

The United Endeavor

News from United Evangelical Church

Dec 11/Jan 12

Pastor's Message

As Christians, we are out of step with the society around us. We are just a bit off, a bit odd. One of the ways we flow against the tide is in the calendar we follow. The Christian New Year begins with the first Sunday of Advent when we tell the story of the birth of the Christ we follow; a story that is filled with impossibilities in the face of insurmountable odds.

As with any new beginning, an ending comes with it. At the beginning of a new year there is joy and excitement about what lies ahead but there is also a twinge of loss and sorrow for what is left behind. This sense of loss and sorrow is how we begin the Advent season. The scriptures speak to us about the sorrow of God's people. They are crying out for God to bring about change in their world; they are filled with a longing to be rescued, redeemed, saved from the dreadful conditions that surround them.

Jesus' birth reassures us that God is listening and God is acting even in times of loss and sorrow. God is at work even while we wait for Christ to come. The

Christmas story tells us that there are possibilities in the midst of insurmountable odds and in that promise we find joy and excitement.

As we look forward to a new church year as well as a new calendar year, we look forward with hope regardless of what impossibilities we face or what insurmountable odds are ahead of us. We look forward with hope because we are Christians who

we look forward with hope regardless of what impossibilities we face...

are just a bit off, a bit odd, a bit out of step with the society around

us. Because of Christ's birth, our new church year, our new calendar year, are filled with possibilities. May the thought of it fill us with joy!

In Christ's love,
Rev. Cathy

*glory
to
God
in the
Highest*



Holiday Worship Schedule & More



Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service

Saturday, December 24

7:30 p.m.

Communion & Candlelight
with Children's Message



Christmas Day

Worship Service

Sunday, December 25

ONLY ONE SERVICE

AT 10:00 A.M.

(NO SUNDAY SCHOOL)



New Year's Day

Worship Service

Sunday, January 1

ONLY ONE SERVICE

AT 10:00 A.M.

(NO SUNDAY SCHOOL)



While They Were Sleeping

It was an evening like any other. Ordinary men were doing an ordinary job. Shepherds were "keeping watch over their flock by night" (Luke 2:8). Was it chilly? Were they tired? When angels appeared with news of a Savior, had the shepherds been talking about their troubles or sharing a good joke?

How quickly, how mysteriously, how unexpectedly an ordinary night became the turning point of human history. How remarkable that God chose to set his great rescue plan in motion when only a young couple was paying attention and only a few shepherds were awake.

God's work is sometimes so secret we may wonder if he's there or if he cares. The Christmas story tells us that God works out breathtaking plans for our lives in the dark, often while we're sleeping or going about our ordinary routines.



Committee News & More

Spiritual Committee

The Spiritual Committee will be meeting to pray and make cards for our homebound members.

If you are interested in joining in, please contact Alfie Schrodt at 410-686-0384 or via e-mail at micha1357@aol.com.



The Endeavor is Available by E-Mail



United Evangelical Church is offering "The United Endeavor" newsletter by email. Sending the Endeavor by email will save postage and possibly eliminate the need to use "Bulk" mailing. If you would like to receive the Endeavor by email, please send your email address to uecucc@verizon.net with Endeavor in the subject line. If we do not receive an email from you, we will continue to mail the Endeavor to your postal address (also known as snail mail).



Opportunities to Grow in Christ

Feasting on the Word Bible Study

The "Feasting on the Word" Bible Study continues to happen each month, usually on the last Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. The format will include a question and answer time based on selected scriptures. The scriptures and questions for December and January are included in this issue of the Endeavor.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Every Wednesday a lectionary based Bible Study takes place in the Quiet Room at 10:00 a.m. Come and join in the discussion.

Companions in Christ - Part 3

The Companions in Christ small group experience in spiritual formation is continuing will begin meeting again in January. The next phase deals with our life of prayer. The sessions will meet every other week for 12 weeks. If you are interested in deepening your walk with Christ, then come and be a part of these gatherings.

