



The Spire

BEL AIR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 2009

**BEL AIR UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
21 LINWOOD AVENUE
BEL AIR MD, 21014-3914
Phone: 410-838-5181
410-879-2797
Fax: 410-893-8363
Email: info@baumc.com
Website: www.baumc.com

Sunday Worship Services

Bel Air UMC (21 Linwood Avenue)

8:00 & * 9:20 AM ~ Traditional

* 9:20 AM ~ "Ignite" Youth Worship

* 11:00 AM ~ Contemporary

Mt. Carmel Chapel

(Corner of Wheel & Emmorton Roads)

5:00 PM ~ Traditional

HopeVine (Off Site Ministry)

Rev. Stan Cardwell

(cardwells@baumc.com)

Sunday Christian Learning

KINGDOM KIDZ

9:20 & 11:00 AM BAUMC

Infants-Grade 5 & Adults

11:00 Confirmation

(September-January)

Adult Christian Learning

9:20 & 11:00 AM BAUMC

*Childcare Provided

We, the congregation of Bel Air UMC, are called to make disciples of Jesus Christ, as we *SHOW* all people the way to the Father, teach them to *KNOW* the Son, Jesus Christ, and prepare them to *GROW* in faith and ministry, empowered by the Holy Spirit.

What's Inside?

**Welcome To The Family
Membership Recognition**
Page 2

Celebrate & Give thanks
Page 3

**Up & Coming
Did You know?**
Page 4

Adult Winter Classes 2010
Page 5

Celebrate The Season
Page 6

A Season For Connecting
Page 7

Who's Who?
Page 8

From The Pastor...

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the staff of Bel Air Church we hope and pray that your Christmas will be filled with the wonderful blessings of faith, family and friends! We celebrate the most precious gift that arrived in a humble stable. May the gift of Jesus grow into a relationship that changes our lives for ever!

I invite you to read the following Christmas message written by my good friend, Rev. Jeff Paulson, the pastor of Perry Hall United Methodist Church. It is a great reminder of how short our celebration of Christmas often ends up.

Merry Christmas,
Barry

This Year, Make Christmas Last!

By Rev. Jeff Paulson

A couple of weeks ago, I came in contact with some poison ivy while working in my backyard and it managed to spread throughout my body like wildfire! The most popular question I was asked: "How did you get that, it's not even summer?" Some things in this world just last and last, whether it be good or bad. What makes poison ivy last so long is the oil it gives off. This oil takes a very long time to break down. Even if the plant is dead, the oil remains. (My doctor prescribed some topical ointment. In about two weeks, it should all be cleaned up.)

This started me thinking about other things that last a long time in this world, like chewing gum on the bottom of a chair, the time between Detroit Lions' wins, sometimes the pastor's prayers or sermon. How about the Word of God? It has lasted over 2,000 years in written form and even longer by way of verbal conveyance.

The season of Advent for many seems to last forever. Then when Christmas Eve finally arrives, it is over in a day or two and society moves right on to getting ready for the celebration of the New Year. We barely get the chance to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus and our focus is moved to anything but the birth of Jesus.

The second biggest shopping day is December 26, and people hurry through Christmas Day just to be able to get to the stores for the sales. I know of people who have gotten up at 4:00 AM, just to go to Kohl's or Valley View Farms to get to the post-Christmas sales. Now there is nothing wrong with this idea of getting a good bargain, but it's a shame that we leave Jesus behind and forget his love as the crowds push and shove to get into the store to get the best buys of stuff.

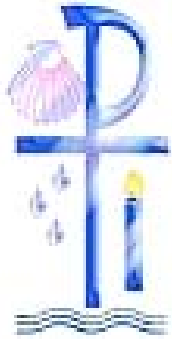
Does our--and society's--focus on the real meaning of Christmas get lost in the midst of this season? It's so easy to get lost because in today's world, we are forced right back into work. Most of us have to work or use vacation time to be off. What happened to the time when most companies gave workers time off between Christmas and New Years Day as a part of their compensation package? Christmas now only seems to last one day--if that--while the actual truth is that Christmas is 12 days long, just like the secular song sings out to us.

The early Christians had it tough, too. The Roman Empire made a few modifications to the calendar and to the length of the week. This made it very difficult for Christians to practice their faith, because with the change of the length of the work week, the Day of Sabbath was never the same. For those who were practicing their faith and trying to follow a seven-day calendar, it meant that most of the time their Sabbath was actually a work day and they were forced to work. And yet, our early Christian families managed to make it all work out.

