

# The United Endeavor

News from United Evangelical Church

Jun/Jul 2008

## Pastor's Message

***"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..." Matthew 28:19***

This scripture is Jesus' parting words to his disciples in the Gospel of Matthew. Through these words he is conveying the mission of the church, to the church, that he was leaving behind. And these are words which have always made me

uncomfortable. In my Oct/Nov 2007 Endeavor article I mentioned how

evangelism has always intimidated me. In our visioning process during the past year and a half, I have learned that evangelism doesn't have to be scary.

Every dinner group meeting of the visioning committee is begun by reading the purpose behind our meeting. The primary goal of our meetings is "To increase the community of United spiritually and numerically." Our primary reason for meeting in dinner groups is to "make disciples" within and without the church.

The \$64,000 question since I've been at United has been, "How do we "make disciples" outside of the church; how do we reach our neighborhood?" The biblical model is to meet people where they are at. Over and over in the Gospels we see Jesus going to the places and the people outside the established religious community, of the day.

those who the religious community considered "sinful" or "unclean". He went to share the Good News of God's love. Many of the early followers of Jesus were those who were disavowed by, and disillusioned with, the religious establishment of the day.

As we look at our neighborhood today we find many who are disillusioned with, or have been disavowed by, the church. And so how do we

*...as followers of Jesus we are being called to meet our neighbors where they are and share with them the love of God.*

reach them? We meet them where they are at. This is the purpose behind

the Oktoberfest that is planned as part of our 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. There will be a beer garden at the Oktoberfest which will be held next to the church on Dillon Street. The purpose of this event is to invite our neighbors

to celebrate our German heritage with us as we celebrate who Jesus Christ is in our lives.

THEREFORE  
*go*  
AND MAKE  
DISCIPLES OF ALL  
*nations*

MATTHEW 28:19



I have heard countless times from church members, in not so flattering terms, that the only reason people move to Canton is so that they can walk to the bars. This critique of our neighbors

*(cont'd on the next page)*

# Church Council

## Pastor's Message—cont'd

neighbors resembles the judgment passed by the established religious community of Jesus' day. And while this reason for moving to Canton may be true, it is not the whole truth about the people of our neighborhood. This is what Jesus understood about the people of his day, and this is what he is calling us to understand today. And as followers of Jesus we are being called to meet our neighbors where they are and share with them the love of God.

It is important for us as a church to understand that the Oktoberfest is not about drinking beer, even though we will do that; it is not about making money, even though we will do that; it is not about a sour beef dinner, even though sour beef will be on the menu; the Oktoberfest is about sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with our neighbors in a way that they will hear it.

Sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ doesn't mean we all get drunk and start talking to people about Jesus. (This doesn't work, I know, I've tried it before. Ask me about it sometime ☺.) Rather it means we engage in what is called "grace based evangelism" where we simply welcome people and share our excitement about 135 years of being in ministry and the continued ministries in which we are engaged.

At one of the dinner group meetings we listed the people whose lives are positively impacted through our vitality as a church. That list included those at Earl's Place, the families in our preschool, our youth who we are encouraging in their spiritual journeys. This is exciting stuff and this is the Good News of God's love we have to share.

Evangelism is simply sharing how we live our lives because of the love of God we know in Jesus Christ. This is the mission we have been entrusted with. Let's have some fun as we go to make disciples.

In Christ,

Rev. Cathy

## Clapping During Worship

Recently I slipped in worship and called the congregation, "the audience." When we worship, there is an audience, and a stage with players, however these may not be what we think. Everyone in the worship space is a player, the audience is God and the stage is our hearts. We are all there to "perform", to present ourselves before God, not each other. This slip really made me examine myself in worship.

It is important that we examine our attitudes in worship now and again, especially when we feel moved to clap. When we hear some good news or a moving piece of music we may want to clap, and sometimes there is an awkward moment as we wonder if we should or not. As long as we keep the audience, the players and the stage straight, clapping is an appropriate response to the praise that is being offered God. Or in the words of the psalmist...

