



Hunt's Memorial United Methodist Church

The Point

May 2013



“Is it Time to Sing?”



Friends:

Here come the Cicadas again! Every 17 years, Cicadas lay their eggs in the ground where they remain dormant. After 6,205 days, the eggs begin to hatch and suddenly sounds (and I mean really loud sounds) of new life are heard everywhere. Even inside our homes, the hum of Cicadas can still be heard. The sound we all hear is the Cicadas' mating call. If you are depending on the next generation of Cicadas to follow you seventeen years from now, then there is no time to waste. Let the symphony begin!

Of course, I am referring to biological growth, but what about spiritual growth? I know my own spiritual life ebbs and flows through dry seasons of doubt and discernment and through rich seasons of discovery and new opportunities. Where do we go when our own spiritual lives seem to be dormant and the newness offered by God seems not on the immediate horizon? In the early days of Methodism, class meetings were set up for people to come together as a small group to read the Bible, pray for one another, and help each other be accountable to the practice of faith. It is here that each person could ask another the question posed by John Wesley, “*How goes it with your soul?*” Such class meetings provided a place where people could come and share their struggles in living out their faith. They made a covenant with one another to support each other in the dry seasons and growing seasons of life.

As your pastor, I have discovered that the ‘*dormant*’ periods of my spiritual growth have not been times void of God’s activity and grace. The barrenness of the wilderness gives rise to a pregnant hope. In a more profound way, the early Israelites held on to such a hope during their exile in Babylonia. Even when they hung their harps up in the Poplar trees and sat by the waters of Babylon, they wondered if they would again sing the “*Songs of Zion.*” In time, the Israelites would come to know that God’s presence was still with them, even when living in a strange land. God would keep God’s promise.

Seventeen years ago, some of us remember the summer of Cicadas. Since then, the nymphs (baby Cicadas) have remained seemingly dormant underground. However, while underground each nymph feeds on root juice. Each Cicada is waiting for that special moment to burrow out of the ground to begin a new life and to sing its own special song. Like the Cicada, our faith may seem dormant and buried out of sight. Even then, we can connect ourselves to the roots of God’s love and find nourishment for life and wait with expectancy for the abundant life that is always ready to spring forth. Amen.

Grace & Peace,
Gary

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& Old Courts Roads
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Rev. Gary
Sheffield-James
Pastor

Beth Woody
*Administrative
Assistant
&
Editor
of “The Point”*

O. J. Spikes
Music Director

Jim Holford
Praise Leader

Service Schedule

9:00 AM
Praise Worship

10:00 AM
Traditional
Worship

10:00 AM
Sunday School

**Hunt's Church
Preschool**

www.huntseps.com

MAY

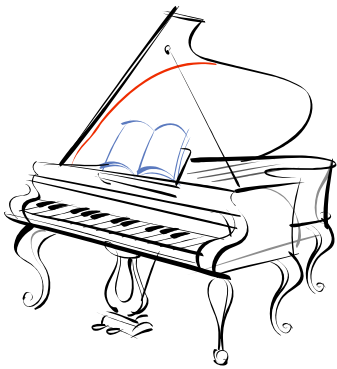
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Casserole Pick-Up  12:30 pm AA 7 pm Missions	2 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	3 7:30 am Men's Fellowship 8:30 pm AA Meeting	4 
5 Communion 9 am Praise Service 10 am Traditional Service <i>Piano Dedication</i> 10 am Sunday School --- NO Bell Choir Practice 1 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting 2 pm Pickersgill 3:30 pm Girl Scouts <i>last meeting at Hunt's</i>	6 Noon & 7 pm Bible Study (Adult Ed. Rm.) 7 pm Trustees Meeting 8:30 pm AA	7 7:30 pm Praise Team	8 12:30 pm AA 7:00 pm Finance Committee 7:30 pm BCCW Meeting	9 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	10 7:30 am Men's Fellowship 11:30 am Funhunters to Michael's Café 6:30 pm Pack 319 8:30 pm AA	11 9:00 am Women's Fellowship Breakfast  9:00 am to Noon Senior High Car Wash
12 "Mother's Day" 9 am Praise Service 10 am Traditional Service 10 am Sunday School 11:10 am Bell Choir Practice	13 8:30 pm AA	14 7 pm Carroll's-Gill's Endowment Fund Meeting 7:30 pm Praise Team	15 12:30 pm AA 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting	16 Newsletter articles due 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	17 7:30 am Men's Fellowship 8:30 pm AA	18
19 9 am Praise Service 10 am Traditional Service <i>Stockton Baptism</i> <i>O'Brien Baptism</i> 10 am Sunday School 11:10 am Bell Choir Practice	20 8:30 pm AA	21 7:30 pm Praise Team	22 12:30 pm AA 7:00 pm SPPRC Meeting	23 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	24 7:30 am Men's Fellowship 8:30 pm AA	25
26 9 am Praise Service 10 am Traditional 10 am Last Sunday School 11:10 am Bell Choir Practice Final ceremony/party for the Girl Scouts (tentative)	27 Memorial Day  <i>Office Closed</i> 8:30 pm AA	28 7:30 pm Praise Team	29 Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference 12:30 pm AA	30 Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference No Chancel Choir Rehearsal	31 Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference 7:30 am Men's Fellowship 8:30 pm AA	

