

In Christ  
The Christian Education Staff

#### **P.A.C.T.**

**PACT** is sponsoring a 400 Club fund raiser. Each ten dollar ticket purchased is eligible for 20 drawings. Prizes are \$50.00 each week with weeks 5, 10 and 15 being worth \$100.00 and the last drawing is worth \$500.00. See Rebecca Orendorff for tickets. 410-675-7059

## **Neighbors In Need – A Challenge Offering**

Attention all congregation members! A challenge has been submitted, the gauntlet has been thrown down. During the month of November, as we focus on what we have to be thankful for, the children in our Sunday school will be collecting money for our Neighbors In Need offering, which will be taken up during worship on November 24<sup>th</sup>. Each child will receive a special bank to place their offering in throughout the month. In this newsletter you will find an envelope for our Neighbors In Need offering, as well as a flyer that details how the money goes to help those in need. The challenge is to have everybody remember to bring their offering on the 24<sup>th</sup>, to have 100% return of banks and envelopes. Now before you dismiss their challenge, remember the children will be looking to see if you return your offering. On the 24<sup>th</sup> there will be a special presentation of the offerings as a way to celebrate all of the many blessings we each enjoy in our lives.

## **CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

### **YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU!**

It's that time of year where we need our members to stand up and be counted. The church does not run itself. If you would like to serve your church please contact the church office. We really need you. Encourage someone you think would make a good candidate to step forward.

George Nassner, Council President.

## **PROPERTY MANAGER**

We are happy to announce that Bill Meyers has volunteered to become our new Property Manager, we all take great pride in the appearance of our building. It's reassuring to know that our church is in good hands. Please make an effort to thank Bill and offer your support. Thank you Bill.

## **UNITED CHURCH PROPERTY REPORT**

**Leak** thru wall in gymnasium – The contractor's have completed their work at a cost of \$2,836.46 of which the insurance company paid \$2,586.46 and the Church \$250.00 deductible. Work was completed 10/29/02.

Repairs have been made to the outside doors on Dillon Street at a cost of \$35.97. This work was done in house and completed. 10/26/02.  
Bill Meyers – Property Manager

## **HEAR YE! HEAR YE!**

A special Olde Time Christmas Worship Service will be held on Sunday, December 01, 2002 at 2:00 p.m. Communion will be offered for those who would like to take part. This service is to honor those who are homebound or for some reason can't make the regular services on Sundays. The church will be decorated for Christmas and we will serve punch and cookies and have a surprise visitor. We would love you to be a part of this Christmas spirit.

Transportation will be provided for those of you who are not able to come yourself. We will make arrangements for you to be picked up and taken home. All you have to do is call the church office, 410-276-0393, to make arrangements. Come join us. We would be so honored to have you with us. Please mark your calendar for this special event.

Cass Young, Membership Chairperson

## **CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**

### **SPIRITUAL COMMITTEE**

The Spiritual Committee has begun to meet again. Some of the issues we have started to address are: to look into a mission project, to find a way as a church we can help our community, and to explore ways to help our church grow. We will share our findings with you in the near future. Anyone wishing to join us feel free, all are welcome.

# LADIES ORGANIZATION OF UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH

## **MONTHLY MEETINGS**

The Ladies Organization invites you to join us for our monthly meeting and luncheon, every second Wednesday of the month.

Our next meeting is November 13<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon. This meeting will be a brown bag luncheon. At this meeting we will have a cookie bake where everyone brings their favorite cookie; we taste them then sell them to each other as a fund raiser. Everyone will have a good time!

## **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Our annual Christmas Party will be on **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup> AT 12:00 NOON** at

Williamsburg Inn on Pulaski Highway. The cost is \$27.00, and the menu choices are either stuffed shrimp or prime rib with baked potato, cole slaw, fruit cup, fresh garden salad, and for dessert a delicious chocolate parfait.

Again we will have our \$7.00 gift exchange, if anyone cares to participate. Please call Millie Wirsing at 410-675-3904 with your reservation and menu choice.

## **BUS TRIPS 2003**

So far the Ladies Organization is planning two (2) trips in 2003

1. February 26<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday) to the Timonium Dinner Theatre. The Show is "Tony & Tina's Wedding".
2. April 23<sup>rd</sup> (Wednesday) for an Odyssey Luncheon Cruise & National Arboretum Tram Ride.

All trips must have **DEPOSIT** to hold **SEATS**. **Deposit of \$10.00 DUE NOW** as it must be sent in by November 30, 2002. If you must cancel your seat you need to find someone to take your seat to receive your money back.

We need to make this policy for two reasons.

1. We do not want to lose money on these trips

2. Because this is the end of the year we need to use our treasury for other purposes. Hope everyone understands this policy.

### **Persons to contact:**

Millie Wirsing 410-675-3904

Arlene Pate 410-327-3211

Hope to see you at the Christmas Party and on the bus trips.