Deepening Our Prayer: The Heart of Christ

Every other Thursday at 6:30 p.m. beginning January 5 in the Quiet Room

Led by Rev. Cathy & Rick Nyborg

Bible Study in the Sanctuary - December 18, 2012



Feasting on the Word Bible Study

December 18 - 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Luke 1:26-38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

How do you think you would have responded if you were in Mary's situation?

Do you believe in the virgin birth? How do you justify your position to those who believe differently?

Name three faith issues that this passage deals with. (Hint: there are more than three.) Which one speaks loudest to you personally?

Bible Study in the Sanctuary - January 22, 2012



Feasting on the Word Bible Study

January 22 - 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Mark 1:14-20

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

If you were Simon or Andrew how do you think you would have responded to Jesus' request to come and follow?

According to Jesus, what is the Good News?

How would you explain the Good News to someone who doesn't come to church?

Give it Some Thought...

A New Year's Blessing

May God make your year a happy one!
Not by shielding you from all sorrow and pain,
But by strengthening you to bear it as it comes;
Not by making your path easy,
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;
Not by taking hardships from you,
But by taking fear from your heart;
Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,
But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;
Not by making your life always pleasant,
But by showing you when people and their causes
need you most,
and by making you anxious to be there to help.
God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year
ahead.

-Author unknown



The Guide

Picture a man stumbling along in a heavy fog, completely disoriented. Then, off in the distance, he sees the light of one small lamp. Its glow is sufficient neither to burn off the fog nor to illuminate the obstacles that might be on the ground between the man and that lamp. Still, it is a steadily burning lamp. Something within the man prompts him to believe that if he heads toward it, he will be going in the right direction. That "something" we can call "faith."

While heading toward the lamp, he finds another lost man whose eyesight is so poor he can't see the lamp. The first man takes the second by the hand and helps him toward the lamp also. The act of reaching out to another we can call "love."

And the lamp that draws him? It's called "hope."

—*The Wired Word* (August 7, 2011)



UEC Youth Group Happenings

Mission: 1



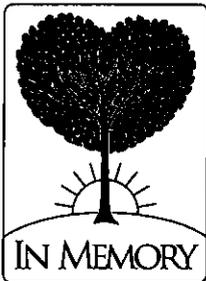
MISSION 1: "That They May All Be One"

On Friday, Nov 11, 2011, members of our UEC Youth Group attended the Fall Youth Retreat near Jefferson, Md. The focus concentrated on hunger and hunger-related injustices both here and around the world. Featured speakers, Andrea Moran, Steve King and Rev. Marilyn Washburn provided insights on the issue. Representatives from Riva Refuge, Inc. brought information concerning hunger issues and how we can impact the world by working in our community. Team activities including games, worship and crafts demonstrated how working together can help us connect with and achieve results among different people.

Participation in Mission I and the Fall Youth Retreat supports our desire as a church to improve current local community and world affairs. Thank you to all who support our Youth Group, and to the youth who attended for their strength to seek answers in everyday life.

Check out the pictures on cacucc.org click on Fall Retreat 2011, and rivarefuge.org to find out more information about this organization.

Cathy Fifield



The Annual Homeless Person's Memorial Service will be held

**Wednesday, December 21 at 5:30 p.m.
at the Inner Harbor Amphitheatre**

**Our UEC Youth Group needs your help by
providing donations of shoes of any type, in any condition
Just bring your shoe donations to the Church**

Each pair of shoes will be used to represent a homeless person who has died in the past year. Following the service the shoes that are in good condition will be donated to a clothing closet for distribution.

Support our UEC Youth Group and provide for those less fortunate. We are all brothers and sisters.

Upcoming Youth Events

Sat-Sun	Dec. 3-4th	Cookie Baking and Lock-in	4:00 pm	Church
Sun	Dec 11	Tinsel Sunday	10:30 am	Church
Sun	Dec 18	Christmas Caroling	10:30 am	Church
Sun	Jan 1	Resolution Run	Noon	St. Elizabeth's
Thurs	Jan 12	Youth Group Meeting	5:30 pm	Church
Thurs	Jan 26	Youth Group Meeting	5:30 pm	Church

Goin' Green



Goin' Green With Your Pet

You recycle, buy organic and use eco-friendly products for yourself - shouldn't your pet be green too? Try our 7 tips to help reduce your pet's carbon "paw-print."

