

The United Endeavor

News from United Evangelical Church

April 2003

Lenten & Holy Week Worship Schedule

**Our Lenten Theme is
"Returning Home"**

**April 2nd, 7:30 p.m.
(The Mother)**

**April 9th, 7:30 p.m.
(The Servant)**

**April 13th, Palm Sunday
Normal worship hours**

**April 16th, 8:00 p.m.
Tableau**

**April 17th, 7:30 p.m.
Tenebrae**

**April 18th, Good Friday
9:00 am Worship**

**April 18th, Good Friday
12 noon - 3 p.m.
Canton-Highlandtown
Service**

**April 20th
Easter Sunday
6:00 a.m.
Sunrise Service**

**9:00 a.m.
Children's Living Cross
Service**

**10:00 a.m.
Easter Sunday Service**

Pastor's Message

Believe and Know

Someone in the church recently told me that Lent was their favorite time of the church year. Even though they couldn't put into words why they felt that way, I knew exactly what they meant. Holy Week contains the essence of our faith. Within the events of Holy Week we find the basic components of our creed: He came, He died, He rose.

Our English word creed comes from the Latin word credo which means "to believe." Every week in worship we say "I believe..." I find Holy Week to be special because we re-live what it is we believe.

The days of Lent which lead us into Holy Week prepare us for the challenge of our faith. John's Gospel tells us that when Jesus began to teach that he was the Bread of Life and the Way to the Father, many who were following him turned back and no longer went with him. Even the disciples complained to Jesus that this teaching was difficult. Jesus gave the disciples the option to leave. Peter answered him, "We have come to *believe and know* that you are the Hold One of God." Even though they may not have understood what Jesus was trying to tell them about the journey ahead, they had come to believe in him.

In Lent we too have the option to turn back, or choose to believe that Jesus is the Holy One of God. It feels like a precarious choice, because like the first disciples we may not understand fully what we are asked to believe. If in our lack of understanding we turn away, then we may never know if what he says is true. But if we choose to believe and go to the Jerusalem where Jesus will lead us, we will necessarily endure betrayal and crucifixion, and then be asked to wait in hope that on the third day we will experience a resurrection. Either option feels risky.



Perhaps that is why there is such excitement attached with Lent, because we are involved in a risk. Even though we know, through our faith, that this risk pays off, what we don't know is how it will pay off. On the first Easter morning, the believers never thought their risking to believe would bring them to an empty tomb. The same is with us every Lent. We enter Lent excitingly knowing that Easter morning awaits us with the promise of an unexpected pay off if we are courageous enough to believe.

My prayer is that we will not turn back and fall away from the challenge of faith, but that we will be courageous enough to *believe* so that we may *know* the joy of resurrection in each of our lives.

In Christ's love,
Rev. Cathy

Comments from Your Church Council

Church Council

On Saturday February 8th the council met in retreat from 9-2 p.m. We shared our faith journeys and talked about what keeps us coming back to Batz's church. Through this discussion we were able to identify the things we as a church do well. Then we spent some time talking about what is missing from our church as a way to identify how we can grow. After hours of discussion, we were thankful that the Ladies Organization had agreed to serve us lunch. When we reconvened after lunch, the ladies assembled in the sanctuary and prayed for us as a council. The council would like to thank these women of our church for the many acts of ministry that they do in our midst.

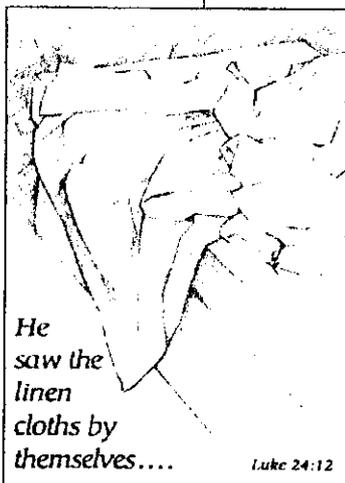
On March 15th we met a second time to follow through on the ideas brought up in February. Currently we are focusing on two ways to move into the future. First is through the addition of a contemporary worship service. A plan was mapped out for us to begin a Saturday night contemporary service in September of this year. The Spiritual committee has begun some ground work for this service, and the council is coordinating the efforts of all the committees to support this effort to appeal to the younger generation that is moving into our neighborhood.

Secondly we are looking at the elder care needs of our congregation. We are beginning feasibility studies for an elevator and other accessibility issues. While we need to be attractive to young worshipers, we can not neglect those currently worshipping. We need, as a church, to be faithful to ALL the needs of our church community.

Again it is our hope that each of you will support and pray for the council as we seek to be faithful to God's leading. One of the ways you can support us is to volunteer when a need is expressed by a committee, for there is much to be done for the Kingdom of God.