*"Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard" ~ Psalm 66:8*



# Church Council

## Council President's Message

If we only had a million dollars. What would we do with it? What could we do with it? Occasionally I watch the TV show "Deal or No Deal" where the contestant will try to pick the one briefcase out of 25 or so that has a 1,000,000 sign in it that enables them to win one million dollars. It has to be the last case remaining after all the other cases are opened. So far, I have not seen anyone leave with the grand prize, however they usually exit with substantial winnings. Maybe I could go on the show on behalf of the church and return with the million. Not much chance of that happening though. Not realistic.

Suppose our church did come in to \$1,000,000, what would we do? We could invest it and not have any financial concerns for the next 25-35 years, the rest of our lives, for many of us. The money would be gone, we would be gone, not much of a legacy for future generations to remember us by. Actually, we do have a million dollars, however it is not in the bank or invested in any manner that is giving us a return, it just kind of sits there, way under-utilized. We call it our School Building or Christian Education Building. When one thinks about the future of our church, I believe that, other than our beautiful church sanctuary, well maintained and with it's outstanding windows, our school building is our greatest single physical asset. It has the most potential to become a major part of our legacy to the community and also contribute to the financial stability of our church organization and mission.

The years go by and there reposes our million dollars in the form of a huge edifice of bricks and concrete, looking somewhat forlorn, saying to us, "Please do something with me, I want to again be the once proud building I was for many years." We can say we are trying, but are we really trying hard enough? We attempted to sell it, to be developed into residential housing, however due to off street housing requirements and other issues, that all fell through. Probably just as well, considering recent trends in the housing market. We even looked into tearing it down, not a practical idea. Why spend half of it's million dollar value, money we don't have or could borrow, to throw away one of our largest assets?

I fervently believe that the direction for the use of the building we are currently striving for; a center for charitable and nonprofit organizations, is the best use for our million dollar asset. A use that would serve the community as well as be compatible with our mission as a church. With some hard work, prayer and the belief that we can make it happen it is not out of the realm of possibility.

Since this is a message about a million dollars, I thought I might write about the other million. The million dollars that could be required to turn the building into a fully functioning: "Canton United Center for Charitable Organizations." Funds required to repair and update the building; install an elevator; design, layout and create interior spaces for varied organizations and a myriad of other things needed to make it all happen. A lot of money, yes, but not so much when you think of it in terms of three Canton area townhouses (row houses) or the millions spent on questionable projects by government and other organizations. Through some of the

*... turn the building into a fully functioning  
"Canton United Center for Charitable Organizations."*

knowledge we have gained over the last year, we have learned that Centers for Non Profit Or-

ganizations are being created all over the country, many, perhaps even most, with funds obtained as grants and loans from charitable and philanthropic foundations.

During this past year we have been moving forward, though very slowly. One of our first moves, has been to join The Nonprofits Centers Network, based in California, a group that has a wealth of information available on creating, funding and managing Multi-tenant Nonprofit Centers. They also periodically conduct seminars in various locations around the country where one can learn about Nonprofits Centers and meet with others that have traveled the road we have embarked on. They have a seminar coming up in Detroit on July 8<sup>th</sup> that several of us are considering attending.

*(President's message-cont'd on next page)*

# Church Council

## Council President's Message—cont'd

Earlier this spring Reverend Cathy and I visited the Carroll Nonprofits Center in Westminster, MD. A new three story, thirty some thousand square foot building, housing 23 different nonprofit organizations. The director, Mark Krider, gave us a top to bottom comprehensive tour of the entire facility and very graciously answered our many questions about how it all came about. This extraordinary center was and is fully funded by a foundation created by the company that formerly supplied cable TV in the Carroll County area. Mr. Krider told us about another center that is being developed here in Baltimore. We plan to establish contact with them within the next several months.

Several weeks ago, Reverend Cathy and I met with a lady that she had met at a previous meeting held at our church some time ago and had kept in contact with, whom had expressed an interest in doing what she could to help us in finding funding and tenants for our building. At our meeting, we found she was very knowledgeable about charitable, philanthropic foundations and is very willing to share her expertise with us. When we showed her through the school building, she was enthusiastic about it's possibilities. So much so, that now, due to her associations, we now have a meeting set up on May 29<sup>th</sup> with her and another person that has contacts with one of Baltimore's largest foundations. A name all would recognize.