1. Try organic pet products

If you groom at home, use earth friendly grooming products that do not contain phosphates, sulfates and other chemicals that are harmful to the planet. Visit groomers that use these products too. Organic products are gentler on the environment, and your pet. You can also find stylish and organic collars and leashes.

2. Clean up after your pet

Leaving pet waste outside is an environmental and health hazard. Pet poo contains harmful bacteria that can enter the water system via storm drains. So be sure to pick up your dog's waste and dispose of it in the trash, or better yet, a compost heap! For litter boxes, consider organic, plant based kitty litter. Clumping clay litter is strip-mined, a process which is horrible for our planet. And don't forget to use biodegradable bags to dispose of waste instead of regular plastic bags!

3. Use chemical-free pest products

You'd be shocked at the ingredients in some tick and flea control products. You won't put toxic chemicals on your body, so leave products with active ingredients like chlorpyrifos, dichlorvos and phosmet off your pet's body too. Look for pest control solutions that use natural ingredients, they can be just as effective without exposing your pet to toxins.

4. Adopt instead of buying

There are tens of thousands of puppies and kittens born in the U.S. every day. Controlling the pet population is always green, so why not adopt instead buying a new best friend?

5. Spay or neuter

Spaying or neutering pets is an important way to keep your pet healthy and avoid more homeless dogs and cats on the street. Sterilization also helps your pet live longer by reducing the risk of several types of cancer and prostate disease.

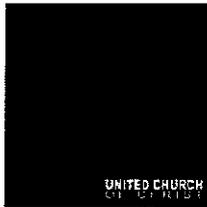
6. Feed with all natural pet food

There are now many natural pet food options that are better for your pet and the planet. Avoid foods that contain meat raised with hormones and antibiotics and food containing animal by-products. Unless labeled "FDA Certified Food Grade" that chow contains ingredients not fit for human consumption. If you can eat it, do you really want your pet eating it?

7. Play with environmentally friendly pet toys

Whether you make them or buy them, your pet will love the toys you give them, so try recycling! Something as simple as a piece of rope or paper bag can provide hours of fun. Old blankets and pillows can become a new bed for Fido to shed on. If you must buy, purchase items made from natural, recyclable materials, like hemp.

UCC Mission Moments



mission MOMENTS

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Let the Children Come

"I will never forget that family," said the woman who manages donations to her town's emergency aid pantry. "The sadness keeps me going despite our challenges." Talking passionately about the pantry's Christmas give-away of toys and gifts, she shared what had happened some years ago. A neighborhood parent was so despondent over financial difficulties that suicide seemed better than facing Christmas morning with nothing to give – and so on Christmas morning a child was parentless. "I never want another parent to feel that way," she said.

The practice of Christmas gift-giving can be life-affirming and spiritually fulfilling or it can be a habit that depletes our souls. Consider another story, told by Bishop Kenneth L. Carder of The United Methodist Church about John Wesley, the eighteenth century Methodist leader.

A poor girl who visited Wesley one winter day looked cold and hungry. "You seem half starved," he said. "Have you nothing to cover you but that thin linen gown?" When she said that was all she had, Wesley put his hand in his pocket and found he had scarcely any money left, having just purchased some framed pictures for his rooms. He later wrote of this incident with sarcasm:

"It immediately struck me, will not thy Master say, "Well done, good and faithful steward? Thou hast adorned thy walls with the money which might have screened this poor creature from the cold!" O justice! O mercy! Are not these pictures of the blood of this poor maid?"

This Christmas let us reach out to the children all around us, and especially those living in poverty. *"Let the little children come to me... for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs."* (Luke 18:16)

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

Looking Ahead - Mark Your Calendars!



Family Fun Bingo Night

Friday, December 2

UEC Friendship Hall—Doors open at 5:00 p.m.

Food/Beverages/Desserts will be available

Last Bingo till next year—Don't miss it!!



Youth Group — Cookie Bakin' Marathon and Lock-In

December 3 — starts at 4:00 p.m. til Sun. 10:00 a.m.

