

The United Endeavor

News from United Evangelical Church

Aug/Sep 2008

Pastor's Message

135 years

September brings our 135th anniversary as a church. I encourage you to read through the pages of this Endeavor to find out about the several events which are planned to celebrate this milestone. Be sure to invite all your friends, family, neighbors, co-workers – everybody you know, to join with us in celebrating.

Events such as anniversaries are mountaintop times – moments to enjoy, moments to look back and see the wonderful view which hard work has brought. These events are important times in our formation as the body of Christ. We know that Jesus took his disciples to a mountaintop. There they saw a wonderful sight as he transfigured before them; a sight which changed them, which formed their understanding of being disciples.

As sure as we climb these mountains though, we must also descend. The saying is that wheat doesn't grow on the mountaintop, it grows in the valley. The valley is where we do the work of the Kingdom. As such, September will also bring the return of our dinner groups.



The purpose of our meeting in dinner groups has been to "increase the community of United spiritually and numerically." At our all-church potluck on June 29th we heard about how the dinner groups have helped us grow – we know one another better, we have bonded with those who had been strangers, we interact at a deeper level with one another. Church growth statistics tell us that churches where the members are authentic are churches where visitors return.

Our willingness to share honestly with one another over those seven months have brought to the forefront five areas where we need to continue to have honest conversation about where to head as a church. These areas are: music, hospitality, ministry with elders, membership,

...churches where the members are authentic are churches where visitors return.

and faith education. In order to continue the

conversation on how to move forward, the dinner groups will continue in a slightly different format. A group will be specific to one of these five areas of discussion.

Everyone is invited to attend, yet no one will be assigned to a certain group. If one of these areas interests you, then come to that dinner group as we take seriously the work of the Kingdom before us, while we also enjoy the company of one another around a meal.

Church Council

Pastor's Message—cont'd

It is anticipated that the groups will meet somewhere between 2-5 times, and we will begin with 2-3 groups meeting. Council has already begun to act on some of the discussions of the dinner groups. In the pages of this Endeavor you will also find an "Adopt-A-Project" initiative. Two of the projects for this year deal with ministry with the elders in our congregation. As we head into our 135th year of ministry in Christ's name, look for more information about where and when the dinner groups will resume and plan to come to experience the joy which comes with harvesting the wheat that grows in the valley.

In Christ's love,
Rev. Cathy



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.

Upcoming meetings are September 23rd and November 25th.

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.

The next Parish Relations Committee meeting is scheduled for August 6th at 6:00 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 6/30/08

Revenue: Proceeds from Donations, Rent & Interest	\$ 85,493.00
<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>98,336.00</u>
Amount under (deficit)	\$ -12,843.00

Operating, Investment & Endowment Funds Balance 6/30/08

Operating Funds on Hand (Includes Window Funds)	\$ 52,603.00
<u>Investment & Endowment Funds on Hand</u>	<u>193,963.00</u>
Total All Funds	\$ 246,566.00

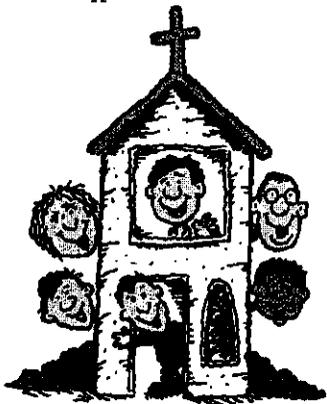
Stained Glass Window Report as of 6/30/08

Amount Received to Date	\$ 59,190.00
Amount Paid for 10 Windows	-43,915.00
Deposit Paid for Front Windows Restoration	<u>- 4,176.00</u>
Funds Available for Balance Due on Front Windows	\$ 11,099.00
<u>Amount Due upon Completion of Front Windows</u>	<u>\$ -9,747.00</u>
Funds Available to Apply for Cleaning and Repair of Drapes	\$ 1,352.00

135th Anniversary Events as of 6/30/08

Ticket Sales, Donations: Amount Received	\$ 210.00
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>980.00</u>
Total 135 th Anniversary: Plus/-Minus	-770.00

Adopt-a-Project Program



Announcing the UEC Adopt-a-Project Program !!