Lay Readers' Schedule

	<u>9:00 Service</u>	<u>10:00 Service</u>
May 5	Marcia Conlin	Lloyd Schubert
May 12	Margie Anne Bonnett	Megan Anecharico
May 19	Jim Foster	O.J. Spikes
May 26	Ann Gallant	Pegg Melfa

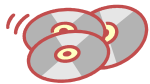
Ushers' Schedule 10:00 Service Kathy Lang and David Young

PIANO DEDICATION



On **Sunday, May 5th**, there will be a piano dedication to Karen Powell. A plaque will be placed on the piano and Karen's music will be played from past church service recordings throughout the service.

A cookies and punch reception will follow the service. The choir wants to honor Karen and we hope the congregation can share in our cherished memories.



A CD of Karen's music will be available on May 5.

GRADUATION INFORMATION

During the months of May and June many graduation ceremonies will be taking place. If you have a loved one who is graduating from high school or college, please contact Beth in the church office (office@huntsumc.org) with the following information so that it can be included in the next newsletter:



Student's Name
Type of Degree (Diploma, AA, BA, etc.)

Name of School
Date of Graduation

Plans following Graduation
(Employment, Travel, College, etc.)



"Congratulations to Jenn Lang on her marriage to James Cowman on May 31st in Columbus, Ohio."

FUNHUNTERS' LUNCHEON – Friday, May 10th, 11:30 a.m.



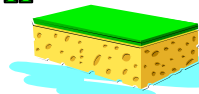
Michael's Café – 2119 York Road –
Timonium, MD 21093



(Additional parking behind restaurant)



Kelly Terrell



The summertime sunshine sure does bring out the dirty in your car!
Senior High can help!!

Bring your car by the Exxon
at Seminary & York
on **Saturday, May 11th** for a wash!

9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON

Free Will offering to benefit Hunt's Senior High
and Camp Hope!

Thank you in advance for your support !!



Nancy, Cara and I would like to thank everyone for filling the eggs and making our Easter Egg Hunt a great success. We would also like to thank those who hid the eggs and helped set up and clean up. We couldn't do it without you. Additional thanks go to our Easter Bunny, Kelly Terrell, and our photographer, Howard Lin. They make the event quite special. The children collected over 1,000 eggs and had a wonderful time. Again, our sincere thanks to all.

Mary Margaret



Dearest Members of Hunt's Methodist Church,

In 2001, a certain group of first-grade girls bounced into their first Brownie meeting at Riderwood Elementary School.

They were all of six years old.

Twelve years go by very fast, let me tell you. All those sweet little girls with bows in their hair, who had little brown vests on their shoulders and wide-open eyes to take in everything they could learn; now wear makeup, drive cars, have jobs, are about to attend their first semester of college, and think they know everything.