Progress has been made, though not fast enough to suit me, things always seem to take longer than they should. Help is needed and would be most welcome. It is not too late to be part of this opportunity to accomplish something important to the future of our church. I would like to have a group formed that would meet at least monthly to map out and execute a strategy to implement our plans. To repeat, I think it can be made to happen, with lots of consistent hard work and everyone's prayers.

Harvey

## 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

The Canton Community Association meets at our church on a bi-monthly basis. The meetings start at 7:00 in the sanctuary with free dinner beginning at 6:30 in the 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 and show our neighbors how important our community is to us as a church. Upcoming meetings are September 23rd and November 25th.

# 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 4/30/08

Revenue: Proceeds from Donations, Rent & Interest	\$ 58,414.00
<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>66,149.00</u>
Amount under (deficit)	\$ -7,735.00

#### Operating, Investment & Endowment Funds Balance 4/30/08

Operating Funds on Hand (Includes Window Funds)	\$ 58,731.00
<u>Investment &amp; Endowment Funds on Hand</u>	<u>193,748.00</u>
Total All Funds	\$ 252,479.00

#### Stained Glass Window Report as of 4/30/08

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

# Church Council

## UEC "To Do" List

- Seek out suitable non-profit organizations to occupy school building
- Explore grant money and funding sources for school building conversion—submit applications
- Design and produce flyer for space available in the school building
- Clean up school building—sell or haul away items no longer needed
- Develop schedule for school building modification and renovation—design spaces
- Act as liaison person between Church and Nonprofit Center Network
- Attend Canton Community Association meetings and report back to Council
- Further develop and maintain church website
- Update church membership list—categories: active, inactive, shut-ins, friends
- Inventory all locks in buildings and match up with keys
- Change and maintain outside church and school building signs
- Find someone to repair cracked windows in Fellowship Hall & kitchen
- Check heating & A/C thermostats periodically for correct settings and programming
- Host weekly practice sessions for aspiring musicians and combos
- Disconnect, disassemble and clean ice making machine
- Do monthly walkthrough of buildings & make list of maintenance & repair items required
- Maintain flower pots in front of church—water, weed & clean weekly or more frequently
- Research and lead effort to update to working condition the tower clock and bells
- Paint and replace steel decorative trim on front doors of bell tower
- Seek & list ways congregation can attract and serve people in local community – implement
- Replace church sign's plastic windows—explore acquisition of affordable LED sign
- Seek and implement ways to prevent birds from roosting on church buildings
- Study feasibility and cost of installing elevator in school building—elevator company listing available

***This is a list in process; please do not hesitate to offer suggestions, additions, comments & constructive criticism***

## Our Youth Group



American Cancer Society

### Relay For Life

A Team Event to Fight Cancer



Special Donation  
Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>

Relay For Life is a fun-filled overnight event designed to celebrate survivorship and raise money for research and programs of your American Cancer Society. As part of the celebration luminaries are lit in honor or in memory of loved ones. If you would like to dedicate a luminary, or make a donation to support the ACS, the youth will be available in between services on Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup> with donation forms.

**Our own Diane Pachilis is leading a team this year at the Dundalk Relay for Life, and the youth of UEC will be joining with her. Please give generously.**



### A Word of Thanks

The Youth Group of United wishes to thank all members involved in the recent Youth Plant Sale to make it a "blooming success." Over \$ 200 was raised by selling all the plants. Our church community has done wonders for our Youth Group and in all their activities. Your continued support will help keep our Youth Group strong and growing.

## 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>
Jun 7 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 pm	Dundalk Community College	Relay for Life
Jun 22 <sup>nd</sup>	12:30 pm	The Sander's home	Year End Party
Jul 24 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup>		University of Tennessee	UCC National Youth Event

# June Special Events



## Strawberry Festival & Bazaar

Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008

11:00 a.m. To 3:00 p.m.

in UEC Fellowship Hall



We invite all friends and neighbors to come and enjoy our Annual Strawberry Festival. There will be delicious summertime treats (see the menu below) along with a Cake Table, Candies, Craft Supplies, Jewelry, Raffles, Kids Things, etc. **If you would like to have a table, please contact Darlene at 410-574-6021. The cost of a table is \$15.00.**

### Menu

Crab cakes

Hot dogs

Chocolate covered strawberries

Chips

Iced Tea

Coffee

Soda

Bring your friends and neighbors for lots of fun and fellowship!



