

The United Endeavor

News from United Evangelical Church

Oct/Nov 2009



Pastor's Message



Co-opted by Christ?

As I am still getting up to speed after being on sabbatical this summer, I want to first say "thank you" for the opportunity to go away and study and learn and rest. It was an experience that I believe will benefit my ministry, as well as the ministry of the church, for some time to come.

One of the highlights from my study time was the week I spent at Lancaster Seminary. It was a week of engaging and challenging discussion about the church. Part of that discussion involved de-constructing the church as we know it. Gathered in a room in the basement of the seminary, we imagined a church without buildings or property, a church without paid clergy; a church that could still be a strong witness for Christ without the things we so heavily rely upon to be church. It was a very exciting and stimulating time.

It was also a challenging time because it highlighted an ecclesiastical structure that, at its worst, severely hampers the mission of the church. The church's reliance upon "professional clergy" has inadvertently created a body of believers who have abdicated their own faith development, leaving it in the hands of the expert. Like baby birds congregations look to the clergy to feed them.

Barbara Brown Taylor, who is a professor of religion at Piedmont College and Columbia Theological Seminary, wrote an article for the June 17, 2008 issue of *The Christian Century* entitled "Failing Christianity." In it she spoke of how the church is producing ill equipped Christians. On the final exam in her "Introduction to World Religions" class, Christianity was the weak spot for the Christians in the class. She writes, "This is the point in the semester when I figure I have failed the Christians – but not all by myself. Their churches have failed them too, by supporting them to believe things they do not know much about. College students in all other regards, they remain fifth graders in (faith)."

Deferring to a professional is a common practice of our world. We hire professional consultants to help us run our businesses, to diagnosis problems in our systems, to raise funds; the list is endless. However using this model in the church creates a division between the church and its clergy. Instead of being brothers and sisters in Christ together on a journey of faith, clergy can be seen as employees who are paid to run the church according to the wishes of a governing board. For obvious reasons this has the potential to compromise the message of the Gospel as job security comes into play when clergy are called to bring a challenging or unpopular message.

Pastor's Message

Pastor's Message (cont'd from page 1)

As we looked critically at ecclesiastical structures it was clear that in many ways the church has been co-opted by the practices of the world; taken over by the practices of the world. The church's challenge in this age, as it has been in every age, is to remain instead co-opted by Christ. To individually take responsibility for our faith development, to corporately as a church be committed to being a witness to that faith, and to then live that commitment in society.

One of the challenges for us as we go forward from this sabbatical time will be to ask ourselves "Am I co-opted by Christ?"

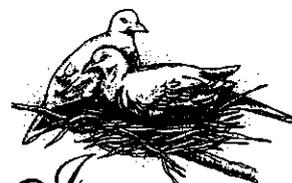
In Christ's love,

Rev. Cathy

In The Silence - a Contemplative Advent Gathering

An escape from the rush and pressure and superficiality of the pre-Christmas season.

Thursdays, December 3, 10, & 17.
7:00 pm in the UEC sanctuary



*I will lie down and
sleep in peace,
for you alone,
O Lord, make
me dwell in safety.*

Psalm 4:8



Neighbors in Need Offering – October 25th

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

Through our generous gifts to Neighbors In Need, the United Church of Christ is offering hope to millions of people; we are transforming lives, the nation, and our world.

Imagine—Another World is Possible

UEC Spaghetti Dinner



Spaghetti Dinner

FUND RAISER FOR OKTOBERFEST

OCTOBER 11, 2009

12:00 Noon to 2:00p.m.

Cost: \$7.00 per person.

Tickets may be purchased at the door

Menu includes:

salad

spaghetti with meatballs and sauce

dessert

UEC Oktoberfest

UEC Oktoberfest 2009



Sunday, October 25th, 2009
(Oktoberfest begins immediately
following 10:30 a.m. Worship)

Come out and enjoy the UEC Oktoberfest on Sunday,
October 25th, 2009.