I volunteered with Troop 4136 starting back in 2001, but was most fortunate to become their Troop Leader when they entered 5th grade in 2005. Since then we have been on countless camping trips together (in tents, cabins, and even in the tree tops!), taken a road trip to Corning, NY, a train trip to Savannah, GA, and had numerous other adventures that all hold special memories and life lessons.



When the girls left Riderwood for middle schools scattered throughout Baltimore County, we started having meetings in my home. As they grew up, it seemed my living room got smaller and smaller. How fortuitous that Rusty Erdman, the Charter Organization Representative between Hunt's Methodist Church and Cub Scout Pack 319, extended the generous invitation from the Church to sponsor our Troop. Hunt's has graciously let us use Church space

and resources for our meetings and events ever since. In the Adult Education Room, the girls learned to sew fleece scarves, had a scrapbooking weekend, and had a movie night and slumber party in Van Metre Hall. As many of you know, Dr. Peterson allowed us to use a large plot of grass near the Agapé House to create a vegetable garden that helped the girls earn their Silver Award — the second highest award in all of Girl Scouting.



We would like to thank Beth Woody for patiently and kindly working with us on scheduling and Pastor Gary for being so gracious and supportive of Scouting. Thank you too, to the Congregation of Hunt's Methodist Church for all the years of kindness extended to us. I believe the Girl Scout program has helped these ten girls maintain friendships that will hopefully last a lifetime, taught them leadership skills, and valuable lessons they will take with them to college and beyond. You have all set the example of inclusion, benevolence, and support that we have benefited from all these years.

With most sincere gratitude,

Marci Treece

Leader, Girl Scout Troop 4136





146 prayer shawls have been received by people who have benefited from the prayers, dedication, and creative talents of the women involved in this ministry.

**Next Meeting:
Sunday, May 5**

Lucy Otto's Home
1:00 pm



The District Committee on Superintendency is planning a farewell event to celebrate the ministry of the Rev. Dr. Karin Walker as Superintendent of the Baltimore Suburban District. Karin has given so much to our churches these past six years that we want to have an opportunity for all of us to express our thanks to her.

A Garden party (open house) will be held at Bel Air United Methodist Church on Sunday afternoon, May 19 from 4-6 pm. You and your whole congregation are invited to stop by and give Karin your greetings and best wishes. Some special presentations and a time of prayer are planned for 5:30.

We are also planning for a gift from the district to give to Karin and invite your participation in this. Funds may be sent to Bel Air United Methodist Church, marked Karin Walker Gift, 21 Linwood Ave, Bel Air, MD 21014. If you or your church wishes to present a personal gift there will be time set aside at the Garden Party at 5:30 for this. If you have a special presentation that you or your church wishes to make you should contact me ahead of time so that I can coordinate this time.

Please join us in expressing our appreciation and thanks to Karin for her wonderful ministry among us.

John Campbell, Chair of the District Committee on Superintendency
443-922-9904
revjohncampbell@gmail.com



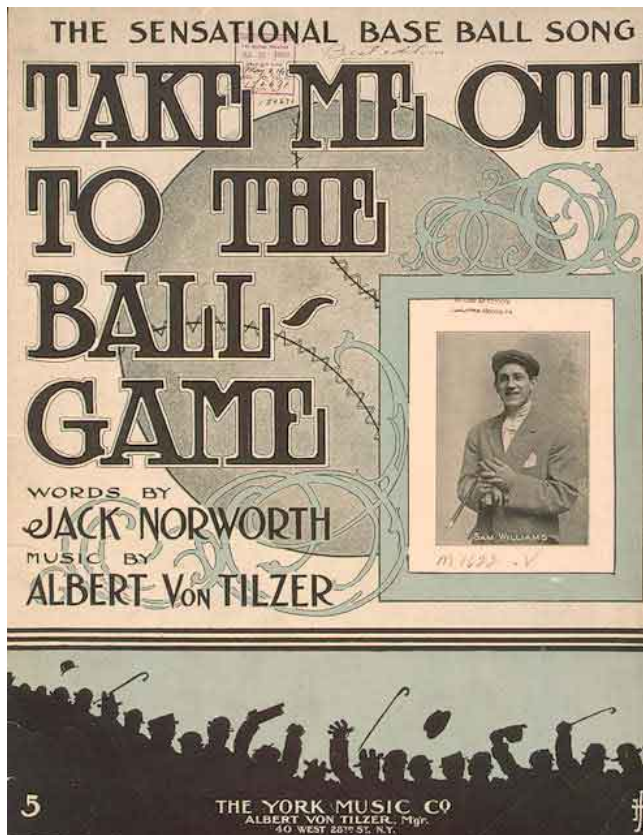
HUNT'S 1st QUARTER 2013 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Following are Hunt's Operating Expenses and Income for 2013 through March. Operating income includes regular offering and donations, payments to the church by our preschool, and income from community groups. Operating expense includes monies for items such as staff salaries, property maintenance and utilities, Christian education, and conference apportionments. Not included are monies donated or spent for missions, memorials, our preschool, or other special funds.