Ever noticed the "Adopt-a-Highway" projects along the interstate? Well, here at UEC, we are thinking along the same lines.

As promised, the Church Council has officially initiated the UEC Adopt-a-Project Program. The selection of projects for the remainder of this year are as follows:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Cost</u>
1) Ice machine	\$ 1,500
2) Sound equipment for hearing impaired	\$ 1,000
3) Stairlift	\$ 4,000

Perhaps you, as an individual, or as a family would consider "adopting" a project to support the care of your church. It is a great opportunity to see a tangible result of your generous donations. Designated donations can be submitted through the offering or by contacting Harvey Jacob at (410) 679-6163 or Nancy Gray at (410) 974-6502.



"HE IS LORD OF ALL."

ACTS 10:36, NRSV

The 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.

Upcoming Youth Group meetings are listed below:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Event</u>
Sept. 14	12 noon	Rocky Point Park	Annual UEC Church picnic
Sept. 28	12:30 p.m.	UEC	Covenanting & Scheduling

Love—A Mighty Force



Aesop told the story about the Wind and the Sun, who were disputing which of them was stronger. After a while they saw a traveler hiking down the road.

"I see a way to decide who's strongest," said the Sun. "Whoever can make that traveler take off his coat the quickest will be the winner. You can even go first."

The Sun ducked behind a cloud, while the Wind began to blow mighty blasts of air at the traveler. But the harder the Wind blew, the closer the traveler pulled his cloak around himself. Finally, the Wind gave up in despair.

The Sun came out from behind the clouds and smiled down on the traveler. Feeling the gentle rays, the man soon found it too hot to walk with his cloak on. He felt so warm that he took off one garment after another, and then bathed in a nearby stream.

The Sun knew that warmth, friendliness and a gentle touch are always stronger than fury and force.

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).

Mission Moment

A Family of Many Families

As a mother, wife, and member of the United Church of Christ, Moira appreciates the church's support for families. She says, "The UCC is a family of many families. Not all of us look alike or live alike, but we all tend to worship in local churches that value our differences as strengths. I want to raise my children in a loving church where we can find unity through diversity. "I want my children to help lead their generation toward social justice. The church I grew up in didn't study the Bible or ordain women as pastors. It is important to me to raise my son and daughter in a church where women are pastors and language is gender-neutral in our hymnals. "I've learned so much about my own faith by watching their faith develop. The faith and compassion my kids express is so natural —it's almost like it's in their bones — and this makes me feel more confident and assured in my own interactions. "Inevitably, every child will develop some views different from their parents. In the UCC, we are committed to these differences. It's as though parents and children covenant to learn from each other. The church helps our family understand change and, often, to embrace it. 1 John 3:18 tells us, 'Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in action and truth.' We all must speak and act in truth and devotion. I feel confident my children will feel a sense of place in the church."

September 2008

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.

Issues & Initiatives at the UCC

In an effort to provide information on the issues and initiatives currently before the UCC, the Endeavor will include relevant news from the UCC website to keep our United Evangelical readers aware of developments within our wider church.

Theme, logo unveiled for 2009 General Synod

June - July 2008

"Immerse Yourself"

Believe it or not, it's been a full year since more than 9,000 UCC members crowded into downtown Hartford, Conn., to celebrate the UCC's 50th anniversary General Synod.

And now plans are already shaping up for next summer's UCC romp in Grand Rapids, Mich., set for June 26-30, 2009.



In keeping with Grand Rapids' water-rich environment, "Immerse Yourself" has been announced as the 2009 theme. In February, the General Synod Program and Planning Committee traveled to Grand Rapids - touted for its "seemingly endless water" - where committee members saw firsthand that a water-themed Synod offered many interpretive opportunities.