Organized by the  
Ladies Organization of United Evangelical Church

## June Special Events

### All Church Potluck

Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup> (following 10:30 am worship)

Everyone is encouraged to stay after worship on June 29<sup>th</sup> and greet our new members who will be received into membership that day.

Also we will be hearing the vision for the church that has come out of the dinner group meetings. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share. Drinks will be provided.



### New Members Joining Our Church Family

#### Welcome Patrick Johnson



Patrick is married to JoAnn Johnson and will celebrate their 15th wedding anniversary in October. Patrick and JoAnn have two children, Amanda and Austin. Patrick works in the human resources field for the Maryland State Department of Education. His hobbies include serving as a Youth Soccer coach for the past 10 years for over 500 young athletes. He also writes a soccer blog for WNST 1570AM. He raises money for Breast Cancer Awareness through his soccer teams fundraising activities which have totaled several thousand dollars over the past three years. Patrick's favorite activities include coaching and playing soccer and supporting his favorite sports teams, the Seattle Seahawks, Baltimore Orioles, and Baltimore Blast.

#### Welcome Mark Betch

**Welcome  
Our New  
Members**

Mark is married to Lori Betch and will celebrate their 16th wedding anniversary on June 6th. He is employed with Lockheed Martin in Middle River and has been employed there for more than 22 years. Mark's hobbies include bowling, softball and watching football and baseball. His favorite activities include traveling to beach areas and hearing the band called "Jim Long

Band" in Ocean City.

## 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

#### *UCC I LOVE U!*

How do I love you, United Church of Christ? As the poet said, let me count the ways:

- \* You are not only a united, but also a uniting church.
- \* You welcome me, and all newcomers, into fellowship.
- \* You not only accept me just as I am, you affirm who I am, no matter what society says.
- \* You let me think for myself, and speak for myself, because you impose no tests of belief.
- \* You share the Good News without hesitation, but also without compulsion.
- \* You welcome me, and everyone else who believes in Jesus, to the Lord's Table.
- \* You encourage me, and every member, to participate in the business of our congregation.
- \* You bind me gently in covenantal relationships with my congregation, Association, and Conference.
- \* You honor both the ministry of the laity and the calling of the clergy.
- \* You open the church doors to all the hurts and joys of the surrounding neighborhood.
- \* You join with other communities of faith in witness and service to the community and nation.
- \* You initiate and maintain partnerships with Christian churches around the world.
- \* Your compassion for those who suffer is only exceeded by your passion for justice and peace.
- \* You will never wither or weaken because you are always attentive to the stillspeaking God.

UCC I love U!

June 2008

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



**God is still speaking,**

#### 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.



[www.ucc.org/ourfaithourvote](http://www.ucc.org/ourfaithourvote)

### Elections '08 - Be Smart

As people of faith, we are called to be engaged in the public arena we know as politics. When we doubt our place in the political process, we need only listen to the words of Jesus in sermon after sermon appealing to the people to be actively involved in seeking the common good. When we wonder whether we should be part of election activities, we need only remember Jesus' actions as he continually challenged the powers and principalities in search of justice for the "least of these."

There are so many issues that need our attention this year; this invitation is to mobilize our congregations and communities in order to make "Another World Possible." We must see what is needed to change our course toward environmental destruction. We must listen to the stories of those facing extreme poverty in the richest nation in the world and recreate a sense of hope and productivity in our communities. We must find ways to negotiate with world partners and rebuild our relationships around the world to achieve peace and mutual respect. We must believe that our vote does matter at local, state, and national levels. This year we must participate in the public debate about the future. Engaging in the democratic process is not a dream, it not in our imagination. It is a real privilege.

