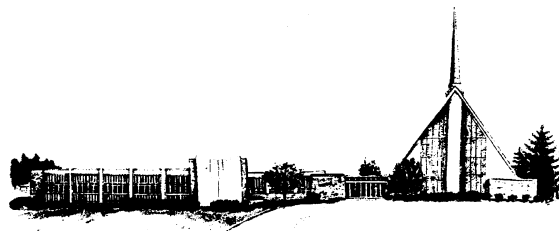


# First United Methodist *CALLER*



Volume 46 Number 3

6201 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, MD 20782

May-June 2009

## *Pastors Study*



### Springtime

Greetings First Church Faith Community,

We are just coming off of celebrating Resurrection Sunday. What a Glorious Celebration! "O Taste and See that the Lord Is Good!" I am seeing the goodness of the Lord in our church community. From the ways in which you reach out with love and compassion when a family experiences the death of a loved one, to the 65 plus folks who "Left the Building" on that cool drizzly Saturday to share un-random acts of kindness, to the ways in which we have gathered together in Jesus name to worship Him. God's goodness never ceases to amaze me as I serve in ministry with this faith community of First UMC. It is awesome to see folks living out their faith, sometimes and most often, in ways in which they could never ever have imagined God using them. Yet it is just as powerful and humbling for me to be a part of it as it all unfolds - lives are

changed, hearts rejoice and signs of wonder and transformation are all around us. "O Taste and See that the Lord Is Good!"

Folks have shared with me how much the Lenten Season that we just finished, was one of the most transforming for them in their spiritual growth and journey. I remind you, brothers and sisters, that as we have moved from the Lenten Season and celebrated the Resurrection Sunday, that we are now Easter People. Resurrection doesn't end with Easter Sunday. Resurrection continues in our lives for the rest of our lives.

In this season of spring - where will we see nature transform before our very eyes - my hope is that new life will be born in each of us daily - that as we see and experience the goodness of God all around us - that we find ways to share that goodness with others so that they too can "Taste and See."

### Un-Random Acts of Kindness II: The Sequel

We had a wonderful experience on Saturday March 28 as 65 of our First Church family of all ages went out in the cold drizzle to share Jesus' love in tangible ways with our neighbors by offering prayer, METRO and Giant Food cards and snacks to folks at the Shoppes at Metro and University Town Center.

In worship on Sunday, March 29, you heard testimonies from sisters and brothers about how God used them to touch lives and hearts for Jesus. We will be going out on a regular basis into our community at different locations to practice kindness evangelism. **The church will be leaving the building again on Saturday May 30 at 2 p.m. Mark your calendars now and plan to join us as we share Jesus' love with our neighbors.**

**Happy Spring  
Blessings!  
Pastor Joan**

### **Annual Conference June 4 - 6, 2009**

The 225<sup>th</sup> session of the Baltimore-Washington Conference will begin Thursday, June 4 at the Marriott Baltimore Waterfront Hotel. This annual meeting is attended by clergy, diaconal ministers and lay representatives of all churches in the Baltimore-Washington Conference. Attending the conference from First Church will be Pastor Joan, Pastor Michael, Donnalee Sanderson, Deborah Pleasant and Hazel Waters. This meeting is a time when the business of the Conference is conducted, ordination of clergy is held and a service of remembrance for deceased clergy, clergy spouses and lay members is held. All are welcome to attend Annual Conference as guests.

### **Pentecost Sunday May 31, 2009**

May 31 is Pentecost - the Birthday of the Church! We will celebrate Pentecost at First Church by confirming our Confirmation Class. We will have **one worship service at 10 a.m.** on Sunday, May 31, Pentecost Sunday. We invite everyone to wear **red** on that day as we celebrate! We will have eight young persons who will be confirmed in our church. They are now being instructed in Confirmation Classes by Pastor Michael and Pastor Joan.

After the worship service, there will be a church-wide Picnic to honor our confirmands. The entire church community is invited along with all of the family and friends of the confirmands. It will be a day of celebration! Let the Holy Spirit come! Don't Forget to wear **Red!**  
**One Service - 10 a.m.**

### **Mission Team Heads Back to New Orleans**

Since Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast in August, 2006, First Church has made a commitment to send teams of volunteers down to help with the rebuilding. 2009 makes our third year of sending teams. We sponsor two teams, one in April and one in October. April 18-25, 2001 we sent a team of 13 persons - Ellen Cort, Martha Shrader, Carol Schauer, J. D. Williams, Robert Martin, Ivy Chisley, Pat Smith, Mfon Umoren, Winnie Thorne, Vicky Wise, Fran Reed, Abdulla Moaney and Pastor Joan.

