



Hughes CALLER

Vol. 59, No. 11 November 2008

News Briefs

(Hughes UMC) -- The **Annual Charge Conference** is scheduled for Sunday, November 2nd at 2:00 p.m. All church members are encouraged and invited to attend this meeting where we will hear reports, vision about our future ministry and elect leaders for the coming year. We are the host site for a cluster of charge conferences, so we will have the opportunity to worship with several congregations. Nominated for the Board of Trustees are: Reggie Cargoer, Doug Dixon, Tim Gartrell, Les Kania, Pat Lawson and Delores Varner. Help is needed to welcome and direct guests and provide refreshments. Pastor Ken is coordinating greeters. Alyce Amussen and Frances Badman are coordinating refreshments. Please speak with them to offer your assistance in providing hospitality to our Methodist brothers and sisters of the Washington region.

(Hughes UMC) -- There will be a bell concert in memory of **Cynthia Karafiath Drenth** on Sunday, November 23, 2008, at 4 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Doylestown, Pa. One of the numbers being performed is a specially commissioned

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From Pastor Ken

One of the great signs of a free people is the opportunity to vote for community and national leaders of our choice. The United Methodist Church believes governments are "responsible for the protection of the rights of the people to free and fair elections ... The strength of a political system depends upon the full and willing participation of its citizens." (§164, Book of Discipline). In a Presidential election year, especially one with so much at stake, I doubt I need to encourage you to vote. However, I would like to offer some thoughts about the spectrum of values which influence our vote. Do not worry, I am not officially endorsing any candidate, as that would jeopardize the church's tax exempt status. But, I hope to offer food for thought and discernment, as well as offer resources for your further study of the issues.

Sojourners has published an issues guide entitled, Principles and Values for Christian Voters. Their introduction reads, "Christians have a moral and civic responsibility to participate in the political life of society by prayerfully measuring the proposed policies of all candidates against Christian ethics and values." The authors then outline a broad spectrum of important issues which according to the scriptures and historical practice should be of utmost importance to persons of faith. The categories they elucidate are Compassion and Economic Justice; Peace and Restraint of Violence; Consistent Ethic of Life; Racial Justice; Human Rights, Dignity and Gender Justice; Strengthen Families and Renew Culture; and, Good Stewardship of God's Creation. The details and scriptural references offered are thorough and helpful in discerning God's hope and vision for the world. You can download your own guide at www.sojo.net or stop by the office and we can print you a copy.

Additionally, the General Board of Church and Society of our denomination has prepared a guide of the political party platforms as they compare with the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church. Topics covered are Economic and Environmental Justice; Civil and Human Rights; Health and Wholeness; Peace with Justice; Women and Children; United Nations and International Affairs. The guide clearly states the main points of each of the major party's platforms as they relate to our denominational social policy. In reading the guide, I find that neither major party platform conforms completely to the church's statements and social policies, but there is much information about issues that are

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United Methodist Women

Executive Committee: 10 a.m., November 3, in the Parlor.

Friendship Circle: noon, November 4, in the Social Hall; Hostesses will be Velma Murphy and Norma Fowle.

Loyalty Circle: 7:30 p/m., November 5, at the home of Gwen Cooley.

General Meeting: 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, November 19, in the Parlor. Mrs. Jean Hefner will be our guest speaker; Jean is very active at Woodside UMC and Wesley Seminary. She will speak on the Clown Ministry that visits nursing homes and shut-ins. did you know that Hughes once had a Clown Ministry? You will not want to miss this meeting; come and bring a friend.

Hughes Church to Host SHARP Suspension Program

After conversations with the Executive Director and a Site Director, we have agreed to be a host site for the SHARP Suspension Program. This program was started at the Sharp Street UMC ten years ago as a way to serve youth who have been suspended from school for non-violent offenses. The program quickly grew into a partnership between Montgomery County, the Board of Education, Guide and local churches. It offers a safe place for students to be, rather than sitting at home, as they serve their school suspension. A trained, professional site director, along with adult volunteers, tutor students in assignments provided by the school and mentor participants through group process and individual counsel. Besides space, the SHARP Board asks host sites to offer some of the volunteer help. We seek volunteers to help mentor and tutor students as assistants to the site director. Your time commitment can be once a month, once a week, up to 4 days per week. Students in the program are non-violent, usually first-time suspendees from local high schools who have been

recommended to the program by their principal. With parents' support, students attend the program voluntarily and agree to a stringent code of conduct. No more than 10 students are on-site at any given time. Additionally, a stipend is paid to participating sites. Because of our commitment to missions, we have been invited to be a host site for this exciting, hands-on ministry which makes a difference in the life of youth and their families. The SHARP Board will be choosing between Hughes and another site in Silver Spring. We hope you will support the program by volunteering a few hours of your time and through your prayers. Please speak with Pastor Ken for further details.