*"Shout out, do  
not hold back!  
Lift up your  
voice like a  
trumpet!"*

— Isaiah 58:1



United Church of Christ  
Justice and Witness Ministries

100 Maryland Ave., NE #330  
Washington DC 20002  
202 543 1517

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

## Ladies Organization Trips & Events



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

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

New members are always welcome!

Dues are \$ 10.00 per year



### Upcoming Ladies Organization Meetings

All Meetings Begin at 12 noon  
(unless otherwise noted)

- |                     |  |                      |
|---------------------|--|----------------------|
| Jun 4 <sup>th</sup> | Lunch at Hazelwood Inn<br>Pay your own way | 1:00 p.m.            |
| Jun 7 <sup>th</sup> | Strawberry Festival<br>UEC Friendship Hall | 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. |

July & August activities are still in the planning stages.

### 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!!)



### Summer 's Nearly Here !

### So here's our Choir's summer schedule

Choir's last rehearsal before summer break

June 26th

Final choir in worship before summer break

Sunday, June 29th

Choir rehearsals resume after summer break

August 28th

First day choir sings after summer break

Sunday, Sept. 14

# UEC June 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><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Ladies Org. Luncheon 12 noon Hazelwood Inn</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>Youth Group Meeting @ American Cancer Society's Relay for Life</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><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><b>12</b></p> <p>Choir practice 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>
<p>Central Atlantic Conference Mtg in Newark, DE, June 13-15</p>						
<p><b>15</b></p> <p><i>Father's Day</i></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><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><b>19</b></p> <p>Choir practice 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p><i>1st day of summer</i></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>Youth Year End Party The Sanders' home</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Choir practice 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>
<p>Vacation Bible School @ St. Brigid's</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>New Members Reception/Potluck following 10:30 service</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>					

# UCC July 2008 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Bible Study 10:00 a.m.  Ladies Org. Luncheon 12 noon	3	4 <i>Independence Day</i>	5
6 <i>Communion Sunday</i>  Food Bank Donations  8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	7	8  Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.	9  Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	10	11	12
13  8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	14	15  Christian Education Meeting 6:30 p.m.	16  Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	17	18	19
20  8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	21	22	23  Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	24	25	26
				UCC National Youth Event		
27  8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service  UCC National Youth Event	28	29	30  Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	31		

## 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 06456
- **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, [mmlake@odsgc.net](mailto:mmlake@odsgc.net).

## Did You Know?....

Both the Old and New Testaments speak of God's people as seeking and achieving freedom. The freedom we Americans have to worship without government restriction has deep roots in our Judeo-Christian heritage.

Which Bible verse about freedom is inscribed on the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia?

- A. "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof" (Leviticus 25:10, KJV).
- B. "And ye ... had done right in my sight, in proclaiming liberty every man to his neighbor" (Jeremiah 34:15, KJV).
- C. "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free" (Galatians 5:1, KJV).
- D. "As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God" (1 Peter 2:16, KJV).



Answer: A

## United Evangelical Church

<u>Pastor</u>	Rev. Catherine J. Oatman cjatman@msn.com cell phone: 410-428-1482
<u>Church Office</u>	410-276-0393
<u>e-mail:</u>	uecucc@verizon.net
<u>website:</u>	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 barbmatthew@verizon.net

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

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

**No gimmicks, no tricks.**

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

**The site is: [www.hungersite.com](http://www.hungersite.com)**



*Just a  
Reminder...*

### 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.

## Upcoming UEC Anniversary Celebrations



### UEC 135th Anniversary Celebration

**Sunday, September 1, 2008 -Mark your calendars!!**

On Sunday, September 1st, 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 \$35.00 each (adults only).

Tickets will be sold beginning on July 1st. We hope that you will join us at this glorious celebration.

Chairpersons,  
Darlene Waters & Cass Young



### UEC Annual Church Picnic

**Sunday, September 14th @ Rocky Point State Park**

(details will be available in the next issue of Endeavor)



### 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Oktoberfest 2008 October 12, 2008

Planning is underway for the Oktoberfest scheduled for October 12, 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](mailto:jakco22@hotmail.com).

