



Hughes CALLER

Vol. 59, No. 10 October 2008

News Briefs

(HughesUMC)--**New Members:** 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.

(Hughes UMC) -- **World Communion Sunday** will be celebrated on October 5th. Our worship service will honor the ethnic and cultural diversity of the Hughes congregation. We seek to create a visual display of national flags from around the world. If you have a flag from your country of origin which we may borrow, please bring it to the church by Saturday morning, October 4th. You are encouraged to wear traditional, cultural dress from your country. Help us express our cultural diversity in the midst of our unity as disciples of Jesus.

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From Pastor Ken

Slot Referendum Presents Test for Methodists

On Election Day, Maryland voters will have the opportunity to vote on a referendum to change the state constitution to allow slot machine gambling. It is important for us as followers of Christ to prayerfully consider the teachings of The United Methodist Church about gambling and how that affects our actions on the slots debate. Quoted below is a statement on gambling from our Social Principles, followed by a portion of a resolution from The Book of Resolutions. Both statements are used by permission of The United Methodist Publishing House, © 2004. Following these statements are a few of my thoughts on the slots referendum.

The United Methodist Social Principles, ¶ 162G states: Gambling is a menace to society, deadly to the best interests of moral, social, economic, and spiritual life, and destructive of good government. As an act of faith and concern, Christians should abstain from gambling and should strive to minister to those victimized by the practice. Where gambling has become addictive, the Church will encourage such individuals to receive therapeutic assistance so that the individual's energies may be redirected into positive and constructive ends. The Church should promote standards and personal lifestyles that would make unnecessary and undesirable the resort to commercial gambling – including public lotteries – as a recreation, as an escape, or as a means of producing public revenue or funds for support of charities and government.

From resolution 203: Gambling feeds on human greed and invites persons to place their trust in possessions rather than in God. It represents a form of idolatry that contradicts the first commandment... We oppose the growing legalization and state promotion of gambling. Dependence on gambling revenue has led many states to exploit the weaknesses of their own citizens, neglect the development of more equitable forms of taxation, and therefore further erode the citizens' confidence in government.

The position of The United Methodist Church is clear: we are opposed to gambling in all its forms. Even the possibility of using the proceeds

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United Methodist Women

Loyalty Circle: 7:30 p.m., October 1, at the home of Eloise Woods.

Friendship Circle: Noon, October 7, in the Social Hall.

Our big event this month is the RUMMAGE SALE. Wed. Oct. 15, 16, and 17 are the preparation days: Oct. 15 – 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. with a Pot Luck Dinner at 6:00 p.m., Oct. 16 and 17 – 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The RUMMAGE SALE is Saturday October 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Workers are needed for times between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

There are two events this month when our local unit will meet with other United Methodist Women. On October 16, we will have our last meeting with the former Washington-West District. We have met many wonderful women as part of this District. In January, we will join with new units as part of Washington-Metropolitan District. We look forward to meeting and working with these new units. On Saturday, October 25, we will be a part of the Baltimore-Washington UMW Annual Conference. The Theme for this meeting is CALLED BY NAME. We will meet at 9 a.m. at Towson United Methodist Church. A box lunch for \$10. will be served for those who register by Oct. 10.

Mark your calendar for December 7 the ANNUAL CHURCH-WIDE CHRISTMAS DINNER. Pricing and tickets information will be in the November Caller.

MAKE A PRAYER SHAWL; MAKE A DIFFERENCE

For centuries; shawls have embraced and comforted
Like the warm wrap of a Mothers hug
Those who knit or receive shawls
Are both loved and blessed.

There are many people in our congregation who are in need of prayer. Knitting or crocheting a shawl for those in need, will receive a gift of love, comfort, hope, and peace. Wouldn't it have been nice to have wrapped one of these shawls around Dorothy Van Zandt on her last Sunday here at Hughes?

These shawls will never be sold, as they are gifts of love.

Carol Whitney and Dottie Anderson would like to start a Prayer Shawl Ministry here at Hughes. If you feel the call to become part of this ministry, our first meeting will be held 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Wednesday October 8th, in the Parlor. If you cannot attend the meeting, but would like to be a part of this ministry, please call Dottie Anderson (301-949-3805), or Carol (at the Church).

The official website for this ministry is www.shawlministry.com. This site explains the history of the ministry and the meaning of "knitting of three's". The site also has additional patterns for both knitting and crocheting.

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(Hughes UMC) -- **Parsonage**

Open House: Ken and Nancy are hosting an open house at the parsonage on Sunday, October 5th from 2-5 p.m. Come for a few minutes or the full 3 hours to share in fellowship, see the improvements to the house, how we have decorated, and enjoy snacks. The parsonage is located 4 blocks from the church at 1911 Plyers Mill Road.

(Hughes UMC) -- **Giving Tree:**

Hughes is again working with the TESS center to provide food and presents for 4 families this December. Money is needed now to start shopping for supplies and non-perishable items. Donations can be placed in the offering plate marked Giving Tree. It will be a rough winter for these needy families. More information in the November Caller.

