

# The United Endeavor

PRESORTED  
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

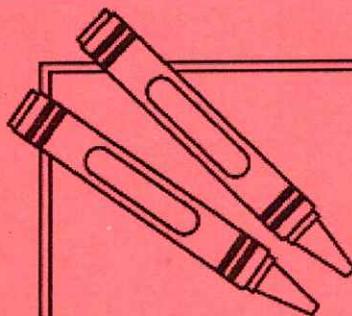
Rev. Catherine J. Oatman  
[REDACTED]  
Churchville, MD [REDACTED]

The United Endeavor





# Kids Only!!



## Jesus Teaches Us to Pray

*In Luke 11 Jesus taught his disciples to pray:*

“Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation.”

In the puzzle below, find and circle the words from the prayer above. (Note: If a word is in the prayer more than one time, it is used only once in the puzzle.) → ↓

G	K	A	G	A	I	N	S	T	D	T	O
I	U	F	O	R	D	F	A	T	H	E	R
V	D	A	Y	E	A	C	H	S	T	W	W
E	A	I	B	E	N	L	S	C	E	G	S
H	I	O	R	E	S	E	Y	O	M	H	F
O	L	U	K	V	I	A	O	M	P	A	O
U	Y	S	I	E	N	D	U	E	T	L	R
R	B	N	N	R	S	N	R	A	A	L	G
W	R	O	G	Y	S	A	A	L	T	O	I
H	E	T	D	O	B	M	N	S	I	W	V
O	A	W	O	N	O	E	D	O	O	E	E
F	D	E	M	E	I	N	T	O	N	D	B

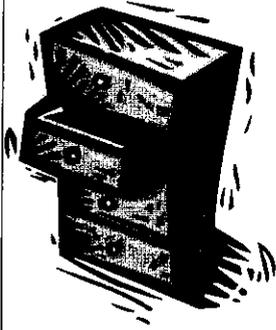
# UEC March 2009 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>1</b></p> <p>First Sunday in Lent <i>Communion Sunday</i></p> <p>Food Bank Donations</p> <p>8:00 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Bible Study</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Swing Dance Lessons UEC gymnasium 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Lenten Worship 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>World Day of Prayer</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>Confirmation Class 7:30 a.m.</p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Bible Study</p> <p><i>Daylight Savings Time begins</i></p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>Swing Dance Lessons UEC gymnasium 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Lenten Worship 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Bible Study</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>Swing Dance Lessons UEC gymnasium 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Christian Education Meeting 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Lenten Worship 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>First Day of Spring</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>Confirmation Class 8:30 a.m.</p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Bible Study</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Swing Dance Lessons UEC gymnasium 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>Canton Community Assoc. Meeting 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Lenten Worship 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Bible Study</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>Swing Dance Lessons UEC gymnasium 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>31</b></p>				

# UEC February 2008 Calendar of Events

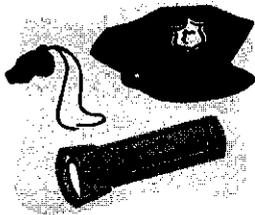
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>1</b></p> <p><i>Communion Sunday</i></p> <p>Food Bank Donations</p> <p>8:00 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Bible Study</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Swing Dance Lessons UEC gymnasium 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Canton Community Assoc. Meeting 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Bible Study</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>Swing Dance Lessons UEC gymnasium 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>Valentine's Day</p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Bible Study</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>Swing Dance Lessons UEC gymnasium 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Christian Education Meeting 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. &amp; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>9:15 a.m. Bible Study</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Swing Dance Lessons UEC gymnasium 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p> <p><i>Ash Wednesday</i> Worship 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Confirmation Class 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>

# Comics Corner



## Furniture Disease

Some of us are getting that dreaded furniture disease—your chest is falling into your drawers!



## Call for Help!

A police recruit was asked, "What would you do if you had to arrest your mother?"

