

*Learn Great Things About God — Do Great Things With God*

## **Towson United Methodist Church**

Newsletter ♦ September 2014 ♦ Volume 55, Issue

# High Spire September



### SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

---

- Sept 6**    **Teacher training**  
**Chancel Choir retreat, p. 9**
- Sept 7**    **Ministry Celebration Sunday**  
**One service at 10:00**  
**Mission Offering for Earl's Place, p. 6**  
**Middle School Mixer, p. 8**
- Sept 9**    **Carol Choir/Genesis Bells begin, p. 9**  
**Duckpin Bowling League starts, p. 7**
- Sept 10**   **Tower Chimes/Chancel Choir begin, p. 9**
- Sept 12**   **Mini ROCK here at TUMC, p. 8**
- Sept. 14**   **Fall Worship Schedule begins:**  
**TWO worship services at 9:00 & 11:00**  
**Sunday school at 10:00, p. 5 & 8**  
**Confirmation class begins, p. 8**  
**Celebration Ringers/Alleluia Singers, p. 9**  
**Youth Fellowship in the evening, p. 8**
- Sept 16**   **UM Women's Church Day, p. 7**
- Sept 20**   **Blood Drive — sign up now, p. 6**
- Sept 27**   **Emergency Food Pantry, p. 6**
- Sept 28**   **Joyful Noise choir begins, p. 9**

## **Ministry Celebration Sunday**

**September 7, 2014 — begins at 10:00a in the Sanctuary**

Following the worship service, go to Fellowship Hall and

### **JOIN THE FAMILY TREE**

(Ephesians 3: 17-19)

Learn about the different ministries available at TUMC  
for you and your family.

Sign up for choirs, Sunday school classes, and Bible studies.

Have lunch while you chat and learn.



**Thank you for all the items you donated during Vacation Bible Camp this summer:**

For the MD-SPCA on Falls Road in Baltimore, we collected 100 lbs of food for cats and 100

lbs of food for dogs and a couple of bags of toys. The MD SPCA and all the animals there thank you.

*We would like to thank the Vacation Bible Camp for filling 35 Christmas Shoeboxes. These shoeboxes will brighten the day for 35 less fortunate youth in impoverished lands and show God's love for them. They may encourage them to seek and accept a Christian faith.*

*Thank you—John & Nancy Ross*

Our Emergency Food Pantry received 395 boxes and cans of food that will be really appreciated by the families who come to our Food Pantry August 30. Thank you!

*I delivered 4 large bags of Soldier patient items yesterday to Walter Reed. Kudos to the VBC Staff and the children for collecting a superb amount of donations!!!.....Our next Mission project for WRNMMC will be in September.*  
*Best, Vernon Sevier*

Saving Change - 80 pounds in coins collected = \$691.00 for No More Malaria.

*Wanted to send you these pictures from our travels in Zimbabwe. This village in Hwange, Zimbabwe was an extended family with a quarter inch pipe water supply. The huts are of mud and dung, immaculately cared for. Each couple over 18 had their own sleeping hut while the entire community shared a kitchen hut. Distribution of the netting and its use has reduced the incidence of malaria by 85% in Zimbabwe.*

*When we saw the netting in use we knew we wanted to encourage the scope of the program.*

*Blessings, Dave and Kathy King*



*Many thanks to everyone for all the prayers and cards sent during my illness. Also, thanks to Pastors Rod and Margery for all their encouragement. They meant more than you know. — Cynthia Anderson*

Dear TUMC,

*Thank you for being so supportive with your cards, prayers, and best wishes after the passing of our mother and the very difficult times that we are currently experiencing dealing with Ginny's health issues. TUMC is a very special congregation and that has been demonstrated with your recent outpouring of love. A special thank you to Rev. Rod for his visits and the very special 'hymn' during our mother's service.*

