



OUR CHURCH MATTERS

ISSUE NUMBER 3

REISTERSTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MARCH 2009

How to Succeed!

A few days ago, Ann and I had the pleasure of watching our granddaughter Waverly compete in an international gymnastic program in Kansas City. As a member of the Israeli Gymnastic team she was included in the invitation to come to the United States. It truly was a special experience for us to witness our granddaughter win a medal for her performance on the "balance beam".

Now, I know just about nothing about gymnastics and during those several days together, my granddaughter taught me much that an "old guy" should know. What I did learn is that competing in gymnastics is difficult, grueling, exasperating, emotional and requires significant endurance. Failure and success go hand-in-hand with failure usually having the upper hand.

I watched a young lady who was a member of another team and who obviously had trained for many hours, go "splat" on her stomach as she missed a key maneuver on the uneven parallel bars. She was rapidly changing positions on the bars when she lost her grip and flew to the mats in a contorted manner. Immediately she began to cry in frustration and embarrassment. And at the same time her coach came to her and began to console her. We all know the power of a soothing word and a gentle touch. Obviously, the coach had responded this way many times. Soon the young lady was back again on the uneven-bars and this time she completed the routine and was all smiles -- so was the coach.

There is much all of us can glean from this example of perseverance. Scripture gives us the following about the Christian life -- "let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us."¹ For us to be deeply involved in the Christian life -- perseverance is the name of the game.

The gymnasts have to work diligently and put in many hours of training in order to succeed in gymnastics. Our granddaughter trains about 30 hours a week in order to perfect her routines -- and she is G☺D! Perseverance and discipline make for champion gymnasts -- perseverance and discipline make for faithful Christians.

On Sunday March 1st after the Great Chili Cook Off luncheon we will begin our Lenten study program. Our theme for Lent is *Too Busy NOT To Pray*. Each Wednesday evening during Lent at 7PM in the Northside Chapel, we will worship and work on different aspects of prayer -- that, when combined with perseverance and discipline, can open a path way for God's transformation of our lives. We also will have small groups on Sunday morning after the 10:00 a.m. worship service, as well as Sunday and Wednesday evening groups.

There are many times in our lives when events cause us to go "splat." It is at that time that God will be with us with words of comfort and concern. The perseverance and discipline of prayer will cause us to be keenly aware of God's presence in the difficult times.

Recently, at the funeral for Sheila Artz, we quoted a statement that Sheila made frequently -- "When I do not know what to do, I pray." And pray she did! She trusted in the power of God to change lives through prayer.

Perseverance and discipline in prayer -- the key to the Christian life!

Pastor Dick

¹ Hebrews 12:1 (NRSV)



Memorials



In Memory of: **Jack Livermore**
 For: Memorial Fund
 Given by: Carol Patterson
 Wilma Cook
 Reisterstown Festival Committee

In Memory of: **Jack Livermore**
 For: Music Fund
 Given by: Jim Endress

In Memory of: **Jack Livermore**
 For: Youth
 Given by: Kathi & Greg Howard

In Memory of: **Jack Livermore**
 For: VIM
 Given by: Marion Yohn

In memory of: **Bob Ator**
 For: Memorial Fund
 Given by: Liz Livermore

In memory of: **Rob McClure**
 For: Memorial Fund
 Given by: Liz Livermore
 Pat Dinsmore

In memory of: **Rob McClure**
 For: Food Pantry
 Given by: Susy & Bill Hedrick

In memory of: **Larry Stem**
 For: Music Fund
 Given by: Marion Yohn

In memory of: **Eleanor Gardner**
 For: Unified Budget
 Given by: Dot & Bob Bond
 Cindy & Mark Smith
 Sue Chambers
 Sandy & Mike Richardson
 Pat & Hoby Wolf
 Bev & Cliff Carter

In memory of: **Eleanor Gardner**
 For: Memorial Fund
 Given by: Ann & Ed Garman
 Nancy Welsh, Greg Welsh &
 Marion Innauzzi, Bonnie & Bill
 Lieberman

In memory of **Bea Harry**
 For: Memorial Fund
 Given by: Sandy & Mike Richardson

In memory of: **Matthew Belt**
 For: Memorial Fund
 Given by: his parents, Barbara & George Belt

In memory of **Don Allewalt**
 For: Unified Budget
 Given by: Betty Flohr

In memory of **Don Allewalt**
 For: Griffin/Yohn Fund
 Given by: Marion Yohn



March Special Birthday

Margaret Merkel, 87 on March 26th - 6825
 Campfield Road, Apt. 10P, Baltimore, MD 21207

