

# OUR CHURCH MATTERS

ISSUE NUMBER 10

REISTERSTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

OCTOBER 2009

## Growing Through Worship

Some of our church leaders have just made a two-year commitment! Those of us on that team of people would like you to travel the two-year "journey of learning" with us. Last spring the Lewis Learning Center at Wesley Seminary in Washington, D.C., invited six congregations in our conference to be part of a learning consultation with a trained consultant. Five to seven leaders from each congregation will attend quarterly Saturday training events from 2009 through the spring of 2011.

The focus of the learning is to develop leaders with the heart and skill to grow their churches through the worship experience. For many churches, nothing much happens when first-time visitors come to worship. When that happens only 2-3 out of 20 first-time guests will return. Congregations who pay attention to first-time guests can increase the return rate of first-time guests to about 6-7 out of 10.

The areas of focus for the two years are:

- Quality of worship. Each congregation will be asked to assess the quality of their congregation's worship experience through a variety of measures to see the worship experience as their guests do, and to consider whether the worship offerings (number of services, times, etc.) are most conducive to reaching more people.
- Responding to guests. Each congregation will be asked to analyze the experience of first-time worship visitors. The group will be considering the importance of responding to first and second-time guests in an appropriate manner and the development of plans to engage newcomers as active participants and members.
- Maximizing attendance at key times of year. Over the course of the church year, there are certain seasons when attendance is likely to be higher such as Christmas Eve and Easter, and prime times for building attendance such as Advent, Lent, and the beginning of the school and calendar year. There are also times that are typically low times, such as the post-Easter period and summer. The groups will be working on strategies to maximize

attendance in appropriate ways at these different times of year.

**We need the help of our congregation to begin this process.** On October 25<sup>th</sup> there will be a worship survey. Those who want to fill it out on Sunday morning may do so; the other option is to fill out the survey online. Your input will be valuable to the whole learning process.

Lovett Weems, Director of the Leadership School, has this to say about worship which is the most important thing we do together: *"Worship can bring out the best or the worst in our leadership. Some people tend to 'know more' than others. Pastors know more liturgical history; musicians, more music; laity, more congregational preferences. Such superior knowledge leads some to impose their ideas. Why not see these multiple sources of knowledge as a great gift? The task is not to develop common-denominator worship, nor give a little something to every competing group, it is to develop together, in genuine interactive discernment, worship practices that bring together historical, theological, and pastoral considerations in a way that builds disciples and reaches those who most need the power of God's love in Christ. It is this power we celebrate each time God's people unite in worship."*

We will be looking at areas including our parking, building, bathrooms, nursery, seating comfort, signage, bulletin, cleanliness of the building, greeting, sound, sermon, music, prayers, coffees, follow-up with guests, information about the congregation available to guests and invitations to guests to be involved in a group or study.

We hope you will enjoy learning with us as we reach out in improved ways to people who are seeking a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. What a gift we have to offer the people in our community: Faith, Hope and Love!

**The Learning Team:** Brian Ditto, Kelly and Rick Fairhurst, Kathleen Goebel, Linda Finley, Pastor Dick and Pastor Carol.

Pastor Carol



# Memorials



In Memory of: **Ed Garman**

For: Memorial Fund  
Given by: George & Kitty Oursler



## October Special Birthdays

**Elsie Smith**, 89 on **October 10<sup>th</sup>**, 205 St. Marks Way, Apt. 216, Westminster, MD 21158

**Helen Warner**, 96 on **October 26<sup>th</sup>**, 2470 Collison Drive, Westminster, MD 21157

*Please remember these church family members with a card or a phone call.*



## Thank You!

- ♥ Dear RUMC Family, We are very thankful that Paul's surgery and recovery went so well and we deeply appreciate the visits, cards, calls and especially your prayers. Your thoughtfulness means so much! Sincerest thanks to all, **Barb and Paul Bonicker**
- ♥ Our family was overwhelmed at the caring and concern the congregation showed at the time of Lawrence's passing. Thanks to Pastor Yocum for her visits to the hospice and for the lovely service. We feel Lawrence is finally at peace after such a long struggle. We are grateful and happy to be part of this church family. Thanks to the UMW and the many friends who helped provide such a great luncheon. May God bless you all. **Peggy Reter and Family**
- ♥ Dear Church Family, Thank you so much for the cards, calls, prayers and visits during my recovery from surgery. A special thanks goes to Pastor Carol and Pastor Dick for their visits and calls. It is a blessing to have such a special Church Family. **Pat Tracey**
- ♥ To my RUMC Family, I want to thank everyone at RUMC for the beautiful flowers, cards, and many other acts of kindness shown to my family

and me during the sickness and loss of Dick. I also want to thank Pastor Carol for the beautiful memorial service she had for Dick. Also, the luncheon which the ladies provided after the service was delicious and gave us an opportunity to visit with our family and friends. Fondly, Betty Pulse

## The Circle of Friends Says "Thank You"

The Circle of Friends would like to thank EVERYONE for their help with the Children's Consignment Sale. We had more volunteers this year than ever before. It was AWESOME!! It takes many hands to drive the trucks, haul the racks, make and post signs, sort the clothes, arrange and rearrange the rooms, cashier, bag, sort tags, clean up and put the church back in order. We also appreciate our food preparers and helpers who kept us nourished! We cannot thank you enough!!