*Thank you, Ken Fisher, Ginny, Larry, and Brian Fischer*

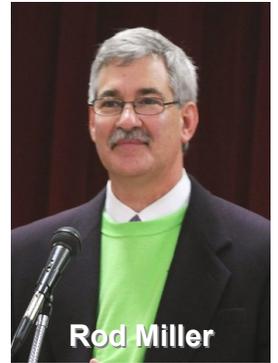


*The 3rd week of July (right before VBC) Emily Cummings, Colin Knabe, Henry Sleeman, Connor Engel, Ericalyn Killip, Will Bothwell, Caitlyn Canonico, Margot Gerding, Matt Milford, and Cathy Anderson worked with Baltimore County Christian Workcamp and built a 55' ramp with a new deck for a couple in Bowley's Quarters. Top left is the house before we started. The wife uses a walker and needed to be able to walk from her house to her car without steps. She was afraid to walk outside and has been housebound since May. Pictured clockwise, the team unloading crush & run, having lunch with the homeowner, digging out a huge root that was in the way, and the last 3 pictures are the finished deck & ramp; since, the missus went out on a date with her husband! Good job, team!!*



## Pastor's Letter

# Growing Forward



Our *Growing Forward* capital journey is moving into high gear this month. You may be asking how *Growing Forward* came to be. Discussion about initiating a capital journey began 18-months ago when a task force appointed by the Church Council began meeting to research the various building-related needs which have come about in recent years and to make a determination about how to address these needs. Their recommendation was made in June 2013 to an open meeting of the Charge Conference, which is empowered to make major decisions for the church. The task force recommended that the church move to address the building related needs comprehensively by means of a capital journey. Their recommendation received unanimous support.

*Growing Forward* is meant to address the following needs: steeple—repair and refurbishing; sanctuary windows—replace and seal; parking lot—repave; exterior painting—scrape and paint; kitchen stoves—replace; and sanctuary attic insulation—install.

These are all visible needs which will enhance the protection, appearance, and safety of our property. Addressing these needs is a stewardship issue. Biblical stewards are caretakers of what is ultimately owned by God. Our church building and grounds are precious gifts which have been passed to us and which require care and attention today. As stewards of our beautiful church, it is incumbent upon us to do what is needed to preserve what we have received.

It is noteworthy that *Growing Forward* is not only about taking a hold of our responsibility to maintain what we have been given by God and by our ancestors in the faith at TUMC. Our capital journey is unique because it is offered first as a journey of prayer for individuals and families and for the church as a whole. Prayer opens us up to God's will for us and for our church and invites us to go with God's leading. Our church's mission — to plant seeds of Christian faith — is woven in and through everything we are doing related to *Growing Forward*. We are talking about our church as a great oak tree, which will benefit from some focused attention both physically (the church building) and spiritually (our hearts). Oak trees are ultimately about making more oak trees by means of the acorns they disperse all around them.

Our vision is that our oak tree church will make more acorns by living our faith with those around us. Each us is a seed, an acorn, which, when planted in the lives of others, can grow and bear fruit. *Growing Forward* provides an opportunity to pray, reflect, and commit to what we believe God is personally asking of us. Sacrificial giving is part of what is in front of us. Giving ourselves to God so that we can grow forward as God's people in our everyday lives is the potential for each one of us.

I encourage you to take the time to really engage in prayer and discussion about your response financially and even more to your response to what God is asking of you in the way you live your life. The building needs our financial gifts. God needs our hearts. *Growing Forward* will be a success when we commit to both.

In Christ,  
Rod

A few weeks ago, you received an FAQ brochure with some information about this year's *Growing Forward* capital and stewardship campaigns. Packets with more information are being distributed following each worship service on August 17, 24, and 31. All of the packets will be identical, so you only need to pick up one packet on one of those days.

A pick-up slip, on which you will write your family's name, will be included in every bulletin each of those Sundays. Distribution team members will be stationed at various exits from the sanctuary to receive your slip and give you a packet.

We are counting on you to fill out *one pick-up slip per family* and to share the information in the packet with everyone in your home.

Thank you very much.

# THE PRAYER NOOK

MATTHEW 6: 7-15

*And in praying do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. Pray then like this:*

*Our Father who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Give us this day our daily bread;  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors;  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.*

*For if you forgive men their trespasses,  
your heavenly Father also will forgive you;  
but if you do not forgive men their trespasses,  
neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.*

## **BEARERS OF CHRIST'S LIGHT**

You are invited to come and participate in our gathering for contemplative prayer which we are calling **Attentional Prayer** every Tuesday night at 6:00 PM in the chapel.

**UPPER ROOM** devotionals are available in regular and large print. You can find them on the credenza under the pictures of the church's stained glass windows in the main lobby.

## **Aurora's Prayer Rose Garden**

Aurora's Prayer Rose Garden is located on the west side of the church, facing the afternoon sun. A perfect place to gather your thoughts, read, write something in your journal, or take pictures.