Income	\$ 92,983
Expense	<u>89,447</u>
Net	\$ 3,536

It is very important for all of us to stay current with our pledges. Our church relies on your ongoing generosity to meet its operating expenses. A convenient way to make your donations is through electronic giving, available through the Hunt's website.

If you have any questions about this information, including getting started with electronic giving, please contact Nathan Derr or Linda Keatts.



(An actual print of the original sheet music cover)

Take Me Out to the Ball Game

In 1858, the first known baseball song was written, "The Base Ball Polka!" It was not quite as famous as Jack Norworth's 1908 classic, "Take Me Out to the Ball Game", which was written on some scrap paper on a train ride to Manhattan, New York. Norworth then provided those paper scrap lyrics to Albert Von Tilzer who composed the music which in turn was published by the York Music Company and before the year was over, a hit song was born.

Jack Norworth was a very successful vaudeville entertainer / songwriter and spent fifteen minutes writing this classic In 1927, he changed some lyrics and a second version appeared. (Both versions can be found online at Baseball Almanac.)



(Copied – baseballalmanac.com)



**Hunt's Mid-Highs
Christmas Present Project
3rd Annual Fundraiser**

Saturday, June 1 @ 4:05 PM

Baltimore Orioles vs. Detroit Tigers

Upper Reserve Seats for only \$13!

*\$5 from every seat purchased benefits the
Mid-High's Christmas Present Project
for Charles Carroll Barrister Elementary!*



For Information on Tickets:

PJ Boyle at 410-823-0038

or **pboyle6999@aol.com**



HUNT'S MISSIONS

Many opportunities are available, through Hunt's Church, to serve the needs of others both locally and abroad. You can pick up a partial list of these at the back of the sanctuary. Look for the bright yellow sheet. If anyone has an idea or would like more information on any project, please contact Melissa Regan at melissa.regan2@gmail.com.

Next Meetings – Wednesday, May 1st and June 5th at 7 p.m. in the Adult Ed Room.

In addition to our regular discussions, we will have guests coming to talk for a few minutes about their work in our community:

- 1- Sheila Helgerson who is the Executive Director at Earl's Place, a transitional housing program in Baltimore which provides long-term (up to two years) housing and supportive services to 17 men at a time. One of the current Earl's Place residents will also be a guest at our meeting.**
- 2- Pastor Mark Groover who works in Harford County at a church for the homeless (He was unable to attend the April meeting as originally planned.)**
- 3- Cricket Barrazotto who leads the organization God's Economy which partners with hospitals, churches, universities, and non-governmental organizations in Africa to help people in need there.**

**Everyone is welcome! Come learn about programs for Good in our community!
Come help plan how Hunt's can best serve!**

APRIL REPORT

THANK YOU to the congregation for your support and donations:

- \$1158 for the Lent Special Offering which is split between the Baltimore County Christian Workcamp and Camp Hope

- Many cans of fruit for ACTC!

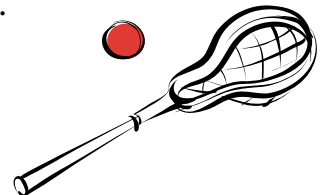


- A record 13 casseroles for the Casserole Ministry! These casseroles go to three locations in Baltimore:

- The New Song Academy afterschool program – where high school students come for counseling, tutoring, and a nutritious meal
- Martha's Place - transitional housing for women coming out of drug treatment and addiction
- The JACQUES Initiative at the University of Maryland Hospital – a program with a holistic care model that provides long-term treatment for urban populations infected with HIV.