We, too, can make our Sabbath time work in our busy schedule and let us make Christmas last longer this year. Even if we have to go to work for some of these days let's try to keep the Spirit of Christmas an important part of each day by spending some time with our families and with the one who loves us so much, Jesus Christ.

Welcome To The Family

We Welcome Into The Community Of Faith



Through Baptism

Matthew Timothy Buzzeo

Madison Anne Chilcoat

Mackenzie Noelle-Emily Mallonee

Gemma Eden Marsalek

William Michael Shek

Emma Rose Sobczak

Receiving 50 Year Pins:

Class of 1958

Margaret Browning

Gordon Carroll

Jane Carroll

Evonell Draper

Robert (Buck) Draper

Charles Hopkins, Jr.

Frances Warman

Class of 1959

Caroleen Bach

Bill Cox

Enid Farrand

Les Goodwin

Mary Pelt

Receiving 40 Year Pins:

Class of 1966

Emma Carr

Wilbur Carr

Class of 1967

Lee Lederer

Eleanor Packard

Dave Panowitz

Dorothy Panowitz

Class of 1968

Alice Archer

John Clayton

Nancy Clayton

Phil Heuman, Jr.

Ocie Hodges

Jerry Johnson

Don Knode

Jane Knode

Robin Anthony Russo

Class of 1969

Jack Bowman

Sarah Bowman

Ann Cartzendafner

Dave Cartzendafner

Marge Coulson

Doug Graham

Pat Jones

Barbara Kobler

Don Kobler

Ellis Laubach

Debbie Clegg Panowitz

Gail Rupprecht

Bill Smith

Ellen Smith

Bertha Walker

Nancy Wilcox

MEMBERSHIP RECOGNITION & CELEBRATION SERVICE

Do you know the answers to these questions?

1. The "birthday" of our church is _____.

2. One of the "logos" (or symbols) of our church is _____.

3. When the church was located in town – at 20 N. Main Street, those attending parked along the street or used the parking lots of neighboring businesses. Can you name any of these businesses?

4. When the church purchased the property at 21 Linwood Avenue, what was previously here?

What first name is shared by these prominent benefactors of our church?

_____ McComas & _____ Armstrong

5. What were the top two favorite hymns selected by our membership celebrants?

_____ & _____

(Answers Can Be Found On Page 8)

On Sunday, November 8, we gathered for a Service of Membership Recognition & Celebration of Our 40 and 50 Year Members. It was a wonderful afternoon of singing and sharing memories, led by Rev. Carol Pazdersky. Alice Archer presented a condensed history of Bel Air United Methodist Church through the years, and Gloria Benson and Doug Graham shared remembrances from when they joined the church. Assisting in the presentation of membership pins were Selena Snyder and Nicole Eppig, members of the Confirmation Class for 2010. Refreshments and fellowship followed the service.

Let's Celebrate And Give Thanks!