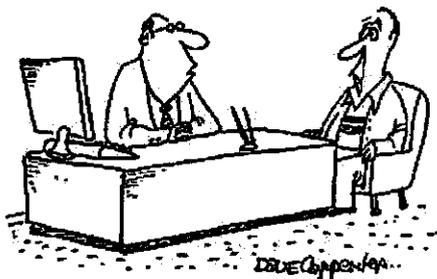
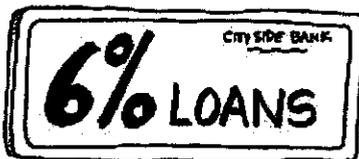
He replied, "Call for back up."



## History Rewritten



Teacher: Maria, go to the map and find North America.  
 Maria: Here it is.  
 Teacher: Correct, now class who discovered America?  
 Class: Maria



"YOU'RE PART OF THE 6% WE WON'T BE LENDING MONEY TO..."



From a church bulletin in Walsh/Peshtigo, Wisconsin:

**PSALMS NEEDED**  
 Lent is coming much sooner this year! Please bring your old psalms from last year to prepare the ashes for Ash Wednesday.

~~A container is outside the main office.~~

They must not have any *palms* on hand.

Did these give you a chuckle? Thank Ed Meyers & Clarence Rowell for their contributions.

Don't Forget....



**Swing  
Dance  
Lessons  
at UEC**

**Every Monday 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 will be 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  
Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m.  
United Evangelical Church in Canton  
Don't Miss It!**



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



**Coffee Hour-It is  
easier than you  
think!**

Have you held back from hosting a Coffee Hour because you are not sure what to do? Not to worry. You only need to bring the treats (a few noshes - donuts, cake, etc.) and drop them off. Bob Osburne will set up the coffee, plates, etc. Then just clean up when its over. Call Bob at 410-335-9470 and let him know when you would be willing to host. You could even buddy-up with someone else and together host an hour.

Sign up sheets are in the Narthex.

# 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

April 4 \$ 34.00  
Faith Church Oyster, Turkey & Ham Luncheon Bus Trip  
McCutcheon Jelly & Baugher Produce & Ice Cream. Mall.  
(We will go shopping in April and will skip shopping in  
November. Half of our bus would like to shop and half would  
not).

June 6. Strawberry Festival  
Chairperson: Olga deBloom

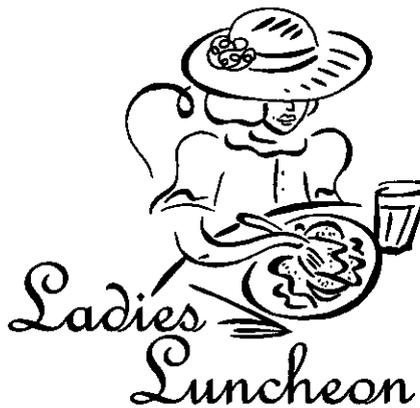
December 16 Christmas Party  
12 noon—3:00 p.m. Riverwatch Restaurant

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)

Feb. 4	Pizza & Salad	\$ 7.00
Mar. 4	Corned Beef & Cabbage (date may change)	
Apr. 1	Brown Bag Lunch	
May 6	Barbecue & Cole Slaw	\$ 7.00
Jun. 3	Squires Restaurant	



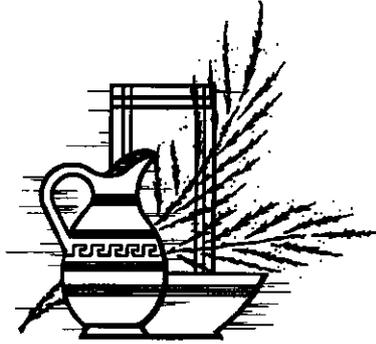
### **Important Notice—All trips MUST HAVE DEPOSIT TO HOLD SEATS**

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





“ Well I know thy trouble,  
O my servant true;  
Thou art very weary,  
I was weary too;  
But that toil shall make thee  
Some day all Mine own.  
And the end of sorrow  
Shall be near My Throne.”