- Sports Equipment – The outpouring of sports equipment for kids in Baltimore City has been phenomenal. A report on this will be included in a future newsletter.



MAY MISSIONS

We have three missions for May.

First, the special offering this month is for our five sponsored children through **ChildFund International**:

- ❖ Rossell, age 12, from The Phillipines
- ❖ Megi, age 15, from India
- ❖ Patipon, age 15, from Thailand
- ❖ Joel, age 20, from Mexico
- ❖ Mary, age 20, from Uganda



We frequently receive letters and pictures from these children which you can read and see on the bulletin board next to the Sunday School Resource Room.

Second, we are collecting canned peas and corn for **ACTC** this month. **ACTC**, located in downtown Towson, provides food and services to the needy and homeless in our own community, including bagged lunches, care bags for the homeless, and nonperishable food supplies for 3-5 days.



Please bring in as much as you can and put it in the coat closet in May!

Please, **no** perishables or home canned food items or institutional sized cans.



Third, there is a group going to serve breakfast at Manna House in Baltimore on Saturday, April 27. We plan to go again on a future date.



We have learned that they have a need for:

- ✓ **used men's casual clothing**
- ✓ **used men's shoes (any size, but sizes 10-15 especially needed)**
- ✓ **new men's underwear**
- ✓ **new men's socks**



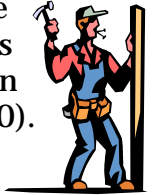
If you can donate any of these in May, they will be taken to Manna House the next time a group goes. There will be a labeled box in the coat closet.





MISSIONS NEWS

Baltimore County Christian Workcamp – (home repair and assistance for limited income families by volunteers of all ages throughout Baltimore County) – The 30th annual Baltimore County Christian Workcamp will be held this year during **the week of July 21st**. The Sunday night dinner and all breakfasts are at Hunt's, which is the host and base for this ecumenical workcamp. More information can be seen on the Missions bulletin board, on the website www.bcchristianworkcamp.org, or contact Steve Lippy (410-296-9150).



Registration is not needed until that Sunday or the day worked; however, let Steve Lippy know if you are able to volunteer. The registration fee for Hunt's members can be waived if requested (due to our Advent and Lenten offerings).



The next planning meeting is **May 8** at Hunt's; it is open to anyone interested in attending.



In addition to actually working on homes for one or more days during the week with either your fellow Hunt's members or with those from other churches, there are other opportunities to assist with this hands-on mission project.



Possibilities include:



- donating items for the BCCW silent auction fundraiser, including used books for a flea market sale, on Sunday night
- donating suitable building supplies and usable appliances
- setting up tables in Van Metre Hall after church on Sunday morning, July 21
- assisting with breakfast on Monday, July 22
- donating lunch snacks and goodies (especially home-made)
- donating food staples for those we help
- providing financial support in addition to the Advent and Lenten offerings [BCCW is a 501(c)3 organization]



Hunt's had very good participation last year; hopefully that can be surpassed this year just like we did when we recently obliterated the previous Board of Child Care cookie drive record.



Call To ACTCion!

The **Assistance Center of Towson Churches** is holding a 5K run and a 1.5-mile walk to raise money and hunger awareness. **Date/time:** Saturday, June 1 at 8 a.m. **Location:** Goucher College. Register online at calltoaction.eventbrite.com. or contact Melissa Regan for more information.



ACTC is an ecumenical program supported by 49 churches and other organizations, based at Calvary Baptist in Towson, providing food and emergency assistance to poor and needy individuals and families in our community.





Kidder-Thomas Scholarship Fund

The Kidder-Thomas Scholarship Fund resulted from generous bequests under the wills of Sam Kidder and Jean Thomas. The sum has been invested along with subsequent donations, and the income earned from this investment is for scholarships for “worthy students who are members of Hunt’s Church”.