We are gearing up for this festive event with committees
handling the planning, food, entertainment, set up and
clean up for the festival. All volunteers are welcome to participate.

Also donations of prizes for the raffles and items to sell at the festival are being requested.
If you can help or have any suggestions, please contact Cissy Funk at 443-676-9957 or via
email at jakco22@hotmail.com.

Don't miss out - come and enjoy Oktoberfest Sunday at UEC!!

Live German Band
Outdoor Beer & Wine Garden
Raffles & Prizes
Silent Auction

Brats & Kraut
Hot Dogs
Sour Beef & Dumplings
German Potato Salad

Invite your families, friends, neighbors, co-workers!!

With everyone's help our festival will be a great success and will help to serve as an invitation to the neighborhood and visitors to come and be a part of United Evangelical Church.

Oktoberfest Preparation

UEC Oktoberfest 2009



October 25th is the date of our second Oktoberfest celebration and volunteers are needed to help with shopping, food preparation, cooking, serving, and clean up. This is an ambitious project and a very good fund raiser for our church.

Your participation is vital to it's success.

A radio host said last year that UEC is one of the few remaining churches that makes the "Best Sour Beef and Dumplings in Baltimore." Let's keep that tradition alive!!!

For additional information, please contact Bob Osburne at 410-335-9470.

A schedule follows on the next page detailing what must be done, when it must be done and number of people required to get it done. These are only estimates, however, more volunteers and always needed and welcomed.

All times on the schedule are from 8:30 a.m.—? Come when you can and leave when you must.

Cake Donations Needed!!

We will have a bake sale table at the Oktoberfest. Donations of cakes, cookies, brownies, etc. are needed. Cakes will be sold by the slice, so please wrap slices individually. Cookies will also be sold in bags of 5, so please package accordingly.

Oktoberfest Preparation Schedule



UEC Oktoberfest 2009

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All prep events begin at 8:30 a.m.

Date	Event	No. of People Needed
Oct. 16, 17 or 19 (Fri, Sat, or Mon)	Pick up truck or van and driver	1
	Shop for food and carry items downstairs Two should be men	3
Oct. 20 (Tues)	Trim, cut up and pickle beef	6
	Prepare onion & spice bags	2
Oct. 21 (Wed)	Cook, cool and bag beef	5
	Brown flour and crush ginger snaps	4
Oct. 22 (Thurs)	Make gravy, fry bacon and chop onions & parsley	2 3
	Peel, eye, cook and rice potatoes Cool potatoes	15 3
Oct. 24 (Sat)	Make, cook and package dumplings	15
	Prepare potatoes for potato salad	2
Oct. 25 (Sun)	Make potato salad and sauerkraut	4
	Heat gravy and dumplings	4
	Supply steam tables	2
	Grill hot dogs & bratwurst	
	12 noon—2:30 pm	2
	2:30 pm-5:00 pm	2
	Outside Servers (Sour Beef & Dumplings)	
	12 noon—2:30 pm	2
	2:30—5:00 pm	2
	Serve hot dogs & bratwurst	
	12 noon—2:30 pm	2
	2:30—5:00 pm	2
	Cake Table	1

Give It Some Thought...

Dinner Groups Restarting

At the end of 2007 into 2008 we met in dinner groups as part of our church visioning process. Five areas were identified in those groups as places we needed to grow as a church. Starting in October the dinner groups will restart, dealing with three of these areas. Simply pick the group that is most interesting to you and come. You can attend more than one group, however, what is most important is that everyone attend at least one of these groups. As before each group will meet at the church in the hall and everyone is asked to bring a dish to share. The three groups are:

"Continuing the conversation, asking the questions – ministry with youth and young adults" will meet on Friday October 9th at 6:30 pm.

"Mission Life – making a difference in the world" will meet on Friday October 16th at 6:30 pm.

"Worship Life – combining the passion of the contemporary with the depth of tradition" will meet on Friday October 23rd at 6:30 pm.