We have committed to sending teams twice a year for as long as it takes with the rebuilding of lives, homes and communities. We have been able to do this in part by the outpouring of support, both financially and in prayers, from our church community. We thank you! We encourage you to keep that support coming. The October trip is scheduled for October 17-24. Pastor Michael will be going as a part of that team. You may contact Sharon Milton if you are interested in volunteering.

## ***A New Way to Give – EFT***

In March First Church began a new option for members to use to give their tithes and offerings to the church. This option is electronic giving. Electronic giving, or EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) works in the same manner as mortgages, loan payments or insurance premiums that are automatically withdrawn from your checking or savings account.

Electronic Giving makes life easier for you and yields very significant benefits for our church.

### Benefits for you:

- The satisfaction of giving to God first
- Easier to fulfill stewardship commitments
- Allows you to contribute even when you're away
- Easier personal budgeting
- More secure than bringing cash or checks to church

### Benefits for our Church:

- Promotes consistent giving
- More predictable cash flow for better planning
- Less work for office staff
- Secure and easy cash maintenance

### Traditional Choices Remain

Church members will continue to receive envelopes and offerings will be taken each week as usual. If you do not currently use envelopes, please consider participating in either our envelope program or the Electronic Giving program. Our church needs your consistent support.

To sign up for this new giving option, please fill out an authorization form and return it to the church office. Forms will be available in the office and in the narthex. Or you may call the office and a form along with additional information will be sent to you. You choose the donation frequency (weekly or monthly) and the donation amount.

## **Annual Conference Highlighters Needed**

Annual Conference will be at the Marriott Baltimore Waterfront Hotel, June 4 - 6 and "highlighters" are needed. What is a Highlighter? Highlighters are greeters who stand around in the hotel giving people directions to the various meeting rooms for Annual Conference. If you like greeting people and want a bright tee-shirt, you should volunteer. To sign up or for more information on being a highlighter, contact Michelle Miles, [bwchighlighters@verizon.net](mailto:bwchighlighters@verizon.net).

## **JFON News**

Greetings First Church family from all of us with JFON Immigration ministry. We have hit the ground running for the first part of this year and we just keep on going. Here is a brief overview of what has been going on with us.

We have seen about 20-24 clients so far this year, and that is just at our clinic. Our attorney, who also works with the clinic at Emory United Methodist and Salem United Methodist in Baltimore, has seen a total of about 60-70 clients all together, and we are only into the fifth month of the year. So you can see there is a real need for this service.

On February 18 we had an immigration prayer vigil right here at First Church (Thanks Pastor Joan for all of your help and support with this), and as some of you saw it was covered by the press. A reporter from Channel 7 came and interviewed Pastor Joan and Carol and some others and shot footage of the vigil which it aired later that night and the next day, we also were interviewed by a reporter from the Hyattsville Times and a journalism student from the University of Maryland. It was a very nice evening with a good turnout, thank you to all who attended... it is very important to let congress and the President know that the faith community stand for comprehensive immigration reform and the prayer vigil was one way we accomplished this. I truly appreciate all of your support and I know our clients do as well.

As I write this it is one day before we are having our first ever spring board training and I am so excited to be a part of this. We will be meeting in Silver Spring at the Hilton and this will be an opportunity from folks from all the JFON regions to gather and fellowship and learn how to be a more effective regional board. With the JFON model no clinic is on its own, we are part of a region, each region as at least two clinics. Our region has three, Baltimore, Washington DC and Hyattsville, and each clinic is to have two plus one alternate who serve on the regional board. This board meets four times a year and it is an opportunity for us to share ideas and discuss concerns and ways to make the clinic better for the clients.

We are still taking any interested persons for citizenship classes so if you know of anyone that may be interested please have them contact me, and as always if you would like to join us in this ministry please let me know. My contact info is: [charding8290@yahoo.com](mailto:charding8290@yahoo.com); 240-296-0960 (home phone). Please do not hesitate to call, I would love to hear from you!!