## United Evangelical Church

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

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

Hours Tuesday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Secretary

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](http://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.

## Mission Moments

Mission Moments is a way of highlighting our congregation's connection to the wider church. Our church is a vital part of the United Church of Christ, and it is not alone! Each Mission Moment will help inform members of what they make possible through their gifts to Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM).

Even when every door is closed to us, God will make a way for us to become who we are meant to be. And so, when Teresinha, a young girl from Brazil, heard that a rural school would be opening near her small town, her heart sang with joy. At last she would be able to learn to read and write—a privilege her mother never had. But her father refused to give his permission, insisting that there was no reason for his daughter to learn such things. Schools were rare in rural Brazil many years ago, and girls were not allowed to attend. The only place that Teresinha and her sisters were allowed to go outside the home was to church.

Teresinha made her decision on one of the three-mile walks to church. After Mass, Teresinha told the priest she wanted to become a nun. The priest secured her father's permission to take Teresinha to the convent in the city, where she learned to read and write. While still a novice, she became an assistant teacher in a local grammar school and after four years, met her future husband, married, and had a family. Today, Teresinha has but one paper diploma, from the Course for the Training of Community Health Educators, a program sponsored by Global Ministries of the United Church of Christ.

Teresinha's self-esteem as a woman, able to be an active member of the community besides being a wife, mother and now grandmother, is a victory example for women. We can be proud of the role Our Church's Wider Mission played in Teresinha's story.

February 2009

God is still speaking

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



### Just What is OCWM?

Just what is it and how is it different from OGHS (One Great Hour of Sharing)?

#### **OCWM** **(Our Church's** **Wider Mission)**

Right now, Our Church's Wider Mission is bringing the UCC message to more and more people:

*No matter who you are  
or where you are on  
life's journey...you're  
welcome here.*

Without OCWM, there would be no United Church of Christ. OCWM is who we are.

#### **OGHS** **(One Great Hour** **of Sharing)**

OGHS works with international partners to provide sources of clean water and food, education and health care, emergency relief, and resettlement aid for refugees. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster response and relief.

## Chesapeake Association News

### An Ecclesiastical Council for Michael S. Williams

February 7, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. at  
Immanuel United Church of Christ  
1905 Edmondson Avenue  
Catonsville, MD 21228

Michael is a candidate for ordained ministry. A copy of Michael's ordination paper is available from Rev. Cathy.

### CENTRAL ATLANTIC CONFERENCE SMALL CHURCH VITALITY WORKSHOP

**MARCH 27-28, 2009**

**Registration begins Friday at 2:30 p.m.**

**Program to begin at 3:30 p.m.**

**Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
8400 COTTINGTON RD  
PERRY HALL, MD**

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:  
REV ANTHONY PAPPAS**

*Author of **Entering the Small Church: A  
Guide for Leaders***

**Theme: "The Validity of the Small  
Church"**

**Other topics will include:** Financing the  
Mission of the Small Church, Next Steps

**Cost:** \$30 per person.

Please see Rev. Cathy if you are interested  
in attending.

### Godspell

**on stage at First United!**

Our sister church, First United UCC is celebrating their 160th anniversary with a special production of GODSPELL, the hit 70's rock musical. Proceeds will benefit the church and their work in the community.

Show times are 2/27 thru 3/1

**Friday, February 27**

Includes a Gala Reception with hors d'oeuvres and two drink tickets. Reception starts at 7:00pm, and show starts at 8:00pm.

Ticket price is \$35

**Saturday, February 28 and Sunday, March 1**

Show starts at 8:00pm

Cash bar and snacks available at intermission

Ticket price is \$20

Order tickets online using the link below.