**<http://towsonprays.blogspot.com>**

**Prayers and thoughts written by friends at church!**

Make this a "favorite" and join us in prayer.

## **Would You Like Individual Prayer Sunday Mornings?**

Meet a member of the congregation in the back corner of the sanctuary after worship Sunday morning if you would like someone to be in prayer with you.



## **Blessing of the Pets**

Save the Date!  
**Sunday October 12, 4:30pm**  
on the front lawn  
of the church.



## **HYMN OF THE OCEAN**

O broad, mighty ocean, what songs do you sing  
To worship our Savior, the King of all kings,  
Do your swift-rushing waves and your thunderous  
roar  
Echo songs of rejoicing from Heaven's bright shore?

O wide, dazzling ocean, illumined so bright,  
Do you reflect back the radiance of the Son's  
awesome light?  
Has He fired your vast surface and set it ablaze  
With the liquid gold glory of His unending grace?

O deep, wondrous ocean 'neath the heavens above,  
Do you give us a foretaste of our Savior's great love?  
For you're there to remind us, from your depths to  
your swells--  
That God's love for His children is far greater still.

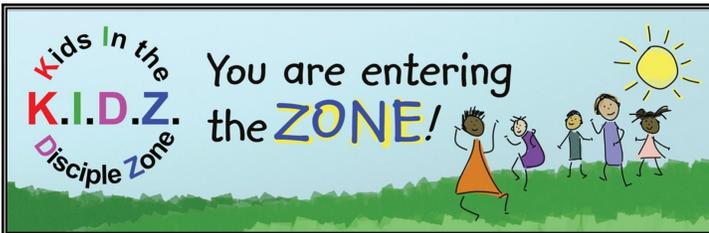
O beautiful ocean, as your waves lap the shore,  
Do you join with creation to worship the Lord?  
Do you sing of His glory with your great swelling  
flood,  
Of the One who redeemed us through His pure, holy  
blood?

O majestic, vast ocean, as your white breakers roll,  
You join to praise Jesus, who pardoned my soul!  
Let your hymn of rejoicing to eternity blend  
Till I'm drowned in God's ocean of love without end.

July 9, 2014--Ocean City, Maryland. This poem will be included in my upcoming fifth book, to be published later this year. (c) Joyce Keedy, 2014

## **Birth Announcement**

Mike & Kaitlin Hamilton Chidester  
Announce the birth of their baby girl, Emma Alice  
Born June 18, 2014  
Weighing 8 pounds, 4 ounces  
Mike, Kaitlin, & Emma  
now live in upstate New York.  
**CONGRATULATIONS!**



September is a **GETTING READY** month whether we are children, youth, adults, parents, friends, or grandparents. We all are part of the fall getting ready activities.

During VBC this summer, our main Bible verse for the week was **You are the God who works wonders.** Psalm 77: 14a. As we think about our wonder words learned in VBC — **Imagine, Build, Grow, Work, and Walk** — how can we incorporate these words into our new fall beginnings. Let's let God work wonders in our lives, as we build and work together with God.

— Jeannine Neuen

**CHILDREN ...**

It is important that we study and learn so our minds will grow full with knowledge. Not only do we need to go to school, but we also need to come to church to learn and grow.

**We look forward to seeing all the children —**

A mailing has been sent out to all the children with a combined Registration Form & Medical Release Form for Education & Music. Please return your forms to the church office or bring with you to **MINISTRY CELEBRATION SUNDAY — September 7.** You may leave forms in the registration basket at either the Children's Ministries table or Music table. If you did not receive the information in the mail, we will have copies of the forms available for you on September 7.

**What do the children study during their Sunday school time together?**

The children's classes — age twos through fifth grade are using a United Methodist curriculum called **GROW, PROCLAIM, AND SERVE.** This is a Bible study. During the Fall Quarter 2014, the children will focus on: in the beginning stories (Creation, Noah), beginning of God's people (Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, and Esau), and hope for God's People (Joseph & his family). The children will hear the Bible story, apply the Bible message, and hear ways to learn to live out the message in their lives. They will learn through games, crafts, and other media the stories that are so important to their faith journey.

**Attention THIRD GRADERS —**

You will be receiving your Bible from the church on **October 19 at the 9:00a Worship Service.** Please mark your calendar. There will be a reminder letter coming to you and your family later in September.