Wishing you a blessed Easter,

Church Council



Ladies Organization

This is an open invitation to all the ladies of the congregation of United Evangelical Church. We would like to have you join us on the second Wednesday of the month at 12 noon at our meetings. The Ladies Organization plans activities, trips, helps with suppers and church affairs. The profits we make from these activities are used to keep a small amount in our treasury for working money and to donate the balance for the ongoing work of the church.

Ladies Organization Upcoming Meetings

April 9, 2003	Pizza
May 14, 2003	Barbecue
June 11, 2003	Eickenkrantz Restaurant

Altar Committee

The Altar Committee has received many compliments from members of the congregation on the beautiful restoration of our cross. A letter of appreciation for a job well done has been sent to the company in Philadelphia who did the restoration. Your donations toward defraying the cost (\$700) are very much appreciated.

The Easter lilies and flowers for the Living Cross (the one the children decorate) have been ordered. We are also looking into the possibility of renting palms for the window sills and altar for Palm Sunday.

If you would like to be a member of the very busy Altar Committee, please contact me.

Ursula Jacob

Comments from Your Church Council

Senior Choir Committee

We, the Senior Choir members, are looking forward to Spring. And with spring comes warm weather, green grass and beautiful flowers.

Spring also brings mid-week Lenten services, Palm Sunday, The Tableau, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and finally Easter Sunday. We hope that one or all of these services will help you have a truly meaningful season.

Especially now, with a war pending, we need to take time to reflect on and live for the most important people and things in our lives.

We wish all of you peace and happiness always.

The Senior Choir
M.J. Myrick
Senior Class Secretary

Property Manager

I hope everyone is doing well during this Lenten Season, I hope the Lord has blessed all of you as he has blessed me. Hopefully by the time this reaches you we will have a new kitchen floor which, coupled with the painting, should make our kitchen look brand new.

We are still in the process of putting the finishing touches on the gym, oops! auditorium. These should be done shortly. Meanwhile, the children are enjoying roller skating there during these winter months.

Our library has been moved to the fourth floor of the school building and we are in the process of cleaning and repairing the scout room while it is not presently being used. We hope you will visit the library and perhaps check out some of the old books we have or donate some newer ones. The room is clean and quiet, and although the fourth floor means climbing a lot of steps, it certainly is worth the view. Take the time to give it a look.

The property committee could use your help, if you see something that could use repair or something that could be added to help make our church buildings more appealing so that it may be of more use to us, please let us know.

Thank you and God Bless,

Bill Meyers

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

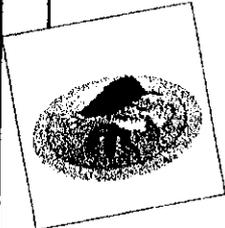
Ladies Organization Upcoming Trips

Turkey/Oyster Dinner
International Gift Shop
Saturday, April 5th

Faith Church Frederick, MD
Leave: 10 a.m.
Return: 6 p.m.

\$ 30.00 per person

Bus Filled
Waiting list is available



Luncheon Cruise !
April 23rd

A few seats are
still available!

Odyssey Luncheon
Cruise & National
Arboretum Tram Ride
\$ 60.00 per person

Bus leaves: 9:15 a.m.
Returns: 5:15 p.m.

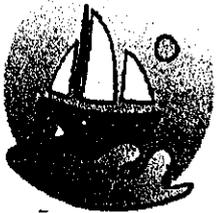


Suicide Bridge
Boat Ride & Crab Feast

August 13th

Bus Filled
Waiting list is available

Call Millie or Arlene to reserve



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:

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

the
Pastor
will be

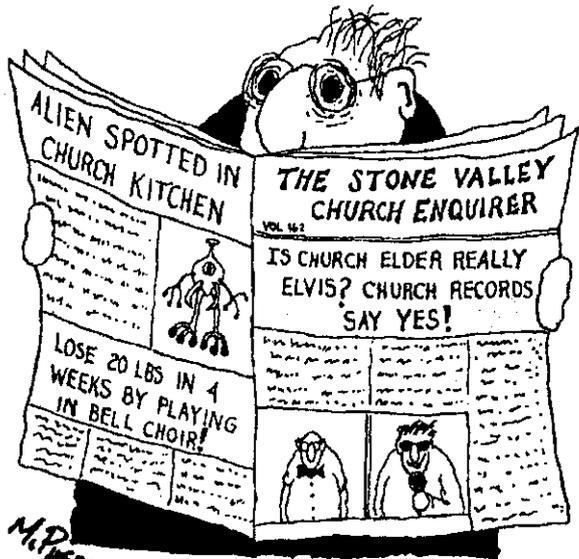


Rev. Cathy will be on vacation from April 21st - April 28th.
During her absence Max Hoffman will handle any pastoral emer-
gencies that may arise. Max can be reached at 410-256-3722.