<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/53218>

You can also purchase tickets

by emailing [firstuniteducc@gmail.com](mailto:firstuniteducc@gmail.com) or calling  
410-732-7644.

GODSPELL Is Presented through special arrangement with Music  
Theatre International (MTI).

## Give It Some Thought...

### Uncertain Times

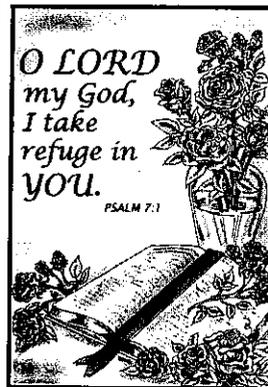
During the present economic crisis, it's time to remind ourselves that our trust is in God, and not in greed.

*Psalm 77:8 Has his unfailing love vanished forever? Has his promise failed for all time?*

We are living in uncertain times and we are all anxious about the economy. It seems that we have just about outlived our greed, and that we will all be tightening our belts and becoming more frugal about how we spend our money. I even saw a report the other day that teenagers are beginning to reject designer label clothing. Instead, they are starting to buy cheaper items in an effort to reject hyper-commercialism, in order to save their own money. That, in itself, is a sign of a more frugal society which will affect our economy.

We've all been here before. In every society and civilization, there is a time when profligate spending and financial speculation comes to an end. It usually coincides with a religious revival because people begin again to trust more in God rather than the economy. It's a reality check on using greed to succeed. It's usually replaced with integrity, frugality, and, oddly enough, generosity. Instead of thinking about what's best for the individual, people become more altruistic and philanthropic. Instead of investing capital to gain more interest, people become more interested in community projects, charity organizations, and those in need.

That's when we recognize that God's love never fails. Economies and civilizations come and go, but the love of God, which is in and around us, remains. Instead of focusing upon where the market is each day, we recognize that each day is a gift from God. We give of ourselves in ways that glorify the goodness of God, instead of the greed of the market.



Perhaps you're worrying and fretting over your finances today, and are wondering what to do about the economic crisis. This is the perfect time to come to God and ask His guidance, seek His presence, and acknowledge His sovereignty over the situation. Eventually, the market will sort itself out, but if we make and take time to place ourselves under God's bidding, we will discover that our faith is stronger than the economy because faith, hope and love endure forever.

*Prayer: Lord God, in these uncertain times, You are the Rock of refuge and the Anchor of our salvation. Help us to take time to ponder on Your influence over our lives, and see Your guidance over what's happening in the world. Give us hearts that are full of hope and spirits that are encouraged by Christ. In Jesus' Name, we mightily pray. Amen.*

*John Stuart is the pastor of Erin Presbyterian Church in Knoxville, Tennessee.*

*From Heaven's Highway,  
[www.glenkirk.blogspot.com/](http://www.glenkirk.blogspot.com/)*

## The Purpose of Lent

### Lent Offers Time for Growth

Many of us know our IQ (intelligence quotient), but what about our SQ (spiritual quotient)?

Lent is a good time to think about the quality of your spiritual life. Do you think about God often ... or rarely? Do you pray often ... or occasionally? How well do you know the Bible? The Commandments? The Beatitudes? The lives of biblical heroes and heroines?

During Lent, commit to spending more time in prayer. Also consider selecting a book of the Bible or a particular Bible character to study in-depth during this period.

Some people give up particular items or habits during Lent. If used wisely, this discipline can help you abandon things that have been interfering with your relationship with God.

Seek out devotions and books that can help strengthen your spiritual life. Examples include: *Show Me the Way* by Henri Nouwen, *A Season for the Spirit* by Martin Smith, *Six Hours One Friday* by Max Lucado, and *Lent and Easter Wisdom* From Thomas Merton edited by Jonathan Montaldo.