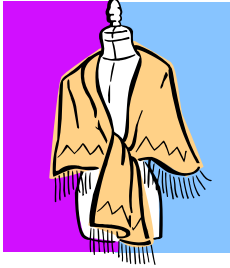
The sale was a big success and we couldn't have done it without you!! After deducting expenses and paying the consignors, our profit was **over \$7,000!!** We would also like to thank **Santoni's** for their donations.

We are already planning next year's sale, so start saving your gently used children's clothing, toys and baby equipment.

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](http://rumcweb.org)  
**Office Phone**: 410-833-5440 – Fax: 410-526-6838  
**Dale Chambers Community Youth Center**: 410-526-9521

Submissions for the **November Newsletter** are due by **10:00 a.m. Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>**. Please e-mail articles to [rumcoffice@rumcweb.org](mailto:rumcoffice@rumcweb.org) or deposit them in the Newsletter mailbox.

## Prayer Shawl Ministry



On *Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>*, over 40 prayer shawls, stoles and lap robes were blessed in our Prayer Shawl Ministry. Since this Ministry was started a little over two years ago close to 300 projects have been made, with some going to one of sixteen states and as far away as Germany and Liberia.

Thank you to *Barbara Rhodes* for continuing to make the special cards, one of which is attached to each craft.

Crafters of work blessed are: *Vicki Chitwood, Lisa Correll, Peggy Eline, Winnie Garman, Ida Harry, Jan Montgomery, Sandy Neal, Cathy Ritter, Peg Smead, Sarah Smith, Nancy Taylor, Sue Wright and Marion Yohn.*

Anyone interested in becoming a part of this ministry, **please join our gatherings on the second and fourth Fridays of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the parlor.** If you are unable to meet with us then, but would like to work at home on your own, we welcome that also. Contact Marion Yohn (410-833-1982) or [romayohn@aol.com](mailto:romayohn@aol.com). You will be rewarded with the joy that comes from sharing your talents and passing on prayers and blessings to those who receive the items.

If you would like a prayer shawl for someone, please contact Marion. Our crafters are ready and willing to make something "to order" if we do not have anything suitable on hand.



## From the Shelves

Kiss is the latest by Ted Dekker and Erin Healy. Imagine waking up from a coma after a car accident to find that six months of your memory has been lost. Then you learn that your mind has been purposely wiped clean. Whom do you trust? Who is telling you the truth? This is a fast-paced story with some surprising twists. - *Lani*

## UMW Sells Gift Cards For a Fundraiser

The October **order date is October 18<sup>th</sup>**. Beginning in November, we will take orders each Sunday for Christmas. Please plan for your early shopping. These cards can be used like cash for purchasing Christmas gifts or given as gifts. **Our last order date will be December 6<sup>th</sup> for delivery before Christmas.** Please mark your calendars. For more information call Lois Burton (410-833-5489) or Tammy Nash (410-239-8394). Order forms are on the Bulletin Boards in the Narthex and by the Fellowship Hall. There are many stores to choose from and each store contributes a different amount. You get exactly the amount you purchase and we make a profit on each card. Please consider shopping with us. Please consider purchasing a card for yourself or keep on hand for that extra gift.



## Book Club

The Book Club will meet on **Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in our library.** It is time for a classic. We will discuss Emma by Jane Austen. This novel reflects the manners and social customs of 19<sup>th</sup> Century Regency England. Emma is a self-assured girl who is determined to arrange her own life and the lives of others.

## **LOOK WHAT YOUR EMPTY INK JET CARTRIDGES HAVE DONE!**

We just received a check in the amount of **\$174.50** for our last shipment of these cartridges. This money will be added to our Local Missions budget to continue to benefit those in our community who come to RUMC for help.

Thank you to all who have contributed in the past. Please continue, and we ask that more of you start doing so. It is so easy. The company accepts all cartridges that can be held in the palm of your hand. Even if you are not sure what is useable, bring them in and the company will ecologically dispose of any they cannot use.

The basket under the "Secret Pal" table is waiting to receive them.

Also, continue to bring in your OLD CELL PHONES and put them in the same basket. They are being collected by the FFFM Circle to raise money for their mission projects.