**Mark your calendars...**

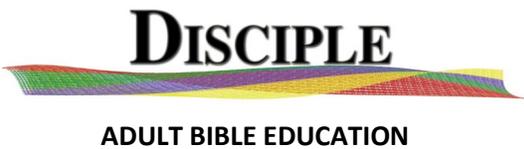
The fall schedule **BEGINS September 14**

- 9:00a Children & Worship begins (ages 4-6)
- 9:30a K.I.D.Z. "Kids in the Disciple Zone" (ages 7-11). Children begin in worship and are excused to K.I.D.Z.
- 10:00a Graded Sunday School for everyone over the age of 2
- 11:00a One Room Sunday School (ages 4-11)

**October 19**

- 9:00a Worship Service — Children's Sabbath Third Graders receive their Bibles

Classes begin in early Fall.



In the Old Testament Prophets and the Letters of Paul, this 32-week study examines the connection between memory and identity as the people of God. Participants will find common themes, including calls to remember, calls to repent, calls for renewal, and calls for community.

Disciple III (above), please contact Joyce Keedy at 410-823-2761 or vlpkeedy@verizon.net for this daytime class.

Disciple IV (below), please contact Dr. Fred Cowan at 410-663-5498 or fredphyl@comcast.net for this evening class.

**The Foundational Overview.**  
This first Disciple Bible study serves as the basis for all other studies in the Disciple family that follow. Over the course of 34 weeks, Disciple covers the entire Bible (Old and New Testaments), following the biblical story from Creation to the New Jerusalem.

The phrase "under the tree of life" conveys the promise of finding shelter, security, and rest in God's love. In this 32-week study of the Old Testament Writings, the Gospel of John, the Epistles of John, James, Jude, and finally, Revelation, participants will see the entire process of living toward final completion of rest and reward.

Please contact Earl Smith at j\_earl\_smith@verizon.net or call 410-377-6386 or contact Dave Turlington at 410-667-1491 or dturlington@verizon.net to sign up for Disciple I as an evening class.

# Missions & Outreach

## SEPTEMBER COMMUNION / MISSION OFFERING

### **EARL'S PLACE**

**We are collecting Sunday, September 7**

**AND — throughout the month of September**

Last summer, I had the pleasure of telling you about Earl's Place, a transitional housing project located in Baltimore assisting homeless men. With God's grace, I have even more news to share with you this year.

Just within this year, our residents have accomplished so much... eight men moved into permanent housing, three men received scholarships to continue their educations, one who recently moved out, graduated from BCCC and enrolled at UMBC, two reunited with families after more than 10 years without contact, and so many more stories of change and second chances.

We, at United Ministries, have also come to realize one of our dreams within this last year...we are able to add additional programming for homeless men. This spring, we will be opening Prospect Place. Prospect Place is located in Baltimore County on Philadelphia Road and will be a permanent home for 12 homeless men who, sadly, are currently living in a Baltimore County homeless shelter. Each man will have his own efficiency apartment and access to on-site supportive services (medical, emotional, financial) and the stability that your own home offers.

We thank all of the congregants at TUMC for their continued support; you are helping change lives forever. We would love to have you visit us at Earl's Place or Prospect Place (as construction ensues) to see first-hand all of the great work which your generosity has enabled.

—Casey Schurman, TUMC youth group alumni

**Communion/Mission Offering checks in September** need to be made payable to "Towson United Methodist Church" and on the memo line indicate "Earl's Place." Bring to church and place in the offering plate or mail to our church's Business Office.

## **OUR EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY**

Our EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY is open ONCE a month assisting the Baltimore County community.

We are open the last SATURDAY of the month from 9:00 - 10:30 AM in Fellowship Hall.

### **SEPTEMBER 27**

Here is the **list of packaged & canned food** needed. Bring your Food Pantry contributions to the church lobby and place in one of the marked Sharing Bins.

- \*Cereal (Raisin Bran, Cheerios, Corn Flakes)
- \*Chunky Soups
- \*Canned Chili
- \*Baked Beans
- \* Peanut Butter
- \*Spaghetti Noodles
- \*Canned Spaghetti Sauce (no glass, pls.)
- \*Canned Tuna
- \*Canned Beef Stew
- \*4-pk Pudding



## **VEHICLES FOR CHANGE**

***Changing lives with donated cars.***

This is a non-profit organization that refurbishes and provides donated vehicles to low-wage families for employment purposes. VFC exists so worthy families can achieve financial and personal independence that comes from owning a vehicle. VFC changes lives in Maryland, Washington DC, and Virginia; awarding vehicles since 1999.

