



OUR CHURCH MATTERS

ISSUE NUMBER 11

REISTERSTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2010

Thanksgiving

It is a cold and rainy morning, as I sit at my computer to begin the November Front Page for the RUMC Newsletter. For the last several days the word “thanksgiving” has been on my mind. I know that it is hard for us to believe that November 25th (Thanksgiving) is just around the corner – 2010 has seemed to just move by at “warp speed.” Now we are into thanksgiving time.

I would like to spend a few moments of your time reflecting on what thanksgiving means to me. Maybe, in my ruminations, there will be some familiar thoughts that will cause you to ponder again the meaning of thanksgiving.

Take a look at Philippians 4:6 – “*Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.*”

First --- right now thanksgiving has the meaning of Thanksgiving – the American holiday where family and friends gather to remember again the bounty and blessings that God has given our country. So often, I feel that we are beginning to remove God from the gift of Thanksgiving. Hopefully, you will have the opportunity to gather around the table with loved ones and share in a bountiful meal – exchanging comments as to what you are thankful for. Take time to have an extended prayer of thanksgiving. For once – turn off the TV and talk and share with each other the love that has brought you together first. You can always record the TV football games and the Thanksgiving parades – to be watched later. Time with family is more important than the TV.

But thanksgiving is far more important than Thanksgiving Day. Each day, I find myself saying “Thank you Lord.” It is for the simple things in life – the unannounced gifts that God is always presenting us with. The gifts of a beautiful fall day with the changing colors of the leaves are one sign of God. Then there is the gift of fresh carrots just dug from my

garden. They glow with a bright orange color and have pungent fresh “carrot” smell to them. What about the sight of a small child dancing around her mother as they go shopping. Maybe you receive a note from a dear person whom you have missed or who has been ill. Or you have taken the time to write a note (not an e-mail) to a friend. There are so many simple things to be thankful for – but our heart has to be ready to give thanks.

Recently I have been working with the Beatitudes as the main themes behind our Sunday morning messages for you. Throughout the Beatitudes, we discover that a heart that is centered on God will be able to see life in a totally new dimension. We see God in the small and simple things in life with this God-centered heart. It is true that a God given grateful heart does radiate thanksgiving. “Thank you Lord!”



Ann and I give thanks to you for your generous outpouring of cards, calls, words of hope and prayers during Ann’s recent cancer surgery. With gratified hearts, we move forward with trust and confidence in God’s love. It has been a difficult five weeks, but now we know what we face and give thanks to God that there is a clear path ahead.

Thanksgiving is far more than a holiday in November with lots of food, “thanksgiving” is that gift of God that comes to us – undeserved and unexpected. It comes to us because we are loved by God and we have no other option than to say – “Thank you, Lord.”

Dick



Memorials



In Memory of: **Alan S. McNeiland**
For: Memorial Fund
 Given By: Sasa Dukan and Daniel Dender

In Memory of: **Patricia A. Tracey**
For: Memorial Fund
 Given by: Betty & Raymond Ensor
 Lloyd Sullivan
 Barbara & Robert Stevenson
 Peggy Eline
 Sue & Dick Redding
 Classic Trends Family Hair Salon
 Patricia W. Wolf
 Carol & Buddy Watson
 William & Wilma Welling
 JOY Circle
 Pat Dinsmore
 Mark & Cindy Smith
 Bob & Dot Bond
 Karyn & Doug Gardner
 Jolie & John Mitchell
 Thelma Mack
 Lynn & Gary Owings
 Evelyn & Bob Bosley
 Peggy Miller
 Georgia Beutelspacher
 Gerri & Ed Hare
 Velvia & Howard Goodrich
 Barb Kehne
 Susan & Larry Denton
 Mildred Ensor
 Kathleen Goebel
 Alice Seohnlein
 Wilma Price
 Marie & Don King

For: Unified Budget
 Given By: Alice & Tom Caltrider

In Memory of: **Louise Stinchcomb**
For: Unified Budget
 Given by: Alice & Tom Caltrider
For: Volunteers in Mission
 Given by: Leslie Gable

Would you consider listening to the voice of God in the silence of **Holy Cross Abbey**? Pastor Dick and Ann Harden will spend a few days from **November 8-10** at the Trappist Monastery in Berryville, VA. Visit their website www.hcava.org for more information or e-mail Ann Harden -- aharden@runbox.com.



November Special Birthdays

Arline Standiford, 178 Rosewood Drive, Cocoa, FL 32926 will be celebrating her "91st" birthday on **November 2nd**.

