



Memorials



In memory of: **Jim Mack**
 For: Continuing in Faith Fund
 Given by: Bea, Dan, & David Parry
 Lois & Charles Burton
 Joanne Ditto

In memory of: **Mary Eberle**
 For: Memorial Fund
 Barb & Paul Bonicker
 Lois & Charles Burton
 Dorothy Casey
 Joanne Ditto
 Margaret Fisher
 Jill & Harland Williams
 Madeline Lucas & Family

For: Continuing in the Faith Fund
 Ed & Bea Gies



March **Special Birthdays**

Margaret Merkel, "86" on March 26th, 6825
 Campfield Road, Apt 10P, Baltimore, MD 21207

**Please remember this church family member
 with a card or a phone call.**

Cemetery Clean-Up

If you have placed any Christmas wreaths or flower arrangements in memory of your loved ones in our cemetery, please remove them as soon as possible. We will be doing a Spring cleanup the first week of March for Easter. Any Christmas arrangements that are left in the cemetery will be disposed of. **We also need volunteers to help us with this Easter cleanup.**

If you can help us with this first cleanup of 2008, please call *Lois Burton* (410-833-5489) and leave your name and your phone number. We will be having more cleanups throughout the year.

Tape Ministry

A reminder that a tape is made of our 9:15 a.m. Sunday Church Service. A copy can be made for anyone not able to attend Church and would like to hear the Service. If interested, call *Alice Seohnlein* (410-833-0413).

Easter Egg Hunt

Please plan to join us for the Family Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 22, 2008, at 10:00 a.m. See the weekly bulletin newsletter for further details.

Celebration Sunday

March 9, 2008 - 11 a.m. Worship:

Celebration Luncheon will be **immediately following worship.**

This special worship service will be a time of celebrating how the Spirit has moved amongst us as we have worked on the spiritual disciplines for LIFE!2008. All of the small groups are requested to be at worship at 11a.m. - we will worship God through music, testimonies, prayer and the message. This will be a time for us to reflect on our spiritual "fitness" as a result of the study time together and the new ways we have learned to love God and love others.

Please **register** with the office (410-833-5440) or e-mail Karen (karen@rumcweb.org) if you can attend the luncheon.



Silent Auction:

The preschool will hold its annual silent auction on **March 10th at 6:00 p.m.** Bidding will close at 7:30 p.m. The money raised will help us to furnish a classroom for our new expanded preschool program next year. If you are interested in a bidding packet please contact *Lani Hoffmann* (410-526-6967) or lanilee@comcast.net.

OUR CHURCH MATTERS NEWSLETTER OF REISTERSTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PASTORS

REV. CAROL C. YOCUM
REV. DICK HARDEN

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RUMC Web Site: rumcweb.org

Office Phone: 410-833-5440 – Fax: 410-526-6838

Dale Chambers Community Youth Center: 410-526-9563

Articles and announcements for the *April Newsletter* are due by **Sunday, March 16th, 11:00 a.m.** - no exceptions please! Typed articles can be e-mailed to rumcoffice@rumcweb.org

J.O.Y.'s Mission Project

The Carroll County Safe House

It's a new year and we have a new list of wants & needs:

- Personal hygiene items (shampoo, conditioner, & deodorant)
- Fun "girly" things (nail polish & remover, make-up, and hair accessories)
- Robes & slippers (most frequently requested)
- Laundry detergent
- Crafts (paint sets, knitting supplies, etc.)
- Alarm clocks, CDs, & CD players
- Subscriptions to magazines, Baltimore Sun, & Carroll County Times
- Phone Cards

Please note that all wearable items must be new. Many items can be purchased at Dollar Stores at very reasonable prices. Family & Children Services, which sponsors the Safe House, is very grateful for these donations. These items, as well as, monetary contributions will be collected during **February & March**. Contact Carol Hoffman (410-876-1719).



RUMC Scholarship/ Student Loan Information

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AND PARENTS: It's time for you to be thinking about college and its many expenses. We can help. You may apply for the \$500 Helen Berryman Scholarship. **The deadline is March 23, 2008.** The application form is available at Franklin High and Owings Mills High guidance offices, on the church website www.rumcweb.org or through Cheri Brondyke. The form is easy to complete and we recommend that all seniors take advantage of this opportunity.

Also, think about applying for interest-free loans – the Linwood Cross and the Griffin/Yohn Memorial funds. These forms are also available on the RUMC website or through Cheri Brondyke. The deadline for these forms will be sometime in early June. **Students who received loans in the past must reapply each year** to let us know of your interest.

Contact Cheri Brondyke (410-848-7753) if you have any questions about the scholarship or the loans.