- We appreciate all the concerns, prayers and cards sent during Don, Sr's illness. Also, the sympathy shown after his death which upheld our faith. **The Lassahn Family**
- I want to thank all of you who sent cards, thoughts, gave hugs and most importantly your prayers that I surely could feel during my recent illness with the flu and also during the trials and death of my sister, Mary. Sometimes everything happens at once, but God is good, He is beside us all the way and sends people like all of you to care for us. My heart filled thanks!
Phyllis Cooper
- We would like to thank all the ladies in the Knitting Group who thoughtfully made all those lovely baby blankets for our center. We wish you could see the joy on the mother's faces as they pick out "that special one" for their baby. May God bless you abundantly. **Alpha's Glory**
- I want to thank everyone at Bel Air UMC for their concern on my illness with their cards and phone calls. It meant a lot because it made my recovery much quicker. **Joe Schrufer**
- The program on Sunday was delightful I'm very proud to have been a member for so long and still living. The church friends have meant much to me over these years. The token of love, the bright pumpkin is at home here by my door. Thanks so much. **Love Ruth**
- Thank you so much for a wonderful service and pins recognizing Bill and my 40 years of membership in the church. We hope for many more year of attending Bel Air United Methodist Church. **Ellen and Bill Smith**
- I want to thank you very much for helping with my BG & E turn off notice. Just me and my granddaughter that I have been taking care of since she was six months old. Thank God each day for her and ask Him to take care of her. Sometimes I have my ups and downs, and I know God will not want more of me than I can bear. I would especially like to thank Ms. Sharon, she was friendly and told me other places I could go to ask for help and she didn't look down on me. This is the first time I have been down like that. My granddaughter is in the 9th grade and with school opening I let a few bills slide to get her school things. I know sometimes it is hard, but I know God is by my side. Bless you all and please keep us in your prayers. God Bless and thank you. **Mary Bishop and Granddaughter**
- To the Senior Food Volunteers that come to my home. God bless you and the people of the church. Thank you for being so nice to me. I have sometimes shared meals with my family and the workers in my development. God bless you. **Helen Goodnow**
- Thank you to ALL those that attended and supported our recent Mission Dinner, with special thanks to our tireless kitchen team that works so hard to prepare these delicious mission dinner meals! Thank you in addition to the many supporters of special envelopes during 2009 that have helped us establish a medical clinic in Munyarari, Zimbabwe...and under new model initiative in 2010 will work together with Old Mutare Hospital to bring vital medicine and help to the 23 vil-lages there. Also, continued thanks to everyone who has donated countless hours of time and talent. We will hold a meeting in January 2010 when we will call again for previously interested and new folks to join our team to help this clinic become a vital link to medicine and outreach. Now that we have the clinic walls, doors and windows, and a generator to help with electricity, we'll be planning for our new specific 2010 challenges. **The Chabadza Healing Hands Across Zimbabwe Mission Team**
- On behalf of America World Adoption Association, I wanted to express our great appreciation for allowing America World Adoption to hold our "Spirit of Adoption" seminar at Bel Air UMC conducted by Bill and Tony Benton. We were able to share the miracle of adoption with the families who attended. It is always nice to have a church open their doors for our ministry, and I appreciate you making us feel so welcomed. Thank you³ again for your hospitality! **Michael Stone, America World Adoption**

Up And Coming

Nurses of the congregation – If you are CPR certified and would be willing to assist if there is an emergency during the morning services, please call the church office at 410-838-5181, and give us your name and which service you attend. Thank you.

The Purpose of Christmas

What does Christmas mean to you? Rick Warren's book *The Purpose of Christmas* explores the real meaning of Christmas. Join us for a three week study during the Advent season to view the DVD featuring Mr. Warren and to discuss the book. Sessions will be held on Monday evenings, **December 7, 14, and 21**, from 7:00-9:00 PM in the Lightner Library. To reserve a space or if you have questions, contact Doug Bonney at 410-569-8161 or pboney@aol.com.

UMW Christmas Program – The Bel Air United Methodist Women will hold their annual Christmas Program on Tuesday, December 8 at 7:00 PM in the Grose-close Prayer Chapel. This year's program is entitled "Something New". During the Advent season, we invite you to come and hear how a very old story can be made new again through the miracle of Christmas!

14th Annual Cookie Cupboard (sponsored by **Volunteers in Mission [VIM]**) will be held on Saturday, December 12 from 10:00 AM – 12 Noon in McComas Hall. A variety of cookies will be available for purchase at a cost of \$8 per container. Purchase a container and then fill it with any cookies you choose. How many cookies can you fit in a container? Depends on how good you can pack your container! So...come and support a great mission and save baking time. Join us at the VIM Cookie Cupboard on December 12.

4

Did You Know?

- Did you know that the Bel Air Lion's Club donated \$800 to our food ministries just before Thanksgiving?
- On December 6 at 7:00 PM the Bel Air Community Chorus Christmas Concert will be held in the Sanctuary?
- The UMW Christmas Program will be held on Tues., Dec. 8 at 7:00 PM.?
- The Chancel Choir will present their Christmas Cantata, *Gloria*, on Sunday, Dec. 13 at the 9:20 AM service?
- The next Wednesday mission dinner will be a roast pork and sauerkraut dinner on Dec. 16 at 5:00 PM?
- You may "send" Christmas Cards to members of the congregation without using postage? Just place them in the lettered mailboxes in the lobby.
- Ushers and communion stewards are needed for the Christmas Eve Services? A sign up sheet is available at the Usher's desk at the back of the Sanctuary (Linwood Road entrance). Adults and teens age 15 and older are welcome.
- You may sign the Big Christmas Card on the bulletin board and make a donation to the Pass It On Ministry?
- The Volunteers in Mission (VIM) will be return to Lake Charles LA Jan. 17-23, 2010 to repair homes damaged from hurricanes Rita & Ike. Volunteers pay for their own transportation to Louisiana. This cost varies, depending on the mode of travel, approximately \$400. All cost of materials are covered by VIM. Anyone who is interested in being part of the work team contact Andy Hessenauer, 443-206-6126.