Trustees of the Fund will consider applications for scholarship aid each year. There are three trustees that oversee the fund: Chair of the Church Council (Leigh Leonard), Chair of the Finance Committee (Nathan Derr), and Chair of the Board of Trustees (Ken Parrish).

Applications must be received by June 30, 2013.

(An application is included in this newsletter.) Additional applications are available at the Church Office or from a member of the trustees listed above. The completed application should be submitted along with an official transcript of high school or college grades, preferably through the spring of the current year.

Scholarships are for undergraduate students enrolled full time (12 credits or more per semester), and graduate students enrolled part time or full time (6 credits or more per semester), in an accredited college or university in the United States.

In awarding scholarships, the Trustees will primarily consider the applicants’:

- Academic merit
- Financial need
- Church involvement and activities
- Community involvement and leadership

Scholarship amounts will vary depending on the number of scholarships awarded each fall and the income earned from the investment principal. Generally, the awards will be in the range of \$500 to \$1,500.

Applicants must make an annual application for each year of full time undergraduate or part or full time graduate status.



Hunt's United Methodist Church College Scholarship Application

Academic Year _____

Please Type or Print Legibly

Date _____

1. Last Name _____ First _____ Middle _____

2. Permanent Address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

3. Daytime Phone # _____ Evening Phone # _____ Email _____

4. Occupation (if any) _____ Income \$ _____ Annually-Line 4 IRS Form 1040 EZ or line 33 form 1040 (Report income from previous calendar year. If there is likely to be a significant change, note below on line 11)

5. Name and address of college in which you are now enrolled or will be attending (High school seniors – If you have not decided yet or haven't been accepted yet, what is your first choice school?)

6. Present academic status:
HIGH SCHOOL Senior (Name and Address of high school) _____

COLLEGE: Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior Graduate

7. Are you or will you be a full-time degree candidate? _____

8. Male Female Date of Birth _____ Marital Status _____

Are you Self-Supporting? _____ (If so, income line must be completed above - # 4)

If married, name of spouse _____ Spouse's Annual Income _____

9. Your Parent(s) Name(s)* _____

Address _____

Daytime Phone # _____ Evening Phone # _____

10. Parents' Dependents (other than yourself): Number _____ Ages _____

11. Special circumstances (such as major medical bills, etc. – please explain anything which will help us understand your situation better – use another sheet if you wish)

12. Your intended vocation _____

13. List prior colleges attended, if any, and dates attended _____

* Self-Supporting or married applicants need not respond to questions 9 and 10

This statement must be completed before your application can be reviewed:

Academic Period for which this statement applies _____ / _____ to _____ / _____
Month Yr Month Yr

Full Year Estimated Expenses (If you have not made a definite decision on which school you will attend, give us your best estimate)

Tuition and Fees \$ _____
Books \$ _____
Housing \$ _____
Food \$ _____
Clothing & Laundry \$ _____
Medical Care \$ _____
Transportation (itemize) \$ _____
_____ \$ _____
_____ \$ _____
Other Expenses (Itemize)
_____ \$ _____
_____ \$ _____
_____ \$ _____
_____ \$ _____
TOTAL EXPENSES \$ _____

Please note: On a separate sheet describe any unusually high expenses. (Additional itemized expenses may also be listed). Special circumstances that may affect your financial situation should be explained. Any information that will help the committee in its work is appreciated and will be treated confidentially.

Full Signature of Student _____

Date _____

Application Procedure

1. Applicants shall submit:
 - a. An official transcript (with raised seal stamped) of grades (high school or college) to the Hunt's Church Office, Attn: Scholarship Committee, **Non-Official copies of grades will not be accepted as transcripts**; it is the applicant's responsibility to get all materials to the committee on time.
 - b. A personal statement (one half to one page) from the student briefly describing his/her activities of church and community involvement and leadership during the past two years.
2. The Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any application.
3. Students will be notified on or about September 1 of awards for the current academic year. Payment for the full academic year will be made directly to the student.
4. To renew scholarship, the above procedure must be repeated annually.
5. Completed application, student statement, and a current transcript of grades must be mailed to the Hunt's Church Office, Attn: Scholarship Committee, postmarked no later than June 30.