**[www.vehiclesforchange.org](http://www.vehiclesforchange.org)** — 800-835-3821  
or contact Fred Crider at [dfcrider@comcast.net](mailto:dfcrider@comcast.net)



## **Save the Date! — September 20**

Our next Towson UMC Community Blood Drive will be held on **Saturday, Sept. 20, 2014 between 6:30am and 12noon** in Fellowship Hall.

Anyone older than 16 years of age may be eligible to donate.

Check the church website for more information

or for medical or travel eligibility questions call the ARC at 1-866-236-3276.

**Regular Donors Remember...** You must wait 56 days between donations of whole blood. So if you are a regular donor and have not donated since July 26<sup>th</sup> you are eligible to donate! For more information or to schedule your life-saving donation call Margot at 410-825-9593 or email [TUMCBloodDrive@gmail.com](mailto:TUMCBloodDrive@gmail.com)

# More News Under the Spire



## **"FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO"**

On August 10, the movie "For the Bible Tells Me So," which examines issues relating to the condemnation and acceptance of LGBT persons by their families and faith communities, was shown to interested members of the congregation. A number of members who were unable to attend the screening of the film have requested that we schedule an additional showing.



Please contact Kevin Gralley at [kevin.gralley@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.gralley@gmail.com) if you are interested in seeing this film so that we can determine the best time to accommodate the most people.

## **WHAT COLOR'S GOD'S SKIN**

We are all God's children  
With only one god.  
He's the color of every race.  
You will see it,  
When you look upon His face.

We're not just Italian, Russian,  
Red, yellow, white and black—  
We're all God's children  
And that's just a fact!

Break the violent circle  
Of pigment and racial hate—  
For the earth's the home of everyone,  
A place to celebrate.

The things that separate us,  
Our race and our creeds—  
Will that really matter,  
When we're dead in our deeds?

When we're dead in our graves  
And our flesh is all gone,  
Will color and race matter,  
When it's all said and done?

So look upon your Maker—  
There's love in His face!  
There lies the answer—the rainbow  
For the whole human race!



© Gini Chapman Pielke, 1999. Reprinted with permission.

## **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD—SHOE BOX GIFT'S**

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through simple, gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's love through Jesus Christ.

**We will be DISTRIBUTING EMPTY Christmas Shoe Boxes the last two Sundays in OCTOBER and COLLECTING YOUR FILLED Christmas Shoe Boxes the first two weeks of November.** Be thinking about what you would like to give a boy or girl, ages 2-4, 5-9, 10-14 years old. Items you can put in a shoe box are small school supplies, toys, hygiene items, hard candy, T-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hairclips, or toy jewelry. **NO** used or damaged items, please.

For more information, go to [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org).

---

## **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN Church Day Luncheon Tuesday, September 16, 2014 10:30 AM in Fellowship Hall**

We are delighted to welcome Jeannine Neuen, Director of Christian Education here at Towson Church, as our speaker for the September UMW Church Day. Jeannine is looking forward to sharing with us the latest news from our educational ministries. She will also address any questions you may have about her responsibilities. Here is a sampling of some questions:

- How did the concept of "Design Teams" for the women's retreat and Vacation Bible Camp originate?
- How does the church go about choosing curriculum for various programs?
- How do we go about communicating to the congregation and the community concerning educational programs we have to offer at TUMC?
- What is Jeannine dreaming now? Children's Sabbath? Or next year's women's retreat?

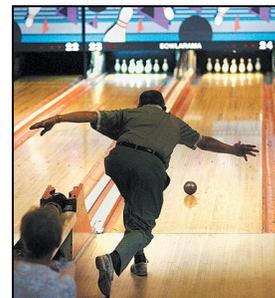
Don't miss her time with us! Those planning to stay for lunch must make a reservation by sending \$8.00 (checks made payable to TUMWomen) to: Dee Matson, 8810 Walther Blvd, Apt. 3601, Parkville, MD 21234.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

---

## **DUCK PIN BOWLING**

Bowling is back! Multi-church league meets in Towson TUESDAYS at 7:00p beginning September 9. Would love to have on our team! Contact Ginny Foster at [virginiafoster@comcast.net](mailto:virginiafoster@comcast.net).





