

# The United Endeavor

United Evangelical Church

Volume 10



## Pastor's Message



The Church today, as in every generation, is called to be a "conversation partner" with the culture in which it is found. We are tasked with being Jesus' voice in today's world; a prophetic voice that advocates for justice and speaks truth to power, as well as a pastoral voice that offers hope and peace and healing for what ails us.

Today, perhaps more than any other time in history, the voice of the Church is splintered, with many different voices spouting very divergent views. Often within the church we use the Bible as a weapon against those whose voice is different than ours. As such, Church scholars are referring to our current conversations as "The Bible Wars."

Yet in the midst of these wars, what seems to

**... the way we use our money reflects the state of our spiritual health more than anything else.**

escape our attention is that the one thing that Jesus talked about more than anything else in scripture is money and how we use it. Over and over again Jesus is challenging us to examine our relationship with money vis-à-vis our relationship with God. According to Jesus the way we use our money reflects the state of our spiritual health more than anything else. To listen to the Bible Wars, one would never guess this to be the case.

Robert Wuthnow in his book *The Crisis in the Church: Spiritual Malaise, Fiscal Woe* writes that "Evidence suggests that faith makes little difference to the ways in which people actually conduct their financial affairs." When I read that all I could say was "wow." "Faith makes little difference to the ways in which people actually conduct their financial affairs" – what an amazing statement and what a commentary on the followers of Jesus, the One who preached that the handling of our financial affairs is vital to our relationship with God.

It seems that the old adage "as much as things change, they stay the same" applies in this case. Just as in Jesus' day, we tend to

fall prey to the thinking that our financial matters are outside the purview of God; believing that we have built our wealth without God's participation. If we take what Jesus said seriously we will understand that this thinking is detrimental not only to our relationship with God, but to us as well.

(continued)

## Additional Announcements

### Pastor's Message—continued

Perhaps the greatest growth in my own spiritual life came when I was on a retreat and someone asked me "Where do you spend your time, your thoughts and your money?" Answering that question amounted to a spiritual inventory of my life. It exposed the places where I was close to God and the places where I wasn't, and it helped me to align my life with where I knew God was calling me.

Just as our cars need alignments when they start to pull to one side, our spiritual lives need to be realigned when we get off track. I encourage us each to do a spiritual inventory and honestly ask ourselves "where do I spend my time, my thoughts and my money?" So that, just as Jesus taught, we might understand that when it comes to our finances, it is not about money but about our spiritual alignment.

In Christ's love,

Rev. Cathy



### Adult Christian Education Classes

Starting Wednesday, May 26th, an evening class entitled "Conversations of Faith" will begin to meet. The focus of the class will be to experience God, learn more about the Bible, and engage in conversations about how faith is relevant in our everyday life. The class will meet every other Wednesday at 6:00 p.m., and will be held at Pasticcio Italian Kitchen, in the Can Company, 2400 Boston St., Suite 120.



### **Sunday School Summer Vacation**

There will be no Sunday School during the months of July and August. Sunday School resumes on September 12.

## Additional Announcements



For the beautiful music on Sunday mornings,  
For your dedication in attending rehearsals,  
For inspiring us to lift our hearts, minds and  
voices in signing praises to our Lord,

Choir, we thank you!

The final choir rehearsal for the summer  
season will be June 24th. Enjoy vacation!!

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DVD's from the recent Choir Show are now  
available. Also on the DVD is a movie of the  
building of the church in 1957 and a sermon  
given by Pastor Lehman on the day of the  
laying of the cornerstone. The cost of the  
DVD is \$5. Call Darlene Waters at 410-574-  
6021 to order yours today!

## Vacation Bible School

Join the "High Seas Expedition" to explore  
the mighty love of God. Vacation Bible  
School will be held at St. Brigid Church,  
June 28-July 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 12 Noon.  
Sign on with the crew for Crafts, Games,  
Songs, and Snacks. Teen and adult help is  
needed. Sign up to help or register children  
by calling 410-563-1717.



**St. Brigid's Carnival**

is

June 2 – 5, 2010

7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. nightly

The theme is Caribbean Carnival.