God Bless,

Olga deBloom, President

## **FREE FLUE SHOTS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS**

On Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Joseph Senior Life Center, the Baltimore City Health Department will be giving free flu shots to all seniors and disabled persons. To receive your free flu shot, simply call the Center at 410-732-5000 and let them know you are coming. The Center is located at 430 South Broadway in Fells Point

## **SECRETARY SEARCH UPDATE**

Due to pension benefits, Darlene Waters will be retiring from her part-time secretarial position here at the church effective November 29<sup>th</sup>. To address the needs of the church, a full-time secretary is being sought. Cass Young, who also part-time as our church secretary, is not interested in increased hours. Cass will be resigning effective December 31<sup>st</sup> and will be crucial in our secretarial transition time. Please be sure to let these wonderful ladies know how much you appreciated all their work over the years.

## **CHRISTMAS AND POINSETTIA**

### **MEMORIALS ARE**

### **DUE BEFORE**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2002**



**BLESSED , HEALTHY AND HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS ARE WISHED TO ALL  
FROM**

**PASTOR**

**Rev. Cathy J. Oatman**

**OFFICERS**

**President**

**George Nassner**

**Vice President**

**Clarence Rowell**

**Secretary**

**Kris Orendorff**

**Treasurer**

**Sam Jones**

**Financial Secretary**

**Calvin Gundlach**



**COUNCIL**

**Harvey and Ursula Jacob,**

**Robert "Bob" Osburne**

**Darlene Waters**

**John Williams**

**Catherine "Cass" Young**



**STAFF**

**Secretary**

**Cass Young**

**Assistant Secretary**

**Darlene Waters**

**Music Director**

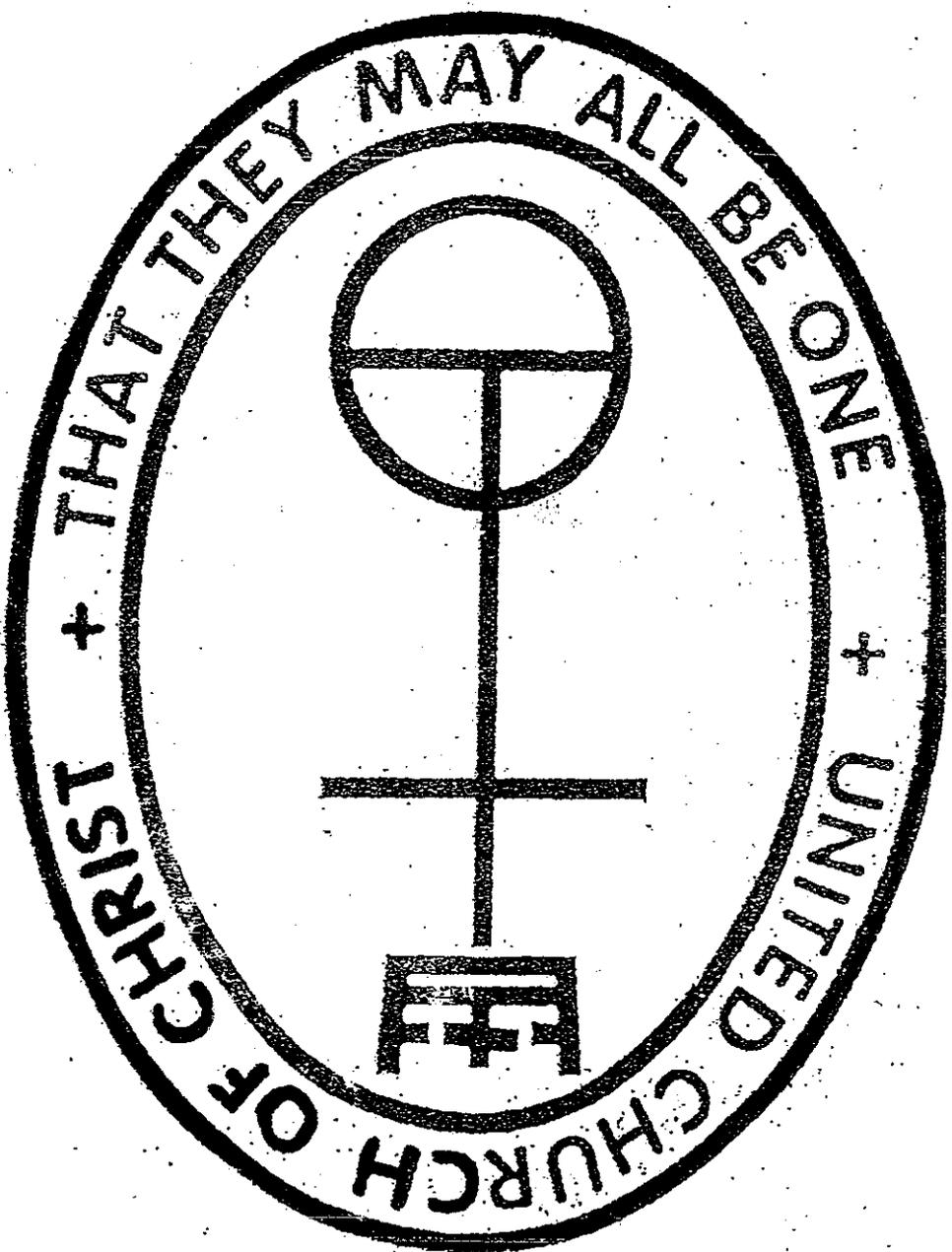
**Robert "Rob" Gundlach**

**Custodian**

**Art Jones**



**HAPPY  
New Year!**



UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
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