**Blessings,  
Cindy Harding  
[charding8290@yahoo.com](mailto:charding8290@yahoo.com)  
240-296-0960 (home)**

## **New Members**

If you or someone you know is interested in joining First Church, we are now meeting in room 201 after the 11 a.m. service on the third Sunday of the month. All are welcome to come and see what it means to join this faith community. We gather for about two hours and have light refreshments while we introduce you to our ministries and leaders of the church. Please plan to attend when you want to join or just want more information.

## **Acolytes Needed**

Children ages eight and older are needed to serve as acolytes at either Sunday morning service; but are especially needed at the 8:30 a.m. service. Acolytes light the candles, carry the cross and assist with the offering. Call Virginia Stinson-Brown, 202-494-9023, if interested.

### **First United Methodist Caller**

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### **Staff**

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Robin Joynes, Denise Ryles-McKoy,  
Braulio Torres  
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Zina Johnson  
*United Gospel Choir Director*  
Susan Halperin  
*Shalom School Director*  
Burma Powell  
*Custodial Supervisor*  
Jan Miles  
*Treasurer*  
**Worship Services**  
Sunday Morning - 8:30 & 11 a.m.

Caller copy deadline: 15<sup>th</sup> of the month for inclusion in the next issue.

*Peace with Justice Sunday*  
*June 7, 2009*

Peace with Justice Sunday is one of the six church wide Special Sundays of The United Methodist Church in which an offering is taken to support the work of a particular group or agency. Peace with Justice Sunday offering enables The United Methodist Church to have a voice in advocating for peace and justice through a broad spectrum of global programs.

Peace with Justice Sunday is celebrated on the Sunday after Pentecost each year. This year the date is June 7.

Some of the groups helped by this offering are: • The Ohio-based Faith Communities Uniting for Peace encourages Christians, Buddhists, Hindus, Jews, Muslims and Sikhs "to live from a vision of peace rooted in faith."

• In Liberia—in partnership with other religious and humanitarian groups, The United Methodist Church provides a place for former child soldiers to live, recreational activities to address war trauma, and basic necessities such as fresh drinking water and medical treatment.

The 1980 General Conference created a church wide Peace with Justice program assigned to the General Board of Church and Society. The 1988 General Conference established Peace with Justice Sunday as the first Sunday after Pentecost to give churches a single, more convenient date for the offering and a name that clearly identifies the ministries it supports.

The annual conference keeps 50 % of the receipts for Peace with Justice ministries in the conference. The remaining 50 % is used for Peace with Justice ministries related to the General Board of Church and Society.

There will be envelopes in the bulletins on Sunday, June 7. Please make checks payable to First United Methodist Church.

**"Becoming a Contagious Christian"  
Class Offered in May**

The Evangelism Ministry Team will be holding a six week training class on "Becoming a Contagious Christian" on Monday evenings from 7 to 8:15 p.m. beginning on May 11, 2009. If you want to tell people about being a part of this wonderful life called Christianity and don't know how or want to do it better, then this class is for you. Call the church office, 301-927-6133, to sign up or fill out the yellow Info Stub in the Sunday bulletin.



It's not too late to sign up for our annual CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, May 3, starting about 1:30 p.m. Please see the Doyles as soon as possible to sign up. CROP means Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty. Unfortunately poverty and hunger go together. We cannot be overwhelmed by the magnitude of the problem, but as Christians must have faith, respond and help. The Old and New Testaments clearly exhort us to help others.

CROP is an arm of Church World Service which is an ecumenical ministry of 35 Protestant, Orthodox and Anglican denominations working to eradicate hunger and poverty by providing sustainable self-help and development, disaster relief and refugee assistance around the world. CWS has a proven track record for the 62 years of its existence. They join in with ongoing successful national projects like well-digging, fish hatcheries, sewing classes and teaching how to raise crop yields per acre. To get an idea of current specific projects, please call 1-888-297-2767 or churchworldservice.org.

By mid April 43 walkers (and doggie Bud Shrader) of First Church have signed up to walk on May 3. We need more walkers. If you cannot walk the short or long routes around Lake Artemesia, please sponsor a walker. See the names of our walkers on the Wall of Honor near the office main door.