Dear Gals,

Hope you are staying warm with this crazy Spring weather! At least we have the joy of feasting our eyes on the beauty of all the spring flowers and trees. I love it!!! It is my favorite time of year. New Life, New hope, New possibilities!

We are bringing new hope to all these friends in Baltimore city. At Jacques last time two of the staff said "Oh they are always asking when those casseroles are coming- they LOVE it and so appreciate it!"

So many thanks again for taking your time in the kitchen to love these friends.

Blessings & love, *Betsy*

Baked Ziti Casserole

Ingredients

1 pound dry ziti pasta
1 onion, chopped (optional)
1 pound lean ground beef
2 (26 ounce) jars spaghetti sauce
6 ounces provolone cheese, sliced
1 1/2 cups sour cream
6 ounces mozzarella cheese, shredded
2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese

*Casserole Ministry's
casserole recipe
for May*

Due Date:

Wednesday, May 1

Directions

Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Add ziti pasta, and cook until al dente, about 8 minutes; drain.

In a large skillet, brown onion and ground beef over medium heat. Add spaghetti sauce, and simmer 15 minutes.

Spray a 9x13 inch baking dish with non-stick cooking spray. Layer as follows: 1/2 of the ziti, Provolone cheese, sour cream, 1/2 sauce mixture, remaining ziti, mozzarella cheese and remaining sauce mixture. Top with grated Parmesan cheese.

Cover and Freeze for delivery.

Place the baking instructions (below) on top.

Let defrost in the fridge for 24 hours.
Bake in an oven preheated to 350 for about 30 minutes,
or until cheeses are melted.

Saturday, April 13th, was a very busy and productive day
on the grounds of Hunt's Church!

The people listed below spent 3-8 hours working to beautify and enrich the land
around our church building and the Agapé House.



Robert Sparks

Glenn Keatts

Walter Henss

Tom Parrish

Ken Parrish

Pat Barkdoll

Steve Lippy

Dan Funderburk

Melissa Regan

Barry Gartrell

Rusty Erdman

for arranging to have John Archer
and his bobcat to help us out

Good News!

The Sanctuary's sound system recently received a technology
upgrade thanks to a generous contribution
from Celia Erdman's memorial fund.



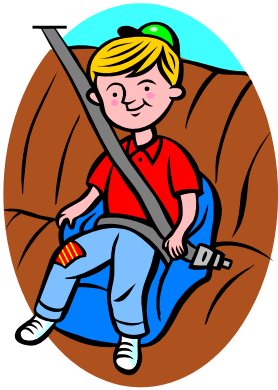
The soundboard now has the capability to access music from smart phones,
iPods, iPads, MP3 Players, and flash drives for use at the Youth Service,
providing accompanist music for wedding soloists,
and other special events.

Thanks to Rusty Erdman for honoring his Mom in this special way.

--Merle Bayne--

FROM THE BACKSEAT

While taking Marius out for some grandpa-grandson time, I was preoccupied. Usually, I would have played some children's praise music, but I had forgotten to turn it on. I heard Marius asking from the backseat, "Where is our music, Grandpa?"



We maneuvered through traffic with the music playing, but again my mind wandered to work and the impossible deadlines I faced. I was resting my head on my hand when Marius asked, "What's wrong, Grandpa?"

I told him I had a headache. Then I heard him praying, "God, please help Grandpa to feel better. Amen." As we drove a bit further, Marius requested a favorite Bible story, "Tell me the story about Samuel, when he was sleeping." I told the story. When Marius wanted to hear it again, I did a replay.