Ernie Standiford, 178 Rosewood Drive, Cocoa, FL 32926 will be celebrating his "95th" birthday on **November 9th**.

Marion Yohn, 316 Lauren Hill Court, Reisterstown, MD 21136 will be celebrating her "81st" birthday on **November 12th**.

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

Annual Turkey and Ham Supper



Saturday, November 6th
4:00 – 7:00 pm

Enjoy turkey, ham, stuffing and gravy, parsley potatoes, green beans, sauerkraut, coleslaw, applesauce, cranberry sauce, rolls, beverage, ice cream sundae.

Adults at the door \$12.50
 Seniors (60 & up) \$12 Kids 5-12 at the door \$6

Please plan to attend and plan to help where you can, whether it is cooking, serving, cleaning up or just eating. It is a great fellowship opportunity.

OUR CHURCH MATTERS
NEWSLETTER OF REISTERSTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Submissions for the **December Newsletter** are due by **10:00 am, Sunday, November 21st**. Please e-mail articles to rumcoffice@rumcweb.org or deposit them in the Newsletter mailbox.

RUMC Thanks and Giving Hoedown!!!



Bring your family and friends for an afternoon of food, fun and fellowship. Save the date – **Saturday, November 13th from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the home and "ranch" of Amy and Randy Hart!** We will have crafts, hayrides and games, and will end the day with S'Mores around the campfire. We are asking for donations of shampoo, soap or deodorants for the Crisis Center as well as a side dish to share, blanket or chairs. Grilled hot dogs and lemonade will be provided. Please respond to *Laura and Chris Raab* (410-871-0708 or lauraraab@comcast.net). The event will occur rain or shine!

History & Records Committee "Spirit Walk"

On October 31, the History & Records Committee sponsored a "Spirit Walk" headed by Brian Ditto. Over 50 members of our congregation took a guided walk through parts of Historic Reisterstown followed by a walk around the grounds of RUMC learning of its past history.

This was followed by a lunch in the Fellowship Hall where there was memorabilia of our history. Among things on display were a quilt made in 1929 donated to the church by the Gardner family (Pat Tracey, Jan Porter and Nancy Welsh), another quilt made to commemorate our 200th anniversary, the Pulpit Bible used until 1974 in the Asbury Chapel, books of Administrative Board minutes from 1941-1950 and 1950-1953 and photo albums. While guests were eating, slides from years past were shown.

Reisterstown United Methodist Church has a long and memorable history. Read samples in each Newsletter as space permits and be proud to be a part of "Forever beginning since 1777".



UMW Christmas Party:

All are invited to the **United Methodist Women's Christmas party on Dec. 2nd at**

7:00 p.m. Our guest will be Paul Seipp, who plays the guitar, sings, and also tells jokes! Refreshments will be served. Contact *Joanne Ditto* 410 833-1308 or *Linda Finley* 410 833-9217 with questions.



Thank You!

- ♥ Dear RUMC Family, Please accept our heartfelt thank you for the lovely Peace Lily you sent us in memory of a very special person, Alan McNeiland. We truly appreciate your kind expression of sympathy. *Jerry & Barbara McNeiland & Family.*
- ♥ Dear Church Family, I'd like to thank all of you for your prayers and support after Jason broke his leg. A special thank you goes to Pastor Carol for the phone calls and visit to the hospital. We are lucky to have such a loving church family. Sincerely, *Beth Waters*
- ♥ Dick and I want to thank the congregation for surrounding us with prayer and love since my recent diagnosis of breast cancer in early September. As we walked out of the oncologist office at GBMC on October 13th, our hearts were overflowing with gratitude for the mercy that God has shown us. Because the malignancy was caught very early and was very small, I will only have to take an oral hormone therapy for 5 years. Tamoxifen will reduce my chances of getting breast cancer again by 50%. We praise God for the gift He has given us, and we give thanks to you for your prayers and support. Blessings, *Ann Harden*
- ♥ We would like to thank our RUMC family for the Peace Lily in sympathy and remembrance of our mom, Louise Stinchcomb. Our heartfelt thanks also to all who call her, sent cards and always asked about her, and to Pastor Carol and Pastor Dick who spent time, prayed with and encouraged all of us through many years of mom's illness. Blessings, *Lorna & Gordon Dix, Denny, John and Lauren Trail.*
- ♥ Dear Church Family, We would like to extend our thanks to everyone for all of the prayers, calls, cards and meals during Pat's illness and upon her passing. Her church family was very important to her and we appreciate your loving support. The Peace Lily will be a nice remembrance of Pat. We would also like to thank Pastor Carol and Pastor Dick for their many calls, visits, and words of comfort during this time. The service was a beautiful celebration of Pat's life and she will always have a special place in our hearts. Love, *Bob Tracey, Linda Barkell, Patti Musial and families.*

Annual Women's Retreat:

Attention all women - time is running out to sign up for our annual retreat. The retreat will be held this year just on *Saturday, Nov. 13th*. Our theme is "The Frazzled Female", and we will have a wonderful speaker, Pastor Linda Fernandez, who has spoken at many retreats and weekends, great music with Bill Hedrick, and lots of fun.