Come and support the neighborhood  
churches!

Coming Attractions - Buy Your Tickets Now!



**United Evangelical Church**  
**Bull & Oyster Roast**  
**Saturday, June 5, 2010**  
**7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.**



**U.A.W. Hall**  
**1010 Oldham St.**



**Baltimore, MD 21224**

**Menu**

**Draft Beer**

**Raw Oysters on the Half-Shell**

**Beef, Turkey, Ham on the Pit**

**Oyster Stew & Crab Soup**

**BBQ Chicken, Meatballs**

**Kielbasa & Sauerkraut & More!!**



**Music provided by local DJ Marski**



**Tickets: \$ 35.00 per person**



**For tickets contact:**

**Cissy Funk @ 443-676-9957 or UEC @ 410-276-0393**

**All proceeds to benefit United Evangelical Church**



Coming Attractions—Mark Your Calendars!

July & August  
Raffles

To cover costs of Oktoberfest band



September 19

All you Can Eat Pancake Breakfast at UEC  
(to help fund Oktoberfest)



September 26

Annual UEC picnic at Chesterwood Park



October 10

Spaghetti Dinner  
(to help fund Oktoberfest)



October 24

Oktoberfest III  
(rain or shine)



November 12

Family Fun Bingo Night at UEC



## Youth Group Schedule



### Youth Group Activity Schedule

**June 5-6** CCBC Relay for Life (6:00 p.m. on Saturday thru 6:00 a.m. Sunday morning)

**June 27** End of Year Party at the Sanders home  
(333 Enfield Rd, Joppa, MD)  
1:00—5:00 p.m.

Everyone is to bring a dish to share and their bathing suit and towel.

If youth are going to TN they need to confirm with Pastor Cathy by June 6th. We leave for TN on July 31st and come back August 7.  
Exact times and costs will be determined at a later date.

Any questions, please call Cathy Fifield, 410-879-5121, or e-mail [mrsacdc@comcast.net](mailto:mrsacdc@comcast.net)

## Give Thanks

### *"America the Beautiful"*

Katharine Lee Bates (1859-1929) wrote, edited and taught English in her native Massachusetts. Occasionally, she wrote hymns, too.

On a trip to Colorado, Bates was greatly impressed by amber waves of grain, fruited plains and purple mountain majesties. She believed that God had definitely shed his grace all across this land. A visit to the summit of Pikes Peak inspired Bates to write her most famous poem-hymn, "America the Beautiful."

Bates also realized that patriotism was an important part of America. She was grateful for heroes "who more than self their country loved and mercy more than life." She wanted all Americans to realize how God had shed his grace on them and had crowned what was good "with brotherhood from sea to shining sea."

Bates embodied the spirit of thankfulness to God for all she had experienced and been given.

United Church of Christ

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**

## Mission Moment—The Bigger Picture

"No island is a man," said Ernest Campbell, former pastor of Riverside Church in New York City, playing off John Donne's familiar verse. No congregation is the church. We are part of a much bigger picture—God's worldwide mission, of which we are a part in the United Church of Christ. Our motto comes from Jesus' prayer, "that they may all be one" (John 17:21)—brought back into relationship across all that divides us, whether point of view, class, creed, color, or sexual preference.

As former UCC General Minister and President, John Thomas, reminds us, our unity is not simply "happy conviviality." It's shared focus on a Christ who "for the sake of the joy before him endured the cross" (Hebrews 12:2). Following Christ is demanding. It often involves conflict. But we're not in this alone. We're called to see through differences with one another the support we need to give and receive to discover the joy meant to be ours, too.

When we feel distant from God it's often because we're not close to one another. When our congregation is not close to the wider church, we are not the church we're meant to be.

Giving to Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) supports the work of the wider church—the regional, national, and international expressions of the United Church of Christ. It also puts your congregation right in the middle of "the bigger picture" that is the church, our part of God's mission.

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



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

Ladies Organization Trips & Events

Upcoming  
Events



Arlene Pate  
410-327-3211

Millie Wirsing  
410-675-3904

Upcoming events will be announced  
in the next issue of Endeavor

Arlene Pate 410-327-3211 or Millie Wirsing 410-675-3904

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

New members are always welcome!