"As a historical center of Reformed tradition, we wanted to emphasize our baptismal covenant with each other and the larger Christian community," says the Rev. Susan A. Blain, the UCC's minister for worship, liturgy and spiritual formation. "And 'Immerse yourself' not only evokes sacramental imagery of baptism, but it also speaks to the need for all of us to more fully invest our time, talent and treasure in God's mission."

"Grand Rapids, as its name conveys, is a water town," the committee said in a post-visit report. "The stirring waters of the Grand River flow prominently through the downtown area with pedestrian bridges crisscrossing at multiple places. The city's glass-walled Convention Center and hotels, which we will be using, are all situated adjacent or near the river, with spectacular views and park recreation areas. The Rosa Parks Memorial Park, located adjacent to the Amway Grand Hotel and the new, green Grand Rapids Museum of Art, is built as a tribute to water in its three forms."

Edith A. Guffey, the UCC's associate general minister and General Synod administrator, believes UCC members will be impressed with Grand Rapids.

"When our committee first visited there, they were blown away by the vibrancy of the city, how new and clean the downtown is, and what a wonderful convention center they have," Guffey said.

In deciding on a theme, Guffey said, the committee wanted a playful phrase that could be used not only for General Synod, but also throughout the year.

"At a time when UCC members are preparing to immerse themselves in sacred conversations on race, this is a theme that lends itself to many insightful interpretations," Guffey said. "What does it mean to 'immerse yourself in something larger than you are? To what degree are we willing to respond to God's call?"

Learn more about Grand Rapids
visitgrandrapids.org

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

Ladies Organization Trips & Events



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

Nov. 1st, Saturday
10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
\$ 34.00 per person

Faith Church
Oyster, Turkey & Ham Luncheon
also stopping at
McCutcheons Jelly &
Baugher Produce & Ice Cream

Dec. 11th, Thursday
Matinee Show
\$ 41.10 per person
(money due by 11/30)

"A Christmas Carol" at
Toby's Dinner Theatre
Baltimore Travel Plaza

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

All Meetings Begin at 12 noon
(unless otherwise noted)

Sept. 3rd

Covered Dish
(Please bring a dish of your choice)

Oct. 1st

details to be discussed at Sept. meeting

Nov. 5th

details to be discussed at Sept. meeting

Dec. 17th

Christmas Party
Riverwatch Restaurant
(spouses & congregation
members are welcome)
time & cost details will be forthcoming



Christmas Party

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

Notes (No Pun Intended!!)



Our Choir's Summer Schedule

Choir rehearsals resume after summer break

August 28th

First day choir sings after summer break

Sunday, Sept. 14

UEC August 2008 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 <i>Communion Sunday</i> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; margin: 5px 0;"> Food Bank Donations </div> 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	4	5	6 Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Parish Relations Meeting 6:00 p.m.	7	8 Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	9
10 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service Oktoberfest Planning Meeting 9:30 a.m.	11	12 Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.	13 Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Ladies Org. Luncheon 12 noon Christian Education Meeting 6:30 p.m.	14	15	16
17 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	18	19	20	21	22	23
Rev. Cathy is on vacation 8/28—9/1						
24 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	25	26	27	28 Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	29	30
Rev. Cathy is on vacation 8/28—9/1						
31 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service						

UEC September 2008 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>Labor Day</i>	2	3 Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Ladies Org. Luncheon 12 noon	4 Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	5	6
7 <i>Communion Sunday</i> <i>National Grandparents Day</i> Food Bank Donations 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	8	9 Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.	10 Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	11 <i>Patriot Day</i> Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	12	13
14 <i>Annual UEC Picnic</i> Choir Returns from Summer Break 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Bible Study	15	16 Christian Education Meeting 6:30 p.m.	17 Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	18 Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	19	20
21 <i>UEC Anniversary Dinner & Dance</i> 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Bible Study	22 <i>First Day of Autumn</i>	23 Canton Community Association Meeting 7:00 p.m.	24 Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	25 Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	26	27
28 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Bible Study	29	30				

Christian Symbols—The Lamp

In ancient times, the lamp was more than a light for darkness. It was also a symbol of learning, knowledge, wisdom and enlightenment. Today the lamp still represents those attributes, but more specifically it represents the Word of God.