**Summer is over! It is time for a new year to begin.**

Sunday School begins on September 14th. Our middle school class will be continuing with our *CONNECT* curriculum that we started last year. Year two of the curriculum covers the whole of the New Testament. Our High School class will be going through the book titled *BANNED QUESTIONS ABOUT JESUS*.



**Matt Milford**  
Youth Director

Youth Group is also beginning on September 14th. This year for Youth Group we are doing things a little differently. We are beginning a small group ministry. We have 4 small groups (middle school guys/middle school girls/high school guys/high school girls). Each group has their own small group leader. Our leaders will be Jack Chamberlain, Karen Morris and Allie Corson, Earl Smith, and Michelle Buzzelli (respectively). This new program is in addition to worship and fellowship times that we all know and enjoy.

Come get involved in another great year!

**What to Look forward to:**

**Every Sunday @10am** Sunday School  
Middle School meets in room 216  
High School meets in room 317

**Every Sunday @6pm-8pm**  
Youth Group meeting in the fellowship hall

**Sunday September 7th:** Middle School Mixer  
(all 6th, 7th, and 8th graders welcome)

**Friday September 12th:** Mini ROCK at TUMC @7pm  
(all ages are welcome)

---

**CONFIRMATION:** Any youth in 8<sup>th</sup> grade or older is welcome to be part of our Confirmation class. We will meet every Sunday morning 10-10:45 in the Fellowship Hall beginning September 14<sup>th</sup>. We will go on field trips and have a Lock-In. For information or to register, please contact Rev. Margery Schammel at 410-823-2485 or [mschammel@towsonumc.org](mailto:mschammel@towsonumc.org).

**One Night ROCK**

with  
Preston Centuolo  
and

Urban Street Level  
at Towson UMC  
to benefit the rebuilding of  
Northwood Appold UMC

**Friday, Sept 12 @7:00PM**

Tickets \$20

To purchase tickets, go to

**[www.bwcumc.org](http://www.bwcumc.org)**

100% of all proceeds will go to

Northwood Appold UMC

which suffered a devastating fire last year!

Produced by Joyful Noise! Ministries, Inc. in cooperation with the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church

• • • • •

**Middle School Mixer**

Are you in middle school?  
Do you like having fun?  
Are you excited about  
Youth Group this year?

If you answered yes to any of these questions then come out to our Middle School Mixer on **September 7<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.**

Help us welcome our new incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders into our youth group with a night of fun and fellowship. We will be playing wild games and having a great time.

**Join us in the Fellowship Hall from 6pm-8pm!**

• • • • •

# Music Notes



**Rev. Doug Hollida**  
**Minister of Music**

Among all of the things starting up this time of year is our music program here at Towson UMC. It's time to think about singing and/or ringing your praises to the Lord. Below is a description of all the opportunities, both vocal and handbell choirs, followed by the starting dates. New members are always encouraged & welcome!

## VOCAL CHOIRS

**CHANCEL CHOIR - Adults** - Rehearses Wednesday evenings 7:30-9:00. Sings at the 11:00 o'clock service and special performances. Music reading is required.

**JOYFUL NOISE - All ages welcome!** - Rehearses & sings only on the 4th Sunday of the month. Rehearsal at 8:30 AM; sing during the 9:00 o'clock service. Come when you can.

**ALLELUIA SINGERS (6th - 12th graders)** - Rehearse Sunday evenings 5:00-6:00. Sing during the 9:00 o'clock service the 1st and 3rd Sundays each month.

**CAROL CHOIR (2nd - 5th graders)** - Rehearses Tuesday evenings 6:00-6:45. Sings during the 9:00 o'clock service the 2nd Sunday of the month.

**JOY SINGERS (4-year-olds – 1st graders)** (previously known as the Cherubs & Trebles) - Rehearsal time will be during Sunday morning's 9:00 Children and Worship in Room 314 beginning September 14. Sing occasionally at the 9:00a worship and at special performances.

## HANDBELL CHOIRS

**NOTE:** Please let me know ahead of your interest in the bell choirs so we can have a spot for you.

**GENESIS BELLS - For anyone who does or does not read music and has limited (to no) experience playing bells** - Rehearse Tuesday evenings 6:45-7:30. Play at selected times throughout the year.