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.

### History of Church Music Concert: From Gregorian Chant to Twila Paris.....

Please save the date of Sunday afternoon, **November 2, 2008** to join us here at the church as we celebrate our heritage of church music with other Baltimore area UCC churches. This service of worship would bring to conclusion the series of events held this year in celebration of United Evangelical's 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Plans are still being finalized, but the current plan is to celebrate our church music heritage throughout the various historical periods. For the Medieval-Renaissance period, we plan to sing Palestrina's *Adoramus te*. For the Baroque period, there will certainly be a selection from Bach, Handel or Pachelbel. During the Classical period there were such composers as Haydn and Mozart along with the famous hymn writers, Charles and John Wesley. During the Romantic period *Silent Night* was written by Joseph Mohr. During the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, there were writers such as Ralph Van Williams and Sibelius who wrote the beloved hymn *Be Still My Soul*. Any celebration of church music would not be complete without a spiritual and some contemporary Christian music.

If you would be interested in being a part of a group of singers composed of members of our Baltimore area UCC churches, please contact Rob Gundlach or Pastor Cathy. The plan is to have two or three joint rehearsals before the actual November service date.

## Points to Ponder...

### The Soul Lover

Prolific hymn writer Charles Wesley wrote the moving song "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" in 1739. According to one story, Wesley penned the lyrics after surviving a raging storm at sea. A frightened bird apparently flew into Wesley's window during the uproar, seeking safety in the folds of Wesley's coat.

The first stanza is as follows:

*Jesus, lover of my soul,  
let me to thy bosom fly,  
while the nearer waters roll,  
while the tempest still is high,  
Hide me, O my Savior,  
hide, till the storm of life is past;  
safe into the haven guide;  
O receive my soul at last.*

This brings to mind the frightened disciples in Matthew 8:23-27. Pummeled with wind and waves, they feared drowning and called to Jesus to save them.

We, too, can take refuge in our Savior during life's storms, knowing we have a safe haven and a sure destination.



### Our Awesome God

When our lives are focused on God, awe and wonder lead us to worship God, filling our inner being with a fullness we would never have thought possible. Awe prepares the way in us for the power of God to transform us, and this transformation of our inner attitudes can only take place when awe leads us in turn to wonder, admiration, reverence, surrender and obedience toward God.

—James Houston, *The Transforming Power of Prayer*

### What Attracts People to a Particular Church?

Why do people select a particular church? A convenient location? Yes. A good speaker in the pulpit? Yes. Inspiring music? Yes. An attractive building? Yes.

But a more essential element in attracting visitors, newcomers and prospective members is friendliness — both in the pew and throughout the community. Where there is a warm, dynamic congregation with an enthusiasm that's contagious, visitors will usually be found, and will return.



A church can buy many advantages with money, such as nice buildings, trained leadership, effective advertising and an abundance of supplies for spiritual and social use. But old-fashioned friendliness, of which the world is sorely in need, can't be purchased with money. It comes only from the hearts of dedicated people who love God and enjoy helping others feel at home in their church.

## Bits n' Pieces...

### Church Secretary



Welcome  
Dava Sentz,  
Our Church  
Secretary

Dava recently joined the UEC staff. She holds an AA degree and provides valuable support to our church office. Dava resides with her family in Dundalk and is a great fan of the movies.

When you see Dava, say hello and welcome !!

Welcome Garry Jacob,  
Our Church Handyman



Garry recently joined the UEC staff as Church Handyman. As you may recall, he used his talents to repair the church organ recently. According to his dad Harvey, Garry had the whole repair job figured out in no time.

Many thanks to Garry for his willingness to provide the skills needed to care for our facility. When you see Garry, thank him for the care he has shown us in the past and for sharing his talents with us.

Garry is the son of Harvey & Ursula Jacob.



Sunday School Schedule

No UEC Sunday School in July and August



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.



BOWLING

Our UEC Bowling League  
has Openings!

If interested contact  
Holly Raddatz  
@ 410-285-0894



Calling All  
Coffee Lovers

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.