Dues are \$ 10.00 per year

Upcoming Ladies Organization Meetings

first Wednesday of the month.

All Meetings Begin at 12 noon

(unless otherwise noted)

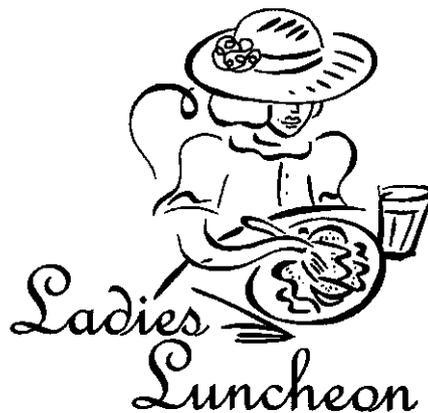
Jun. 2 Luncheon

1:00 pm

Carson's Creek Side Restaurant

1110 Beech Drive

Middle River



**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:

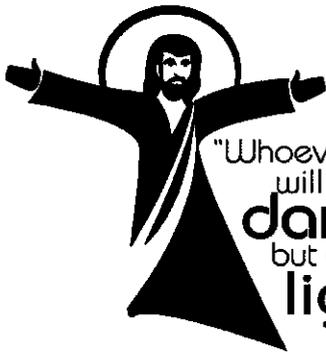
Arlene Pate 410-327-3211 or Millie Wirsing 410-675-3904

# UEC June 2010 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Ladies Organization Luncheon Meeting 1:00 pm at Carson's Creek Side Restaurant	3 Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	4	5 Bull & Oyster Roast VFW Hall 10 Oldham Street 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm  Youth Group Relay for Life CBCC Dundalk 6:00 pm - 6:00 am
6 <i>Communion Sunday</i>  Food Bank Donations  8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service  9:15 a.m. Christian Education  Youth Group Relay for Life CBCC Dundalk 6:00 pm - 6:00 am	7	8 Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.	9 Bible Study 10:00 a.m.  Conversations of Faith 6:00 p.m. Pasticcio Italian Kitchen in the Can Company, 2400 Boston St., Suite 120.	10 Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	11	12
13 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service  9:15 a.m. Christian Education	14	15 Christian Education Meeting 6:30 p.m.	16 Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	17 Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	18	19
20 <i>Father's Day</i>  8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service  9:15 a.m. Christian Education	21	22	23 Bible Study 10:00 a.m.  Conversations of Faith 6:00 p.m. Pasticcio Italian Kitchen in the Can Company, 2400 Boston St., Suite 120.	24 Final Choir Practice for the summer 7:30 p.m.	25	26
27 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service  9:15 a.m. Christian Education  Youth Group Party Sanders Home 1:00 pm - 5 pm	28	29	30 Bible Study 10:00 a.m.			

# UEC July 2010 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
<p>4</p> <p><b>Independence Day Communion Sunday</b></p> <p>Food Bank Donations</p> <p>8:00 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p>	5	6	<p>7</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Conversations of Faith 6:00 p.m. Pasticcio Italian Kitchen in the Can Company, 2400 Boston St., Suite 120.</p>	8	9	10
<p>11</p> <p>8:00 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p>	12	<p>13</p> <p>Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p>	15	16	17
<p>18</p> <p>8:00 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p>	19	<p>20</p> <p>Christian Education Meeting 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Conversations of Faith 6:00 p.m. Pasticcio Italian Kitchen in the Can Company, 2400 Boston St., Suite 120.</p>	22	23	24
<p>25</p> <p>8:00 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p>	26	27	<p>28</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p>	29	30	31



"Whoever follows me  
will **never** walk in  
**darkness,**  
but will have the  
**light of life.**"  
JOHN 8:12

"Dark as my path may seem to others, I carry a magic light in my heart. Faith, the spiritual strong searchlight, illumines the way, and although sinister doubts lurk in the shadow, I walk unafraid toward the enchanted wood where the foliage is always green, where joy abides...in the presence of the Lord."