Classes for Adults Winter 2010

"I have put my hope in your word. My eyes stay open through the watches of the night, that I may meditate on your promises." --Psalm 119:147b-148.

Sunday School for Adults

7:30 AM

1. John Neal Packard Memorial Men's Bible Study. (Room 115) Class Leader: Doug Dorer. Men of all ages studying God's Word together. Join us anytime!

9:20 AM

2. Walking With God. (Assembly Room 103) Class Leaders: John & Laura Cavanaugh. Join us for Biblical and topical studies that challenge us to live as God's people in an ever-changing world.

11:00 AM

3. Faith In Community (FIC). (Assembly Room 103) Class Leader: George Newberry. Dig deeper into the sermon topic each Sunday, asking how each week's scripture and message transforms our lives. An ongoing class that you can start at anytime.

On-Going Mid-Week Classes

4. UMW Bible Study. Wednesdays, 10:00-11:15 AM. (Lightner Library, Room 203) Class Leader: Rev. Carol Pazdersky. Sponsored by the United Methodist Women, but men are welcome! Studying the Bible through the "Genesis to Revelation" series.

5. Women's Bible Study. Mondays, 7:00-9:00 PM. (Room 115) (Class Leader: Judy Jones) Studying *God In You*, an audio series presented by Dr. David Jeremiah. **Childcare is available with pre-registration.**

6. Disciple I: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study. Thursday Evenings, 7:00-9:15 PM. Class Leaders: Bill & Joan Stiffler. A 34-week, in-depth study that covers 80% of the Bible. Daily reading and workbook preparation is required for each weekly session. The cost for participant materials is \$40, which will be collected at the first class. Contingent on a minimum registration of 8 participants. **Starts January 14.**

7. Invitation To John. Thursday Mornings, 9:00-11:00 AM. Class Leader: Sandy Miller. A short-term study in the DISCIPLE family. This 11-session study invites you on a journey through the fourth gospel. Come and see what it means to follow the Jesus who claims to be living water, the true light, the way, the truth and the life -- our life. **Starts Thursday, January 14.** **Limited childcare available with advance registration.**

8. The Truth Project by Focus on the Family. Day & Time To Be Determined. Class Leader: Mike Rupprecht. A 13-week, DVD-based curriculum presented by Dr. Del Tackett. Each video session gives a detailed perspective on life from a Biblical worldview. **Childcare is available with pre-registration.**

Coming Soon...Look for more information in the January Spire about...

Habits of the Heart – Monday evenings, Feb. 22—May 10

Invitation to John - Monday evenings, Feb. 22—May 10

WINTER 2010 CLASS REGISTRATION FORM

Please submit your completed registration to the Church Office. If you have questions, contact the church at 410-838-5181 or caldwellc@baumc.com.

Course # & Title _____ Day & Time _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

E-MAIL _____ 5 **Childcare for Class #5, #7 or #8 (circle)**

Names & Ages of Children _____



CELEBRATE THE SEASON

Sunday, December 20, 2009

5:00 PM "Blue Christmas"

Mt. Carmel Chapel

Corner of Wheel & Emmorton Roads

Rev. Carol Pazdersky, Associate Minister

Thursday, December 24, 2009

Bel Air UMC ~ Linwood Avenue

4:00 PM Family Service in Sanctuary

Joni Behrendt, Director of Children and Family Ministries

7:00 PM "Ignite" Contemporary Service in McComas Hall

Tom Hodges, Director of Student Ministries

7:00 PM (Communion) 9:00 PM & 11:00 PM

Candlelight Services in Sanctuary

Rev. Barry Hidey, Lead Minister

Musical Preludes beginning at

6:30 PM, 8:30 PM & 10:30 PM

Childcare Infants Through Age 5 Provided At 7:00 PM Service Only

5 PM & 7 PM Candlelight Services at Mt. Carmel Chapel

Rev. Carol Pazdersky, Associate Minister





Returning January, 2010 . . .

