

The United Endeavor

News from United Evangelical Church

March 2003



Our Lenten Theme is "Returning Home"

March 5th
Ash
Wednesday
7:30 p.m.

March 12th
7:30 p.m.
(The Prodigal Son)

March 19th
7:30 p.m.
(The Elder Son)

March 26th
7:30 p.m.
(The Father)

"...come and be a part of the journey back to the Father's house where a banquet awaits."

Pastor's Message

He set his face to go to Jerusalem.
Luke 9:51

This year, the first Sunday of March is Transfiguration Sunday. The transfiguration of Jesus marked a turning point for his life. After that event, Jesus began his journey to Jerusalem, the place where he knew he would meet death. He literally went from a mountain top experience to face the lowest point in his life. Luke tells us that soon after the transfiguration, Jesus "set his face to go to Jerusalem." The Greek used in that passage points to someone who was resolute, that there was a firmness in his purpose. Jesus had firmly established that he would go to Jerusalem.

This "setting" of oneself towards a destiny is what Lent is all about. We, like Jesus, are invited to enter this journey a few days after Transfiguration Sunday, as Lent begins on the Wednesday following. Lent is characterized as a time of self-denial, as people are encouraged to fast from indulgences, or to increase time devoted to spiritual practices.

As you enter Lent and consider the notion of fasting or praying more, I encourage you to ask the question "What is my Lenten destiny?"

Jesus' destiny was not simply to go to Jerusalem, but his destiny was to participate in something that would change him, something that would change

all who knew him, and that would change the entire world forever. Jesus had "set his face..." his face here referring to his whole personage, not just his physical body. In the same way our Lenten practice is meant



not simply to get us to Easter when we can return to business as usual, but to engage us in something which will change who we are, change all

who know us, and in that way change the world around us.

This Lent we are invited to join Jesus in resolutely setting ourselves towards our own Jerusalem, the place where we know we will be changed. To accompany you in this journey, you will find in this Endeavor, a daily Lenten devotional compiled from the works of C.S. Lewis. My prayer for all of us, is that along the way, we will be given the words that will strengthen us in this journey which leads to a death.

Blessings,
Rev. Cathy

This "setting" of oneself towards a destiny is what Lent is all about.

Comments from Your Church Council

Church Council President

On behalf of the Church Council, I extend to each of you our greetings and hope for a very meaningful and glorious Lenten and Easter season. May God grant you hid guidance and understanding as we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Our church is undergoing many changes and improvements, some of which are necessary to take care of things that are just wearing out and in need of repairs, but more importantly, some that are designed to help our church grow and create a more positive involvement and impact on the part of our church family and the Canton community. One such project that is just getting underway is "Moving into the Future." This is becoming a very exciting venture that will help to enrich our congregation by developing new programs that will be appealing to our current members and also to those looking for fulfilling Christian experiences.

It is our hope that each of you will support and pray for the Council during this time of change and revitalization.

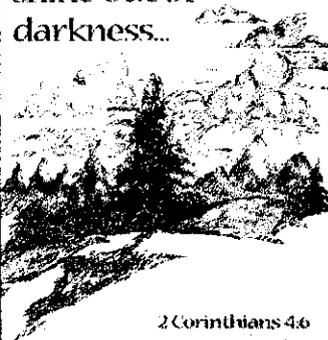
On behalf of the Church Council, may God's peace, power, and spirit be with you and your families during this Lenten and Easter season and throughout the year.

Fellowship Committee

Donuts and coffee will be served after the Lenten services, March 12th, 19th, 26th, and April 2nd & 9th in Friendship Hall. Come join us for the fellowship.

Bob Osbourne
Chairperson

Let light
shine out of
darkness...



2 Corinthians 4:6

Altar Committee

Thanks to the generosity of several members of the congregation, we have replaced all of the wax candles with oil-filled candles.

The altar cross has been refurbished to its original luster. The medallions on the cross have been re-silvered as they were originally.

The baptismal bowl (which was aluminum and all pitted) has been replaced with a nice stainless steel one.

The live flower project on Communion Sundays is a big success. We are all filled up for the entire year already. A decision was made to order live flowers on any other Sunday if someone makes a request.

The Altar Committee wishes to thank Lois Duvall for the many months that she filled the Communion wine cups. Lois Jones has kindly offered to take over that task.

Choir Committee

We hope everyone had a safe and healthy holiday. We hope our musical selections have been pleasing to your ears. If you have special requests please tell Pastor or Rob or Bill. Rob tries to keep an equal balance of old and new anthems to present to you. Also, if you would like to sing with us, please, please - let us know. We really need you!

Any Thursday evening at 7:30 up in the choir room or any Sunday morning. Please consider joining us. We would love to have you!