"And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

Hebrews 10:24-25

The Beginning of Advent

November is the month of Thanksgiving, but it often also includes the beginning of a new church year. This year, November 29 is the first Sunday of Advent. The season of Advent is about Jesus, the Word, "coming." It's about anticipating and preparing for Christ's arrival.

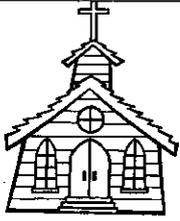
God comes to us in many and various ways. He speaks to us through the prophets and saints. He comes and speaks to us when we are listening. He comes in the beauty and mysteries of nature. Most of all, God comes in the person of Christ, speaking to his listeners face to face.

Pastor Edmund Steimle put it this way: "The Christian story is a story of God coming into the middle of life, of our lives, opening the dialogue with us."

That's what Advent is really all about: God visiting the earth in person to speak with anyone and everyone who is ready to do so.



Coming in November



CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

November 15th following 10:30 a.m. worship

This meeting will include the election of church council members, a vote on 2010 budget and discussion of other pertinent church issues.

See any current council member if you are interested in serving on the UEC Church Council.

This is your church and it needs you more than ever. If you think you have little to offer, think again. You are gifted by God. Let Him know you are ready to serve and He will guide. Step up.



Family Fun Bingo Night at UEC
Friday, November 20th

Doors open at 5:00 p.m.
Bingo begins promptly at 6:00 p.m.

Welcome



Pastor Elfriede Stauss to visit UEC
Sunday, November 22nd

On Sunday, November 22nd, we will welcome to United, Pastor Elfriede Stauss, from Magdeburg, Germany. Pastor Stauss is in the United States as part of the Central Atlantic Conference's ecumenical partnership with the Evangelical Church of Middle Germany (EKM). She is most interested in meeting with church people and participating in worship, education and mission service projects. She hopes to learn more about the Intentional Interim Ministry model that is used in the United States. Plan to be in church on the 22nd and meet Pastor Stauss.

Community
Thanksgiving
Worship



Thanksgiving Eve Ecumenical Worship Service
Wednesday, November 26th

This year UEC will host our ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service. **A canned food donation for the food bank is requested.**

Worship begins at 7:00 p.m.



United Church of Christ

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

SAVE THE DATE !

CHESAPEAKE ASSOCIATION FALL MEETING

Saturday, October 10 at 11am

Heritage UCC

3106 Liberty Heights Avenue, Baltimore

410-542-1204



Special Guest:

Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson, new Minister for Racial Justice, of Justice and Witness Ministries, United Church of Christ.

From the UCC News, April-May 2009:

The Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson began serving as the UCC's minister for racial justice in Justice and Witness Ministries March 2. Thompson previously served on Florida's Conference Staff since 2004.



She was project coordinator for five counties in Florida, responding to the 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons; then became statewide Minister for Disaster Response and Recovery in 2006. She was responsible for coordination, leadership development and training, volunteer recruitment, advocacy, and grant funds administration.

Thompson also provided leadership in the Florida Conference following the national launching of the Sacred Conversation on Race, and shares that her personal and professional experiences motivated her to seek this call to engage the church by raising awareness and changing attitudes to address the issues of racism in our society and in the church.

Thompson will be part of the JWM Cleveland-based team leading the Sacred Conversation on Race initiative, but will spend a portion of her time working with JWM's Racial Justice Program at Franklinton Center at Bricks and with public policy staff in the Washington, D.C., office. Key to her responsibilities will be to collaborate with other program staff to demonstrate the intersections of racism with other justice issues.

Please contact Angie Megna in the Conference office, amegna@cacucc.org, to register.

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

November 7
\$34.00 per person

Faith Church Oyster, Turkey,
Ham Luncheon
stops at McCutcheon's & Baugher's
SEATS AVAILABLE—CALL ASAP
Bus fare req'd by October meeting

December 5
\$41.10 per person

"White Christmas" at
Toby's Travel Plaza
LIMITED SEATING—CALL ASAP
Need paid reservation by 11/1

December 16
12 noon—3:00 p.m.

