



The Spire

BEL AIR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

August 2009

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

Sunday Worship Services

Bel Air UMC

8:00 & 9:20 AM

Traditional

9:20 AM

"Ignite" Youth Worship

11:00 AM

Contemporary

Mt. Carmel Chapel
(Corner of Wheel And
Emmorton Roads)

7:00 PM

HopeVine

(Off Site Ministry)

Rev. Stan Cardwell

(cardwells@baumc.com)

Sunday School

9:20 & 11:00 AM BAUMC

Infants-Grade 5 & Adults

11:00 Confirmation

(September-January)

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

Page 2

Up & Coming

Page 2

Did You Know?

Page 2

Celebrate & Give Thanks

Page 3

Adult Discipleship

Page 3

Youth Happenings

Page 4

Music Ministry Opportunities

Page 4

Missions Corner

Page 5

Youth Happenings

Page 5

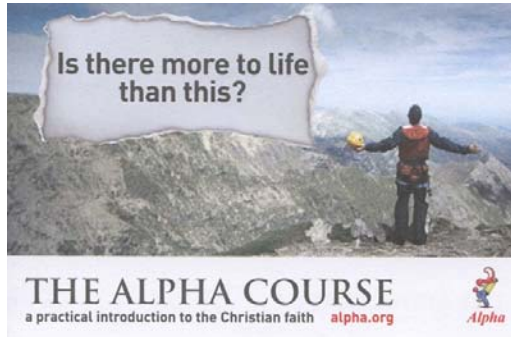
From The church Office

Page 5

Who's Who?

Page 6

From The Pastor...



What is the Alpha Course?

Alpha is a 10-week opportunity to explore the validity and relevance of the Christian faith to your life today. It's a respectful presentation on many facets of Christianity centered around a meal, a talk, and lots of time for discussion.

People come for different reasons, from different backgrounds and with different opinions. But at Alpha, those differences only add to the conversation and often lead to greater understanding. Alpha is enjoyed and appreciated as much by those who have never set foot in a church as it is by regular church-goers.

Life is full of tough times, shaky employment, relationship struggles, kid troubles and illnesses. No matter what you are facing, Alpha is a place to ask why, with the freedom to share or just sit back and listen.

Got Questions?

Is there a God? Why am I here? Who is Jesus? Alpha tackles these and other questions each week. Chances are somebody in your group is wondering the same things you are.

Building relationships is a central part of Alpha. Some of the closest and most long-lasting friendships have been built on Alpha. They go way beyond the standard, "What's your name? What do you do?", so you connect on a more personal level. Alpha Saturday (a full day of fun and experiential learning) is a great time to hang out, relax, and enjoy the stimulating talks and one another. It's amazing how much fun Alpha can be! There is no cost to Alpha and childcare is provided.

You're Invited!

Come to Alpha where you can share a casual meal, build some friendships, and enjoy lively conversation - no expectations and no strings.

Join us for "A Taste of Alpha", Monday, September 21, 2009, 7-8:15PM. It's not a commitment, just a chance to check it out to see if it's for you. The Alpha Course starts on Monday, September 28, 2009, 6:15-9PM. For more information contact Al Conway at AlanSandyC@verizon.net. More information and registration forms are available at the Welcome Center or by calling the church office.

Welcome To The Family Through Baptism

Andrew Wesley Dyer
Brady Newell Fitzgerald
Collin Todd Fitzgerald
Julie Marie Fitzgerald
Stephen Marlon Louis Gittens
Carson Nicholas Herr
Jackson John Kolbe
Rilee Elizabeth Machala
Ava Mae Paulat
Aiden Patrick Joseph Penman
Alexis Danielle Penman
Ashton Dexter Penman
Austin David Penman
Madeline Merrill Root
Melanie Merrill Root
Payten Violette Root
William Thomassy Root
Alyssa Cailyn Sturm
Jacob Ronald Schucker



Interested in membership of Bel Air UMC?
Contact Lisa Wolf, wolfl@baumc.com or
410-838-5181, ext 17.

Focus On Parenting

Ticket sales begin **August 2, 2009** for the Focus on Parenting Simulcast on Saturday, November 14 at Bel Air UMC. Tickets can be purchased for \$30.00 per person which includes lunch and a special children's program and childcare (for children through age 10). Excellent training and encouragement for all parents by well known speakers. Door prizes, networking with others and a great day of fellowship. For more information contact Joni Behrendt, behrendtj@baumc.com.

“Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.” Proverbs 22:6

Up And Coming

SAFE SANCTUARY TRAINING

Sunday, August 2, 11:00 AM-Noon

Monday, August 10, 7:00-8:00 PM

Tuesday, August 18, 7:00-8:00 PM

All individuals who will be serving in ministries with Children and Youth are required to complete the training and forms for background checks. If you have already taken the training, great! If not, please make a point of attending one of the sessions provided. Effective August 30, 2009, those who have not completed the training will not be allowed to serve in any ministry with children and youth until training and background check are completed. Contact Joni Behrendt, behrendtj@baumc.com for more information.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 2009-2010

The new year of Sunday School officially begins Sunday, **August 30**. Kindergarten-Grade 5 will have a new format meeting for **“Kingdom Kidz”** Worship to begin the morning in the Community Room and after the message, meet in age/graded groups for further exploration and learning. Watch your mailbox and inbox for more detailed information at 9:20 and 11:00 on Sunday mornings!

Did You Know?

- Proceeds from the sale of Grace Connections Cards have been used to purchase 3 tents, 3 sets of poles, 3 waterproof mats, 2 sleeping bags, and 6 wind-up LED lights for homeless persons?
- In June, Vacation Bible School (VBS) ministered to 228 children and 92 leaders?
- Tom Hodges and five youth spent a week serving at West River Camp?
- 36 youth and adults spent a week in Guatemala providing vacation Bible school for approximately 800 children?
- Manna House has served lunch to 1,994 guests and distributed 1,555 bags of food as of June 30?
- 83 Harford County Residents visited the Pass It On Ministry in the month of June?

11:00 Worship Service Changes Coming This Fall

For about a year, a Worship Organization Workgroup (WOW) have been studying the changing needs of our community, the growing dis-interest of younger generations have with the church today and the possibilities our church has to reach out to the growing number of people who are un-churched in our community.

After conversations with our WOW, our District Superintendent and church leaders, it has become apparent that we need to re-launch a new 11 worship service with changes that we expect will reach out and connect in new ways with the un-churched in our community.

I invite you to pray for this change and consider ways you might support and promote this new service. There is still much planning and discussion about some of the details of this service, but there are two changes that I want to share with you. We will be moving this service into McComas Hall and Rev. Stan Cardwell, our HOPEvine (Off-site Ministry) pastor, will provide the primary leadership and preaching at this service. The date for the move to McComas will be sometime in late September or early October. ~ Pastor Barry



Let's Celebrate And Give Thanks!

I want to thank you for all the wonderful cards, notes, gifts and visits you paid to my mom, Hazel Wells, over the years. We loved everything she received and it helped her feel a part of the church, even though she couldn't attend any longer. My Mom was a true believer and a wonderful Christian and I was blessed to have her in my life. Thank you again for all your love and caring.

Carolyn Wells

On behalf of Faith Communities and Civic Agencies United, Inc., we gratefully acknowledge your check in the amount of \$500. Your generous donations continue to assist us in meeting the many needs of Harford County's homeless. Thank you for helping make a difference in the lives of many and for assisting us with our efforts in the homeless community. We truly appreciate your generous monetary support and devoted volunteerism. May the Lord bless Bel Air United Methodist Church, the pastors and the congregation. **Judy Merritt, Executive Director, FCCAU**

Thank you and the Bel Air UMC congregation for your financial blessing and for your prayers. We at **New Hope UMC in Edgewater Village** will continue to reach out to the homeless population in doing whatever we can to ease the plight of those who have been affected by this economic downfall. Our numbers are increasing in our daytime ministry and we thank God that you continue to support the ministries here at New Hope. We continue to experience some growth in our Sunday worship service. We thank God that some of the growth is from those who we minister to throughout the week. Please continue to pray for us and once again thank you for your financial contribution.

Dear Members and Prayer Shawl Ministry, Thank you so much for remembering me with your many prayers and good wishes. I've now been home a week after two and a half months in hospitals. Cancer was finally found and two surgeries later I've begun chemo. So things are progressing well. I feel really good. Again, I must say thank you for the lovely shawl. It is so soft and comfy. **Joan Harris**

To the members and staff of Bel Air United Methodist Church:

Your generosity and hospitality to NAMI Harford County continue to be a loving, welcoming expression of the love of Christ. Thank you for allowing NAMI (the National Alliance on Mental Illness) to continue to use your wonderful church building for our support and educational meetings for the families with mental illness. **Mary Lee Hutchins**

Adult Discipleship News And Opportunities

Dear Church Family,

This summer marks some important changes in Adult Discipleship ministries at BAUMC. On July 1, I began a new part-time appointment as pastor of Mt. Vernon UMC in Whiteford. To accommodate this new appointment, we have adjusted my position at Bel Air UMC to part time, at 20 hours per week.