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105, NRSV).



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

United Evangelical Church

<u>Pastor</u>	Rev. Catherine J. Oatman cjoatman@msn.com cell phone: 410-428-1482
<u>Church Office</u> e-mail: website:	410-276-0393 uecucc@verizon.net www.unitedevangelicalucc.org
<u>Hours</u>	Tuesday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
<u>Secretary</u>	Dava Sentz
<u>Custodian</u>	Paul Polasky
<u>Director of Music</u>	Robert Gundlach robert.gundlach@verizon.net
<u>Newsletter Editor</u>	Barbara Matthew barbmattthew@verizon.net



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.

Special Ministry—Holy Joe's Cafe



Holy Joe's Cafe

COFFEE FOR THE TROOPS



Help show support for our armed forces with a donation of coffee. Please read about this vital ministry.

Don't forget our troops as you go on vacation this summer. They need our ongoing support.

Coffee House Ministry – United Church of Christ military chaplains have found an old way to invite soldiers in Iraq into a safe and informal place where they can receive spiritual care and good coffee. Congregations and individuals can support the Coffee House Ministry and simultaneously participate in the UCC Coffee Project by sending Equal Exchange Coffee to the military Chaplains in Baghdad. Special thanks to First Congregational United Church of Christ in Wallingford, Connecticut for creating this ministry and supporting it in an ongoing way.

Coffee may be an unlikely ally of the Gospel, yet in the hands of a chaplain it can enable meaningful ministry addressing an individual's normal reactions to extreme situations, allowing them to return to us as healthy functional human beings capable of loving and caring for others and themselves. By offering a place to come and relax, the "Coffee House and Café Ministries" provide our military chaplains a place to establish rapport with and minister to the needs of our sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, husbands and wives—our troops. In these safe spaces soldiers come to talk and develop perspective on their experiences in war.

At this time our troops in Iraq find themselves in difficult and sometimes life-threatening situations. Their daily experiences extract an extreme physical, emotional and psychological toll. Many of them are young and inexperienced in dealing with such extreme issues. Our chaplains are a first line defense against the emotional and psychological issues faced by our troops.

During the Revolutionary War, the Congregational Church furnished chaplains for the Continental Army in the tradition of European War. The chaplains were for the comfort and succor of the leaders and the army, administering worship, sacraments and of course presiding at burials. The chaplains were an integral part of the army and often were found on the battlefield. In modern warfare many things have changed, including how the chaplains are able to function. No longer is the "king" a part of the army, the leaders often being removed from the war by many thousands of miles. Nor do the chaplains often follow the troops into battle; in fact there are not really many battles anymore. Rather the chaplains are in specific places and so the troops must often find their way to them in places like the Holy Joe's Cafe.

Whether or not we agree with our country's policy with regard to Iraq, we can offer our troops a cup of coffee and support through the ministry of our military chaplains.

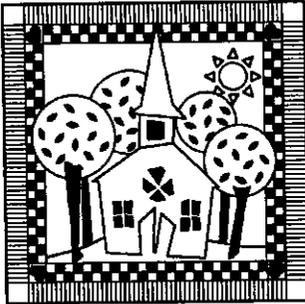
Here's How:

- **Order at the Equal Exchange Interfaith Online Store** (<http://store.yahoo.com/equalexchange>) with your Visa or Mastercard.
- Holy Joe's suggests that you go to the "Percolator Coffees" page and order Fellowship Blend, but they are happy to receive any coffee you choose.
- Under "Choose the Shipping Address," be sure to enter the following:
(first name) Holy Joe's (last name) Cafe
c/o Cooper-Atkins Corporation
33 Reed's Gap Road
Middlefield, CT 06455
- Under "Customer ID" please enter your church's ID if you know it. If you don't know it, or if you have never ordered with Equal Exchange before, please enter "IRAQ001."
- Under "Congregation or Organization" you may enter your church's name or, if you are ordering individually, "UCC Individual."
- If your church has a tax-exempt number, we appreciate receiving it, but it's not necessary to process the order.