## Annual Turkey and Ham Supper

Our Annual Turkey and Ham Church Supper will be on **Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>**. **Tickets will go on sale October 11<sup>th</sup>**. This year we are offering an additional discount. Wear your “new” church T-shirt to the supper and receive a dollar back! The T-shirts are being sold by the RUMW; proceeds to be used in the purchase of new stoves.

## Backpacks for Hurricane Ike Students

It has been 1 year since Hurricane Ike hit the Galveston, Texas Coast. The percentage of economically disadvantaged students in all grades ranges from 40-80% and varies by school. My granddaughter, Claire Fogarty, is trying, with the help of her Girl Scout Troop, to collect backpacks for the elementary schools in that area. If you could donate new, clean and character-free backpacks for them it would be a great help. There will be a box in the Narthex where they can be left. Monetary donations are also welcome. Thank you for your help. *Alice Caltrider (410-833-0713)*

## RUMC HISTORY TIDBITS

### Forever Beginning - Since 1777

When he arrived in the area in 1758, John Reister received a grant of 20 acres from the Calvert family and called it “Reister’s Desire.” He built a “log structure” as a gathering place for Lutherans and shared it with the Reisterstown Methodists. (A copy of the book “Reister’s Desire” is in our Church library.)

1777 - On February 6<sup>th</sup> Bishop Francis Asbury made his first of many visits until about 1784 to Reisterstown.

1784 - A December Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the Lovely Lane Church, Baltimore, sent out 70 itinerants and 2 missionaries to preach the Gospel. Reisterstown became one of the regular monthly stops.

1791 - “Asbury Chapel” was a log cabin built by the Methodists, with ground behind designated for a burial ground, on the site of the present cemetery. The cornerstone was a brick sent to the congregation by some Methodists in England. (The brick is on display in the glass case designated for “Secret Pals”.)

1830 - Second church built in front of the log cabin closer to present Main Street. The brick from England again served as the cornerstone.

1845 - 406 Main Street was given to Asbury Chapel by a Lay Leader to be used as a parsonage.

1866 - As a result of the Slavery & State Rights in 1845, Methodist Episcopal Church - South organized on a national basis and about 100 members of Asbury Chapel organized Methodist Episcopal Church - South in the “Wesley Chapel”, and later became known as Grace Methodist Episcopal

Church. This building is across Main Street and south of the present church now occupied by Long & Foster.

1868 - The first camp meeting was held at Emory Grove.

1870 - Third Asbury M. E. Church dedicated and is now our Northside Chapel.

1905 - Motion made to remove the embankment of earth in front of Asbury Chapel which had steps leading to the second floor and only entrance to the building. It was also agreed to construct a door on the first floor to the “Lecture and Audience” room. Work was done about 1909.

1941 - Asbury M. E. & Grace M. E. South united to become Reisterstown Methodist Church.

1950 - Addition of Sunday School rooms and kitchen. (Now library, “Old Kitchen”, two large Sunday School rooms and Sunday School office).

1955 - The Yingling property at 244 Main Street was purchased to be used for offices and additional classrooms. It was dismantled in 1968.

1961 - A one-acre portion of the Medairy land was purchased for use as a parking lot.

1965 - Completion of Fellowship- Hall, new Sunday School rooms and present kitchen.

1966 - The Bruehl property to the south of Asbury Chapel was purchased. It is said the building that had been on the property was a “stop” on the Underground Railroad. Shortly after purchase the house and buildings were razed. It is the site of our present Main Sanctuary.

1968 - Methodist Church and Evangelical United Brethren Church merge nationally. RMC becomes RUMC.

1972 - All mortgages paid in full.

1974 - Present Main Sanctuary consecrated and the parlor was named the “Grace Room” paying respect to the former Southern Methodist congregation.

1978 - Parsonage sold and pastor began receiving housing allowance.

1989 - Mortgage on 1974 building burned.

1990 - Offices constructed in former courtyard area.

1998 - Purchase of 308 Main Street to use as Youth Center.

1998 - Building On Faith and 2001 Continuing In Faith campaigns started for renovation of 308, renovation of Old Sanctuary, expansion of library, a new organ and air conditioning of Fellowship Hall and kitchen.

## Board of Child Care Auxiliary

Keep saving Campbell’s UPC codes and jar lids and Box Tops for Education. Please place them in the UMW mailbox.

We are collecting 29 oz. cans of sweet potatoes **until October 30<sup>th</sup>** for Foster Care Thanksgiving Baskets. Please place them in the Board of Child Care Auxiliary basket. We will also be collecting items for the Christmas Store **until October 31<sup>st</sup>** – toys, games, baby outfits, T-shirts, items for children, men and women – the list will be on the Bulletin Board in the Narthex. Children buy items for their family members. These items can also be placed in the basket in the Narthex.