HUGHES FAMILY

BIRTHS

October 4

Noelani Brooke Hunt
daughter of Staff Sgt. Adam and
Dawn Hunt. Pat Beam is the
proud grandmother.

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arrangement of "Give Me Jesus"; the song that sustained Cynthia in her final days. Please contact Carol Whitney (301-949-8383) if you are interested in attending.

(HughesUMC)--**NewMembers:** Have you been attending Hughes for a time and discerned that this community of faith is where God is calling you to serve? Or, would you like further information about The United Methodist Church and the ministry of Hughes before deciding to join our church family? We would like to celebrate the reception of new members in the fall. Please contact the church office or Pastor Ken to indicate your interest and we will schedule individual or group New Member Classes at a mutually convenient time.

Thank you's

Dorothy VanZandt writes: Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Mere words cannot express how much I appreciate the thoughtfulness of all of you during the time before my move to Illinois to be near family. I would like to thank those who helped my daughter sort, pack and move my belongings from my apartment. I know this was an enormous task. I am sorry I am not there to participate in church activities and to welcome the new Minister. I truly miss my friends at the church. Hope you know how warmly I think of all of you.



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important to United Methodists. Copies of brief or comprehensive guides can be downloaded at www.umc-gbcs.org or once again, we can print you a copy.

In considering choices for national office in particular, my primary issues have always been world peace and economic justice. With on-going wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the threat of terrorism, and elevated tensions with several other nations, the pursuit of world peace is especially poignant this year. Economically, I am of course interested in my personal financial situation, but also how the candidate's policies will affect all people, and especially how they address the quest to end poverty. The recent economic collapse in the nation and world impacts all of us. Our leaders have offered (for once) bi-partisan leadership for government intervention to stave off further crisis. Unless one is an economist, it is difficult to discern which candidate's plan for the future will offer the most help. Perhaps the question is, which plan helps the greatest number of citizens while offering hope for long-term stability? This year, I am also particularly interested in the candidate's positions on environmental issues. How will energy be produced? How will policies and practices affect global warming?

Voting is a privilege and right. As we enter the voting booth on November 4th, may we be informed about the issues and prayerfully discern the Spirit's guidance in our choices.

Finance Committee Update

Our offerings to the operations fund of the church have been sufficient to cover the daily expenses of the church. By carefully monitoring spending, we are current on our local bills, but unfortunately are behind in apportionment payments. Our last payment to the Baltimore-Washington conference was in April. We are proud of our United Methodist connection and have always paid our obligations in full. The finance committee is hopeful we will be able to catch up on at least some of the payments during the last quarter of the year.

For the past 20 years Hughes Church has had an endowment fund intended to assist the church in meeting its financial obligations and expanding its ministry. Created in the late 1980's from initial contributions by Hughes members, the Fund had grown to a value of about \$120,000 earlier in 2008. The plan for the Fund was that when its value reached \$300,000 the church could begin to use the proceeds from the account. Any money in the fund up to \$300,000 was to be withdrawn only in case of a financial emergency.

Our church is currently paying off two mortgages taken out over the past 10 years to fund major renovations of our facility. The total amount pledged to our current capital fund campaign, Reaching for the Future (RFF), is projected to be sufficient to cover our mortgage obligations through May 2009. However, over the past several months the cash flow of contributions to the campaign has been such that funds coming in have not kept pace with the

amounts needed to make our mortgage payments. Over the summer our capital fund account balance became low enough that additional funds were needed. The Finance Committee decided that the situation represented a valid reason to draw funds from the Endowment Fund to assist in covering the mortgage payments. Therefore, \$20,000 was withdrawn from the Endowment Fund in August and deposited in the capital account. The funds are now being drawn upon as needed to help make our mortgage payments. The Committee is hopeful that, as future RFF contributions come in the Endowment Fund withdrawal can be repaid.