For more information contact: Tom Jasternsky (888-970-7994) or Chaplain Mike Lake. mlake@odsgc.net

Upcoming UEC Anniversary Celebrations

CHURCH FAMILY



PICNIC

UEC Annual Church Picnic

Sunday, September 14th
Rocky Point State Park
(2200 Rocky Point Road)

\$ 7.00 per person (children under 18-free)
Tickets will be available after August 3rd

There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex for those providing and needing a ride to the Park.

The picnic will be held under a covered pavilion.
Parking will be available a few feet from the pavilion, so passengers will not need to walk far.

Our picnic begins immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service

Menu

Hamburgers
Hot Dogs
Potato Salad
Cole Slaw
Chips

Playground & Volleyball Court nearby
Regular Restrooms (yah!!!!)
Games & Prizes for everyone!

Come and spend a relaxing day at the Park

Please bring your own drinks (non-alcoholic) &
Dessert to share with everyone

NO SWIMMING IN THE PARK—NO LIFEGUARDS ON DUTY!!!!

Upcoming UEC Anniversary Celebrations



UEC 135th Anniversary Celebration Dinner & Dance

Sunday, September 21st - Mark your calendars!!

Lantern Gardens in Rosedale

\$ 35.00 per person

Tickets will be sold until September 1st.

We need your support to make this happen!

On Sunday, September 21st, we will be celebrating our 135th year, serving our God at United. Our celebration will take place at Lantern Gardens in Rosedale. Dinner will be buffet style with a cash bar. Music to be provided by the Tommy Thomas Trio.

Tickets will be sold until September 1st. We hope that you will join us at this glorious celebration.

Put on your dancin' shoes, and come to the party!!!

Chairpersons,
Darlene Waters & Cass Young



Upcoming UEC Anniversary Celebrations



135th Anniversary Oktoberfest 2008

October 12th, 2008
(Oktoberfest begins immediately
following 10:30 a.m. Worship)

Planning is underway for the Oktoberfest scheduled for October 12th, 2008. Several committees are being formed to handle the planning, food, entertainment, set up and clean up for the festival.

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 Music

Beer & Wine Garden

Raffles & Prizes

Puppet Show for the kids
and more!!!

Brats & Kraut

Hot Dogs

Sour Beef & Dumplings

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.

Upcoming UEC Anniversary Celebrations



UEC Anniversary Celebration



Free Concert Night at United Evangelical

November 2nd beginning at 6:30 p.m.

With reception in UEC Friendship Hall following the concert

**"From Gregorian Chant to Twila Paris:
A Celebration of the History of Church Music"**

A choir of people from across the Chesapeake Association will bring the gift of music to UEC.

If you would like to sing with the group, or if you have any questions, please contact Rob Gundlach at robert.gundlach@verizon.net.

A practice is scheduled for October 19th at 1:30 p.m. with lunch provided at 12:30 p.m.

An offering will be taken on the night of the concert

to benefit Earl's Place



Church Anniversary

Points to Ponder...

Befriending the Stranger

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A Bulletin on Church Hospitality and Outreach
by Rev. Dr. Randy Hammer

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Being a Missional Church

In the book titled *Inside the Organic Church: Learning from 12 Emerging Congregations* the author, Bob Whitesel, reports on an in-depth study of over 40 of the so-called emerging churches that are popping up around the world. These are churches largely made up of younger (20s-30s) members who are breaking out of traditional paradigms to do church in a different way. There is a wealth of good information in the book that can be appreciated by any church—traditional, emerging or otherwise.