Our Youth Group will be in the kitchen rattlin' those cookie sheets and baking up all the cookies ordered for Christmas!

Tinsel Sunday December 11

PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE WORSHIP SERVICE @ 10:30 A.M.

The children of the church will be presenting the pageant,

"Finding Christ in Christmas"

Worship will be followed by dinner and an afternoon of crafts and singing!
Bring the whole family for a day of Christmas joy!



"Oh Here We Come A Caroling"

Sunday, December 18

Everyone is invited to join with the youth of the church in Christmas caroling at Canton Harbor Nursing Home and in the neighborhood. Following 10:30 a.m. worship come to the hall for lunch followed by rehearsal as we spread the love of Christmas to others.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Saturday, December 24

7:30 p.m.

Communion & Candlelight with Children's Message



Christmas Day Communion Worship Service

Sunday, December 25

ONLY ONE SERVICE AT 10:00 A.M.

(NO SUNDAY SCHOOL)



Looking Ahead - Mark Your Calendars!



New Year's Day Worship Service
Sunday, January 1
ONLY ONE SERVICE AT 10:00 A.M
(NO SUNDAY SCHOOL)



Earl's Place—Resolution Run
Sunday, January 1
Race Begins at 2:00 p.m. (Registration begins at 12:30)

Donations of homemade cookies are needed to feed Run participants.
Please deliver your baked goods to the church
on Christmas Sunday or anytime the following week.
Thank you for your support!

Benefiting Earl's Place
NEW BEGINNINGS THROUGH HOUSING.

Congregational Meeting



Congregational Meeting
Sunday, January 29 (following 10:30 a.m. worship)

Come, get involved in your church!
You have gifts—come share them

Our A/C Fund Drive



Our Church Air-Conditioning Fund Drive

Raised so far: \$ 27,451
Our Goal: \$ 60,378



Thanks to your very generous donations, our air conditioning fund drive has raised **\$ 27,451!!** Great job and thanks to all who have contributed and continue to contribute to the fund. Without your support we would not have come this far.

The cost of the new a/c system totals **\$60,378**, so we still have a way to go. We can do it. Please consider donating to the fund so that our church can provide cool comfort during summer worship.

THANKS AGAIN FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

Places to Go, People to See, Things to Do...

Ladies Organization Trips & Events

Upcoming Events



Arlene Pate
410-327-3211
for ticket prices & availability

Dec. 14 Christmas Get Together
12 noon Williamsburg Inn
\$ 25.00 per person



Merry Christmas

From the members of the UEC Ladies Organization

Upcoming Ladies Organization Meetings
first Wednesday of the month.
All Meetings Begin at 12 noon
(unless otherwise noted)

Dec. 7 No meeting
Jan. 4 Brown Bag Luncheon

Come join the Ladies Organization,
we would love to see you!!



A few of our ladies are unable to attend meetings. It has been suggested that any ladies who have re-tired or are free the first Wednesday of the month from 12 noon to about 3 p.m. might like to join our group. We normally have two bus trips per year to Faith Church for their luncheons, a Christmas luncheon and several other luncheons during our meeting times. Please consider joining us.

Important Notice—All trips MUST HAVE DEPOSIT TO HOLD SEATS

If you must cancel your seat you need to find someone to take your seat to receive your money back.

Persons to contact:

Arlene Pate 410-327-3211

Let's Talk Turkey



The National Turkey Federation (never knew there was such a thing ?) suggest playing it safe with leftovers. Within 2 hours after roasting the bird, remove the stuffing, carve any additional meat off the bones and store in the refrigerator or freezer.

Wrap turkey meat and stuffing separately, refrigerate and use within 3 days. Or freeze, wrapping separately in heavy-duty foil or freezer wrap or placing in freezer containers or bags. For best flavor, use stuffing within 1 month and turkey within 2 months.

