

## From the Pastor

By Rev. Karen Bunnell, Senior Pastor

Right now, I'm in the middle of reading a book by one of my favorite preachers and authors, Barbara Brown Taylor. It's called *An Altar in the World*, and like all of her work, it's wonderful. In the book, Taylor urges her readers to take time to see God in the world. She knows that we rush around all the time so busy that we miss experiencing God's love and God's miracles all around us. In one chapter, she even suggests getting lost intentionally – for the discoveries we make finding our way will be great!

So this summer, I'm going to try to spend more time looking around to really see what God is doing and all that God has given us. I already know a couple of times when I'll experience His love in a powerful way – when our family gathers (twice!) for two of my nephews' weddings. And I know that if I take the time, I'll experience God in manifold ways all throughout the summer.

I urge you to take the time to do that this summer too. Do whatever it takes to slow down a little, to look around you, and fully experience God's love and God's glory in your life. May it be a great summer for you and yours! I'll see you in worship when you're in town!

## Join Us to Learn New Hymns

By Rev. Karen Bunnell, Senior Pastor



Do you like to sing? Would you like to learn some new hymns? Then on Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, join Rev. Bunnell and Sharon Williams between services (around 9:45 a.m.) in the sanctuary. We'll be trying out some of the new hymns in *The Faith We Sing* hymnal to make us more familiar with its riches. All singers would be welcomed and appreciated (and you don't have to be great, just enthusiastic!).

### SUMMER SERMON SERIES

During the month of July, Rev. Bunnell will preach a sermon series entitled "Beach Stories." All of the scriptures preached on will be events that happened on or near the water. In August, the sermons will be loosely (*very* loosely) based on "Reality TV" themes. Several of the August sermons will be presented in creative ways by various parties – the mission team, our young adult group, and by Rev. Hurst. Come and enjoy worship this summer!



## July/August 2009

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# MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

*"May the LORD bless you from Zion all the days of your life..." PSALM 128:5*

## With Deepest Sympathy

*"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." Matthew 5:4*

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the families of:

**Timothy Laird  
Pauline Reynolds**

## GUESS WHO?



This little boy is always tuned in to others.

*(see page 5 for the answer)*

## Baptisms

We welcome our newest baptized friends into the Universal Body of Christ!

**Julianne Czarnecki  
Taylor Noelle Molnar  
John Donald Edler**

## Upcoming baptism dates

July 12<sup>th</sup>  
August 9<sup>th</sup>  
September 13<sup>th</sup>

To schedule a baptism, call Rev. Bunnell at (410) 398-0933.

## Walking for Wellness II Winners

*By the Health Ministry Committee*

Congratulations go to Walking for Wellness II's winning team – Foto Finishers! They are Sonia Dulin, Phyllis Bixler, Bob Gilmore and Marge Simmons. Together they logged over 383 hours of walking in a 2-month period – phenomenal!!!! For their accomplishment, they are being awarded a healthy gourmet meal cooked by Andee McKenica.

Congratulations also to all the other teams who participated. We congratulate them on their commitment to their health and wholeness.

We also send a word of thanks to Bettie Murray for her record keeping and creative bulletin board postings!

## Aging Well

*By Rev. George Leathrum*

Much has been written about the aging population of the church, and the 2008 General Conference of the United Methodist Church resolved that our churches should raise awareness of ministry to older adults beyond a discussion about declining membership. A recent article in the *United Methodist Reporter* by Missy Buchanan raises the question: "With an aging population and a church that is graying even faster, why aren't senior adults a hot topic of discussion?" She goes on to say: "The need continues to reach young adults and families. Our denomination's future depends on it, but church leaders should not explain the decline by poking a finger at seniors as if older adults should be blamed for growing old and dying. I am pretty sure this is not what Jesus had in mind."

Older adults in the Elkton United Methodist Church range from those able to board a bus for the Biltmore to those who are limited in their mobility or are shut-in, but we all have a story to tell and a faith to share. Older or younger, we comprise the body of Christ, and for that we should give thanks every day. I hope everyone saw the coverage of former president George H.W. Bush jumping from an airplane at age 85. He refuses to give in to his age and so should we!

## Financial Report

(as of May 2009)

Income . . . . . \$209,715.51  
Expenses . . . . . \$194,681.47  
Balance . . . . . +\$15,034.04

## Holy Matrimony

We celebrate the recent wedding of Christine Olewine and Bradley Grant!