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



**Daylight Savings Time begins on
 March 8th - don't forget to set
 your clock ahead by 1 hour.**

OUR CHURCH MATTERS
 NEWSLETTER OF REISTERSTOWN UNITED
 METHODIST CHURCH
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 RUMC Web Site: rumcweb.org
 Office Phone: 410-833-5440 – Fax: 410-526-6838
 Dale Chambers Community Youth Center: 410-526-9521

Submissions for the **April Newsletter** are due by **10:00 a.m., Sunday, March 15th**. Please e-mail articles to rumcoffice@rumcweb.org

RUMW Are Selling Gift Cards!

Each month RUMW are selling gift cards for **personal use and for gifts**. If you own a car, then you can purchase gifts cards to use just like a credit card when you fill up. We get a percentage of each card and you get the full value.

Spring is just around the corner and many of you will be purchasing plants and supplies for the outdoors from Home Depot and Lowe's. If you purchase a gift card from RUMW, you get a card to use same as cash or credit card, and we get a percentage. It is that simple.

In 2008, we made a profit of over \$2,300! We need your support. The profits are used by the Women's group for missions and other projects.

If you have any questions, please call Tammy Nash at 410-239-8394. Cards are on sale the 3rd Sunday of each month at the Fellowship Hall. Order forms are on the bulletin boards in the Narthex and in the Hallway next to the Fellowship Hall.



From The Shelves:

Check out our new books!

Dewey by Vicki Myron has arrived in our church library. It tells of how a kitten arrived - via the overnight book drop - at the public library in Spencer, Iowa. That kitten grew up to become Dewey Readmore Books, the library mascot and Spencer's most famous resident. You'll love reading about his adorable antics which caused visitors from as far away as Japan to come to Spencer to see him. You'll also get to know the author and the rest of the library staff and learn how Dewey touched their lives. It's worth checking out. -*Beth Waters*



Book Club:

The date for March Book Club needs to be changed due to Lenten Services. We will meet **on MONDAY, March 16th at 7:00 p.m. in the library.** The reading selection for March is a remarkable book by William P. Young called The Shack. The youngest daughter of the Phillips family is abducted and murdered in a shack in the Oregon wilderness. Four years later the father receives a note from God (yes, God) inviting him to the shack. The experience transforms him.

Broadway on Main Street

BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!

Join *Maryland Sings* for an evening of Dessert Theater on **Saturday, April 25th**. Music selections will include numbers from the 50's, 60's and 70's. The doors will open for the first show at 1:30 p.m. for desserts with the show starting at 2:00. The second show will open at 7:30 p.m. for desserts and the performance starts at 8:00 p.m. Ticket cost is \$18 per person and tickets **need to be purchased in advance**. They will be sold at the back door on March 15th and 22nd, or you can call Lani Hoffmann at 410-526-6967 to reserve your seats.

2009 Level II Food Service Training

Full Training (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.):

Feb 21 (Saturday) at Arcadia Vol. Fire Dept. in Upperco

March 26 (Thursday) at Church of the Annunciation in Baltimore

April 29 (Wednesday) at Central Presbyterian Church in Towson

October 15 (Thursday) at Saint Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church in Baltimore

Recertification Training (9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.):

March 11 (Wednesday) at Temple Baptist Church in Windsor Mill

April 15 (Wednesday) at Perry Hall United Methodist Church in Nottingham

Nov 18 (Wednesday) at Arnolia United Methodist Church in Parkville

Additional information on locations and pre-registration forms are available in the Narthex in the hanging files by the coat racks. Questions? Call Sharon Marroulis (410-833-7249).

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 supplies, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, lotion, body soap/ body wash
- Paper products (tissues, paper towels & toilet paper)
- Cleaning supplies, laundry detergent, fabric softener, & dryer sheets
- Hair brushes
- Aluminum foil, saran wrap & trash bags
- Hand soap, dish soap
- Pajamas & slippers, socks, bras, underwear & slippers
- Coloring books & crayons

Please note that all wearable items must be new. Many items can be purchased at area 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 March and April**. Contact Carol Hoffman (410-871-9199).

Thank You!