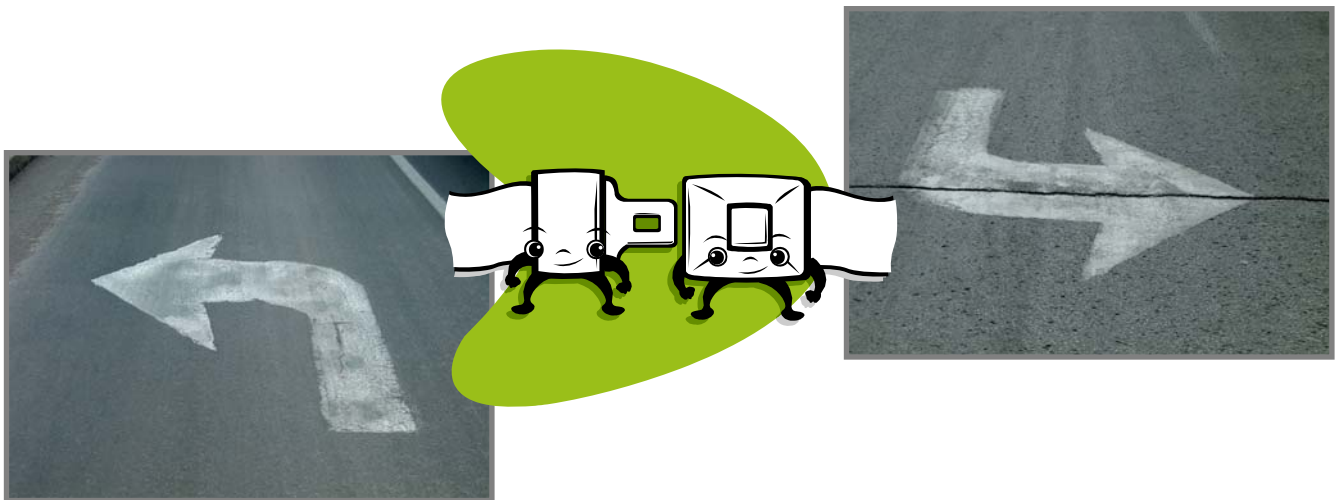
As we reached our destination, I realized that my grandson, not I, had been the teacher that day - and why Jesus told us to model our lives of faith on that of little children. If we praise God, if we identify the needs of others and pray for their hurts, if we love and tell the stories of faith, we will live well. I have made the Christian life way too complicated. To Marius, it is simple.

Prayer:

Dear God, teach us to live in your kingdom with the trust and simple honesty of little children. Amen.

Richard Lewis (California)

(Copied - Upper Room - April 17, 2013)



Vacation Bible School

The church's office and the preschool's office have been receiving telephone calls from parents in the neighborhood asking about the dates for Vacation Bible School this year.

At this point in time, no dates have been scheduled because we do not have a V.B.S. Director.

If you would like to volunteer to be the Director or if you and a friend/relative would like to be Co-Directors, **please contact the church office at 410-339-7770 or office@huntsumc.org.**



From Ken Parrish:

Trustees Activity

The Trustees had 2 work days for landscaping projects around Agapé. Thanks to DeWitt Lott, Glenn Keatts, Steve Lippy, Ron Peterson, and Bill Schlott for participating in our stump grinding day. I believe we removed 17 stumps around the property. On April 13, Pat Barkdoll, Dan Funderburk, Barry Gartrell, Walter Henss, Glenn Keatts, Steve Lippy, Tom Parrish, Melissa Regan, and Robert Sparks all helped move 7 tons of soil to re-grade around Agapé as our final piece to resolving the basement water problem. They were assisted by a very generous donation of time and skid loader equipment by John Archer. We also removed several sections of ivy and spread grass seed. A landscaping company is contracted to come and assist our grounds committee with edging, mulch, and other spring clean-up tasks.



Missions in our backyard



April 13 was a busy day at Hunt's with 3 events worth noting. While the Trustees & friends were working around Agapé, the women's breakfast group was meeting in the church. These 2 gatherings were joined by an unexpected visitor. He and his family pulled on the parking lot in their van looking for pastoral assistance. We learned that they were homeless and living in the van and were looking for assistance and food. Without any hesitation, the women's breakfast group took care of Tyrell and his family. As Jody Waters and I were talking Sunday morning about the previous morning, I noticed that Tyrell had returned. He was returning something given to him Saturday that, due to his living condition, he had no way of cooking and did not want it to go to waste. Jody told me that Gary's sermon that morning was about what we did the day before. I wrote down the last line Gary spoke in his sermon Sunday morning, "All this happens when Jesus shows up."



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