Helen Keller

## United Evangelical Church

Pastor Rev. Catherine J. Oatman  
cell phone: 410-428-1482  
cjoatman@msn.com

Church Office 410-276-0393  
e-mail: uecucc@verizon.net  
website: www.unitedevangelical.org

Hours Tuesday - Friday  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Secretary Carol Duray

Custodian Paul Polasky

Director of Music Robert Gundlach  
robert.gundlach@verizon.net

Newsletter Editor Barbara Matthew  
barbmatthew@verizon.net

UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

### What is Stewardship?

Stewardship is not just raising funds;

It's raising Christians.

Stewardship is not a matter of budgets;

It's a matter of faith.

### **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 Nar-  
thex.

## Church Committee/CCA Information

### 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.



Our UEC Bowling League has Openings!

League begins in September

If interested contact  
Holly Raddatz  
@ 410-285-0894

### Coffee Hour resumes in September

Thank you to everyone who has hosted a coffee hour over the past nine months. Coffee time will resume on September 12th.

### Parish Relations Committee

An active Parish Relations/Pastoral Relations Committee continues to exist at United. Are you asking yourself - What is a Parish/Pastoral Relations Committee? The Parish/Pastoral Relations Committee seeks to support and maintain an open and healthy relationship between the pastor and members of the congregation. The group serves as an advisory group to the pastor and as a support group for the pastor's leadership. The group is concerned with all church staff members' well-being. Constructive and caring communication in an atmosphere of confidentiality and trust is essential to the work of this committee.

The committee meets quarterly and reports any questions or concerns to the Council. Committee members consist of:

Rev. Cathy                      Carol Rowell  
Bob Osburne                  Lynn Sanders

Please feel free to approach any committee member with questions, comments or areas of concern. Thank you & God Bless.



### NEIGHBORHOOD Association

### 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.

To obtain additional info.— [www.cantoncommunity.org/](http://www.cantoncommunity.org/)

Comics Corner



Campbell

"What do you want? Quaker or interdenominational?"

Kids in Church

One particular four-year-old prayed,  
*'And forgive us our trash baskets  
As we forgive those who put trash  
in our baskets.'*

3-year-old Reese :  
*'Our Father, Who does art in  
heaven,  
Harold is His name.  
Amen.'*

**oops!**

From a church bulletin in Hilton Head, SC:

~~JOIN US FOR THE FELLOWSHIP PICNIC LUNcheon~~  
Just bring yourself as an appetizer.  
~~We'll meet at Liberty Park at noon.~~

Those church members must be awfully tasty.

How's that again....

After the christening of his baby brother in church,  
Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car.  
His father asked him three times what was wrong.  
Finally, the boy replied, 'That preacher said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I wanted to stay with you guys.'



"If we're all God's children, just think of all the cards he gets on Father's Day."

Kids Only!!



The true vine

In a vineyard, the vine gives life to the branches, which, in turn, produce the grapes. Follow the puzzle directions below to learn about our special relationship with Jesus, our true vine.

Directions: Circle every other letter and then write them in order on the lines below.

START ▶ ① b a s m L t r h g e c v d i e n f e g y h o i u j a K r

a v f F l i s s e u h t c T n s a R r q b p e o h n t M e L

w m x a y n Z r a e A m b a C i d n e s F i f n m m n e

e c b a l l r i q w f e o h b m m i l h k n j i l i d Q n P

d a e r f m g u h c C h d f D r E u e i j t

“ I \_\_\_\_\_ ; \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ;

apart from me you can do nothing.”

John 15:5, NIV

Answer: “I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit.”



# The United Endeavor

PRESORTED  
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BALTIMORE, MD.

United Evangelical Church  
United Church of Christ  
3200 Dillon Street  
Baltimore, MD 21224

**Address Service Requested**

**Dated Material**

Rev. Catherine J. Oatman  
3236 Churchville Road  
Churchville, MD 21028

## The United Endeavor

**"Be strong and courageous...**  
for the **LORD** your God is  
with you wherever  
you go."

Joshua 1:9, NRSV