Christmas Party
Riverwatch Restaurant
Cost of luncheon due in October
(voted on by members)

Contact

Arlene Pate 410-327-3211 or Millie Wirsing 410-675-3904
for ticket prices and availability

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

New members are always welcome!

Dues are \$ 10.00 per year

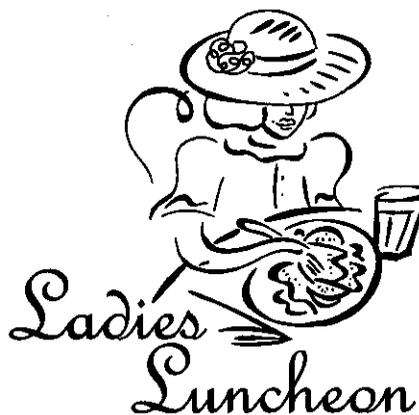
Upcoming Ladies Organization Meetings
first Wednesday of the month.
All Meetings Begin at 12 noon
(unless otherwise noted)

Oct. 7 Brown Bag Luncheon

Nov. 4 Turkey Dinner
\$ 7.00 per person

Dec. 2 Meeting cancelled
(see Christmas luncheon
& dinner theatre)

Jan 6, 2010 Pizza & salad
\$ 7.00 per person



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 October 2009 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	2	3
4 Communion Sunday <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 60px; height: 30px; margin: 5px auto; text-align: center; padding: 2px;">Food Bank Donations</div> 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Bible Study	5	6	7 Ladies Organization Brown Bag Luncheon 12 noon Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m. Swing and Ballroom Dance Lessons 7:30 p.m.	8 Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	9	10
11 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Bible Study UEC Spaghetti Dinner	12	13 Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.	14 Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m. Swing and Ballroom Dance Lessons 7:30 p.m.	15 Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	16	17
18 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Bible Study	19	20 Christian Education Meeting 6:30 p.m.	21 Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m. Swing and Ballroom Dance Lessons 7:30 p.m.	22 Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	23	24
25 UEC Oktoberfest Neighbors in Need Offering 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Bible Study	26	27	28 Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m. Swing and Ballroom Dance Lessons 7:30 p.m.	29 Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	30	31

UEC November 2009 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p><i>All Saints Day</i></p> <p>Communion Sunday</p> <p>Food Bank Donations</p> <p>8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Bible Study</p> <p><i>Daylight Savings Ends</i></p>		<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Ladies Organization Turkey Luncheon Friendship Hall 12 noon</p> <p>Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Swing and Ballroom Dance Lessons 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Faith Church Oyster/Turkey/Ham Luncheon bus trip</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Bible Study</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>11</p> <p><i>Veterans Day</i></p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Swing and Ballroom Dance Lessons 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>12</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. Bible Study</p> <p>Congregational Meeting following 10:30 worship</p>	<p>16</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>Swing and Ballroom Dance Lessons 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Family Fun Bingo Night Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Friendship Hall</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p><i>Totenfest Sunday</i></p> <p>8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Canton Community Assoc. Meeting 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Thanksgiving Worship hosted by UEC 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>26</p> <p><i>Thanksgiving Day</i></p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p><i>1st Sunday of Advent</i></p> <p>8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Bible Study</p>	<p>30</p>					

Three Kinds of Giving

"There are three kinds of giving: grudge giving, duty giving and thanksgiving. Grudge giving says, 'I have to'; duty giving says, 'I ought to'; and thanksgiving says, 'I want to.' The latter comes from a full heart. Thanksgiving is an open gate into the love of God."

—Robert N. Rodenmayer



United Evangelical Church

Pastor

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

Church Office

e-mail:
website:

410-276-0393
uecucc@verizon.net
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



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

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



*Just a
Reminder...*

Don't Forget....



**Swing and
Ballroom
Dance
Lessons
at UEC**

Every Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m.