On May 3, walkers please bring a can or box of food, to the starting point (parking lot of Wells Ice Rink/Linson Pool) across from 94<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron on Paint Branch Parkway. This will go to one of Help by Phone's seven food pantries in Prince George's County. Help by Phone will receive 25% of funds earned on May 3. Please bring your tear sheet from your registration envelope in order to be counted and registered. Look for the Doyles to give those in. If your sponsors' money is all collected, you can turn in all on May 3. Tax deductible checks should be made out only to CWS/CROP. Please turn in all envelopes and monies to the Doyles before May 31. Many thanks to you walkers and sponsors.

**Bob & Lyn Doyle  
CROP Recruiters  
Mission Team**

**Confirmation 2009**

On Pentecost Sunday, May 31, eight of our youth will be publicly professing their faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and be confirmed into the membership of First United Methodist Church. We will have one worship service at 10 a.m. that day. The worship service will be designed and led by our confirmands. After the worship service, the entire congregation will join the confirmands, their families and invited guests for a picnic outside to celebrate God's work in our students' lives. On Pentecost, worship will be preceded by a communion service at 9 a.m. in the chapel, and Sunday School for all ages, also at 9 a.m.

Since the end of February, our confirmands have been meeting every other Saturday with Pastor Joan and Pastor Michael to learn Biblical truth, the basic truths of Christianity embodied in the Apostles' Creed, and the history and practices of our own United Methodist Church. They are spending time each day in Bible reading and prayer, and blogging about their Bible reading and the questions it raises for them. They are also attending Sunday Morning Live youth Sunday School in the Transfiguration Room off Ensor hall and worship each Sunday. You have seen them leading our congregation in worship throughout the spring. Always excellent worship leaders, their contributions to the Holy Week services were particularly notable. They participated as a group in the March 28 Un-random Acts of Kindness outreach project, and will be hitting the streets again the day before they are confirmed to share Jesus' love. Also as a group they will be participating in the CROP Walk on May 3. They are internalizing our Wesleyan way, that love for God leads us to love and neighbors and reach out to them in Jesus' name.

Each confirmand is receiving printed invitations to give to family and friends for the confirmation service. This enables them to offer a witness to their faith in Christ even as they are being confirmed in it.

The 2009 Confirmation Class of First United Methodist Church is:  
Hunter Carter-Rimbach, son of Pastors Joan and David Carter-Rimbach,  
Janjay Davis, daughter of Marjuwen Davis,  
Victor Eke, son of Grace and William Eke,  
Desmond Lewis, son of Kadijatu & Desmond Lewis,  
Brittany Somuah, daughter of Patience & Sam Somuah,  
Natasha Teckham, daughter of Leticia Teckham,  
Osita Unamba, son of Kate & Osita Unamba,  
Edward Weller, son of James Weller.

Please speak a word of encouragement to our confirmands when you see them around church, and support them with your CROP Walk pledges, your prayers and your presence on May 31.



## What's the Buzz

Somehow I managed to end up in two separate groups within the church that have a covenant... both of which require me to engage in an on-going spiritual study. I'm sure I'm supposed to do this with bubbly excitement, but I seem to be quite a grudging disciple. I'd rather sleep late on Saturday morning. But here I am again... trying to be a good sport... trying to meet the "requirements" of these covenants. So, I am studying the book of Mark as offered by Disciple U. And against all odds, I have found this study to be very helpful in showing me how to grapple with some of my deeper questions and doubts.

As usually happens when you take a step in discipleship and commit to something you really might not want to do... you may find answers to questions you didn't even know you had. This is why John Wesley was so "methodical" about his discipleship. He knew that the discipleship journey was not a walk in the park sprinkled with bluebells. It takes perseverance. Sometimes your faith journey takes a detour and you might lose your way altogether. This has happened to me more than once. I thought being a Christian would be simpler and easier as I got older, but it doesn't seem to be. And I thought by now I would have a lot more inner peace because the answers would all have been solidified for me, but that doesn't seem to be the case either.

Still, I believe that even if you get lost, you don't have to stay lost. And I believe John Wesley's personal example has helped me try to find my way back to the right path. He instructs us that in good times and bad, it is vital that we not shut ourselves off, but continue to open ourselves up to God's grace through the disciplines of Bible study, public and private worship and engaging in acts of compassion and justice. I've been practicing this for a few months now – and things still aren't all that clear. But I see his directives as a guide... encouraging me to put one foot in front of the other and keep looking up ahead until I see something that reminds me I'm not lost anymore.