### A Prayer for Lent

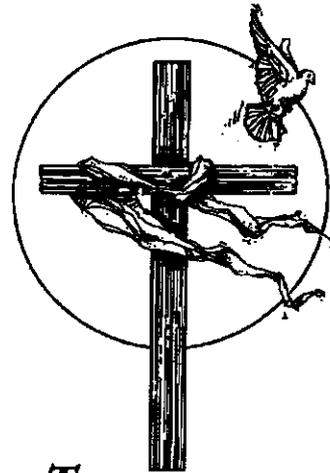
O Lord, open my eyes that I may see more clearly the condition of my soul.

If there is darkness, mean-spiritedness, egotistic pride ... or worse within, cleanse me from all unrighteousness.

Renew a right spirit within me and make me truly Christ-like in all my thoughts and actions.

And when I begin to edge away from your will, please stir up my conscience until I am in harmony with you again.

In Christ's name. Amen



*The Lord lift up  
His countenance  
upon you  
and give you peace.  
-Numbers 6:26*

## Our Annual Lenten Mission Project—One Great Hour of Sharing



Our Lenten Mission Project will focus on caring and generosity for all our brothers and sisters through support of One Great Hour of Sharing.

One Great Hour of Sharing, as part of Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM), is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in more than eighty countries.

The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water and food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, emergency relief, and advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

OGHS is a Lenten Offering.

The Bible affirms that the Lord "will keep your life" (Psalm 121:7, NRSV). Let us eagerly join together in kindness and generosity by supporting our brothers and sisters throughout the world with our One Great Hour of Sharing offering. Together we can do so much.

### Lenten Meals

#### Wednesday Lenten Soup Dinners

beginning March 4th



No time for dinner before Lenten services? No problem. Just like last year a meal of soup and bread will be offered on Wednesday evenings during Lent starting at 6:00 p.m. The fund raising committee will also be selling sandwiches for \$4.00. All proceeds to go to OGHS, our Lenten Mission Project. Come early and break bread with your brothers and sisters in Christ.

## Lenten Theme & Worship Schedule



### The Suffering Servant

*" Jesus took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself...and began to wash the disciples feet..."*

*John 13:3-5*

Within the book of Isaiah there are four songs about a servant of God who suffers, is ignored by the people around him, but will be recognized in the future as God's servant, and his mission to restore justice will be fulfilled. Christians believe that Jesus was this servant of whom Isaiah prophesied. Jesus' role as servant reaches its apex around the Passover meal where he washed feet and broke bread. This Lent as we move toward Holy Week we will study the servant passages in Isaiah and Jesus' teachings on being a servant. The final week of Lent we will gather around the Passover meal as Christ did and be led through the significance of the Seder meal by a Rabbi.



## LENTEN CALENDAR

Our Lenten Theme is "The Suffering Servant"

Wednesday	February 25 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.	Ash Wednesday
Wednesday	March 4 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.	Song One: Isaiah 42:1-7
Wednesday	March 11 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.	Song Two: Isaiah 49:1-6
Wednesday	March 18 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.	Song Three: Isaiah 50:4-11
Wednesday	March 25 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.	Song Four: Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Wednesday	April 1 <sup>st</sup>	7:30 p.m.	Seder Meal

# Church Council

## Christian Education Committee— (cont 'd from previous page )

We welcome new students to our Church School. There are classes for those from 2-5 in the Kindergarten Class, 6-11 in the Multi-age Class, 12-14 in the Junior High Class, and 14-17 in the Senior High Class. There is an Adult Bible Study Class with Rev. Cathy as its leader that meets in the Quiet Room of the church.

Bob Osborne is thanked for the time he spent as the leader of this group. We are happy to report that our classes are growing with the exception of our Kindergarten Class. At this time we have one active member in Carol Borkman 's class and she would like to have other children join her as Carol plans some great lessons and projects for the " little ones ". Please feel free to come visit us and see the great things that are happening in the Church School.