BASIC TURKEY STOCK

(Makes 3 quarts)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 1 carcass from 12-14 pound turkey, cut into 4 or 5 rough pieces to fit into pot | 3 medium garlic cloves, unpeeled & mashed |
| 2 cups dry wine | 1 large onion, peeled and halved |
| 1 large carrot, peeled and chopped coarse | 1 bay leaf |
| 1 large celery rib, chopped coarse | 5 sprigs parsley |
| | 3 sprigs fresh thyme |

1. Bring turkey carcass, onion, carrot, celery, garlic, wine, bay leaf, and 4 1/1 quarts water to boil in 12 quart stockpot over medium-high heat, skimming fat or foam that rises to surface. Reduce heat to low and simmer, uncovered, 2 hours, continuing to skim surface as necessary. Add parsley and thyme; continue to simmer until stock is rich and flavorful, about 2 hours longer, continuing to skim surface as necessary.
2. Strain stock through large-mesh strainer into large bowl or container; remove meat from strained solids, shred into bit-size pieces, and set aside to cool; discard solids in strainer. Wrap shredded meat and refrigerate for up to 2 days. Cool stock to room temperature, stirring at intervals to release the heat. Cover and refrigerate. Fat will come to the top once cooled. Spoon fat from the surface. Can be refrigerated up to 2 days.

TURKEY NOODLE SOUP

(Makes about 3 quarts, serving 8 to 10)

Can make ahead and refrigerate in an airtight container for up to 2 days.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 recipe Basic Turkey Stock and reserved shredded meat | 1 large celery rib, sliced 1/4 thick |
| 1 onion, chopped fine | 1 Tablespoon minced fresh thyme leaves |
| 2 carrots, peeled and cut into 1/2 inch thick rounds | Salt and Pepper |
| 2 Tablespoons minced fresh parsley leaves | 2-3 cups noodles, or medium pasta shells or other pasta shape |

1. Bring turkey stock to simmer in large stockpot or Dutch oven over medium-high-heat. Add onion, carrots, celery, thyme, and 1 teaspoon salt; cover and simmer until vegetables are just tender about 10 minutes.
2. Add pasta or noodles and reserved shredded turkey meat from stock; simmer until pasta is al dente, 10-12 minutes. Stir in parsley, season with salt and pepper to taste, and serve.

UEC December 2011 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	2 Family Fun Bingo 5:00 p.m.	3 Youth Cooking Bake and Lock-In begins at 4:00 p.m.
4 Second Sunday of Advent Communion Sunday Food Bank Donations 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Christian Education	5	6	7 Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m.	8 Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	9	10
11 Third Sunday of Advent Tinsel Sunday 10:30 a.m. Worship Service (note: There will be only one service at 10:30 a.m.)	12	13 Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m. (new & returning Council members are to attend)	14 Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Ladies Organization Annual Christmas Luncheon 12 noon Williamsburg Inn Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m.	15 PACT last day until 1/3/12 Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	16	17
18 Fourth Sunday of Advent 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Christian Education Feasting on the Word Bible Study in the UEC Sanctuary 9:30 a.m. Christmas Caroling in the Neighborhood (following 10:30 worship)	19	20	21 Homeless Persons' Memorial Service Inner Harbor Amphitheatre 5:30 p.m.	22 Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	23	24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship 7:30 p.m.
25 Christmas Day Worship 10:00 a.m. (no Sunday School) Please note: There will be only one worship service at 10:00 a.m.	26	27	28	29	30	31
Rev. Cathy on vacation						

UEC January 2012 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>Communion Sunday</p> <p>Food Bank Donations</p> <p>New Years Day Worship 10:00 a.m. (no Sunday School)</p> <p><i>Note: There will be only one worship service at 10:00 a.m.</i></p> <p>Earl's Place Resolution Run Registration begins at 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>Rev. Cathy on vacation</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>PACT resumes after holiday break</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>UEC Ladies Luncheon 12 noon</p> <p>Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Deepening Our Prayer: Companions in Christ Bible Study UEC 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>6</p> <p><i>Epiphany</i></p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Christian Education</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Youth Group 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Christian Education</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Martin Luther King's Birthday</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Christian Education Meeting 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Deepening Our Prayer: Companions in Christ Bible Study UEC 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Christian Education</p> <p>Feasting on the Word Bible Study in the UEC Sanctuary 9:30 a.m.</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Canton Community Association Meeting 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Youth Group 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Christian Education</p> <p>Congregational Meeting following 10:30 worship</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>15</p>			

New Mercies

The prophet Jeremiah, who had his own reasons to feel down, wrote, "The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness" (Lamentations 3:22-23, NRSV).