COLLEGE GRADUATES AND PARENTS: Many thanks to all the college graduates and their parents who have paid back loans. Loan payments should begin one year from your date of graduation. If you need to begin

payments and are unsure of the process, please call Cheri Brondyke. **All payments should be mailed to Cheri Brondyke, 1220 Marclee Road, Finksburg, MD 21048.** NEVER make a payment by including it in another check and NEVER put it in the offering plate. We want to ensure accurate records.



From The Shelves:

I just finished reading a new arrival to our library. It's a wonderful murder mystery by JoAnna Carl called The Chocolate Cat Caper. In it, Lee McKinney returns to the charming town of Warner Pier, Michigan, to help her aunt run the family chocolate shop, TenHuis Chocolate. As she's settling in, Warner Pier's richest and most-despised resident dies after eating a poisoned truffle that came from TenHuis Chocolate. Now, Lee must find the killer and prove her aunt's and her own innocence.

While you try to figure out whodunit, JoAnna Carl treats you to an inside look at the world of chocolate-making. Lee's aunt Nettie and her "hairnet ladies" make the chocolates right there in the shop and you feel like you're actually in the room watching them. Ms. Carl also puts a "Chocolate Chat" at the end of certain chapters. These provide little-known facts about America's favorite flavor.

By the way, last time, I told you about our library's collection of books by Margaret Truman. Ms. Truman, 83, passed away recently. May she rest in peace, and we'll continue to enjoy her works. *Beth Waters*

Prayer Shawl Ministry

As you will see in other places in this newsletter, many people have received Prayer Shawls blessed by our congregation and are providing comfort and blessings.

Even though there are no gatherings in the month of February, crafters continue to work on projects, and we already have several ready for our next blessing ceremony. If you are interested in joining our meaningful ministry, please get in touch with *Marion Yohn* (410-833-1982 or romayohn@aol.com) to get started. Our next gathering is **March 14th**.

From The Editor:

Due to space limitations, some articles and "Thank You's" were condensed this month.

Intercessory Prayer Chain Ministry *In the Name of Jesus*

This ministry that began in January 2005 has responded to many urgent requests for prayers from people who needed healing in a variety of ways: physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually. In **Weavings** (July-August, 2007) Maggie Ross in *The Space of Prayer* stated "intercession is making a space for something to be worked out, we know not how." It is dedicated to the caring for souls.

We are now reorganizing the RUMC Prayer Chain "*In the Name of Jesus*" to include other people who want to participate in this ministry of intercession. Please let me know if you would like to be an intercessor by **March 15, 2008**. A training session will be held to review the guidelines for intercession. For further information or questions, I can also be reached by phone 410-876-3871 or email aharden@runbox.com. *Ann Harden*



Holy Week Services:

Following is the schedule for Holy Week services:

March 15th--Family Ministry Easter Egg Hunt 10 a.m.

March 16th--Palm Sunday worship at 8 a.m., 9:15 a.m. and 11 am; *Children's Church at 9:15*

March 20th--Maundy Thursday Lord's Supper 7 p.m.

March 21st--Community Good Friday Service
12 noon
Good Friday Service 7:30 p.m.

March 21st & 22nd--Northside Chapel available for prayer all day, both days

March 23rd--Easter Sunrise 6:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall (outside if possible)
Easter Celebration 8:00 am, 9:15 a.m. (pre-service music at 9:05 a.m.) and 11 a.m.
No Sunday School

Broadway on Main Street:

Join *Maryland Sings* for an evening of Dessert Theater on **Saturday, April 26th**. Music selections include numbers from Lion King, Chorus Line, Hairspray, The King and I and High School Musical. Professional alumni will join our current performers. Doors open at **7:30 p.m.** for dessert; show starts at 8:00 p.m. Cost is

\$15 per person. Please purchase tickets in advance - last year the show sold out in advance. Tickets will go on sale March 16th. *Call Lani Hoffmann (410-526-6967).*

Sunday Family Show:

Great Family event! Perfect birthday party idea! Sunday, **April 27th at 2:00 p.m.** (doors open at 1:45; the show is approximately 1 hour long). Come see *Maryland Sings* and guest Mime Artist *Mark Jaster*. Tickets are \$7.50 per person if purchased in advance, \$8 at the door. Cost includes show and cookies and juice following the performance. There will be chairs, but feel free to bring a blanket for the kids to get down close. *Call Lani Hoffmann (410-526-6967) for tickets.*

Jeff Smith Returns!

Surely many of you remember Jeff's visit with us last March. He will be returning in April for a training workshop on drama in the church and for Sunday worship services. The workshop will be on **Saturday, April 19th, from 7-9 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Participants in the workshop may have the opportunity to participate in the worship services with Jeff on Sunday. On Sunday, Jeff will join us at all three worship services, presenting an illustrated sermon in his creative style. You will truly enjoy his presentation which is visual, interactive and entertaining while engaging an intergenerational congregation in the mystery of the Bible. Please plan to join us for this exciting weekend!