You can help the Church Operating Budget by purchasing grocery store gift cards from the United Methodist Women. Norma Fowle sell the gift cards in the Church Library each Sunday between services. In September, the UMW presented the Church with \$2,000 from the profits from this program. The Church will receive 5% of the face value of the cards from Giant, Sniders and Shoppers. More participation means more money for the Church. Giant and Shoppers plastic gift cards can be purchased in \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50 and \$100 values. Sniders Gift Cards are available in \$10 increments only. The cards are easy to use: purchases are subtracted automatically from the Giant and Shoppers Cards. Sniders gives cash back if you spend less than \$10. Please try them out.

FunFest Round-up

On Saturday, September 27 Hughes had our 5th Annual Funfest and for the first time we had to bring most of it indoors. While it took some last minute adjustments and decision-making, it came off wonderfully. Reports from others told me that it rained around us at times, however, it held off until the clean-up when a few volunteers got wet.

The community came. Children (and some adults) had their faces or hands painted, they made crafts, had story time, did a service project for their families and Hughes House, played games, ate food and popcorn, bounced, tried to ring the bell on the clown striker with all their might, played in the sand table, blew bubbles, used sidewalk chalk, and received a balloon and toy prizes.



All ages were able to taste the delicious pies, purchase books at the Used Book Sale, find out how they might help with the Linus Project, guess the number of pretzels in the jar, or throw a cream pie at a willing volunteer. Everyone

had a chance to win door prizes and bring food for Manna.

On the entertainment side, the Irish Dancers from the Culkin School of Traditional Dance are always fun to watch with amazement in their ability to jump so straight in the air and more than once. Pan Majestic Youth Academy played the steel drums. We always enjoy the Latidos Christian music and when the Tinku dancers came out in their colorful outfits we fell in love with the children. A special thanks to Rev. Oswaldo Cuevas Gaete for bringing in the music and dancers and to all of the people who made the wonderful Latino food.

I want to thank everyone who helped at Funfest. Events like these take a lot of volunteers to make it work. It is necessary to have those people who are willing to plan and take charge of different areas and it is also necessary to have those who sign up and come for an hour to help at the Moonbounce or handout programs and greet people as they arrive. It takes all the parts of the body working together to welcome the community in and have fellowship and fun together.

Frances Badman and Linda French, Funfest Co-Chairs

Quiet Allows God To Be Heard

Janet Habersham

It seems like only yesterday we were celebrating the dawning of a new year. It seems as if each year is shorter and shorter, or perhaps life is busier and busier. Whatever the case may be, once again we are approaching yet another holiday season. As Christians, we try not to focus on the shopping, the cooking, the office parties, the choir practices, the plays, the decorating and on and on ... yet our lives, just like most people, will be crammed with more than 24 hours a day worth of "things to do." With so much to do and so little time, how can we keep Christ at the center of all of these maddening activities?

Several years ago I was invited to lead a Quiet Day just as Advent began. There are several things that I remember clearly about the day and the event, and as I think about it I can clearly remember, every day dedicated to quiet reflection and meditation. Not only do I remember them, they are events that I look forward to. At the same time, I also realized that our Christian traditions tend to avoid the topic of meditation as if it were the plague.

As a child growing up I attended both Sunday school and church service on a regular basis. I sang in the Children's choir then the teen-aged choir. I was an active participant in the Young People's Department, participated in local and state conferences. In college, I still attended church, Bible study and Sunday school and I don't remember being taught about

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It's Giving Tree Time !

On Sunday November 23rd, The Giving Tree will be setup in the Garden Entrance. Once again, Hughes UMC is in Partnership with the Takoma East Silver Spring Center (TESS). This agency has identified "Holiday Adoption" families who are in great economic and spiritual need.