Sincerely,

Margaret Jean Myrick
Senior Choir Secretary

Comments from Your Church Council

Christian Education Committee

This is an exciting time in the life of the Christian Education Committee and the Church School. At a recent meeting we were privileged to have a UCC Christian educator consult with us. It was her purpose to guide us as we consider the ministry of education with our faith community, particularly with children and youth. As a result of this meeting, the Christian Education Committee held a retreat on February 22nd. At this time we began planning for the future as far as new programs for children and youth that will involve more community outreach.

In the church school we have a loyal, earnest group of children, youth, and adults each Sunday from 9:30 until 10:20 when everyone goes to the sanctuary to be part of the Children's Worship that is a part of the worship service. This has been warmly accepted by the congregation and is an important part of the education each Sunday for our children and youth.

We would like to see more of the children in our church family in church school each Sunday. The Cradle Roll, led by Margaret Myrick, sends information about Christian education to each new family when children are baptized. We would like to see more of these families becoming involved in the life of the church and church school as well as those with older children. Parents and other adults are welcome to become part of the adult education class that meets after the first church service on Sunday.

At this time we are looking for young adults and adults to provide instruction and leadership in the church school. We know there are members of our congregation who have the skills for these tasks and we would like to see them utilized in the church school and in the new programs that will be forthcoming as we look ahead to a new vision for United Evangelical Church.

Carol Rowell
Member, Christian Education Committee



Property Manager

We are in the process of finishing two projects. We have finished the painting of the kitchen, thanks to Art & Lois Jones and Pat Meyers. Now we are waiting for a contractor to replace the tile floor that was damaged due to a sewer back-up. It should look like a new kitchen.

Also, we are completing the painting of the Gymnasium. We still have some trim to complete but that should be done in about two weeks, again thanks to Art, Lois, and Pat for their help - it was greatly appreciated. Now we invite all of you to take a look at our new Gym and we hope to get a lot more use of it. So far PACT will be using it to roller skate in the afternoons, and the NA groups are holding their meetings there.

We are looking ahead to cleaning and giving our rooms in both buildings a new coat of paint to brighten them up in hopes of getting more use of them. If you have some ideas or would like to help on these projects, or if you would just like to stop and check out our work, you will be most welcome.

God Bless,
Bill Meyers

Spiritual Committee

The Spiritual Committee has begun to visit other churches to see how they are worshipping God.

After we complete our visits we will meet to discuss what we, as a church, can do to be more effective in reaching our community. We hope to develop a plan that we can act on later this year. We are always open to help or suggestions that you may have. Feel free to let us know.

George Nassner

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

Ladies Organization Upcoming Trips

Turkey/Oyster Dinner
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

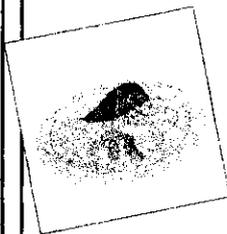


April 23rd

Odyssey Luncheon Cruise & National
Arboretum Tram Ride

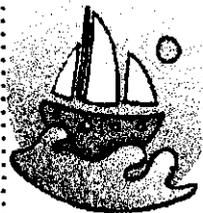
Bus leaves: 9:15 a.m.
Returns: 5:15 p.m.

\$ 60.00 per person
(\$10.00 deposit to hold seat)
Balance due in March



Suicide Bridge
Boat Ride & Crab Feast

August 13th



Final cost has not yet been
determined, but you can reserve
a seat with a \$10 deposit.

Call Millie or Arlene to reserve your seat today!!

Important Notice

All trips must have DEPOSIT to hold SEATS

If you must cancel your seat you need to find some-
one to take your seat to receive your money back.

Persons to contact:

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

Lenten & Easter Announcements

Easter Memorials & Lily Fund Memorials

All Easter and Lily Fund memorials are due in the church
office by March 30th. Please make a note of this date if
you would like to participate.

Lenten Envelopes

Envelopes are enclosed for your
Lenten offerings. Thank you.

Special Announcements

World Day of Prayer

A World Day of Prayer service will be held on March 7th at 2:00 p.m. at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, Geriatric Building. Parking is free. Hosted by Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, the very special service will include participation by Rev. Cathy and Cass Young. For more information call Doris Lawrence at 410-633-6628 or the UEC Church Office. Please come join us.



March 7th

2:00 p.m.

OGHS (One Great Hour of Sharing) Offering

March 30th

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that channels resources for the self-empowerment of communities and individuals. The offering supports programs internationally for sustainable development, emergency relief, social services, and refugee advocacy and resettlement. OGHS also supports ministries both domestically and internationally for disaster preparedness and response. Seven denominations involved with the UCC currently participate in OGHS. Your generous donations will provide support for approximately ten missionaries working in healthcare, education, and agricultural development in more than eighty countries, including the United States.

This very worthwhile cause needs your support. Please consider participating in this special offering on behalf of United Evangelical Church. Even the smallest offering can make a difference.