All children are special. God bless. *Hazel Mays 410-356-7511.*



## World Communion Sunday October 4<sup>th</sup>

Our District Superintendent, the Rev. Dr. Karin Walker will preach on **October 4<sup>th</sup>** on conference and world missions that we support.

## New Member Orientation

Adults considering becoming a member of RUMC are invited to a two session orientation from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, **October 28<sup>th</sup>** and **November 4<sup>th</sup>**. The class would be received on **November 8<sup>th</sup>**. Please call the church office (410-833-5440) or Pastor Carol if you are interested.



## Flu Season

There has been a good bit of information about the flu this season. In an effort to stay healthy as a congregation, we encourage lots of hand washing and sneezing into your elbow! Bottles of hand sanitizer are around the church. Those serving Communion will always wash their hands and use sanitizer before serving. The grape juice is going to be served in the small disposable cups for the upcoming months and the bread will be put in the cupped hands of each recipient by the server. If you are uncomfortable holding hands with others during worship, do what makes you feel comfortable.



## All Saints Sunday is Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>

On **Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>**, we will remember all those loved ones who have died in the last year. We will also gather around the Lord's Table. You are encouraged to participate in this special time of remembering.



## RUMC Harvest Hoedown!!!

Bring your family and friends for an afternoon of food, fun and fellowship. Save the date – **Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. at Pastor Dick's ranch!** We will have crafts, hayrides and games, and will end the day with S'mores around the campfire. Please bring a side dish to share, blanket or chairs, and non-alcoholic beverages for your family. Grilled hot dogs and lemonade will be provided. Please respond to **Laura and Chris Raab (410-871-0708 or [lauraraab@comcast.net](mailto:lauraraab@comcast.net))**.

## FALL COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Glyndon, St. Luke's, Reisterstown  
United Methodist, All Saints Episcopal,  
Northminster Presbyterian and  
Reisterstown Bible Church and  
RE/MAX Platinum Associates

WHEN: October 24, 2009 7:45  
AM – 1:45 PM

WHERE: RUMC Fellowship Hall

To be eligible you must be at least 17 years old (16 with parental permission in Maryland), weigh at least 110 pounds, have a photo ID, and be in general good health and no tattoos within the last 12 months.

If you have questions regarding donating blood such as medication you may be taking or overseas travels please call 1-866-236-3276.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Every two seconds someone in the United States receives a blood transfusion

- ❑ LOCALLY 1,000 units of blood are needed every day
- ❑ It is estimated that 60% of the population is eligible to donate blood, but only 5% of that eligible population actually donates

Please contact Kelly Fairhurst (410-356-8695) to schedule your appointment today.

***The need is constant. The gratification is instant. Give Blood.***



# Fall Calendar of Events

- October 1 – 7 pm UMW Combined Meeting, NSC
- October 4 – World Communion Sunday
- October 11 – Youth Sunday
- October 16-18 – Men's Retreat at Manidokan
- October 18 – Cookie Walk, Fellowship Hall
- October 24 – 7:45 am – Blood Drive, Fellowship Hall
- October 24 – 1 pm Harvest Hoedown at the Hardens'
- October 30 – November 1 – Silent Retreat at Dayspring
- November 1 – All Saints Sunday (Daylight Savings Ends!)
- November 7 – 4 pm – Church Supper, Fellowship Hall
- November 14–15 – Women's Retreat at Skycroft
- November 22 – Thanks and Giving Sunday
- November 26 – 8:30 am – Thanksgiving Breakfast, Fellowship Hall
- November 26 – 10 am Thanksgiving Service, NSC
- November 27 – Office Closed
- November 29 – 6 pm Chrismon, Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary
- December 5 – 6:30 pm – Tree Lighting
- December 6 – Christmas Cookie Walk, Fellowship Hall
- December 6 – 3 pm – Steve Stem's Organ Concert
- December 21 – Music Sunday
- December 24 – 4, 7 & 11 pm – Christmas Eve Services



## Cantata News

If you would like to sing with the Chancel Singers on Christmas Eve when they present "Only Love," join us in the rehearsals beginning in October.

On each Thursday night we will begin our rehearsals with music from the cantata. So at least the first 15 minutes will be dedicated to learning a song or two. You are welcome. Bill Myers, Director of Music Ministries

## Looking Ahead!

December brings a wonderful seasonal activity for the community and the church life. The Tree Lighting is scheduled for Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. Once again, voices of RUMC and Maryland Sings will celebrate the season with special Holiday carols. Also, following the arrival of Santa, everyone will gather in the Fellowship Hall for light fare and the Annual Wreath Auction sponsored by Maryland Sings. Come one and all to be a part of the evening's activities. Bill Myers, Director of Music Ministries