Meanwhile, the Discipleship Team has been working hard to ensure that adult learning programs such as Sunday and mid-week classes, small groups, and new member orientation continue to thrive and grow. I have been working with the following team members who will partner with me in three different areas of adult spiritual growth. They will "specialize" in the various ministries as follows:

Mid-Week Learning Coordinators

Bill & Joan Stiffler will oversee the scheduling of classes and equipping of leaders in programs such as Disciple Bible Studies which occur during the week at the church.

Small Groups Coordinator

Bev Talbot will be working with me to continue to equip, strengthen, and grow our small group ministry.

New Members

Carol Sherman will continue in her current role of facilitating membership classes, as well as oversee the journey of newcomers from Discovery class to becoming full members of BAUMC.

Mike Rupprecht & Leonard Rowe will serve as members "at large" to assist the team in the areas listed above.

I will be working in the Bel Air Church office on Mondays & Tuesdays, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. I will be checking messages regularly on other days, so please leave a message if I am not in, and I will return your call.

Blessings,

Cindy Caldwell,
Director of Adult Discipleship
410-838-5181 Ext. 13
caldwellc@baumc.com

•**Stephen Ministry** has been active at BAUMC for over two years. Persons trained in the art of Christian listening companion and care for those who are undergoing situations ranging from bereavement, job loss, divorce, or other life transitions. This confidential ministry has been a blessing to individuals receiving care, to the Stephen Ministers giving care, and to the whole congregation.

We are beginning another Stephen Ministry training class on Wednesday, September 30 at 7pm. If you would like to share the love that God has given you, consider becoming a Stephen Minister. This will be one of the most fulfilling and joyful experiences that you have ever had. Please contact Connie McNey, Stephen Team Leader (conbamboo@verizon.net). If you have any questions, feel free to contact Connie McNey, Pastor Carol Pazdersky, (pazderskyc@baumc.com or 410-838-5181), or any of our Stephen Ministers (you can identify them by the name tags they wear on Sunday mornings).

• **Fall 2009 Mid-Week Adult Classes, Fall 2009** It's time to register for mid-week Bible studies! Here's our list of fall classes. You can visit the Welcome Desk or www.baumc.com for a complete schedule of fall classes with dates, times, and registration information. We'll start taking registrations the first week of August.

The Alpha Course: Questions of Life Monday Evening

Women's Study ("God In You", David Jeremiah) Monday Evening

Christianity's Family Tree: What Other Christians Believe and Why 8 week study Wednesday Mornings

Disciple II: Into the Word, Into the World. Thursday Evening

Disciple IV: Under the Tree of Life Wednesday Evening and Thursday Morning

The Gospel of John (A short-term Disciple study). Tuesday Evening

The Truth Project Thursday Morning

Disciple I: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study will be offered in January, 2010.

For more information, contact the church office or caldwellc@baumc.com.

Youth Happenings



Confirmation Registration Packets: Registration packets for the upcoming Confirmation class are available. You can get them at the church office, welcome center, the bulletin board outside the youth center, or on the youth website <http://exit-412.com>. If you have any questions regarding Confirmation or the registration process, please contact Tom Hodges at hodgest@baumc.com

Youth Mission Trips: The youth will be in Galveston, Texas with the Volunteers In Missions from August 2-8 helping that area continue its recovery from Hurricane Ike that hit last year. Please keep them in your prayers.

BIG WEEK: BIG WEEK is a chance for incoming 9th graders and any other high school visitors to get a glimpse of what our student ministry has to offer. We give them a small taste of the kinds of things we do throughout the year...this year will be more of the same great stuff. Monday, August 24th, we will be kayaking on the Susquehanna near Delta, PA. The cost for that is \$35 per person for the entire day. Tuesday, August 25th, we will be canoeing the Anita Leight Estuary during the twilight hours...cost: \$10 per person. Wednesday, August 26th, we will be delivering cookies to some of our senior church members and then doing a prayer walk around local schools. That evening we will participate in the prayer service at church. Thursday, August 27th, is a Destination Unknown trip...there will not be a cost for this trip, but drivers will be needed. Friday, August 28th, there will be a "Live at the Cafe" night with live music and a PS3 competition in the youth center. (Exact times for each event and further details will be coming soon)