## Comics Corner

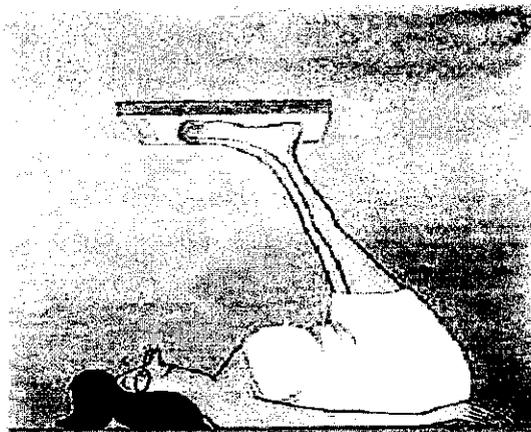
### It's all in how you say things. They're Back! Those Wonderful Church Bulletins!

Thank God for church ladies with typewriters.  
These sentences appeared in church bulletins or  
were announced in church services  
(Summer, 2007 Release)

- ◆ The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.
- ◆ The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.'  
The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'
- ◆ Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to  
get rid of those things not worth keeping around the  
house. Bring your husbands.
- ◆ The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has  
been canceled due to a conflict.
- ◆ Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our  
community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say  
'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.
- ◆ Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.
- ◆ Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way  
again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- ◆ For those of you who have children and don't know it,  
we have a nursery downstairs.
- ◆ Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on Octo-  
ber 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in  
their school days.
- ◆ Please place your donation in the envelope along with  
the deceased person you want remembered.
- ◆ The church will host an evening of fine dining, super  
entertainment and gracious hostility.
- ◆ Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 p.m. - prayer and  
medication to follow..

**If you got a chuckle from these, thank Carol  
Rowell for contributing them. Thanks Carol!!**

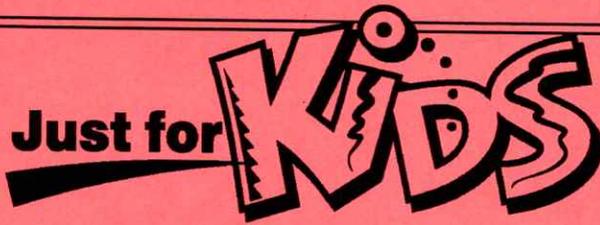
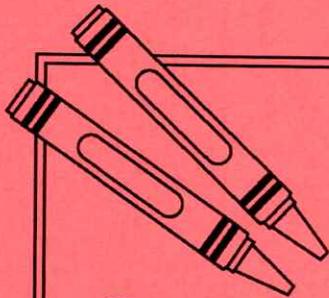
### How to Weigh Yourself



I can't believe I was doing it wrong  
all these years!!  
We must get the word out.

- ◆ This evening at 7 p.m. there will be a hymn  
singing in the park across from the Church.  
Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.
- ◆ Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morn-  
ing at 10 a.m. All ladies are invited to lunch in  
the Fellowship Hall after the B.S. is done.
- ◆ The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of  
the congregation would lend him their electric  
girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.
- ◆ Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet  
Thursday at 7 p.m. Please use the back door.
- ◆ The eighth-graders will be presenting Shake-  
speare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday  
at 7 p.m. The congregation is invited to attend  
this tragedy.
- ◆ Weight Watchers will meet at 7 p.m. at the First  
Presbyterian Church. Please use the large dou-  
ble door at the side entrance.
- ◆ The Associate Minister unveiled the church's  
new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday:  
'I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours!'

**Kids Only!!**



**Remember Our Heavenly Father**

Father's Day is a time to thank our dads, who work hard to keep the family fed, safe and loved. Let us also remember God, our heavenly Father, who gives life to us all.

Use the grid to fill in the blanks below. To find the letter for each number, look down the column to the dot, and then go to the left to the letter. Write the letter on the appropriate blank.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
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 !”

1 John 3:1, NIV

“HOW GREAT IS THE LOVE THE FATHER HAS LAVISHED ON US, THAT WE SHOULD BE CALLED CHILDREN OF GOD!”

# The United Endeavor

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

The United Endeavor



"I am the  
*resurrection*  
and the  
*life.*"  
JOHN 11:25