God refuses to give up on us. When we lose hope, when we fail and fall short, his mercy never runs out. Tomorrow is full of promise and our Lord's unceasing love.



United Evangelical Church

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<u>Church Office</u> e-mail: website:	410-276-0393 uecucc@verizon.net www.unitedevangelical.org
<u>Hours</u>	Tuesday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
<u>Secretary</u>	Abby Markowitz
<u>Custodian</u>	Paul Polasky
<u>Director of Music</u>	Robert Gundlach robert.gundlach@verizon.net
<u>Newsletter Editor</u>	Barbara Matthew barbmatthew@verizon.net



A "Hunger Site at the U.N" on the Internet

All you have to do is click a button and somewhere in the world some hungry person gets a meal to eat at no cost to you. Corporate sponsors pay for the food. Just go to the site listed below and click.

No gimmicks, no tricks.

You are only allowed one click per day, so spread the word to others.

The site is: www.hungersite.com

General Mills Boxtops for Education



*Just a
Reminder...*

Don't forget to bring in your General Mills Box tops for Education and leave them in the display in the Narthex.

Odds 'n Ends

Altar Flowers



The chart for requesting altar flowers is in the Narthex. The offering is \$ 18 per vase.

If you have any questions, please call

Ursula Jacob, 410-679-6163.

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear



Our UEC Bowling League has Openings!

If interested contact Holly Raddatz @ 410-285-0894

A New Twist on Coffee Hour

With everyone's busy schedules it can be difficult to host Coffee Hour. So we are going to have a Coffee Hour Collection Carafe in the Narthex, When the collection totals enough for a Coffee Hour than we'll have one.

So look for the Coffee Hour Carafe in the Narthex,

What to Give?

- To your enemy, forgiveness.
- To an opponent, tolerance.
- To a friend, your heart.
- To a customer, service.
- To all men and women, charity.
- To every child, a good example.
- To yourself, respect.

-Oren Arnold



Canton Community Association Meetings



The Canton Community Association meets at our church on a bi-monthly basis. The meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary with free dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m. in Friendship Hall. These meetings are a wonderful way to meet new neighbors and stay informed about the concerns of our community. It also shows that our church thinks being involved in its community is important. Put the meetings on your calendar and come show our neighbors how important our community is to us as a church. Next meeting: January 24th

To obtain additional info.— www.cantoncommunity.org/

Comics Corner



A Special Hymn

A preacher was completing a temperance sermon; with great expression he said, "If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river."

With even greater emphasis he said, "And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river."

And then finally, he said, "And if I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river."

He sat down.

The song leader then stood very cautiously and announced with a smile, "For our closing song, let us sing Hymn # 365: "Shall We Gather at the River."

oops!

From a worship bulletin in Baltimore, Maryland:

CHRISTMAS WISHES FROM THE STAFF

Peach on earth, goodwill toward all.

Blessings in the New Year!

Wishing everyone a peachy, peace-filled Christmas!



10 Reasons Why Santa Asked For A Raise

10. The hours, the weather, the trend toward smaller chimneys.
9. Nike won't give him a lucrative side-contract.
8. Reindeer and elves have unionized, driving up his cost.
7. New tax on flying sleighs.
6. Insurance for flying a sleigh has tripled over the past two years.
5. Needs extra cash to cover off-season gambling losses.
4. Air traffic controllers demanding higher kickbacks.
3. Cost of living increase at the North Pole.
2. Children don't leave as many cookies as they used to.
1. The Mrs. told him to.

From the Classroom...

TEACHER: Why are you late?

WEBSTER: Because of the sign.

TEACHER: What sign?