*"A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one."*

**EPHESIANS 5:31**

## Changing Role for Music Director

*By the Staff Parish Relations Committee*

Beginning in September, Paul Deemer will focus his energy, gifts, and time solely as the bell choir director. Paul has served as the EUMC music director for many years but made the decision to change roles in the spring. Paul has faithfully served EUMC's music ministry. We look forward to his continued presence with the bell choir and to original compositions and innovative performances.

The Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) is currently conducting a search for a new music director. Please pray for the SPRC and any prospective candidates. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Griffith.

## Brett Pinder Completes First Year of Seminary

*By Brett Pinder*

As you may conclude from my exhausted expression, I have just finished my first year of grueling studies at Wesley Theological Seminary. Having said that, I have enjoyed some wonderful professors and courses. I am looking forward to beginning an internship with the church I attend in Washington D.C. in the fall.

God has blessed me with fellowship at school and in Washington D.C. I have learned a lot from my classmates through friendships and discussions. My roommate and I always check a local paper for events and attractions in D.C. that fit a grad student's budget.

Thank you all so much for your support throughout this year. Your prayers are truly felt. The resources you send me, from care packages to finances, are appreciated as I continue my journey through the ministry. Your comments and questions about my time at school have meant a lot to me. I am glad to be home and participating in worship at EUMC with you for the summer!

## Stewardship Committee Plans a Produce Table

*By Bob MacDonald on behalf of the Stewardship Committee*

If you are planting a garden and have an abundant yield, the Stewardship Committee will be sponsoring a produce table during the month of August to give everyone the chance to share their harvest. Stay tuned – more information will be available at a later date.



## Combined July and August Newsletter Issues

Please note that this newsletter is a combined issue for both July and August. Look for the next newsletter (the September issue) to be mailed at the end of August.

## Growth Task Force

*By Joe Tanner*

After much analysis and deliberation, the Growth Task Force selected Clark Design Group of Elkton as the architects for the new church addition. Subcommittees have been working on design elements to be included in the new kitchen, lobby, and multipurpose room. Additional committees are working on overflow parking during construction, additional long-term parking, and finance and cash flow.

A very preliminary first estimate of timing has design, approvals, and bidding occurring summer and fall of 2009 and construction in 2010. There are a lot of unknowns that could affect this preliminary projected timing.

## Nursery News

*By Melinda Grablis*



There's a new face in the nursery! We have hired another professional childcare provider who will be sharing the nursery duties with Mary Ann Schmidt. Ms. Yolanda Gomez is currently a professional childcare provider at Future Generations Childcare Center in Elkton. Originally from Tegucigalpa, Honduras, Ms. Gomez has lived in the United States for 19 years. When she is not caring for children, she enjoys traveling and spending time with her daughter, Oskana. We are very pleased to have her here, so if you have the opportunity, please stop by the nursery to meet her and to welcome her to our church family.

# MISSIONS OUTREACH

*"He who despises his neighbor sins, but blessed is he who is kind to the needy."* PROVERBS 14:21

## UMM Donate Devotionals to U.S. Troops

By Rev. Don Hurst, Associate Pastor of Visitation Ministries

The United Methodist Men (UMM) thanked our troops by sending \$500 to purchase *Strength for Service*, a daily devotional book written specifically for those in service of others. More than 350,000 copies of this life-changing book have already been distributed, and hundreds of thousands more are being provided by groups from all over our country, like our UMM. These much needed and appreciated books are distributed by our chaplains to our overseas military men and women who protect our freedom daily. We thank our UMM for remembering our heroes!

To learn more about *Strength for Service* and to sign up for daily devotionals, visit [[www.strengthforservice.org](http://www.strengthforservice.org)].



## Missions Minute

By Gail Juergens

Big thanks to all who supported the mission yard sale. We realized a combined profit of \$2,130, which includes \$300 from a yard sale held last month and \$166 from items taken to a consignment shop. So, thanks to all who donated, shopped, tagged, set up, cleaned up and helped get rid of the leftovers. We were blessed to have a group from Delaware, the Recycling Angels, come and pick up all of the unsold items. Everything will be put to good use! A special thank you goes out to Pauline Eaton and Carol Seifred for organizing this event and working tirelessly to make it happen. Thanks also to Sandy Wherry and the youth group for providing food during the yard sale.