Thank you

Just for Fun

A Dieter's Prayer

"Lord, grant me the strength that I may not fall
into the clutches of cholesterol.

At polyunsaturates, I'll never mutter,
For the road to hell is paid with butter.

And cake is cursed and cream is awful
And Satan is hiding in every waffle.

Beelzebub is a chocolate drop
And Lucifer is a lollipop.

Teach me the evils of hollandaise,
Of pasta and gobs of mayonnaise.

And crisp fried chicken from the South --
Lord, if you love me, shut my mouth."

-- Quoted by Stephen A. Pickert, MD

Comics Corner



United Plans a Grand 130th Anniversary!!!

UEC Anniversary Picnic & Dance!

Plans for a formal dinner/dance, as well as, an all church picnic are in the works for our 130th anniversary. A pavilion at Fort Howard State Park has been reserved for our picnic on September 14th and North Point Gardens has been reserved for a dinner/dance on September 21st. Music will be provided by the Impacts. Tickets are \$30.00 per person and includes a sit down dinner, dessert, beverage, and open bar.



Menu selections will be published in a future issue of Endeavor.

One worship service will be scheduled for the 14th and talk of chartering buses to transport us all down to Fort Howard after worship is being tossed around. You will be kept up to date as more plans are made for transportation, food, and entertainment. Til then...

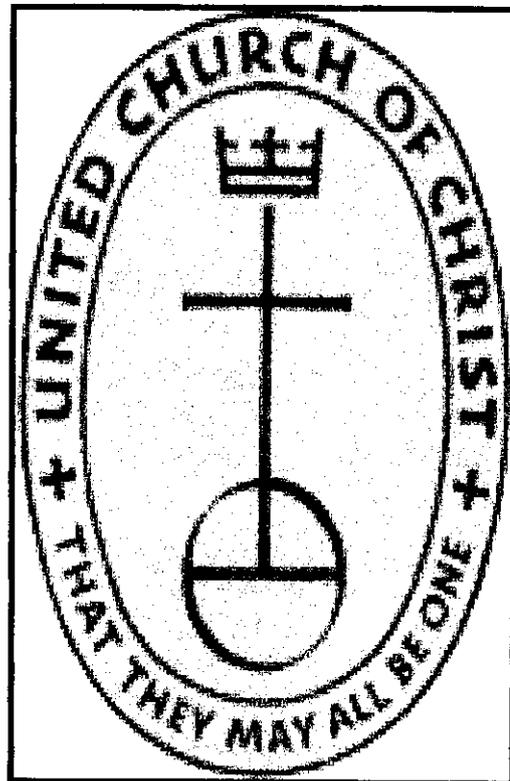
Mark those calendars!

PICNIC: September 14th

DANCE: September 21st
1:00-6:00 p.m.

United Evangelical Church

Church Office 410-276-0393
Hours Mon-Fri
9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Pastor Rev. Catherine J. Oatman
cjoatman@msn.com
home: 410-276-2200
cell phone: 410-428-1482
Director of Music Robert Gunlach
robert.gunlach@verizon.net
Newsletter Editor Barbara Matthew
cartbar@earthlink.net



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



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.

These are just some of the areas where they can be of assistance:

Adult Day Care
Employment
Health Care
Home Repair
Housing

Income/Financial Aid
Legal Services
Leisure Activities
Long Term Care
Mental Health