Summerpalooza 4: To end our Big Week...Summerpalooza 4. This back to school extravaganza is an entire community outreach event done in concert with the Family Ministry of BAUMC. In front of McComas Hall, there will be activities, games, and prizes for younger children. As you leave that area and walk towards the Linwood entrance, you'll see a dunking booth, moonbounce, free popcorn, free cotton candy, free snoballs, and free water. Going towards the road you'll see along Rt. 924 a 25-foot-high Rock climbing wall and a 65 foot long blowup obstacle course. We'll also have a mechanical surfboard you can try to stay on if you feel lucky! At the end of the day, we'll have free pizza and at 7 p.m. in McComas Hall there will be a concert with the band 5Spot from Westminster and our own Youth Band, Kingdom Affect. Last year, over 500 people came through this great event during the day...we hope to build upon that again this year!

Youth Activities in September: After all C. Milton Wright home football games, we will have "Overtime at the Floodgate." Kids come and hang out in a safe environment and enjoy food and fellowship and some live music. September 23rd is the annual See You At The Pole gathering where teens gather around the flagpole at their schools before classes begin and pray together. September 25th and 26th, female youth and adults will spend those days at an incredible event called Revolve. Revolve was begun by the Women of Faith movement and is designed especially to reach and encourage young ladies in their faith and life.

Dodgeball: Due to the incredible success of our dodgeball tournament, there has been some interest in a weekly league...so, we are going to give it a shot. Starting in September, we will be having a dodgeball league that meets on 3 out of 4 Thursday nights a month through the middle of November. Further details and registration information, as well as updates during league play, can be found at www.belairdodgeball.com

Rock 2010: The Rock Retreat is the annual get-together/rally of the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference in Ocean City, MD. Over 5,000 teens and adults gather there each year for great music, breakout sessions, drama, and inspirational speakers. This year's Rock takes place January 22-24, 2010. Due to the incredible response to this event each year, we've found that we have to get deposits and reservations earlier and earlier, so this year we will start accepting deposits on August 30th. The total cost this year for the weekend in O.C., which includes transportation, hotel, conference, t-shirt (I promise!), and Saturday night dinner is \$160. A non-refundable deposit of 1/2 will need to be given to secure your spot. Last year we took 83 people...we'd love to go flying way above that this year! So, get your deposit in quickly so we can reserve tickets...this event sells out quickly, usually by late November to early December.

Music Ministry Opportunities



The Cherub Choir for children in kindergarten through second grade will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 16 from 6:30 pm – 7:00 pm. We sing twice a month during the 9:20 service. All children are welcome to join us for fun and singing praises to our Lord.

The Wesley Choir for children in grades 3-5 will begin rehearsals in mid-September on Wednesday evenings, 6:30-7:15.

The Chancel Choir begins rehearsals after Labor Day. The first rehearsal will be Wednesday, September 9 at 7:30 in room 103. We begin singing in worship the following Sunday, September 13. Older youth and adults are welcome. You do not have to read music but men and women with lower voices need to be able to sing harmony. We have a great time worshipping the Lord in song. Come join us!

The Praise Team is looking for a bass player OR lead guitarist. Having a heart for the Lord is definitely a plus. We rehearse and play every other week. If you are interested, contact Kim Evans or Doug Hollida.

Missions Corner

Chabadza- Healing Hands Across Zimbabwe's team of Carol Pazdersky, Rose Booze, Dave Talbot, and Bev Talbot visited the Munyarari UMC Mission in June to be with our brothers and sisters in Christ to foster the health care initiative to build a medical facility. The team was warmly welcomed by the church community and village tribal leaders, with festive singing and excellent literary presentations by the students of the mission schools. The ten-day trip was filled with strong relationship building, successful steps toward our objectives, and heart warming spiritual and cultural experiences.

Meeting the team's medical objectives moved closer to realization with the dedication of the temporary clinic. The 28 boxes of medical supplies that were shipped in the spring from Bel Air helped stock the clinic's shelves. A list of needed supplies was compiled and checked against availability in Mutare. Job interviews for the head nurse were conducted with recommendations made by the team. Ninety percent of the clinic is complete and plans for opening its door are scheduled for the end of July.

Concerning the future medical facility, groundwork for construction on phase one was initiated and limited to field work in preparation of the work site.

Some members of the team were invited to attend an HIV/Aids support group. The emotionally packed stories of the participants were revealing, tragic, and yet displayed hope. Many of the participants sincerely thanked BAUMC's role in funding the clinic which will positively impact them by offering needed medicine. The outreach program that is presently in place will coordinate well with Chabadza's objective to offer preventive education and support for the surrounding villages.