Plans for our annual mission trip to Kentucky continue, and "hammers" are being sold after both services to give everyone the chance to help support the trip. Look for someone from the Mission Committee waving a hammer and give a donation so they will stop – thanks! Please remember to keep the group in your prayers (July 11-19) as they travel to and from the work site and for good fellowship and no injuries as they work.

Look for details about our dining out opportunities in the weekly bulletins. One is planned at Chili's on Wednesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, and with our very own Chick-fil-A opening soon, an August fundraiser there would be great!

Have a great summer, keeping in mind the greatest commandment "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" and the second greatest commandment "Love your neighbor as yourself," the words of Jesus from Matthew 22:37.

*Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.*

*Matthew 11:28-30*

## Thanks to Our Mentors

By Rev. Karen Bunnell, Senior Pastor

Again this school year, EUMC had a talented and committed group of mentors working with elementary school children at Thomson Estates Elementary School. They spent an hour per week with their students and made an enormous difference in their lives. Thanks to all of them for sharing their time, talents, and most of all, love!



## Calling all Pet Owners!

By Faye Camors

Pets are needed to visit nursing homes, convalescent facilities, and assisted living quarters. Service hours are available for middle and high school students. If you are interested, please contact Faye Camors at [[flyaway723@comcast.net](mailto:flyaway723@comcast.net)] or (410) 392-5548.



On the first Sunday of each month, the Missions Committee will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Help Center. Please bring donations to the hospitality area on:

July 5<sup>th</sup>  
August 2<sup>nd</sup>

**FAIR TRADE  
COFFEE**

will be available for purchase after each worship service on the

**second Sunday** of each month:

July 12<sup>th</sup>  
August 9<sup>th</sup>

# YOUTH GROUP YOUNG ADULTS

*"Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long." PSALM 25:5*

## Summer Schedule for Youth Group Meetings

By Sandy Wherry

We will meet at the church at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday nights during the summer. After a brief meeting, we will continue on to a host house for the remainder of the evening (until 9:00 p.m.). We will always have dinner together, sometimes at the church and other times at our host's house. At some of the homes, we have been invited to use their pool\*, so check out the information below to see if you should wear your bathing suit and bring a towel and a change of clothes. If you have any questions, please call Sandy Wherry at (443) 309-0160.

### Summer Host Schedule:

\*Come prepared to swim!

- \*July 1 – Murray residence (19 Wray's Way, Rising Sun, MD)
- July 8 – Gaus residence (21 Bar Drive, Newark, DE)
- July 15 – MISSION TRIP – NO MEETING
- \*July 22 – Lokey residence (15 Wray's Way, Rising Sun, MD)
- July 29 – Griffith residence (176 Thomas Jefferson Terrace, Elkton, MD)
- \*August 5 – Hook residence (141 N. Fieldcrest Drive, North East, MD)
- August 12 – EUMC
- \*August 19 – Parker residence (65 Brae Avenue, Earleville, MD)

## Young Adults and College Students Group

By Sandy Wherry

The young adults group will be referred to as the YAMs (young adult ministry). We will be meeting on Thursday nights at 7:00 p.m. for a potluck dinner and discussion at Cedar Farm on Calvert Road in Rising Sun. This group is mostly comprised of college-aged people, but all young adults are invited.

## Young Single Adults Group

By Sandy Wherry

The single adults group will be referred to as the SAMs (single adult ministry). This group is designed for single adults aged 19-35+. We have been meeting as a dinner group going to restaurants in the area.

Our next meeting will be held on July 24<sup>th</sup>. We have not chosen a restaurant yet, but when the date gets closer, please contact Sandy Wherry for our destination at (443) 309-0160.

### WORD SEARCH SOLUTION

(from back page)

O	Y	I	D	E	T	G	J	M	J	Z	U	I	S	M
M	C	E	M	P	C	J	R	U	O	S	A	O	M	E
N	N	D	J	M	Y	N	S	A	S	D	V	O	C	T
I	E	U	Y	I	U	T	E	E	C	E	S	N	W	R
P	I	T	C	M	I	T	N	T	R	I	E	I	E	I
R	C	I	R	C	X	I	A	E	O	T	O	C	W	N
E	I	N	E	B	L	U	I	B	S	P	I	U	H	I
S	F	I	M	O	M	G	Y	I	I	V	I	H	S	T
E	F	F	H	H	N	C	X	Q	V	L	V	N	K	Y
N	U	N	M	T	E	E	M	P	E	X	I	E	M	B
C	S	I	Y	V	F	K	L	A	N	R	E	T	E	O
E	F	Z	O	L	G	O	O	D	N	E	S	S	Y	A
H	L	L	E	C	N	E	I	C	S	I	N	M	O	Q
Q	E	S	F	A	I	T	H	F	U	L	N	E	S	S
C	S	I	Z	O	U	K	Q	X	B	V	B	B	J	M

### "Guess Who" Answer



The little boy decorating the tree is our music director, Paul Deemer!