**CELEBRATION RINGERS - For anyone who reads music and has some ringing experience** - Rehearse Sunday afternoons 4:00-5:00. Play occasionally at the 9:00 o'clock service and at special performances.

**TOWER CHIMES - Advanced ringers** – Rehearse Wednesday evenings 6:30-7:30. Play occasionally at the 11:00 o'clock service and at special performances.



## STARTING DATES

**September 9 – Carol Choir and Genesis Bells**

**September 10 – Tower Chimes and Chancel Choir**

(NOTE: Regular Wednesday rehearsals begin this date for the Chancel Choir but we will have an extended start-up practice/retreat time at the church on September 6, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Contact me ahead of time regarding lunch.)

**September 14 – Celebration Ringers and Alleluia Singers**

**September 28 – Joyful Noise**

**NOTE: All above rehearsals are in the Music Room (room 321) – 3<sup>rd</sup> floor near the main stairs.**

Choirs offer opportunities to become a deeper part of our fellowship, to engage in ministry, and to grow as a disciple. I hope you will prayerfully consider where God is calling you this September. And if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. —Peace and blessings, *Doug*

# PATHWAYS

The summer has zoomed by and plans for the start of PATHWAYS are under way. We will be contacting both students and tutors to see who is ready for another great year. We also will be visiting schools for back to school nights to meet families and let them know about our program. Once all the contacts and paper work are done, we will get down to business starting in October.

In the past few years we have developed a theme on which to reflect and to investigate during our time together. Two years ago it was poetry, last year, Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. The theme for 2014-15 will be Courage. I chose this as a result of hearing an interview with the great poet, author, and humanitarian, Maya Angelo, who was asked, "What is the single most important attribute to being successful in life?" She paused for quite a while and then said she believed it was "courage." I began to think about that and realized that so many famous and not so famous people have dug themselves out of poverty or difficult social, physical, or familial situations by making the choice to be courageous. That was the turning point in their lives and gave them the confidence to continue to plow ahead and do the impossible.

My hope is to share stories of a variety of people who have demonstrated this attribute in their lives.

**This is where YOU, the congregation of TUMC, come in.....**

**I am looking for stories to share with the students. Do you know someone personally or have you learned about someone over the years who you admire for their courage? If not, perhaps you have the time to investigate, ask a friend, or read about someone. Please let either myself or one of the PATHWAYS volunteers or board members know who you admire for their courage. Once you have shared their story, we will gather all the ideas and take it from there!**

My hope is that this topic will be a wonderful conversation starter around your dinner tables and you will be renewed with the thought that people of courage are numerous. Perhaps one of our students will hear a story to which they can relate and their lives will take a courageous turn as well.

Send stories to [StephanieKimmons@comcast.net](mailto:StephanieKimmons@comcast.net) or call me at 410-592-5442.

Keep us in your prayers as our program grows and changes to meet the needs of the students we serve.

—Stephanie Kimmons

## Financial Notes

Here is some helpful information from your Business Office! Do you know there are several different ways to send us your contributions? Here is the list of the different ways to send in your contributions:

**Cash or Check** placed in the offering plate during worship.

**Drop off Donation** in door slot of the main office attention Business Office.

**Mail check donations** by the US Postal service to Towson UMC attention Business Office

**Online Banking** you set up online checking with your bank. You control the frequency and amount sent. The bank sends a check to Towson UMC. Set up Towson UMC as a "vendor" and include your envelope number if you have one and name as "account number."

**Stock Transfer** Stocks and mutual funds transferred to Towson UMC broker. Details may be obtained from the business office.

**Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT's)** You supply checking account information to the Towson UMC Business Office. They will debit your checking account monthly between the 20<sup>th</sup> and the end of the month. The church incurs a fee for this transaction.

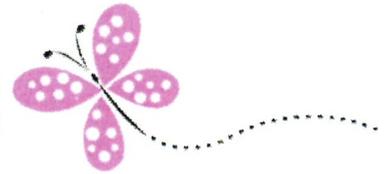
All contributions must be submitted to the Business Office by December 31<sup>st</sup> to receive credit on your contribution statement. As always feel free to contact Kim Ayres in the Business Office with any questions or concerns.