**Put on your dancin' shoes and join
swing and ballroom dance classes at
United Evangelical Church
with instructor John Butler**

**Classes are held in the
United Evangelical School Building in
the 900 block of S. East Avenue
Come to the double red doors**

**Cost: \$ 5.00 per person each lesson
plus one non-perishable food item
for the Canton Food Bank**

Dance Instructor: John Butler

**For more information call 410-276-0393
Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m.
United Evangelical Church in Canton
Don't Miss It!**



**Extra, Extra,
Read All About It!**

**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,



*We know
that all
things work
together
for good for
those who
love God....*

Romans 8:28

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!

If interested contact
Holly Raddatz
@ 410-285-0894

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

Marge Hurd

Bob Osburne

Lynn Sanders

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

Canton Community Association Meetings



NEIGHBORHOOD
Association

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 knows that 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.

Upcoming meetings are scheduled for:

November 24, 2009 — 6:30 p.m.

Christ Church Festival in Locust Point

Dear Friends,

This is to let you know about **Christ Church's Oktoberfest and Arts Festival this coming October 31 and November 1!** We are planning a big two-day event and I hope you can come - and also that you will help us get the word out to everyone you know who may be interested. Here are our plans to date:

We anticipate 20-25 artists and craftsmen/women as exhibitors. We have already had 11 ask for contracts. This will be a juried arts fair and there are no re-sale items. So, all arts and crafts will be original and the artists will be present.

On Saturday (October 31) we will also be serving Christ Church's famous "sauerbeef and dumplings" dinner!

We are selling raffle tickets for a Ravens and Steelers football package: 2 tickets to the game in Baltimore, 2 tickets to the game in Pittsburgh, airfare and hotel accommodations for two in Pittsburgh. The drawing will be on Sunday afternoon - you do not have to be present to win.

Beer, wine and music both days. We are currently negotiating with a Maryland winery to offer a wine tasting area at the Oktoberfest.

Hotdogs and Brauts both days.

Periodic raffles both days for items donated by the arts and crafts vendors.

Special events for children.

Watch for more information in the coming weeks! Check our website www.christuccbaltimore.org for updates.

If you know of good artists or crafters who may want to be considered for the juried show, or musicians who may want to perform for one to two hours, please have them contact me, at jasmb@aol.com.

Thanks for helping us promote this event. I hope you can come join the fun.

Jim Bell

Christ Church
1308 Beason Street
Locust Pt., MD 21230

Comics Corner



Honest Praying

Minister: "So your mother says your prayers with you every night? What does she say?"

Little Boy: "Thank God, he's in bed."



oops!

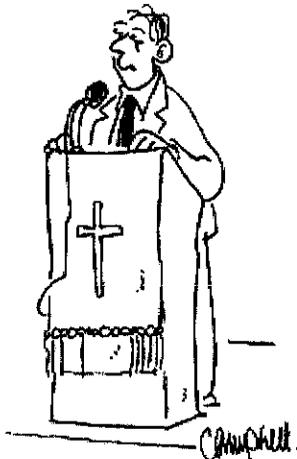
From a church bulletin in Viola, Wisconsin:

Sunday Evening worship

WORDS OF WELCOME "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." (Hebrews 13:2)

SHARE GOD'S PEACE

So, be an *angel* and entertain strangers and *angles*.



"Now turn to hymn 206. Sing the first verse. Mumble the third. Hum the fifth."

A Little Off the Sides

Right in the middle of his sermon, verbose Pastor Phillips noted Brother Bob get up and leave the sanctuary; then he returned before the closing hymn.

Afterwards, Pastor Phillips asked, "Where did you go, Brother Bob?"

"I went to get a haircut," was Bob's reply.

"But why didn't you do that before the service?" asked the reverend.

"Because I didn't need one then."

Kids Only!!



He gave thanks

This Thanksgiving, you may share a special meal with family and friends. Do you remember the time when Jesus shared a meal with thousands of people and gave thanks?