Jan Miles

## Ushers Needed

Ushers are needed to serve at either of the Sunday morning services. If you feel called to this ministry of hospitality,

please contact the church office, 301-927-6133.

## Clothing Wanted

Have you done your spring cleaning? Do you have clothes that are new or slightly worn and wondering what to do now? How about bringing it to the church and helping our brothers & sisters in Christ who are less fortunate? What better way to serve the Lord than to help those who are in need.

My brothers & sisters we are calling on you for new or used clothing for the homeless. First United wants to help our community and we need your help.

If you have any clothing items that you would like to donate can you please bring it to the church. We all love the feeling of buying new clothes from the store, so if possible can we please have them washed and folded, so they are like brand new when we take them to our brothers and sisters in the shelters and streets of DC? (But if you are unable to wash and fold them, please still bring them as they are, and we will wash and fold them.)

And while we are giving out clothes why not also spread the word of God? Let's spread the good news to those who may not be able to make it to church to hear it, or have no means to buy a Bible. So do you have a Bible, new or used, that you would love to donate? Please bring those to the church so we can spread the word to our brothers and sisters.

Thanks in advance for all your donations as we serve the Lord by being servant to others.

## From the Desk of the Administrative Assistant

First Church provides valuable resources for many in our community, church members as well as visitors, and integral to serving all those who call and visit the Church Office is the corps of Front Desk Volunteers. These ladies and gentlemen graciously share their time (four hours a week each; shifts are Mondays - Fridays 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. or 1 - 5 p.m.) to answer the phones, monitor the doors, and assist with office duties. This experience gives volunteers a deeper appreciation of the depth and outreach of the First Church ministry. We are always looking for more volunteers to "deepen our bench," so if you would like to serve as a Front Desk Volunteer, please contact me, 301-927-6133 ext. 14 or ckampia@fumchy.org. You may also contact church member Elinore Sharp, 301-572-7223.

Many thanks go out to the following front desk helpers who volunteer time on a weekly basis: Sandy Davis, Kathryn Cook, Doris Smith, Denise Williams, Ellen Cort, Susan Osifade, Elinore Sharp, Mickey Gee, Alma Sullivan, Judy Merrill, and Pamela Miller. Thanks, too, to the following substitutes: Barbara Carter,

Joanne Corbin, Lazarus Middleton, and Adam Williams.

Charlotte Kampia

## Women's History Month

The Women's History Month embraced the theme - Women Leading the Way to Save Our Planet - during the month of March. A team of women helped to plan events which made our congregation more conscious of the importance of honoring God's creation and the planet we all call home. Other events including fellowship and films, *The Day After Tomorrow*, reminding us about the threat of global warming, and *Fireproof*, which shared the truth about the love of Jesus that never fails.

Between services, the chapel served as a gathering place for prayer, and learning to give the stress in our lives a needed rest. On a Saturday afternoon, single women viewed the film, *SoulMate*. The group discussion reflected affirmations of being Christian, satisfied and Holy Spirit empowered. Shout outs to Sister Arlethia Scott for sharing her powerful and original poetry, and our liturgical dance team for their ministry in movement. There are some remaining *SoulMate* DVDs available for sale. The price is \$10. Contact the church office.

The Women's History Month Team is looking forward to recognizing the spirit of servant leadership at FUMCHY. Please nominate someone you believe actively lives a life of servant leadership in our church and community. Information on that person can be left in the student pastors' mailbox located in the church office by Sunday, June 7, 2009.

Denise Ryles-McKoy

## Senior Ministry



We will gather at 11:45 a.m. on May 13 (**Note the change in date and time for the May Luncheon**) to hear a performance from The New Dimension Singers, "Jukebox Jamboree". This is always a great concert and all are invited. The lunch will be lasagna, salad and a special dessert. Please sign up on the info stub and join us for a fun afternoon.

In June we will have a picnic and in July we will try to take the boat trip at the Bladensburg Marina that was rained out in April. Watch for details on these and other luncheon.