Please spread the Christmas cheer by taking as many "ornaments" as you can from the Giving Tree to purchase and donate holiday gifts for these families. We will be collecting items for four families in need this year. Look for family biographies and additional items needed on a bulletin board near you. Monetary donations, by check or cash, will be gratefully accepted instead or in addition to the Christmas gifts. Please place your check in the offering plate and mark it "The Giving Tree." All wrapped gifts and unwrapped food items must be received by December 21st AT THE LATEST. Please keep the Giving Tree Ornament with/taped to the gift. If you can help organize these gifts for the families on December 21st after the second service, drive to the TESS Center on December 23rd or have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Kathy Ripley at 301-565-3604. Thank you for your support during this holiday season!

THANK YOU HUGHES UNITED METHODIST MEN, CHURCH MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

The UMW thanks all who made the October Rummage Sale a success. A special thank you to those who helped set up and clean up. The UMW could not have accomplished this project without your assistance.

We look forward to your assistance again in March 2009

Asbury Guild Elves Day 2008

Wrapping set for Friday, November 14

Asbury Guild Elves Day is a great way to start the Christmas season. Each year the Asbury Guild provides Christmas gift bags to residents who require assisted living and nursing care at Asbury Methodist Village. For some of our resident, these may be the only gifts they will receive. The following items are need and appreciated:

- Hand and body lotion
- Kleenex
- Knee-high Stockings (neutral colors)
- Treaded slipper socks
- Men's and women's white socks;
- Aftershave lotion
- Jewelry (no pierce earrings)
- Stationery
- Stamps
- Shampoo
- Crossword Puzzles (large print)
- Ballpoint pens
- Small stuffed animals
- Winter gloves (one size fits all)
- Men's and women's handkerchiefs
- Winter hats/scarves/ear muffs

New items only please - donations can be left in the box outside the Church Office. Gifts will be wrapped beginning at 10 a.m., Friday November 14th in the Social Hall. Bring wrapping paper, scissors and tape.

Hughes Shut-ins

Please keep these members and friends in your thoughts and prayers

Lenore Bolin
3616 Littledale Rd. # 203
Kensington, MD 20895-3434

Gladys Boyle c/o Lydia Skinner
403 Russell Avenue # 201
Gaithersburg, MD 20877-2850

Margueritte Bryan
2723 Jennings Road
Kensington, MD 20895-2817

Mildred Carson
2810 Jennings Road
Kensington, MD 20895-2705

Carol Clark
8502 16th Street, Apt. 103
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Annette and Guy Eubanks
2910 Burton Hill Drive
Kensington, MD 20895-2319

Virginia Favreault
5911 Genesis Lane # 322B
Edenton Assisted Living
Frederick, MD 21703

Ellen Fenstermaker
407 Russell Avenue # 401
Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Marjorie Gould
415 Russell Avenue # 314
Gaithersburg, MD 20877-2847

Elfriede Hermach
2850 Aquarius Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20906-1811

Lois Hines
4208 Bel Pre Road
Rockville, MD 20853-2004

Stanley Kania
50 Heather Lane
Staunton, VA 24401

Betty Lawson
3510 Forest Edge Dr. Bldg 16 # 2-D
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Rose Long
301 Russell Avenue # 415A
Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Hazel Mackey
101 Watkins Pond Blvd. # 403B
Rockville, MD 20850

Louise Martin
2808 Urbana Drive
Wheaton, MD 20906-5033

Rachel Mears
12705 Summerwood Rd.
Summerwood Assisted Living
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Charles and Doris Pyatt
14400 Homecrest Rd. # 220
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Ola Reeves
11450 Asbury Cir. # 235
Solomons, MD 20688-3050

Hallie L. Rowzee
3131 North Squirrel Rd. # 352
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

Bill Sherwood
4184 Boscombe Ct.
Frederick, MD 21703

Bob and Thelma Staten
415 Russell Avenue # 106
Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Wanta M. Tschiegg
9701 Medical Center Dr. # 121
Kingshire Manor
Rockville, MD 20850

Andy Van Tuyl
2618 Littledale Rd. # 203
Kensington, MD 20895

Meditation, from page 4

mediation in Sunday school or bible study. I've sat through countless sermons and attended a multitude of seminars, yet few if any, were about Christian Meditation as a practice or discipline to be developed. To be frankly honest, what I remember was intense discussion about meditation belonging to the "New Age" movement and something to be avoided by Christians.