We thank you for your generous acceptance of stewardship and pray you may find the level of giving that is right for you as you progress in your journey of faith and commitment. Your pledges and contributions are a critical part of how we can make a difference in our church, our community, and our world.



# HAMPTON LANE

## CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER



### *Summer Session*

We have had a very exciting summer program... ***Traveling Through the United States***. We have been learning all about the many different states in the United States. We learned about volcanoes in Hawaii, the amphibian tree frogs of Arizona, tornados in Kansas, the wild west and the Texas sky, we made our own Mardis Gras parade, traveled a New York subway, tasted potatoes from Idaho and we traveled the Rocky mountain region looking for grizzly bears, just to mention a few.



***Thank you so much to our families, church members, and friends for sending post cards to our center.***



Thank you so much to our families, church members and friends for sending post cards to our center. The children have absolutely loved getting mail and learning where the post cards are coming from.

***Show and Share  
Hawaii***

New this year, every Friday our classes have come together for a show and share session, where they shared something they have learned about with the entire school. We will share artwork, dances, songs and food from the different regions that we are learning about.

We had a special visitor at the center. Bill Wood, a professional story teller came and entertained the children.



***Bill Wood-Storyteller***



### *Fall 2014*

We are busy preparing for our upcoming school year.

We only have a few spots open in our Two's class (Ducks) and our Three's class (Turtles).

Our Pre-K class (Frogs) is completely full.

Please call the center at 410/825-0008 if you are interested in enrolling your child.

***Thank You TUMC for your continuing support  
-The HLCDC staff-***

The **MISSION** of Towson United Methodist Church is to **PLANT SEEDS of Christian faith by equipping, training, supporting, & freeing people to LIVE their faith in the world.**

## TOWSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

501 Hampton Lane, Towson, Maryland 21286 . 410-823-6511 . 410-823-8916 Fax

Office hours are Monday through Thursday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

[www.towsonumc.org](http://www.towsonumc.org) / [www.facebook.com/towsonumc](http://www.facebook.com/towsonumc)  
[towsonprays.blogspot.com](http://towsonprays.blogspot.com)

### MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Dr. Marcus Matthews, Resident Bishop

Rev. Cynthia Moore-Koikoi, Superintendent, Baltimore Metropolitan District

Earl Smith & Carole Dean, TUMC's Church Lay Leaders

Rev. Dr. Roderick J. Miller, Lead Pastor

[rmiller@towsonumc.org](mailto:rmiller@towsonumc.org); 410-823-3640 (church); 410-465-2335 (home)

Rev. Margery Schammel, Assistant Pastor  
[mschammel@towsonumc.org](mailto:mschammel@towsonumc.org); 410-823-2485

Rev. Doug Hollida, Minister of Music  
[MusicDirector@towsonumc.org](mailto:MusicDirector@towsonumc.org); 410-823-6519

Jeannine Neuen, Director of Christian Education  
[jneuen@towsonumc.org](mailto:jneuen@towsonumc.org); 410-823-3698

Matt Milford, Director of Youth Ministries  
[mmilford@towsonumc.org](mailto:mmilford@towsonumc.org); 410-823-3713

Cathy Anderson, Communications/Staff Liaison to Missions  
[communications@towsonumc.org](mailto:communications@towsonumc.org); 410-823-3689

Kim Ayres, Business Manager  
[kayres@towsonumc.org](mailto:kayres@towsonumc.org); 410-823-3693

Loren Todd, Building Superintendent/Bob Ashby, Assistant  
[ltodd@towsonumc.org](mailto:ltodd@towsonumc.org); 410-823-2153

Stephanie Riblett, Receptionist & for general information  
[towsonumc@towsonumc.org](mailto:towsonumc@towsonumc.org); 410-823-6511

**HAMPTON LANE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER**  
**410-825-0008** [cdcdirector@towsonumc.org](mailto:cdcdirector@towsonumc.org)  
A Ministry of Towson United Methodist Church  
Child Care with an approved preschool  
[www.hamptonlanecdc.org](http://www.hamptonlanecdc.org)



As you consider final plans for yourself and your family,  
please remember the Columbarium on the side of our church.  
Niches are available for purchase by contacting  
Judy Hobbs at 410-337-9013.



Our Senior Adult Council collects  
old eye glasses and old cell phones for reuse.  
Bring your glasses & cell phones to the church office.  
There is a basket inside for your donations.