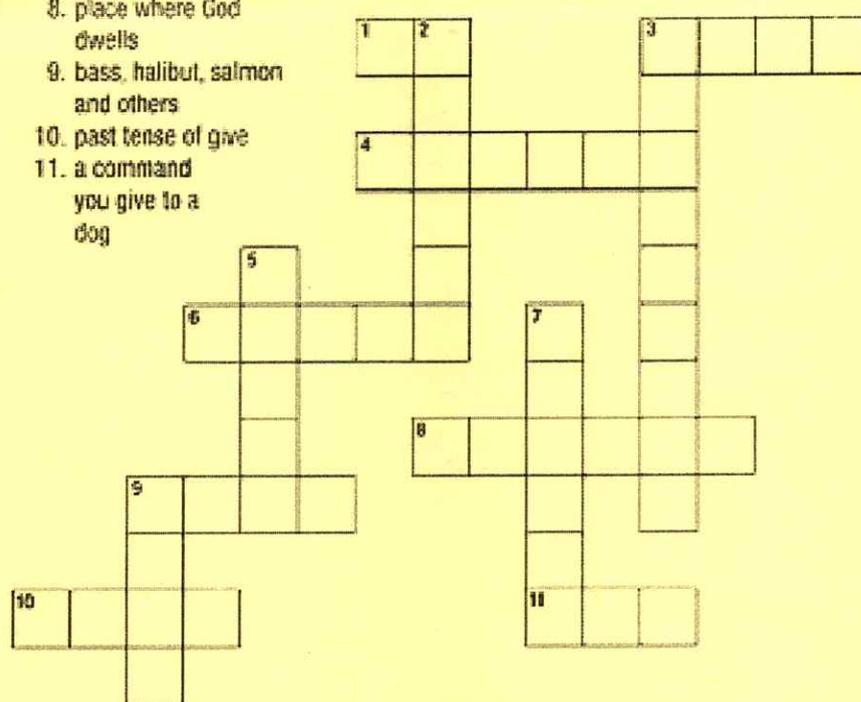
Use the clues to find important words from Matthew 14:19 (NIV).

Across

- opposite of down
- opposite of up
- more than one loaf
- penniless
- place where God dwells
- bass, halibut, salmon and others
- past tense of give
- a command you give to a dog

Down

- another name for humans
- twelve of Jesus' closest friends
- what a lawnmower cuts
- _____ giving
- odd number after 4



Across: 1. up, 3. down, 4. loaves, 6. broke, 8. heaven, 9. fish, 10. gave, 11. sit
 Down: 2. people, 3. disciples, 5. grass, 7. thanks, 9. five

The United Endeavor

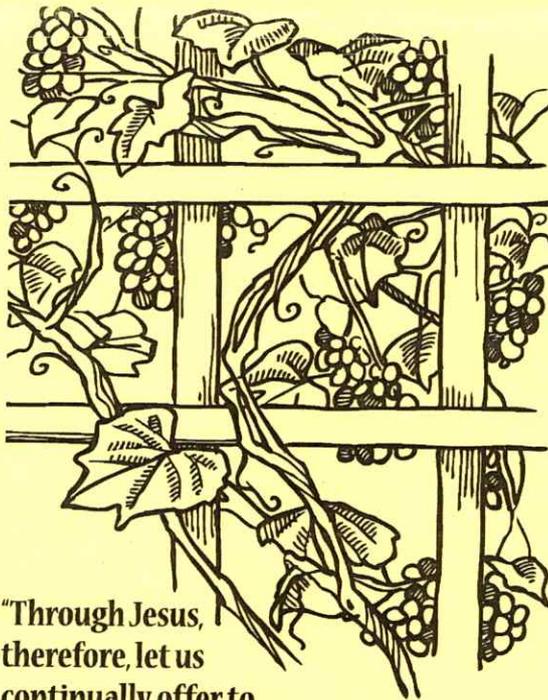
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STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT No. 6326
BALTIMORE, MD.

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

Dated Material

Rev. Catherine J. Oatman
[REDACTED] Road
Churchville, MD [REDACTED]

The United Endeavor



**"Through Jesus,
therefore, let us
continually offer to
God a sacrifice of praise —
the fruit of lips that confess his name."**

Hebrews 13:15, NIV