Carroll County Habitat for Humanity:

Carroll County Habitat for Humanity is building a home in Westminster. Construction started on 12-23-07 and the house is framed and under roof. **Volunteers are needed** for drywall, siding, painting and other miscellaneous tasks on **Saturdays during Feb. and March**. For info go to www.cchabitat.org and click on current projects or call *Carol Holland at 410-833-3419*.



Used Book Sale:

The Circle of Friends will be having used book sales on **March 16th and May 4th**. Paperbacks and Children's Books will be \$0.50 and hard covers \$1.00. All proceeds go to our mission work.

We will be collecting books in the months of March and April only. Collection box is located by the soda machine near the Fellowship Hall. **We are accepting children's books and fiction novels only.** Please no textbooks or dusty old tomes from the attic.

LENTEN THOUGHT

God has taught that you cannot love without giving. He so loved you that He gave you His Divine Son. And the Son so loved you that He gave His life on the cross for you. Now it is our turn to show our love.

During Lent, a time of prayer and penance, think seriously of your need to be responsible to demonstrate your love.

Stewardship is accountability

Be aware that to Christ all of life is stewardship and that we are all responsible to the God who made us for every capacity with which we have been endowed. Someone once asked Daniel Webster about the greatest thought he ever had. Without a moment's hesitation, Mr. Webster replied, "The greatest thought my mind has ever grasped is my accountability to Almighty God." Stewardship is the means by which we satisfy that accountability, for it places every man on his own feet. It makes him a steward of what he has, and is, and can become.

Good disciples

In a very real sense it is the only way we can be sure that we have been good Disciples of Christ – that we have carried our full share of the work of the kingdom, and that, in some small way, we have helped to make the Word become flesh in our life and time.

The Stewardship Team

It's Time to Build an Ark!



Many of you will remember last year we raised over \$2,000 for the Heifer Project. If you are not familiar with this organization, it has helped more than 8.5 million impoverished families in 125 countries escape poverty and move toward self-reliance. Its goal is to end world hunger and save the earth through the gift of farm animals and training.

This year we would like to raise \$5,000 and purchase an Ark, which includes cows, sheep, camels, oxen, water buffalo, pigs, beehives, goats, donkeys, ducks, rabbits, guinea pigs, chicks and llamas which will be distributed around the world.

We need the support of the congregation. The Sunday School students are being encouraged to do extra chores around the house; "Read to Feed", to collect pledges for the number of books they read; and to be creative in their fundraising efforts. Adults can just write a check!

The project launched on February 3rd and will end on **March 30th**. As always, we appreciate your generous support and will keep you posted on our progress with a

display in the Narthex and bulletin board postings. **Please turn in your donation to the Sunday School or Church Office** and DO NOT put it in the offering plate. Thanks in advance for helping our children help others!



- ♥ Thank you so much for the lovely shawl. It will come in handy at night when I sit and watch T.V. Thank you, *Georgia Beutelspacher*
- ♥ Thank you so much for making me the prayer poncho...it is a huge source of comfort for me and I take it with me when I go to my doctor's appointment. Thank you for all the love and prayers that went into this poncho and for the prayers. I have enclosed a picture. (Check the Narthex bulletin board.) Love, *Amy Mamea* (Pastor Dick's and Ann's daughter)
- ♥ Thank you very much for the lovely afghan that you made for Drew...We greatly appreciate your kindness and prayers. May God bless each of you and your prayer ministry. With gratitude, *Adam, Julianne and Andrew (Drew) Erbrecht* (Pastor Carol's daughter and family)
- ♥ Thank you for my daughter Carolyn's (Ann Roelecke's niece) prayer scarf. Ann told us of the prayers and love and comfort that went into making her scarf. Carolyn was extremely touched. . . You re-inforced her belief that angels are among us. Her scarf is now draped over her chair in our sunroom where she spent her final weeks before passing on to the arms of Our Heavenly Father. Thank you. Bless you, Her Mom, *Barb*
- ♥ Thank you for all the love and prayers as Jim struggled with Alzheimer's disease...a battle he lost on 12/13/07 when he went home to the Lord. The Prayer Shawl surrounded him with warmth and loving prayers. Sincere thanks to those who paid their respects to Jim, sent cards and attended his funeral. Special thanks to Steve Stem and Phil and Darlene Gobrecht for the beautiful service music and the UMW who provided lunch, organized by Lois Burton and Isabell Nester. Pastor Dick and Pastor Carol were a comforting strength...and the beautiful Peace Lily will be a constant reminder of the love of the RUMC family for a wonderful, gentle man and his family. *Thelma Mack, Laura DeCarlo & Family, Michele M. Cline & Family*