A Season For Connecting

A Celebration Of

Small Groups at Bel Air UMC

“Connecting Sundays,” January 24 & 31.

This January we will have our second annual *A Season for Connecting*, focusing on Small Groups at Bel Air UMC. Small Groups are gatherings of spiritual seekers who meet weekly or bi-weekly to encourage one another on our journey toward Christ as we study, serve, share, and grow together.

A wide variety of small groups will be featured during our “Connecting Sundays,” January 24 and 31. Groups will offer a short-term trial period that will give you a “taste of community” without a big commitment.

WATCH FOR THESE SPECIAL FEATURES:

The Advent Small Group Devotional. A daily devotional has been prepared by our existing small groups. This will come to you each day by Special E-Spire during the month of December, and limited copies will also be available at church. You’ll read stories and reflections from people who are currently in small groups.

A full menu of small group options. This will be provided in advance of Connecting Sundays to give you plenty of time to choose the group that’s right for you.

Opportunities to start your own kind of group. We’ll help you create, promote, and lead your small group.

Small group leader support. A small group workshop will be offered Sunday, January 17, to help new groups get started. A team of coaches are available for ongoing support.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Tell us what kind of group you would like to join, and whether you would like to start one yourself. Just complete the form below and return it to the church office. Or, contact the church office, 410-838-5181, or caldwellc@baumc.com.

MY SMALL GROUP IDEA

Name _____ Email _____

Phone # _____

The kind of group I would join _____

I can offer my home for a group _____

I can lead or co-lead a group _____



THE SPIRE

BEL AIR UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
21 LINWOOD AVENUE
BEL AIR MD, 21014-3914

Phone: 410-838-5181
410-879-2797

Fax: 410-893-8363

Email: info@baumc.com

Website: www.baumc.com

Non-Profit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit No. 21

Bel Air, MD 21014

BAUMC ON-LINE...The Spire is posted on the BAUMC website: www.baumc.com.

The e-Spire, a weekly update of information, devotions, upcoming events and activities is distributed via e-mail. If you would like to receive the e-Spire, please send your e-mail address to info@baumc.com. If you do not have e-mail and would like to read the e-Spire, copies are available at the Information Center weekly.

CONFERENCE STAFF

Bishop—Rev. Dr. John R. Schol

District Superintendent—Rev. Dr. Karin Walker

BEL AIR UMC STAFF

Lead Minister—Rev. Barry Hidey

Associate Minister—Rev. Carol Pazdersky

Off-Site Minister—Rev. Stan Cardwell

Director of Worship & Arts—Rev. Doug Hollida

Director of Children & Family Ministries—Joni Behrendt

Director of Student Ministries—Tom Hodges

Director of Adult Discipleship—Cindy Caldwell

Church Administrator—Jim Schepers

Bookkeeper—Phyllis Kordek

Pastoral Administrative Assistant—Judy Jones

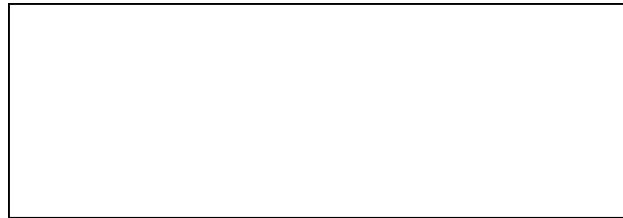
Office/Facility Manager—Alice Archer

Congregational Care & Wedding Coordinator/Youth Asst.—
Cheryl Firth

Membership/Data Base Coordinator—Lisa Wong Wolf

**E-mail contact for BAUMC Staff includes last name first
initial @ baumc.com (ex: hideyb@baumc.com)**

Address Service Requested



Dated Material Please Expedite

Answers to history questions:

1. May 11, 1782
2. Triangle window with open Bible in center; the Spire; *The Invitation*; *The Journey*.
3. Lutz Appliances; Joe the Motorist's Friend; Richardson's Pharmacy; Bel Air Movie Theater; Woolworth's; Johnson's Furniture; Beshore's Furniture
4. The cow pasture for the Worthington Farm, home of prize-winning Guernsey herd.
5. Herbert
6. *How Great Thou Art* and *Amazing Grace*