## Thanks Box

Dear First Church family, thank you so much for your prayers, cards, visits and other acts of kindness during my mother's (Frances Allen) illness and after her passing. Please continue to keep my family in prayer. **Sincerely, Camille Adebayo and family**

Thanks to the generous persons who donated items for the Easter Basket Project. These items went to the Walter Reed amputee ward for the soldiers and their visiting families. There were so many Easter Baskets created that some were also given to Independence Court Assisted Living Facility on Queens Chapel Road near First Church. **Missions Team**

Thanks to the donors of the Souper Bowl Sunday collection, First Church sent #360 for a much needed welding machine for Africa University. Our missionaries there, Jane & Larry Kies and two of their children are well and safe at Africa University now, but see much deprivation around them. Please continue to pray for Zimbabweans. **Missions Team**

## Help Needed for Blind Child in Zimbabwe

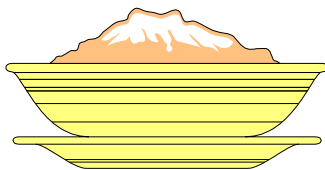
Former missionaries, Drs. Rosalie & Morgan Johnson have brought to the attention of First Church's Mission Team the plight of a young blind girl named Laura. She is the 10 year old daughter of a friend of the Johnson's in Harare, Zimbabwe. Laura Muzambi was not born blind, but lacked the preventive medicine which led to her blindness, a situation all too common in developing nations. Laura's mother has asked help from us and other like the Lions Club, for a used manual Braille machine, so that Laura can continue her education. Laura also needs a cane for the blind, but the Johnsons have offered to purchase that, though if you have access to one, please let us know.

On the internet, Morgan Johnson has found a used manual Braille-writer machine for around \$360. The Missions Team is looking for sponsors/donors to help purchase this kind of machine. If you can help towards the purchase, please talk to the Johnsons, 1-703-421-2244, or the Doyles, 301-441-2585.

You can write a check to First Church earmarked "Braille machine for Laura." If we get the funds and the Braille machine, it can be shipped inside the sea container of college texts and classic books needed and being organized by J.

D. Williams, hopefully to be sent by late summer. (see article on this page.)

**Missions Team**



## Help-by-Phone

Help by Phone is a ministry to people in need in Prince George's County. There are a number of food pantries throughout the county where people can come to get help. Churches and other organizations help to stock these pantries.

During May & June we ask that you choose from this list: baby foods, beef stew, cocoa, coffee, cold cereals, dry milk, fruit, grits, "jello," jelly, macaroni & cheese, oatmeal, pancake mix, pancake syrup, pasta, peanut butter, pork & beans, pudding, rice, spaghetti, tea, tuna, vegetables.

All foods must be canned or dried and in sealed containers to meet health department requirements. They should be brought to the church and placed in the Help by Phone box.

## Africa University Book Project

**WILL YOU HELP???** The Project August 2009 is still in need of your books and help for the library shelves at Africa University at Mutare, Zimbabwe. The Missions Ministry Team is working hard to fill the Cargo Container with 10,000 books to help the missionary efforts in Africa.

The greatest need is for text books for the students in the areas of college level, at least advanced level of high school, in Theology, Education, Agriculture and Natural Resources, Management and Administration, Humanities and Social sciences, Health Sciences, Peace, Leadership and Governance. Also, books of the "classics," the "Arts" or the "tried and true" books that provide world history in any other cultures are needed. The text books should be no older than 10 years, while all the other books can be any age and or condition.

Africa University is in need of resource books and we can help. If you know somebody who works or knows someone in a college, school, business (book store), library or church that could help, please direct them to us in the mission ministry. We will follow through to get the books and or donation to support the project. We need cardboard boxes to hold the books. We can go get the books from the people or places where they are located. Of course the books can be brought to our church or my office at 6309 Baltimore Ave, Riverdale (about six blocks from the church) as the Cargo

Container is located in the parking lot. I will pack and sort the books to go to Africa University. Thank you so very much,

**Peace and love,**

**J D Williams, 301-779-5050.**

## Shalom School Celebration Friday, June 12, 2009

Shalom School is already getting ready for our end of the school year Gala presentation.

On Friday, June 12, 2009, we will culminate a year of intense learning. Each class will offer performances and every student will have the chance to show off their considerable talents. The show starts at 6 p.m. sharp in fellowship hall and will be followed by food and fellowship. Everyone is welcome.