The team traveled to Chitora Clinic and was pleased to meet the nurse BAUMC has been helping to support with our recycling program, "Making Nurses out of Newspaper." Virginia graciously thanked our church for its support and discussed the clinic's successful work in dealing with the cholera epidemic. She shared the urgent need of malaria medicine for the spring, starting in September for Zimbabwe.

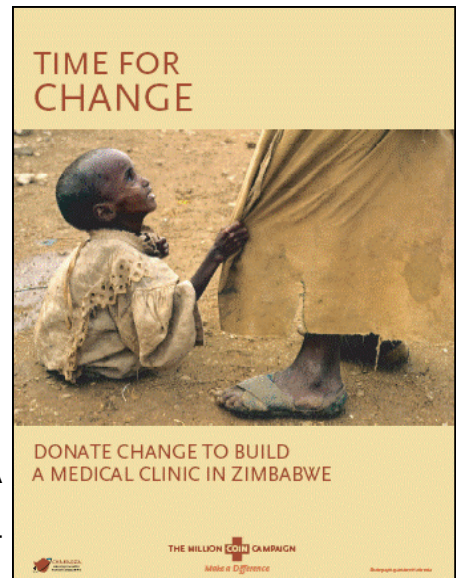
Additional opportunities took team members into the schools to observe classes. The students' notable attentiveness to learning reflected the school's motto "Knowledge is power." We were able to deliver some school supplies and books, however, the need for all books, particularly Bibles, was very obvious.

Carol accompanied Pastor Eunice on congregational home visits and saw first hand the dire need for basic medicines. She was particularly moved by the compassion and bold work of Pastor Eunice in her ministry at the mission.

Many people in the community attended the dedication ceremony for the clinic.

Church leaders and village tribal leaders praised BAUMC for the work in making their 1905 dream of having a medical facility a reality. God's glory came through with this answered prayer.

Perhaps one of the highlights of the trip was the opportunity to worship together. We were able to be a part of an inspiring Spirit filled worship service where the love of Christ was warmly experienced. The Zimbabwe people have a love for life and a love for others that is both contagious and powerfully uplifting. We were blessed to be among them to witness how they function in an environment that constantly challenges them to just meet their basic needs. Their spirit is awesome. They fed our spirits as they lived out our belief that our God is bigger than the biggest hardship or challenge that may come our way.





THE SPIRE

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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 McComas Welcome Center weekly.

CONFERENCE STAFF

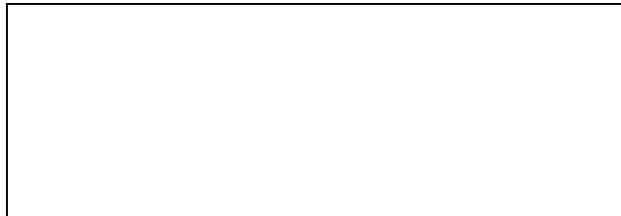
Bishop—Rev. Dr. John R. Schol
District Superintendent—Rev. Dr. Karin Walker

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



**An epic battle is about to begin...
You can determine the outcome...
Will Joel have to shave his curly locks...
Will Tom have to shave his face, legs, & arms...**



Beginning on Sunday, July 18, you can help determine who will lose their hair.

Here's how it works:

There will be two jugs at Ignite and in the youth center. Each jug will have one of the combatants pictures on it.

You put money in the persons jug who you want to see get shaved! So, if you want to see Joel's hair get shaved, you put money in his jar...

if you want to see Pastor Tom go facially nude for the first time in over 20 years, you put money in his jar.

Joel has agreed to shave his curly hair and Tom has agreed to shave his face, head, legs and arms!

**All money raised will go towards our mission goal of purchasing
at least 100 mosquito nets for Africa**

So, bring your change and your paper money...vote for who you want to see get shaved.

This will run until Aug. 28. Results will be revealed all along the way as a running total in Ignite services and church bulletin, with final results revealed during the Summerpalooza concert on August 29. In between bands, the shaving will happen!!

**By the way...Joel and Tom have agreed to let their respective hairs
grow from July 1 until the cutting on Aug. 29th.**

New SPIRE Deadline – If you have information for inclusion in the Monthly SPIRE, please send the information to ionesj@baumc.com or 410-838-5181, ext 10 by the first of the month for inclusion in the following month's SPIRE.