- ♥ We would like to thank everyone who worked hard helping us with the UMW Sub Sale and all of you who purchased subs this year. It was a GREAT success and we raised over \$550 which will go to missions. Surplus food was donated to Mission of Mercy. See you next year...GO RAVENS!!! *The United Methodist Women*
- ♥ To My Extra Special Church Family – I would like to say thanks a million for the beautiful birthday cards I received celebrating my 85th birthday. It has been an endless celebration but so much fun. I can't believe 85 years; regardless, thanks to my family, sisters and brothers and friends. It has been especially beautiful, and meaningful, sharing my life with all my Church Family (approximately 77 years),

what a blessing! Love you all and look forward to sharing many, many more years with you. Thanks again for everything and most of all thank God for these priceless blessings. Life is beautiful and I love it, Frannie Hatcher

- ♥ Dear Members and Friends, All of the Allewalt Family want to thank you for your gifts to the church's Unified Budget in memory of our father, grandfather and husband. Your thoughtfulness will long be remembered. In Christian Love, LaRue

Tis The Season for Giving:

Imagine what would happen if you were to give gifts during the Lenten season. What reactions would people have? Surprise? Confusion? Perhaps even offended that you would celebrate such a solemn occasion? More than likely you would encounter all of the above. But isn't that what happened when Christ gave his life for us? He presented us with the greatest gift given to one another, would ever receive – that of salvation; the promise of eternal life through the forgiveness of all our sins.

Far better than any tangible gift given to one another, would be the gift our Lord and Savior ask of us. His desire for us, especially, but not restricted to this Lenten season, is that we prayerfully consider and ask in what ways we can serve him more fully. To search our hearts and minds, ask ourselves if we have reached a "comfort" level for any or all areas of our commitment to him. Then, thank Him that he did not stop with the comfortable, but, continued on to do his Father's will. (Remember his prayer in the garden of Gethsemane? Matt. 26:35-44).

We too can take the step of faith, as we renew or consider additional areas of commitment of our time, talents or treasures.

Jesus' death on the cross was the ultimate in love for us – what we do with it is our response. Lent: there is no better season for giving.

Adapted for

Stewardship by Parish Publications

RUMC Youth!

Nothing But Nets: RUMC has raised over \$4,000! Thanks everyone for your support and donations.... all \$\$ goes to purchasing mosquito nets to help fight malaria for the children and families in Africa. This effort to work together empowers our youth to serve in their community and world!!

March Calendar:

March 1st NOTHING BUT NETS
SPONSOR SHEETS DUE TO MISS
AMY!!

March 1st Combo Youth Group 6-8 p.m.
Bring 3 things that tell us about you
No live animals! Music appropriate
CD's.....

March 7th Nothing But Nets @ Owings
Mills High School 1-3 p.m.

March 8th Combo Youth Group 6-8 p.m.

March 14th Youth serve the Earth @ Irvine
Nature Center 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

- Sign up outside Miss Amy's door, on RUMC website or call!!

March 15th Combo Youth Group 6-8 p.m.

March 22nd Combo Youth Group 6-8 p.m.

March 27-29th Confirmation Weekend!

March 29th No Groups!

Mark Your Summer Camp Calendar!

April 25: River Valley Ranch 1 day retreat

9 a.m.-2 p.m. Details on the RUMC website

Please e-mail Dawn Blake to sign up

dawnblake30@hotmail.com

- 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Giant Swing
- Low Ropes

- Paint Ball
- bring brown bag lunch
- Cost TBD (roughly \$30 estimate)

**July 5-11: Camp Wesley Work Camp @
Hashawa Westminster, MD**

- Grades 6-12
- **Deadline** for \$ and signup is April 1, 2009
- Need 4 Adults to spend the night. Adults who want to participate in work camp during the day, but cannot spend the night are welcome. Let me know ASAP!!

**July 13-17: VBC - NEED YOUTH
VOLUNTEERS!!**

July 19-25: Camp Hope

- Ages 14-24
- Maximum 16 youth. Need 6 Adult Volunteers ages 25+
- **Deadline** for \$ and signup is April 1, 2009.

Details for all camp information will be posted on the RUMC website w/in next 2 weeks!!

A Camp Bulletin Board with further information is next to the Choir Room.

Christmas Angels

Thanks to all who adopted a local family for Christmas. Your generosity helped brighten the Christmas morning for some children and their families in our community.

Thanks to Mary Smith who prepared the wonderful boxes of food and to Tom Reynolds for donating 10 huge turkeys.

Also, thanks to everyone that purchased the Walmart or Target gift cards to be given to the older children who attended the Mission of Mercy Christmas party.

MOM received 25 gift cards from RUMC. Your gifts are appreciated, especially during these tough economic times.

Sincerely,
Local Missions