Comics Corner



"That's a nice thought, Sister Ida, but I'm not sure it's biblical to include a coupon 'Good for \$5.00 Off Your Next Tithe' in our newsletter"



ATTEMPTS TO MAKE THE CHURCH NEWSLETTER MORE EXCITING TO READ WERE GETTING OUT OF HAND.

United Evangelical Church

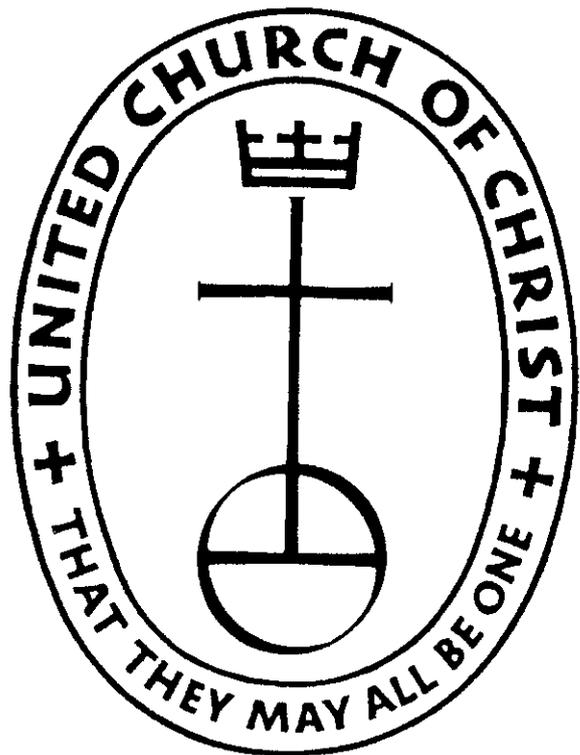
Church Office 410-276-0393

Hours Mon-Fri
 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

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 home: 410-276-2200
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Director of Music Robert Gunlach
 robert.gunlach@verizon.net

Newsletter Editor Barbara Matthew
 cartbar@earthlink.net



UEC April Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 <i>Lenten Service</i> 7:30 p.m. (Coffee & donuts in Friendship Hall after worship)	3 Sour Beef & Dumpling Carryout Dinner Day	4	5 Turkey/Oyster Dinner at Faith Church Frederick, MD (bus leaves 10am)
6 <i>Communion Sunday</i> Food Bank Donations 8:00 & 10:30 Worship Service 9:30 Christian Education	7	8 2:30-3:15 Roller Skating in gym (P.A.C.T.) Church Council Meeting 7:30 p.m.	9 Ladies Organization Meeting 12 noon <i>Lenten Service</i> 7:30 p.m. (Coffee & donuts in Friendship Hall after worship)	10 Choir Practice 7:30	11	12
13 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 8:00 & 10:30 Worship Service 9:30 Christian Education	14	15 2:30-3:15 Roller Skating in gym (P.A.C.T.) Rehearsal for Tableau 7:30 p.m.	16 Tableau Service 8:00 p.m.	17 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> Tenebrae Service 7:30 p.m.	18 <i>Good Friday</i> Worship Service 9:00 a.m. 12 noon - 3 p.m. Canton Highlandtown Good Friday Service	19
20 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 6:00 a.m. Sunrise Service 9:00 a.m. Children's Living Cross Service 10:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Service	21	22 2:30-3:15 Roller Skating in gym (P.A.C.T.)	23 Odyssey Luncheon Cruise (bus leaves 9:15 am)	24 Choir Practice 7:30	25	26
..... Rev. Cathy on vacation April 21-April 28th						
27 8:00 & 10:30 Worship Service 9:30 Christian Education 50th Year Reunion 1953 UEC Confirmation Class	28	29 2:30-3:15 Roller Skating in gym (P.A.C.T.)	30			
..... Rev. Cathy on vacation						

Senior Spot

Free Screenings That Can Save Your Life

Nothing should keep a woman from getting screened for breast and cervical cancer. That's why we are offering **FREE**

- mammograms
- breast exams
- Pap tests

To eligible women:

- age 50 to 64
- Baltimore City residents
- uninsured or underinsured
- limited income

The Baltimore City Breast and Cervical Cancer Program at Harbor Hospital and Union Memorial Hospital

For more information, call 410-350-2001

Harbor Hospital
Union Memorial Hospital
MedStar Health

Answers
for
the
Aging

410-646-0100

Free telephone
referral service



Series in Faith Hatton Center

Tuesdays 9:15 - 10:30 a.m.