Hence, being schooled in the church growth literature, I was happy to read that one of the pastors the author quotes states, "Church growth needs to be recovered. Not in its bizarre fringe forms, but in its simplicity and straightforwardness that helps churches grow" (p. xviii). But as I am always quick to note, church growth is not to be seen as an end to itself. We do not seek growth for growth's sake alone. We seek to grow so we can better perform our mission in the community and world.

Which leads me to another observation in the book, what it means to be missional. Whitesel states, "Being 'missional' simply means to be outward and others-focused with the goals of

expressing and sharing the love of Jesus. The church was not created for itself to remain inward-focused, but actually created to worship God and to spread [God's] love to others...Therefore, we don't have a 'missions department' because the whole church is a mission" (p. 44). This quote was from Pastor Dan Kimball of the Vintage Faith emerging church in Santa Cruz, CA.

The spiritual maturity of a congregation often can be determined by ascertaining what it believes about its purpose and how it understands and describes its mission. We do not assemble week

"Being 'missional' simply means to be outward and others-focused with the goals of expressing and sharing the love of Jesus."...

after week just so we can be made to feel good about our-

selves (although going to worship does make us feel good, doesn't it?). Rather, a much greater purpose in assembling is that we can better understand and be better equipped—collectively and individually—to fulfill our God-given mission in the world.

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Points to Ponder...

Helping the Brokenhearted

A retired pastor counseled younger peers to remember that in every pew sits someone dealing with a broken heart. Hasn't that been us at some point? What have we learned from our brokenness? What helps? What doesn't?

People who are hurting don't need platitudes and quick answers. In fact, it's often best not to say anything at all. The most important thing is to just be there. Sit. Listen. Hold a hand. Respond with brief expressions of understanding. When appropriate, offer assurance that God knows of the situation and cares.

After Jesus healed the paralytic, the man stood up and returned home glorifying God (Luke 5:17-26). Likewise, Christ says to the brokenhearted today, "Stand up and go into your future, glorifying God with good works for his kingdom."



Work to do

God hath work to do in this world; and to desert it because of its difficulties and entanglements, is to cast off his authority. It is not enough that we be just, that we be righteous, and walk with God in holiness; but we must also serve our generation, as David did before he fell asleep. God hath a work to do; and not to help him is to oppose him.

—John Owen

Ten Commandments for Right Living

1. Thou shalt not worry, for by doing so thou shalt suffer the same disaster many times.
2. Thou shalt not try to dominate or possess others, for each person is responsible to God.
3. Thou shalt not desire after fame, for the burdens of greatness are an affliction unto the spirit.
4. Thou shalt not desire after great wealth, for great wealth of itself does not bring peace.
5. Thou shalt relax, for great tension is an abomination unto the flesh.
6. Thou shalt have a sense of humor or thy years will seem much longer and more painful.
7. Thou shalt love the beautiful and serve the good, for this is according to the will of heaven.
8. Thou shalt harm no other person by word, thought or deed, regardless of cause; for to do so is to perpetuate the sorrows of this world.
9. Thou shalt not be angry at any person for any reason, for anger injures most the one who is angry.
10. Thou shalt remember that God is Creator and that you are a unique and important part of his created order, unlike any person who has ever lived.

Bits n' Pieces...



Coffee Hour Resumes on
Sunday, September 7th

Calling All Coffee Lovers

Coffee Hours will resume after the summer break. The first Coffee Hour following our summer break will be Sunday, September 7th. How about hosting a coffee hour between Sunday morning services. Nothing fancy, just hot water (for coffee) and a few noshes (donuts, cake, etc.) We could sure use a few more volunteers to step up and volunteer to host. You could even buddy-up with someone else and together host an hour.

Sign up sheets are in the Narthex.