We will again meet at **Skycroft Conference and Retreat Center**. The cost is \$80 and includes the book, speaker, music, facility and two meals.

Please contact *Linda Finley at 410-833-9217 or Jannell Trcka 410-526-5078 ASAP*. Full pmt will be due.



From the Shelves:

My book club and I recently read Mitch Albom's "Have a Little Faith." In it, we meet Mitch's former rabbi, who asks Mitch to write his eulogy.

Mitch considers it an odd request because the Reb, as Mitch calls him, isn't even sick. He uses the extra time to really get to know the Reb, so when the time comes, he'll be able to write a good eulogy.

Meanwhile, Mitch also introduces us to Henry, a former drug addict turned preacher. His church, The Church of My Brother's Keeper, meets in an abandoned building with no heat and a large hole in the roof, but Henry maintains a positive attitude. He's driven by an urge to help others, and his parishioners admire his inspirational style. Ironically, they nickname Henry "The Reb."

We follow both men throughout the book. The Reb shares with us much of the wisdom that he's gained throughout the years while we watch Henry living life one day at a time. You can find "Have a Little Faith" in our church library, and it's worth checking out. *Beth Waters*

The Sisterhood:

The Sisterhood (a group for all women of RUMC and Pleasant Grove dedicated to fellowship and spiritual growth) begins its next bible study, *The Frazzled Female: Finding Peace in the Midst of Daily Life* at the Women's Retreat on November 13

at Skycroft. We will cover the first two chapters of the book while on retreat. There will be four additional meetings after retreat to review and discuss the rest of the chapters. Those dates are November 22, November 29, December 6 and December 14 from 7-8:30pm (meeting room to be announced). You do not need to be on retreat to be involved in the study and do not need to complete the meetings if you're only interested in the retreat. All women are welcome in either venue!! Please contact Linda Finley, 410 833-9217 or lindafinley@verizon.net for further information.

The Sisterhood breakfast is on **November 20th at New Towne Diner (8:30 am)**. We will be doing a **canned food "drive"** with breakfast that morning and give it to a needy family/organization for Thanksgiving.

Board of Child Care:

Thanks so much! Many gifts for the Christmas Store have already been collected and delivered. We will continue to collect through the end of November.

We need to clarify the collection of Education Box Top symbols and UPC symbols on Campbell's products. Do not save the entire label or the front of labels. Only the symbols are turned in for points. **Please refer to the UMW bulletin board or ask *Cindy Smith* if you have any questions.**



Book Club:

Book Club will meet **Wednesday, November 17th at 6:00 P.M. in the church kitchen** for our Holiday dinner. Don't forget to bring a new sweater to donate to a charity.

We will get into the Christmas spirit a little early as we discuss "The Christmas Sweater" by Glen Beck. A young boy of 12 who desperately wants a new bicycle from his mother receives a handmade sweater instead. This begins a journey of learning the real significance of gifts given in love. (We will not meet in December so bring suggested titles for 2011.)

New Members Orientation Reminder:

Nov. 7 from 11:30-2 pm with lunch. Childcare provided for those who request it.

Christmas Bazaar & Flea Market

Sponsored by the Pleasant Grove UMW
Saturday, November 6, 2010
9:00 am – 2:30 pm

Pleasant Grove U.M. Church
(Dover & Pleasant Grove Rd, near Boring, MD)

**CRAFTS, FLEA MARKET ITEMS AND
MUCH MORE!!**

**SPACES AVAILABLE
VENDORS NEEDED**



For more information and
Rental space, please call
Vol: 410-429-3922
e-Mail: pgchurch@verizon.net

Gift Cards for Christmas:

RUMC Women are still selling Gift Cards as an ongoing fundraiser. Christmas orders will be taken on Sunday, Nov.14, 21, 28 and Dec. 5. Order forms are on the bulletin boards in the Narthex and by the Fellowship Hall.