Lastly, we would like to thank Ed Myers for his many years of faithful, dedicated service as the treasurer of the Church School. Ed has been overseeing the financial books of the Church School for many years and has been an active participant in the Church School. As we begin a new year, a decision has been made to incorporate the Church School funds with those of the Church. That means that the offerings and other collections during the year will go directly to the Church and the Church School will receive our funds from the Church. We will truly all be one!

## The UEC Youth Booth

### **Attention All Youth – Ages 12 and up**

Our Church Youth Group invites you and all your friends to come, hang out, have fun and live your faith.



<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Event</u>
2/7, Saturday Tickets cost \$25 for youth, \$55 for adults	8:00 p.m.	The Lyric Opera House	Jesus Christ Super Star
2/14, Saturday Need to have sponsors to support your bowling	TBA	Pinland Bowling Alley	Rock-a-bowl fund-raiser
3/1, Sunday	12:30 – 3:00 p.m.	UEC	Holy Week Drama Practice
3/15, Sunday	12:30 - 3:00 p.m.	UEC	Holy Week Drama Practice
3/29, Sunday	12:30 – 3:00 p.m.	UEC	Holy Week Drama Practice

# Church Council

## Christian Education Committee Report

As the New Year begins, it is with pleasure and thanks that we can look back at a year when we, as a committee, embarked on a new venture that was embraced by some and supported by all. During Advent and continuing to the end of 2008, the Church School experienced a somewhat new model for learning that is called the Rotation Model. As part of this model, various modes of learning: storytelling, drama, arts/crafts, cooking, and games/puzzles were used as teaching tools to accomplish the goal and objectives we set. The theme of our lessons throughout this time was based on Luke 2, verses 10 and 11- "Jesus, the Savior". As the children experienced a different mode of learning each week, they were also learning the meaning of, and memorizing, these two verses. Our teachers developed their own lessons that emphasized our goal: that the children/young adults would understand what salvation means to our lives - peace of mind, hope, love, heart, joy - God's unending love. We have these wonderful gifts and celebrate this news (as the angels) did. As we celebrated the gift of Jesus' birth and its meaning for us, the church school scholars presented an original

pageant during the Christmas Eve service and presented each family represented in the congregation with a gift.

Each week each of our Church School classes rotated to a new setting and experienced a different way of achieving our goal. The teachers who developed the lessons were: Rev. Cathy Oatman-storytelling, Diane Borkman-drama (with Pat Jenkins scribing), Cathy Fifield-cooking, Joann Johnson-game/puzzles, and Carol Borkman-arts/crafts and creating the banner that was given to the church. This was a new venture for each of them and they should be very proud of their efforts. The students should also

be very proud of their efforts in the writing the script under the direction of Diane Borkman and their presentation on Christmas Eve.



Also during the year, with the help of the entire church family, we had another very successful Heifer Project. We thank everyone who contributed to its success.

## Church Committee/CCA Information

### Altar Flowers



### Important Altar News

We all have seen cost increases everywhere, the gas pump, the grocery store, etc. Well, these increases have reached the florist. The church has received a letter from Seifert Florist telling us that they will have to start charging us more for our altar flowers. The new price will be \$18 per vase instead of \$15. I think that this is still a very reasonable price if one compares it with the cost of an arrangement that one can buy at most florists. This cost will go into effect starting November 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have signed up for flowers after that date and you have decided to retract your order, please just strike out your name on the flower chart so that I will not order them.

Ursula Jacob

Altar Committee

### 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 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.

Upcoming meetings are scheduled for:

February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

March 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

# Church Council



Any concerns regarding the janitorial maintenance of the church or school building should be directed to Dale Sanders. With Dale acting as the liaison between the congregation and the custodian, any concerns can be quickly addressed.

Dale can be reached at 443-922-9470.