### Cub Scouts

If you are looking for activities (*besides the electronic kind!*) for your 6- to 10-year old boys, come see what Cub Scouts are all about. For more information, please contact Karen Kuhn at [kkuhn@pack443elkton.org] or (609) 575-7376.

### Solution to Cryptogram

(from back page)

Then they cried out to the lord in their trouble, and he brought them out of their distress. He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of the sea were hushed. Psalm 107:28-29

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

*"Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not turn from it."* PROVERBS 22:6



## Sunday School Promotion Ceremony

*Photos and article by Melinda Grablis*



On June 14<sup>th</sup>, we ended our Sunday School year with a ceremony of promotion. Our students, from ages three to high school seniors, were presented with certificates of promotion. Many of the students who had exceptional attendance were awarded pins. On behalf of the church, every student received an Elkton United Methodist Church water bottle to use on hot days this summer! We would like to thank everyone who makes our Sunday School program possible: the teachers, the supporting staff, and the parents who faithfully bring their children. God bless everyone and have a wonderful summer!



## SPECIAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

*"Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble."* 1 PETER 3:8



### Classic Christians Crab Feast

The annual Classic Christians (50+) crab feast will be held on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, at 4:00 p.m. at Dave and Sandy Wherry's farm in Calvert. Crabs and chicken will be served (a fee will be charged), and participants are invited to bring a dish to share and a lawn chair. More details will follow in Sunday bulletins in August.

A sign-up sheet will be on the table across from Rev. Bunnell's office.

### Ocean Grove Choir Festival

All who have signed up for the Ocean Grove Choir Festival bus trip on Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, are reminded that the bus will leave the church parking lot at 1:30 p.m. Don't forget to bring a bag dinner with you! We'll arrive at Ocean Grove around 3:30 or 4:00 p.m. and you'll be on your own to explore the town or to sit by the ocean until the doors to the auditorium open around 6:30.

The bus will leave to return to the church immediately following the concert, which should bring us back between 11:00 and 11:30 p.m. There are still a few seats left on the bus, in case anyone else would like to join us. The cost is \$25 per person. To sign up, call Rev. Bunnell in the office.

### Family Game Night

*By Sandy Wherry*

The next family game night will be held on Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. Everyone should bring a dish to share for a potluck meal before the games begin.

Please sign up on the list outside Rev. Bunnell's office. If there isn't enough interest because of summer vacations, we will contact those on the list to let them know it will be cancelled.

### Country Line Dancing Coming Soon!

The health ministry team invites you to dance your way to better health! They're sponsoring two country line dancing nights this summer to help! The dancing will be led by our own veteran dancers Faye and Buddy Camors.

The first night of dancing will be on Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, and the second will be on Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, both from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in Weldin Hall. There is no cost, just bring your enthusiasm and energy!

Sign-up sheets will be on the table across from Rev. Bunnell's office.

### Men's Fellowship Breakfast

*By Rev. George Leathrum*

I look forward to the third Wednesday each month to have the opportunity to gather with other men for a time of fellowship and a good breakfast. Our numbers are growing, and if you have not attended, mark your calendar to come next month. We meet at the Elkton Diner at 6:30 a.m. and are on our way by 7:30.

July 15<sup>th</sup>  
August 19<sup>th</sup>  
September 16<sup>th</sup>  
October 21<sup>st</sup>  
November 18<sup>th</sup>

### Upcoming Community Events

**FRIDAY, JULY 10<sup>TH</sup> AT 8:00 P.M.**

Our very own Patrick Sise will be performing in concert at the Milburn Stone Theatre at Cecil College in North East. Tickets are available from the box office.

**FRIDAY, JULY 10<sup>TH</sup> - SUNDAY, JULY 12<sup>TH</sup>**

Chautauqua 2009 will take place at the Outlets at Perryville. Performers will present the characters of Woody Guthrie (10<sup>th</sup>), Jackie Robinson (11<sup>th</sup>), and Eleanor Roosevelt (12<sup>th</sup>). These free presentations are outstanding, and enable audience members to learn a lot about these historical characters. See the Cecil Whig for details on times of performances.