Here is an example of how this works: If you purchase a Bob Evans Gift card for \$10, we get 10% of that order or \$1 and you get a gift card for \$10. So for every card that you purchase, RUMW gets a percentage. It is that simple.

We need you to purchase gift cards from us: for your personal use or to give as gifts. We have many stores, restaurants, gasoline stations to choose from. There is something for everyone. - and every time you buy a card, you make a donation to the Women's group. Need more information, call Tammy Nash at 410-239-8394. Thank you.

P.S. Don't wait until the last minute to do your Christmas shopping, purchase a few cards each week from us.



Attention All Couples!

Would you be interested in a night out with other RUMC and Pleasant Grove couples? Toby's Dinner Theatre is showing **A Christmas Carol** at their Baltimore location. This would be a perfect way to get excited and energized about the holiday season!! Won't you join us on **Saturday, November 20th** for the evening dinner and performance? If interested, please contact *Rick and Kelly Fairhurst*, 410-356-8695; kelly.fairhurst@erickson.com; or rjfj45@yahoo.com. Hope to see you there!

Adopt-A-Family for the Holidays:



The Community Crisis Center, Inc. is asking local residents to consider **adopting a family for the holidays** through the Volunteer Office of Baltimore County Department of Social Services. For more than a decade, the Volunteer Office of Baltimore County Department of Social Services has been making holiday celebrations possible for families in need.

If you would like to adopt a family: Visit the website at www.communitycrisiscenter.org to download/print a donor form, or visit CCC in person during hours of operation to pick up a donor form.

IMPORTANT: Please note on the donor form that you are requesting an **ADOPTED FAMILY WITHIN OUR LOCAL SERVING AREA (REISTERSTOWN, OWINGS MILLS, OR GLYNDON)**. **IF NOT, YOU MAY BE ASSIGNED A FAMILY ELSEWHERE.**

Without your support, these families will not be able to provide gifts to celebrate the Christmas holidays. Please consider sharing the gift of hope to these families for Christmas. *-Deborah*

Reflections From: "A 40 Day Spiritual Journey to a More Generous Life"

The world asks: "What does a person own"
God asks, "How is the person using what they have been given?"

The Stewardship Committee



RINGING FOR JOY!

The ringers are so happy to be back! We hope you enjoyed hearing the hand bells at the end of October during the 10 a.m. service. We will be playing again on Christmas Eve at the family service.

The Handbell Choir would like to welcome new members from the young to the young-at-heart (high school through adult). For additional information, contact Handbell Choir Director *Lynn Lyon-Vaiden* at 410-374-4066 or llyonvaiden@yahoo.com.

Dates to remember in November:

- Nov. 6 All church supper
Pleasant Grove UMC Christmas Bazaar
- Nov. 7 All Saints Sunday worship
Time changes—Fall back one hour
- Nov. 10 Training Day for area church staffs
- Nov. 11 Bishop's Day for all pastors
- Nov. 13 Women's Retreat--Skycroft Retreat Center
Work Day at church led by Property Com.
Family Ministry Harvest and Thanksgiving
Hoedown @ Hart's home—Upperco, MD
- Nov. 20 Couples outing at Toby's Dinner
Theatre - "The Christmas Carol"
- Nov. 21 Thanks and Sharing Sunday—bring items
for the Crisis Center pantry
Matthew Surber preaching
Community Thanksgiving Service
- Nov. 25 8:30 Thanksgiving Day Breakfast & 10 am
service, Pastor Carol preaching.
- Nov. 28 Advent begins
Chrismon & Tree Lighting

Dates to remember in December:

- Dec. 2 UMW Christmas Party
- Dec. 5 Youth Christmas Party and Caroling
- Dec. 11 4 pm Community Christmas
Concert—Fellowship Hall
- Dec. 19 Music Sunday in Worship Service
for those who Grieve at Christmas—
Northside Chapel @ 11:30 am
- Dec. 23 7 pm Christmas Eve Service in
Northside Chapel
- Dec. 24 Candlelight Christmas Eve Services:
4 pm, 7 pm, & 11pm
- Dec. 26 One service @ 10 am with brunch
following.
- Dec. 31 Last day for Contributions to be
credited to 2010

Deadlines:

For announcements in the weekly *bulletin* please submit them to the church office no later than **4 pm on Wednesdays**. The next *newsletter* deadline is **November 21** for the December newsletter. Thank you for your cooperation and consideration of those who are responsible for bulletin and newsletter.

November is

Poison Prevention Month at RUMC!



