



THE MESSENGER

The News of the Centreville United Methodist Church September 2006

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPHS

Pastor Grier

It's that time of year again when school bells are ringing! Summer days are growing shorter, and vacations are coming to an end. Local TV stations are already reminding drivers to be on the lookout for children crossing streets and waiting for buses. A new season of learning is about to begin!

That's also true here at CUMC. Sunday School begins again on September 10th at 9:45. How good it will be to see (and hear) the children, youth, and adults as they return to their classrooms.

Sometimes we forget just how important is the Christian education ministry of our church! Public and private schools help our children and youth gain the academic knowledge and skills necessary for vocation. Sunday School helps our children, youth, and adults gain the spiritual knowledge and skills necessary for life.

I recently heard a couple of statistics regarding Christian education that were both informative and alarming. One statistics stated that a child's moral foundation is established FOR LIFE between the ages of 5 and 8 years old! In other words, a child will learn basic right from wrong at that early stage in their development. If they don't learn it by age 8, they will never have a moral compass to direct them through the hard choices of life. All public, and most private schools no longer teach morals. They can't, or choose not to. Well, Sunday School can still teach morals. Sunday School can still teach about right and wrong. Sunday School can still teach the Ten Commandments. When we come to Sunday School WITH our children and grandchildren, we help provide them with something so important and necessary for life that they can't get anywhere else!

Another statistic stated that between the ages of 10 and 15 years is when most people will make a

faith decision for Christ as Lord and Savior. If a basic decision to accept Jesus into one's heart is not made between those ages, 10 to 15 years, it most likely will never be made. Again, all public and most private schools can't or won't encourage our children or youth to make a decision for Christ. Sunday School will teach about Jesus. Sunday school will encourage a decision to follow Jesus. Sunday School will point to Him who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life!

A new season of learning is about to begin! May it not be just all about learning the ABC's. Come to Sunday School and learn about Jesus and His love for you. It's so vital for life!

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Barry Ebersole

The preparation for construction period of our building project is drawing to a close. On Tuesday night, August 15 our architect Jo Anne Baker of Torchio Architects gave the Building Committee the final architectural plans and specifications for the new educational wing and other renovations. A copy of the final plans and specifications are in the church office for anyone to review.

Our contractor Gardiner & Gardiner is using those final plans and specifications to prepare his bid. The bid will be submitted on Friday, September 1. The Building Committee will meet on Tuesday, September 5 to review the bid and decide how much the available financial resources will allow us to build. Once the Building Committee and the Finance Committee develop their recommendations regarding what to construct and how to pay for it, the recommendations must be approved by the District Board of Church Location and Building and a Centreville United Methodist Church Charge Conference. The District Board of Church Location and Building will meet on Thursday, September 21

to review and vote upon our recommendations. After we receive a favorable vote from the District Board, the recommendation will be presented to the charge conference for their approval. Once the charge conference votes to proceed with construction, the construction contract and mortgage will be signed and groundbreaking can occur. We hope to break ground in October, but the exact date depends on when the District Superintendent can schedule the charge conference.

The asbestos has been removed and the tile floor replaced. By November 15 the ceiling will be recoated. The ceiling can not be redone until Gardiner & Gardiner complete the modifications to the heating system, which impact the ceiling. Once the new tile floor is waxed, we will move everything back into the building on Saturday, September 2 starting at 7:00 in the morning. Your help is needed on that day.

The Centreville Town Planning Commission approved our site plan on Wednesday, August 16. Now we can apply for a building permit. To obtain a building permit the plans and specifications must be approved by the Town and we will have to post bonds to guarantee that the grading and landscape work will be done properly. This is all happening now.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Barbara Erickson

“Thank you” to everyone who responded to our “Tea Party”!!

The church kitchen, over the years, has been a source of support to all mission outreach. In the coming month we will be working under some difficult conditions as we go into our long expected building program and remodeled kitchen and pantry.

We will continue to serve United Methodist Men and Lions Club. We are also scheduled to serve private parties in both September and October.

On schedule is our 2nd Annual Crab Feast and Fall Bazaar. This year our Bazaar will have some new features....Cider Pressing, Quilting, etc. and certainly our soup and sandwich lunch, bake table, crafts, book nook and Gems and Jewels!

Have you see our First Edition Cookbook? It is now on sale \$8.00 each, and can be purchased in the church office.

Our Scholarship Committee has Prints, Mugs, Plates and cutlery for sale all year long as well as during the bazaar.

Children’s Shopping is scheduled for December 9th.

Remember that our Bibs, Bags and Blanket outreach is still in progress. If you would like to help, contact Barbara Erickson.

Scholarship Committee

Connie Wilson

Thanks! Many Thanks! For your support of the Scholarship Program. We were able to give 3 scholarships this year. The recipients were: **Trevor Walls** - He is pursuing Forensic Science at West Virginia University.

Matthew MacKenzie - He is pursuing a career in the Criminal Justice System with the CIA-FBI in Jacksonville, Florida.

Ellen Anthony - She is pursuing a Career in Health Care at Chesapeake College.

We wish all of them the best of luck!

The committee supports this endeavor through contributions and the sale of cutlery, bake sales and various other fund raisers held during the year.

Committee members are: Marion Lieby, Doris Conley, Barbara Thompson, Susan Klepper and Connie Wilson. Anyone interested in becoming a member, please call the church office at 410-758-0868.

Baskets

Pat Beecher

Again this year we will be selling Gift Baskets as part of our Bazaar.