Regardless of the blatant absence about meditation during my early years, my soul longed for "quiet." Quiet; as in a place to hear God speak, not through someone else, but to me. In college this desire was heightened. One year the pastor's Sunday school class studied the book of Revelation. In the book of Revelation, John ends his address to each of the seven churches with the following admonishment "Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches." I wanted to hear what the Spirit was saying – to me, the church. Not to me a reverend, or a minister, a committee chair, or Sunday school teacher but to me a lay person seeking a close personal relationship with the Lord. Maybe it is the longing of the soul that seeks quiet – maybe it is the soul longing to be in deep abiding communication with the Lord. Maybe that is why I remember each quiet day encounter – time set apart to help me remember what things are about.

**HUGHES FAMILY
CHRISTMAS DINNER
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2008
NOON IN THE SOCIAL HALL**

Make your reservations now.
Seating is limited to 130 people.
Tickets will be sold between church services
in the Library on November 16th, 23rd and 30th.
NO RESERVED TICKETS THIS YEAR

The dinner catered and served by Cozy Inn

ADULTS \$16.50
Children 5 – 12 years \$10.00
Children 4 and under FREE




MENU

Sliced Turkey Breast with Fresh-Made Dressing and Gravy
Sliced Ham with Cherry Pineapple Sauce
Cranberry Relish, Pistachio Salad and Cole Slaw
Vegetable Medley with Cheese Sauce
Green Beans
Mashed Potatoes and Candied Sweet Potatoes
Fresh Baked Breads
Assorted Desserts
Fresh Brewed Coffee and Iced Tea

QUESTIONS?

Pat Lawson (301 681-5905) or Ellen Durigg (301 933-6273)

November

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	<p>Sunday services: 9 a.m. Contemporary and Adult Bible Study; 10:30 a.m. Traditional; 12 noon Spanish; 10 a.m. Fellowship in the Social Hall; 10:30 a.m. Nursery/Sunday School for all youth.</p> <p>Monday evening music classes: 6 p.m. Bell Choir; 6:30 p.m. Wesley & KICK Choirs; & 7 p.m. Instrumental class.</p>					1 4 pm Hoffman Wedding
2 11:30 am Blood Pressure Screening 2 pm Charge Conf. 6:30 Sr. Hi MYF	3 10 am UMW Exec.Bd 5-7 pm Dinner 6 pm Prayer Group 6 pm Bible Study	4  12 pm Friendship Cir 6 pm First Place Ex. 7 pm First Place Mtg. 7:30 Adult Basketball	5 1 pm Coffee Klatch 7 pm Life Skills Class 7:30 pm Loyalty Cir.	6 6:15 Chancel Bells 6:30 Mont.Co.Hospice 7:30 Chancel Choir	7 Hughes Market Place Set-Up	8 10-4 HUGHES MARKET PLACE
9	10 2-8 pm Blood Drive (Hughes Church) 5-7 pm Dinner 6 pm Prayer Group 6 pm Bible Study	11 6 pm First Place Ex. 7 pm First Place Mtg. 7:30 pm SALT 7:30 Adult Basketball Holiday-Office Closed	12 10 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 1 pm Coffee Klatch 7 pm Life Skills Class 7:30 pm Finance Com	13 6:15 Chancel Bells 7:30 Chancel Choir	14 10 am Asbury Gift Wrapping – Soc. Hall	15 Quiet Day 9am–12 Evergreen Open House – gym 12-6 pm
16 11:30 am Blood Pressure Screening 6:30 Sr. Hi MYF	17 5-7 pm Dinner 6 pm Prayer Group 6 pm Bible Study 7 pm Ministry Groups	18 6 pm First Place Ex. 7 pm First Place Mtg. 7:30 Adult Basketball	19 9:30 am UMW Gen Mtg 1 pm Coffee Klatch 6 pm UMM meeting	20 6:15 Chancel Bells 7:30 Chancel Choir	21	22
23/30 30 th – Blood Pressure Screening 11:30 am	24 5-7 pm Dinner 6 pm Prayer Group 6 pm Bible Study	25 6 pm First Place Ex. 7 pm First Place Mtg. 7:30 pm SALT 7:30 Adult Basketball	26	27  No Choirs Happy Thanksgiving!	28 Office Closed	29

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