## The United Evangelical Church of Baltimore, MD

### Treasurer's Report

#### Operating Revenue and Expenses 1/01/08 through 12/31/08

Revenue: Proceeds from Donations, Rent & Interest	\$ 177,706.13
<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>200,189.39</u>
Amount under (deficit)	\$ -22,483.26

#### Operating, Investment & Endowment Funds Balance 12/31/08

Operating Funds on Hand (Includes Window Funds)	\$ 41,227.67
<u>Investment &amp; Endowment Funds on Hand</u>	<u>186,313.00</u>
Total All Funds	\$ 227,540.67

#### Stained Glass Window Report as of 12/31/08

Amount Received to Date	\$ 59,190.00
Amount Paid for 10 Windows	-44,879.00
<u>Amount Paid to Date for Front Windows Restoration Project</u>	<u>- 4,488.00</u>
Funds Available for Donor Plaques and Improvements	\$ 9,823.00

#### 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Events as of 12/31/08

Received from Picnic, Dinner/Dance, Oktoberfest	\$ 11,384.00
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>-8,350.00</u>
Total 135 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary to Operating Funds	\$ 3,034.00

## Pastor's Message

### Pastor's Message

( cont ' d from front page )

No matter which side of this shift you come down on, the scripture above is Jesus' words of wisdom concern these kinds of shifts. They are words he spoke to his elders as they did not welcome the shift they saw happening with his presence, a shift that we know retrospectively was history changing.

As we go forward as a church, and as a country, my prayer is that we will grow to a deeper understanding of these words; an understanding that new wine will always be pouring forth from God, even as we drink the last drops of the old. May we always be willing to make the new wineskins needed to hold the presence of God's new wine.

In Christ's love,

Rev. Cathy



### Rev. Cathy's Upcoming Sabbatical

In the last issue of The Endeavor, Rev. Cathy shared plans for her sabbatical. Recently members of the Church Council and the Pastor Relations Committee met with Rev. Dr. Ben Griffin, who will be the stated supply pastor while Rev. Cathy is away. Rev. Griffin has over 30 years of ministry experience and has been the president of two of our UCC seminaries.

Look for more updates on Rev. Cathy's sabbatical coming soon from the Pastor Relations Committee. Their next meeting is scheduled for February 8."

### Give It Some Thought...

We need to embrace a "new bottom line" in which corporations, social practices, government policies and individual behaviors are judged rational, efficient or productive not only if they maximize money or power, but also to the extent that they maximize love and caring, kindness and generosity, ethical and ecological sensitivity, enhance our capacity to treat others as embodiments of the sacred and to respond with awe, wonder, and radical amazement at the grandeur of the universe.

-Rabbi Michael Lerner

# The United Endeavor

News from United Evangelical Church

Feb/Mar 2009



## Pastor's Message



*"Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are destroyed; but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved." ~ Matt. 9:17*

With the election of our current President, we as a nation have not only witnessed history, but we have witnessed a shift of power in our country. There has been a shift of power away from the WWII generation to a younger generation. Young people in unprecedented numbers turned out for this election and their voices and priorities are being heard in Washington.

For me it is very exciting to see a man my age in the White House. This is something I had never really thought about before. I guess I always thought the President would be someone older than me. This speaks to the shift that is going on in my own life, the fact that I'm getting old. I realize now that one day a President is going to be younger than me, and the power will shift yet again to a younger generation just as it

should in a healthy democracy. It will once again be history in the making.

This kind of shift happens not only in a country's political landscape but also in the church. If a church is healthy, all generations will be contributing to the voices which lead the church. And over time the majority of voices will shift from one generation to the next.

I see this shift happening at United with things like the Oktoberfest and bingo. Things that an older generation declared verboten are now a part of who we are as a church. I see it also in things like considering a new hymnal and that there are no more dinners. Things that an older generation cherished are not a priority in the

*...new wine will always be pouring forth from God, even as we drink the last drops of the old.*

lives of the next generation. And just like the recent election, there

are those who believe that this shift is a great tragedy and those who believe it is a breath of fresh air.

( cont 'd )