Nutrition
Protective Services
Transportation
Forms Assistance

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

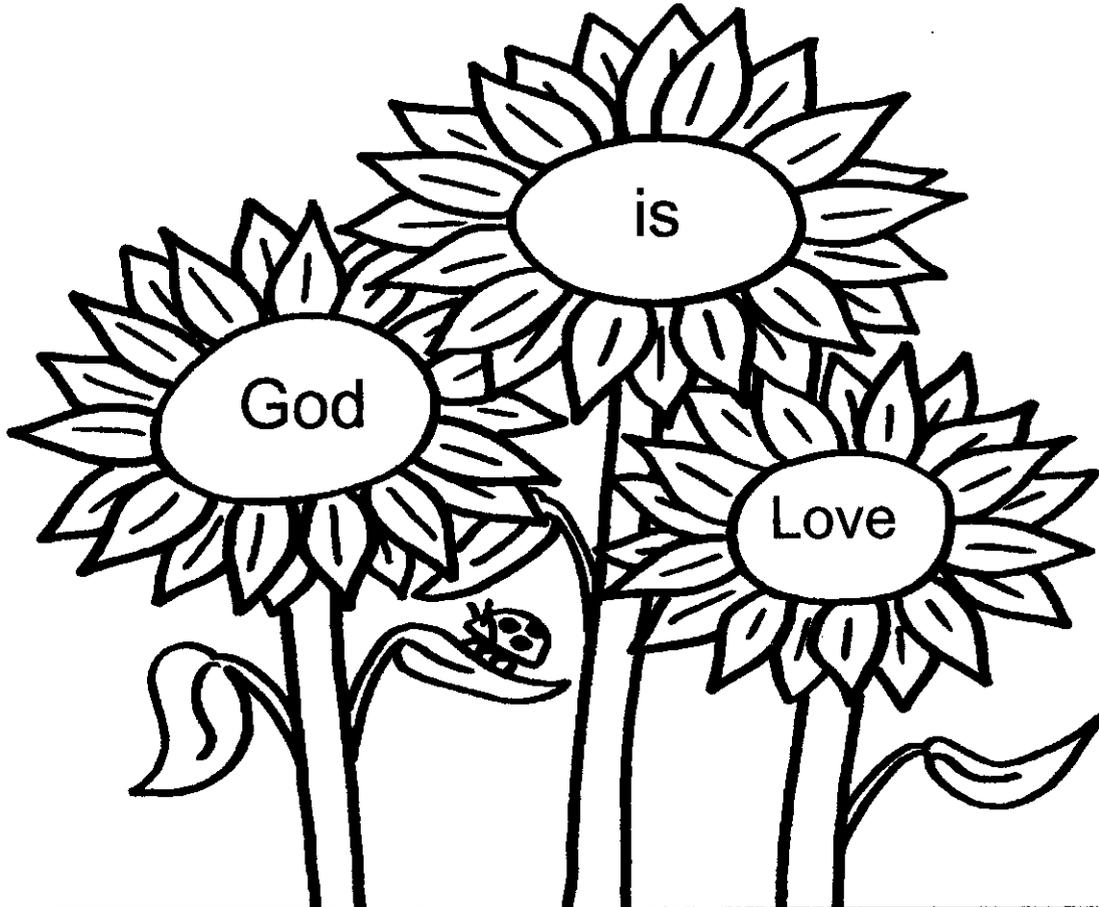
UEC March Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
<p>2</p> <p>Communion Sunday</p> <p>Food Bank Donations</p> <p>8:00 & 10:30 Worship Service</p> <p>9:30 Christian Education</p> <p>Quilting Trip to St. Johns UCC after 10:30 service</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Shrove Tuesday</p> <p>2:30-3:30 Roller Skating in gym (P.A.C.T.)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Ash Wednesday</p> <p>7:30 Worship Service</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Choir Practice 7:30</p>	<p>7</p> <p>World Day of Prayer 2:00 p.m. Johns Hopkins Bayview Geriatric Building</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <p>8:00 & 10:30 Worship Service</p> <p>9:30 Christian Education</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>2:30-3:30 Roller Skating in gym (P.A.C.T.)</p> <p>Church Council Meeting 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Lenten Service 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>(Coffee & donuts in Friendship Hall after worship)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Choir Practice 7:30</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Church Council Meeting (Library) 10am - 12 noon</p>
<p>16</p> <p>8:00 & 10:30 Worship Service</p> <p>9:30 Christian Education</p>	<p>17</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>2:30-3:30 Roller Skating in gym (P.A.C.T.)</p> <p>7:30 Christian Education Meeting (Quiet Room)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Lenten Service 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>(Coffee & donuts in Friendship Hall after worship)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Choir Practice 7:30</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Spring begins!</p> 	<p>22</p>
<p>23</p> <p>8:00 & 10:30 Worship Service</p> <p>9:30 Christian Education</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>2:30-3:30 Roller Skating in gym (P.A.C.T.)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Lenten Service 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>(Coffee & donuts in Friendship Hall after worship)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Choir Practice 7:30</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <p>OGHS Offering</p> <p>8:00 & 10:30 Worship Service</p> <p>9:30 Christian Education</p>	<p>31</p>					



Kids Only!!

Coloring Corner



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

License Info.

P.A.C.T. has received its yearly license from the Child Care Administration.

Fall Classes

We are beginning to register children for our fall classes and have openings in all three classes. If you know anyone who is interested, have them call Concetta at 410-995-0118 for information or to schedule a visit to observe.

Children's Vision Screening

United Evangelical P.A.C.T. hosts a vision screening for children 3-5 years old. The next screening will be held in March. Anyone interested in having their child's vision checked, please call Concetta at 410-995-0118.

Skating After School!

In co-operation with the Church Council, we are starting a Tuesday after school skating program for P.A.C.T. kids. The skating sessions will be held from 2:30 to 3:25 p.m. beginning March 4th.



February Winners in the 400 Club drawings

2/3	-	#158	Broznowicz
2/10	-	# 110	Pottee

The United Endeavor

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

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

REV CATHERINE J OATMAN
945 S EAST AVE
BALTIMORE MD 21224

The United Endeavor