Please give thought to a donation of either a completed basket or products to make up a basket.

If you are interested in making a basket, I have lots of baskets, wrap, filler and ribbon if needed.

It helps to know how many baskets are being made by others and what the themes will be. So please let me know by calling 410-758-8393.

Book Collection

Linda McCabe

We need books for the upcoming Bazaar. If you have books to donate, please place them in a bag marked “Linda McCabe” and give them to Pat in the church office. Thank you for your donations!

UNITED METHODIST MEN

Dan Tabler

The Centreville United Methodist Men welcome all men of the church to our meetings - the first of the fall dinner meetings will be held Tuesday, September 12, promptly at 6:30 p.m. We always meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month except July and August.

Our major fund-raiser, the twice-yearly chicken barbecue will be held on the 4th Wednesday in October. The Goodwill Fire Company will hold their BBQ on the 4th Wednesday in September and we follow a month later. Be sure to put that date in October on your dinner calendar and get your tickets early from a Methodist Men member.

We invite anyone who has not been to a meeting to come out September 12 - we will have a speaker, and there is always a fine meal and wonderful fellowship.

Give President Ed Parry a call at 410-758-1291, if you wish any mor information.

COFFEE HOUR

June Clark

I want to thank all who hosted the 2005-2006 Coffee Hour. Well it's that time again. Below you will find the dates of the 2006-2007 Coffee Hour. If you will pick out a date and call me I would appreciate it very much. A family or a church committee can take a date. The Coffee Hours are the third Sunday in the month.

September 17, 2006	October 15, 2006
November 19, 2006	December 17.2006
January 21, 2007	February 18, 2007
March 18, 2007	April 15, 2007
May 20, 2007	

If you want a date of the Coffee Hour, please call June Clark at 410-758-1706.

EVANGELISM

Ann Harlan

Please mark your calendars for October 29th at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Our Church will be presenting Anita Gutschick impersonating 7 women

CHERUB CHOIR

Avis Wheatley

Greetings singers and parents! The Cherub Choir will begin practice, September 19th. We will continue with the same schedule: practicing Sunday mornings in the Sanctuary, 9:30 - 9:45 and singing every second Sunday at the 11:00 service (Oct. 8th, Nov. 12th and Dec. 10th). Practices will focus on reinforcing rhythm and pitch while praising God in song. I enjoyed working with you all so much last year, and I hope you will all come again, bringing your friends, Kindergarten - 2nd grade! God bless.

MUSIC NOTES

To begin this musical year - we will have an organizational meeting for all children and parents for a **Children's Choir (grades 3 thru 6)**, on **Thursday evening September 7th at 6:30 p.m.**

The youth rehearsals will begin on **Sunday, September 10th.**

9:30 a.m. - Cherub Choir

3:00 p.m. - Youth Choir

3:40 p.m. - Instrumental Ensemble

4:15 p.m. - Youth Praise Band

Thursday, September 14th 6:30 p.m. - Children's Choir

The adults will begin on **Tuesday, September 12th 7:00 p.m. - Handbells (youth through Adult)**

Wednesday, September 13th 7:00 p.m. - Adult Praise Team.

Thursday, September 14th - 7:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir

A Vocal Tune Up Workshop will be held on Tuesday, September 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. All are invited to attend.

of the Bible. Anita travels the country giving a wonderfully vivid interpretation of each character. We will be opening this event to the community and asking for a contribution at the door. If the fellowship hall is available we may have a reception

following the performance. More information will be coming. Tell your friends.

We will be back on a regular schedule soon and school will be starting. This means more visitors will be coming to our church. Everyone has been so friendly and helpful to make them feel welcomed and comfortable. I hope we all make even a bigger effort to reach out to everyone. Wearing our name tags really does help to let people know who we are.

I would love to see more people stopping to put on their name tags. This will be a good time to show newcomers what a wonderful church we are.

I will be putting 150 door hangers throughout North Brook inviting people to visit our church. If you think of a community to canvas, please let me know.

Women's Morning Out

We will be starting Women's Morning Out meetings again on September 28th. Our guest will be a wonderful artist and faux painter, Susan Mayberry. Refreshments, door prizes, articles, ideas to share, fellowship, and prayer will be part of the morning from 10:00 until 11:30 a.m. Childcare will be available. Call me at 410-758-4349 for more information.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Ed Caporin

An Interfaith Marriage Encounter weekend will be held at Skycroft Baptist Retreat Center near Frederick Maryland on Oct 13-15. The goal of MARVA Marriage Encounter is to offer couples a weekend of solitude and face to face sharing (no group sharing). Three experienced couples guide each of the new couples through a series of steps designed to encourage good marriages to grow in many ways.. Try it! You'll like it!

You may register by calling 410-800-2011 or speak to Ed and Harriet Caporin at 410-758-0405 for more details.

FALL BAZAAR

Betty Lee Jackson

October 21st is the big day
Our church Bazaar is on the way,
"Must have" items will be for sale
We will tell you about them in this tale.
Special this year is our own cookbook
Titled "Our Kitchen to Yours," come have a look!
As always we serve a delicious lunch
or you can come early and make it brunch.

Connie's chicken salad is quite a delight
And June's vegetable soup will be just right.
Apple cider will be there to drink
Have a cup as you sit, chat, or think.
Our Silent Auction will end the day
look over the goodies and write down what you will pay.
As you can see, there will be lots to do
Come on in - We'll be looking for you.