*Altar
Flowers*

The chart for requesting altar flowers is in the Narthex. The offering is \$ 15 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



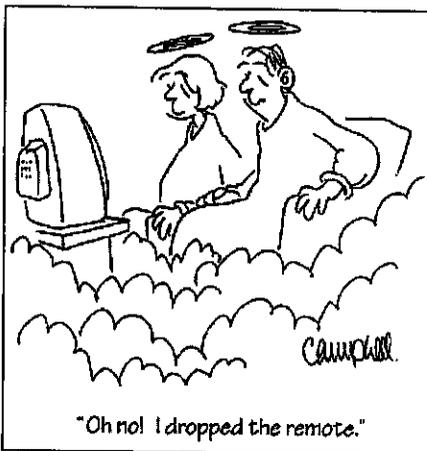
Economic times are tough, and everything keeps getting more expensive. But God thoughtfully gives all of us a free yearly trip around the sun.

Enjoy the ride!

Comics Corner

'Twas the Day after Bible School

'Twas the day after Bible school and all over town,
With a sigh of relief, we all settled down.
Out to the golf course goes Dad in his cap,
And home in the bedroom Mom's taking a nap.
Gone Linda, gone Brenda, gone David and Johnny,
Gone Margie, and Mary, and Ronnie and Donnie.
Gone stories, and puppets, and songs in the air,
Gone paint under fingernails and paste in the hair.
Rest sweetly, dear workers, and wake with good cheer,
For Bible school won't come again for a year.
As they drifted off, I heard them exclaim:
"It was worth all the hard work and we'd do it again!"



If you got a
chuckle from
these, thank
our comedy
contributor,
Ed Myers.



"You'll notice your pews have a new feature this morning.
Sit down and buckle up."

How's that again????

There were two rehabilitation counselors, Elmer and Larry, out hunting in the woods who got lost. Elmer was panicky so Larry said to him, "Don't worry, all we have to do is shoot three times into the air and someone will come to rescue us." Which they did. But nobody came.

Finally, Larry said, "Elmer, I'm getting kind of worried. We're down to our last three arrows."

Da What??

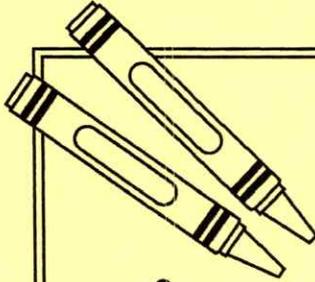
What is despair?

Da tire you keep in da trunk of da car!!

Gas Smileage

Did you hear about the man who told his neighbor while he was polishing his car, "I get about seven miles per gallon from this car. My sons gets the other twenty!"

Kids Only!!



Just for **KIDS**

The Water of Life

To beat the summer heat, we're often refreshed by a cold drink. Complete the puzzle below for a reminder of what Jesus offers us when we thirst.

KEY:

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

"
 $19+4$ $10-2$ $10+5$ $10-5$ $18+4$ $1+4$ $20-2$ $8+1$ $12+7$
 $18+2$ $1+7$ $10-1$ $20-2$ $18+1$ $20-0$ $26-1$ $6+6$ $5-0$ $10+10$
 $4+4$ $8+1$ $8+5$ $1+2$ $10+5$ $15-2$ $1+4$ $0+1$ $7+7$ $1+3$
 $26-3$ $7+1$ $20-5$ $2+3$ $21+1$ $6-1$ $19-1$
 $21+2$ $9+0$ $18+1$ $10-2$ $7-2$ $15+4$ $10+2$ $7-2$ $17+3$
 $6+2$ $11-2$ $11+2$ $20+0$ $2-1$ $9+2$ $8-3$ $22-2$ $11-3$ $2+3$
 $3+3$ $22-4$ $5-0$ $1+4$ $3+4$ $7+2$ $9-3$ $9+11$ $14+1$ $8-2$
 $23-3$ $12-4$ $8-3$ $21+2$ $4-3$ $20-0$ $10-5$ $20-2$ $13+2$ $4+2$
 $5+7$ $12-3$ $9-3$ $6-1$ "
 Revelation 22:17, NIV

Answer: "Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life." Revelation 22:17, NIV

The United Endeavor

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