On May 9, 2009, Nkenge Cunningham will lead her Step Team in the annual Hyattsville Day Parade. Shalom School brought home a trophy last year and we are looking forward to doing it again this year. Come and help us cheer the children to victory.

Our last day of classes is Wednesday, June 17, 2009. We re-open August 24, 2009. We encourage you to tell your friends and neighbors that Shalom is here for open registration throughout the summer. We are opening our program up to kindergarteners and are continuing to accept children first through sixth grade. We offer families the complete enrichment that comes only from knowing that your child is happy and growing in knowledge and positive experience. The arts are such a glorious way to praise the Creation and children instinctively awaken to this. God is evident in the refined self expression that Shalom children will have for life, thanks to the incredible hospitality of First United Methodist Church.

**Susan Halperin**

**Director, Shalom School**

## Suds for Church Fundraising Program

We invite all of the First Church family to participate in a fundraiser. So gather your washable clothes, linens, comforters and sneakers that need washing and head off to 24-Hour Speedwash Laundromat at 7800 Annapolis Rd., Lanham, MD. The Laundromat is owned by church members and they have pledged 10% of all amounts spent by First Church family members in 2009 to the church. Ask the attendants at the store for the "Church Form" and fill in the amount spent or get the attendant to help complete the form.

You can choose 1) self service (where you choose from a variety of washers and dryers) for your laundry needs, or 2) full service and do your laundry in four minutes (two minutes to drop off and two minutes to pick up) - this is a professional wash, dry, fold service.

Remember, we are running this fundraiser throughout 2009, so if you use a Laundromat for washing and drying, use Speedwash and help raise funds for First Church. For more information about Speedwash Laundromat, visit the website [www.4minutelaundry.com](http://www.4minutelaundry.com) or call 240-472-5030.

## *The Caller*

**First United Methodist Church  
6201 Belcrest Road  
Hyattsville, Maryland 20782-2913**

Address Service Requested

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Permit No. 57**



**\*\*\*Baptisms:** Taylor Alanna Hayes, daughter of Desmond & Tinisha Hayes, on April 5, 2009; Ricarda Robert Mangecha, daughter of Robert & Angela Mangecha, on April 15, 2009; Samuel T. Abiara, son of Abraham & Margaret (Omowaiye) Abiara; Eliza Lillian Blake, daughter of Elias & Nina Blake; Rochelle, Raquel & Richard Kollie, children of Richard & Comfort Kollie; Ivan Olufemi Lawal, son of Adedamola & Nadia Lawal; and Samuel Leo Massaquoi, son of Prince Massaquoi & Elizabeth Harding on April 19, 2009.

**\*\*\*New Members:** Joining on March 22 were Holly Burns and Yulanda Swindell

**\*\*\*Deaths:** Marisa Godwin, Marion Metka, Ruth West

### *United Methodist Men Sponsor Men's Health Fair*

On Saturday, June 20 the United Methodist Men of First Church will be sponsoring a Health Fair as part of Men's Health Week. Details had not been finalized at Caller deadline so watch the bulletin for more information.

## *Child Care Update*



Registration for our Summer Program began on April 13 for our current students and their siblings, who will be entering Kindergarten (five years old by 9/01/09) through seventh grade, next Fall. The summer registration opened to the general public on April 20. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Our Summer Program will begin on June 22 and ends on August 14.

We have two school age classes in the summer, one for children entering kindergarten through first/second grade and the other for children entering second/third grade through seventh grade this fall. The younger class is limited to 17 children weekly and the older class is limited to 15 children weekly. Registration is weekly, so you only sign up for the weeks you know your child will attend. Each week has a different theme and we will go on several field trips during the summer. Some will go along with the weekly theme, and others will be just for fun!! The registration fee for the summer program is \$25 (\$15 for FUMC members) and there is a deposit of \$115

toward the last week your child is registered for the summer. The weekly fee for this age group is \$115. Some of the field trips may have an additional fee. Please tell your friends about us!

Our Four Year Old Graduation Program will be held on Thursday, June 18. Each class will perform and the fours will wear miniature caps and gowns. We would love to have you join us for this exciting evening!!

Enjoy the beautiful flowers and green grass which God has sent our way!

**Tamara Travers, Director**



**Yard Sales Have Started  
Third & Fourth Saturdays  
Through October**