Every Tuesday in April at the Hatton Center area clergy will lead a Series in Faith lecture. All are invited to attend.

Fall Prevention Program

The Joseph Senior Center is offering a **free** 10-session class on fall prevention. Balance testing, videos, discussion and exercise will be used to give important information about preventing falls.

Classes start Wednesday April 16th, 12:30 -1:45 p.m.

Free transportation is available in the Canton, Fells Point, and Highlandtown areas.

For more information call Laura Szita at 410-732-5000

Have Questions About Services And Programs For Seniors?

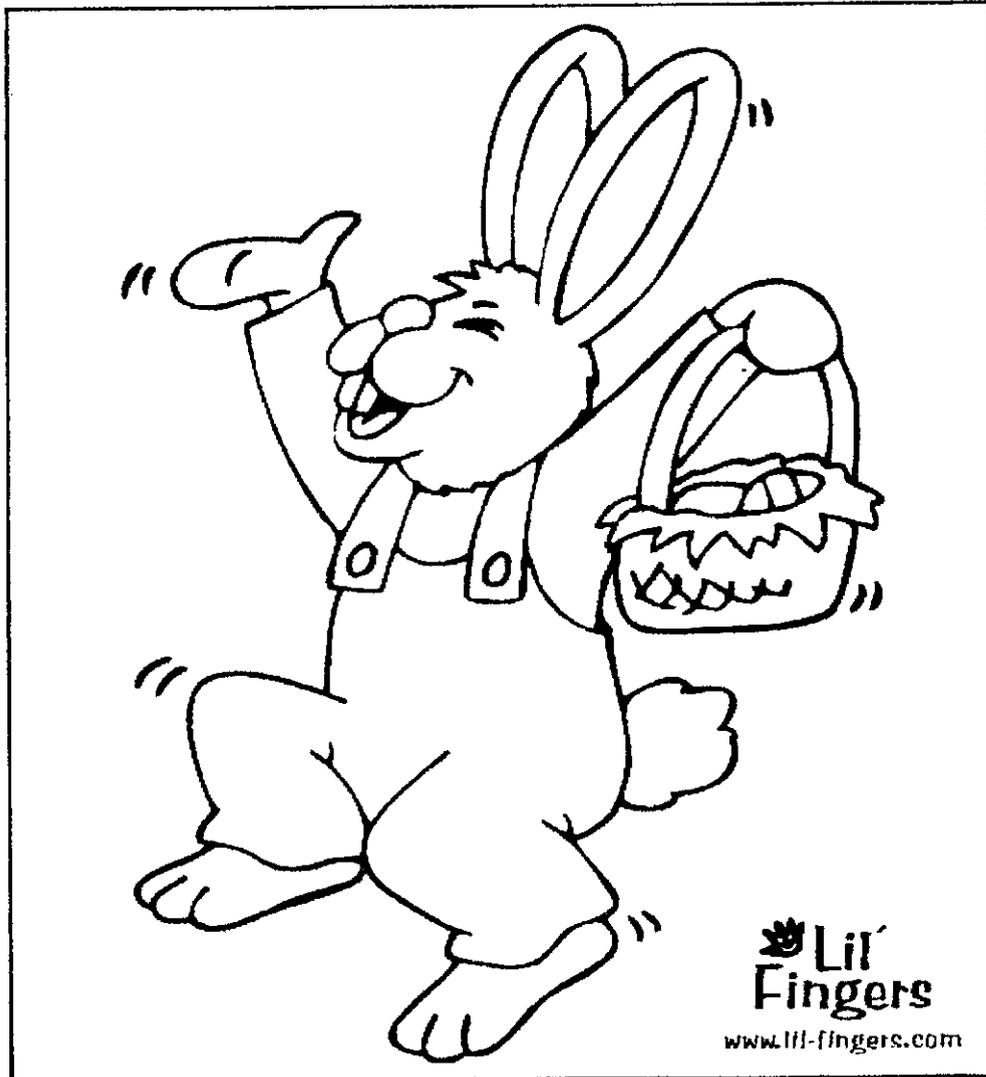
The senior Information and Assistance Counselor at the Joseph Center can provide information and assistance on a full range of community aging services.

Call Bev Livesay, Information and Assistance Counselor at the Joseph Center at (410) 732-5000 for an appointment



Kids Only!!

Coloring Corner



 Lil'
Fingers
www.lil-fingers.com

P.A.C.T. Updates (Parents and Children Together)

P.A.C.T Easter Break
will be on April 14th, 15th, 17th & 21st.



Skating After School!

Don't forget Tuesdays from 2:30 to 3:15, skating in the auditorium.

The United Endeavor

United Evangelical Church
United Church of Christ
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Baltimore, MD 21224

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