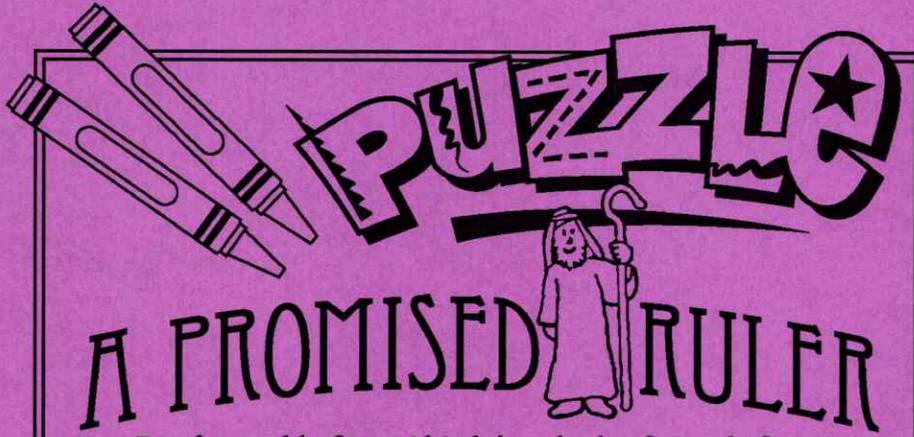
WEBSTER: The one that says, "School Ahead, Go Slow."

SYLVIA: Dad, can you write in the dark?

FATHER: I think so. What do you want me to write?

SYLVIA: Your name on this report card.

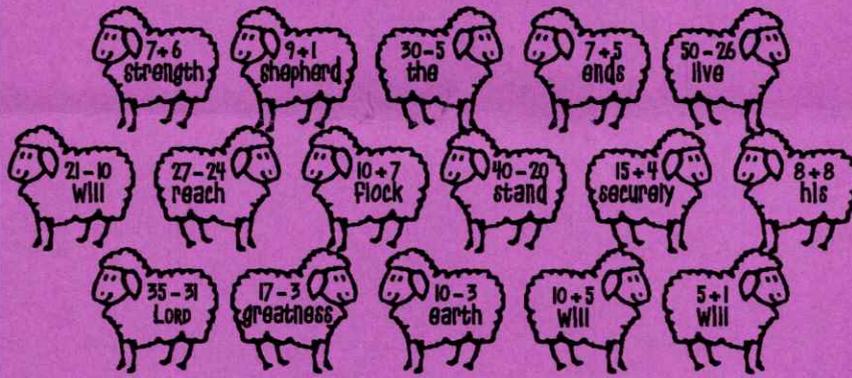
Kids Only!!



A PROMISED RULER

Prophets told of Jesus' birth hundreds of years before it happened. Never had a baby's arrival come with such a promise.

Directions: To read what one prophet (Micah 5:4, NIV) said about Jesus, complete the math problems below. Then fill in the words, using the math solutions as your guide.



"He _____ and _____ his _____
15 20 10 17

in the _____ of the _____ And they _____
13 4 11 24

_____, for then _____
19 16 14 6

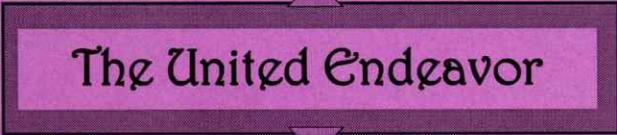
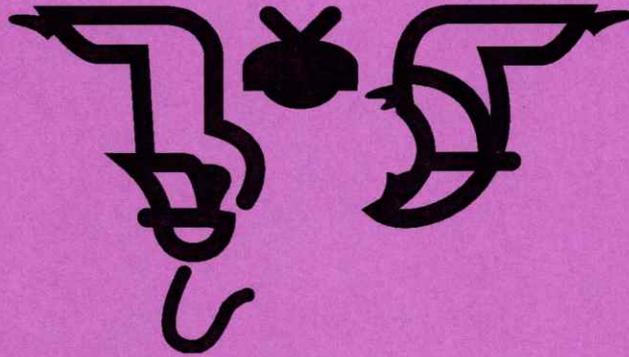
_____ to the _____ of _____."
3 12 25 7

MICAH 5:4, NIV

Answers: "He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth." Micah 5:4, NIV



MERRY CHRISTMAS



The United Endeavor

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United Church of Christ
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