Tracy will be visiting the preschool and the Sunday school classes for smaller aged children to discuss Poison Prevention. Watch for your young children to bring home some information on poisons! It will be SO helpful to review this with your children to insure their understanding! Let's partner to keep our kids SAFE!!!

Poison Prevention Tips:

1. Avoid storing potential poisons in low cabinets where small children or pets can reach them. Use safety locks on cabinets
2. Use child-resistant containers (remember they aren't child proof!)
3. Discard old or outdated medication and chemicals and all poisonous plants.
4. Keep medicine and other potential poisons in their ORIGINAL containers. Do NOT use food containers such as cups or soda bottles to store household products.
5. Rinse out containers thoroughly before disposing of them
6. Read and follow the directions and caution labels on medicines and other products before using them each time.
7. Do not call medicine "candy."
8. Avoid taking medicine in front of young children. Young children can 'imitate' grown-ups.
9. Make sure a spray is directed away from the face. Wear protective clothing when spraying pesticides and other chemicals. Wash hands extremely well after using these types of products even if gloves were worn while using them.
10. Take containers with you or put them away when answering the phone or doorbell. In a split second a child or pet can get into opened poisonous products. Most poisonings are accidents. PREVENT yours from happening!

Your Parish Nurse, *Tracy Tambaoan, RN, BSN*



Prayer Shawl Blessing:

On October 17th, as a part of our Cooperative Parish, a Prayer Shawl Blessing was held at Pleasant Grove Church to bless all those on display at both churches. In addition to the combined thirty-eight pieces there was a basket of helmet liners which will be sent to our troops in Afghanistan and a basket of wash/dish cloths for the ladies of Pleasant Grove for their flea markets and bazaar.



Cherub Choir:

Parents of children 4 years old through 2nd grade: The Cherub Choir will begin rehearsing for the Christmas season on **Sunday, November 14th at 9:30 a.m. in the Noah's Ark room.** Rehearsals will continue **each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. through Christmas.** This is a great opportunity for the youngest members of our church to share their talents and love of God with the church community. Please encourage your little ones to attend. If you have any questions please feel free to contact *Jennifer Skidmore* at (443) 414-9032 or *Caron Berger* at (410) 526 – 5935.

Did You Know...

The RUMC Youth are reaching out in the community. Within the last two months, four non-members of RUMC have joined the UMYF, bringing their membership to 22 weekly.

Sixty-five youth and chaperones will be going to “Rock 2011” in Ocean City.

The RUMC musical youth group “Voices in Praise,” has six members and is growing.

Way to go Matthew and the RUMC Youth!!!!



Recycle - Help fund our mission trips!

There's a new dumpster out back! The new dumpster for paper recycling is located beside the green dumpster in the parking lot. We get money for the paper we recycle, and the money will go to help fund our summer mission trips. It's that simple: bring in your paper, newspapers, and magazines and we get cash to help fund our missions.



Christmas on Main Street:

A hint of Christmas will be featured in **Asbury Hall at 4 p.m. on December 11th.** This presentation will be in concert style and will feature special holiday arrangements sung by the Chancel Singers and other outside concert artists. Tickets will be \$10 and there will be a limited number of decorative holiday wreaths available for sale after the concert.



Garments For Guys:

As late fall ends, the temperatures will be dropping and soon winter's chill will be upon us. Do you shiver when you think about the cold and damp days of winter? It's hard to forget last winter's harsh conditions! The *Men's Fellowship* will be collecting gently used or new **coats & jackets** for men to be donated to a *men's shelter* in the area. Also hats, gloves & thermal undergarments are being sought to help the men. **Cash or check gift donations** will be used to purchase these items. Items will be collected after the Sunday worship services **during November in the Fellowship Hall or dropped off in the office during business hours.** As you adjust your wardrobe to meet the changes in temperature, please check your closet for the items sought as a donation. Your donation will be greatly appreciated as we reach out to our less fortunate brothers in Christ.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH YOUR EMPTY INK JET CARTRIDGES AND YOUR OLD CELL PHONES??????

We are waiting for more (**No laser cartridges, please.**) so they can all be shipped off to be recycled. We recently received a check for over **\$90** which was turned over to **Local Missions** to help some of the less fortunate in our community.

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.

OLD CELL PHONES and any of their components are being collected by our Youth Group to raise money for their mission projects. Please put them in the same basket as the cartridges.



REISTERSTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Carol C. Yocum & Dick Harden, Pastors
246 Main Street
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Return Service Requested



Happy Thanksgiving Day

8:30 am Breakfast in Fellowship Hall

10 am Worship Service in Main Sanctuary