### Adult Short-term Study

*By Melinda Grablis*

This summer we will be offering an adult short-term study entitled "Christianity and World Religions." This is a 6-week study where we will explore the differences between Christianity and other major world religions such as Judaism, Islam, etc.

Class will meet at 9:45 a.m. in the parlor beginning Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup>. You do not have to attend all the classes to enjoy this short-term study. I know everyone will probably be on vacation at some point, so don't be afraid to drop by and join in at any time. Childcare is available during the Sunday School hour all summer long! If you are interested, please contact Melinda Grablis at [melindagrabis@comcast.net].



“A place to know Jesus, be known by Jesus, and make Him known to others.”

**Elkton United Methodist Church**  
 219 East Main Street  
 Elkton, MD 21921

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 U.S. Postage  
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 Permit No. 3

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**CHURCH STAFF**

*Senior Pastor:*  
 Karen F. Bunnell

*Associate Pastor of  
 Visitation Ministries:*  
 Don Hurst

*Children & Education  
 Ministries Director:*  
 Melinda Grablis

*Youth & Young Adults  
 Ministries Director:*  
 Sandy Wherry

*Nursery Care Professional:*  
 Mary Ann Schmidt

*Secretary:*  
 Kay Mortimer

*Organist:*  
 Sharon Williams

*Director of Music:*  
 Paul Deemer

*Treasurer:*  
 William Vassalotti

*Sexton:*  
 Donald Ewing

**Summer Office Hours**

Monday through Thursday:  
 8:00AM - Noon *and* 12:30PM - 3:00PM  
  
 Friday:  
 8:00AM - Noon

**Contact Information**

Phone: (410) 398-0933  
 Email: eumc@comcast.net  
 Web site: www.elktonumc.org

**Sunday Worship Services**

8:30AM - 9:30AM  
 11:00AM - Noon

**Wednesday Prayer Service**

5:30PM - 6:30PM (Room 1)

**Sunday School (for all ages)**

9:45AM - 10:45AM

**Youth Fellowship**

Sunday evenings: 6:00PM

**Attributes of God\***

(solution is on page 5)

ETERNAL  
 FAITHFULNESS  
 GOODNESS  
 GRACIOUS  
 HOLINESS  
 IMMUTABILITY  
 INFINITUDE  
 JUSTICE  
 LOVE  
 MERCY  
 OMNIPOTENCE  
 OMNIPRESENCE  
 OMNISCIENCE  
 SELF-EXISTENCE  
 SELF-SUFFICIENCY  
 SOVEREIGNTY  
 TRINITY  
 WISDOM

O	Y	I	D	E	T	G	J	M	J	Z	U	I	S	M
M	C	E	M	P	C	J	R	U	O	S	A	O	M	E
N	N	D	J	M	Y	N	S	A	S	D	V	O	C	T
I	E	U	Y	I	U	T	E	E	C	E	S	N	W	R
P	I	T	C	M	I	T	N	T	R	I	E	I	E	I
R	C	I	R	C	X	I	A	E	O	T	O	C	W	N
E	I	N	E	B	L	U	I	B	S	P	I	U	H	I
S	F	I	M	O	M	G	Y	I	I	V	I	H	S	T
E	F	F	H	H	N	C	X	Q	V	L	V	N	K	Y
N	U	N	M	T	E	E	M	P	E	X	I	E	M	B
C	S	I	Y	V	F	K	L	A	N	R	E	T	E	O
E	F	Z	O	L	G	O	O	D	N	E	S	S	Y	A
H	L	L	E	C	N	E	I	C	S	I	N	M	O	Q
Q	E	S	F	A	I	T	H	F	U	L	N	E	S	S
C	S	I	Z	O	U	K	Q	X	B	V	B	B	J	M

\*Source: [www.allaboutgod.com]

**Bible Verse Cryptogram**

(solution is on page 5)

“KFNY KFNZ DHTNE ABK KA KFN GAHE TY KFNTH KHABJGN, UYE  
 FN JHABPFK KFNW ABK AO KFNTH ETXKHNXX. FN XKTGGNE KFN  
 XKAHW KA U IFTXLNH; KFN IUCNX AO KFN XNU INHN FBXFNE.”