Jewelry Needed for UMW Rummage Sale

The fall Rummage Sale will be here before we know it and the Jewelry Booth needs your unwanted jewelry. We can use both men and women's items. Also, ask your neighbors, coworkers and friends to donate any items that they don't wear anymore. We even take broken items that we repair or make into something new. We would like to have your items as soon as possible so that we can clean, price and package them before we set up for the Rummage Sale.

Donations can be given to Vera Offenbacker (301-681-6117) or Liz Brigham (301-681-5351) or leave them in the church office.

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from lotteries, slots and other forms of gambling for positive programs, such as education, does not alter the fact that gambling drags society down.

Slots were legal in Maryland for many years. According to "Little Vegas," an article by Steven Janis published in the December 1, 2004 *Baltimore City Paper*, "nearly 5,000 legal slot machines operated around the clock in Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's counties between 1949 and 1968." Apparently slots were everywhere, even in gas stations and grocery stores! One citizen quipped, "the only place I didn't see them was in the churches." Southern Maryland was known as "little Vegas." A special grand jury was convened in 1960 in Anne Arundel county to investigate slot machines. Their findings called the business of gambling "sordid and disgraceful." At the same time, a citizens group found that "slots have a stranglehold on the basic economic life of Anne Arundel county," and charged, among other things, that a combination of "organized crime and youth gambling had tragic consequences for the people of our county...upsetting the healthy patterns of family life." The history of our state has proven the opening arguments of the Social Principles!

Gambling to fund the state budget amounts to a regressive tax on the poor, because citizens in need respond to the provocative advertising which says, "You could be the next winner!" Those struggling to make ends meet come to believe if they can win just once, their financial difficulties will be resolved. The only "winners" in gambling are those who sponsor and run the games. While it is an individual's choice whether or not to engage in gambling, it is unjust for government to prey on the hopes and dreams of society's weakest members in order to balance the budget. The Church must always stand up for those who are being exploited.

Some studies have shown that "gambling is the fastest growing form of addiction among youth, women and senior citizens." The Church will always be ready to offer assistance to those who are addicted to any substance or behavior. But, should we knowingly legalize another practice which feeds addictions?

Revenue from slots machines will be distributed according to the following payout schedule: 50% education trust fund; 30% License Operators; 8.5% horse racing industry; 5.5% to local governments (including Pimlico); 5% Lottery Commission; 1% to small minority or women-owned businesses. In these difficult economic times it is hard to turn away any stream of revenue, but there must be a more creative and just solution than preying on the poor and promoting another addictive behavior. Citizens and governments have a responsibility to provide the basic necessities of life for those who reside in our state or nation. Education, and other basic requirements of society, should not rely on funding from unjust, exploitative means. Instead, we should ask ourselves what kind of a society we hope to build and fund it through appropriate revenue sources.

Some will likely disagree with me and our denomination on this issue. That is their right. However, this is a serious ethical, moral and justice issue for our state and I ask you to prayerfully consider these teachings and thoughts prior to entering the voting booth in November.

Ken

eScripts/Safeway Program Supports Church Activities

If you shop at Safeway and have not signed up for a school program, please consider signing up for Hughes Church. We have received over \$700 this year and the money is used to support childrens activities and projects . It is so easy - no receipts to collect, no vouchers or certificates to buy, no hassles for you and every purchase counts no matter how small or large. Also, ask your family members, friends and neighbors if they would like to join us. See Liz Brigham (301-681-351) to sign up.

Thanks to all who continue to support this important program.

Health Ministry as the Cornerstone of Congregational Care

By Melissa Hinnen
UMCOR Communications

Mary Jane Harns has been a vibrant member of Hughes United Methodist Church in Wheaton, Md. for more than 50 years. A wonderful cook, she coordinated the food for wedding receptions and funerals and volunteered with the local Meals on Wheels. Now that she is mostly homebound, she continues serving the church by writing poetry and sending it to young members who are away from home in the military or at college. While her driving is limited, she makes it a point to drive to church whenever she can. "I thank the Lord every morning for my Hughes family," she states.

Carol Whitney, Hughes UMC's faith community nurse, is an advocate for Mary Jane. She visits regularly and helps explain different options to facilitate care for her son, who has a developmental disability. Whitney encouraged her to apply for a Lifeline service so that she can receive immediate medical care if there is an emergency - and also reminds her to wear the device. When the doctor prescribed new medications, Whitney took the time to discuss some of the possible side effects. Mary Jane explains, "Carol translates the medical rigmarole -- I don't know what the church would do without her."

In addition to her visitation role, Whitney works with other nurses to develop a comprehensive congregational care team. They organize workshops ranging from creating a living will to explaining the Medicare drug program. Issues of nutrition and obesity are addressed through a 12 week weight management program. Through the lay visitation program, members are partnered with nursing home residents and provide prayer, comfort and friendship.



Jeffrey Austin/UMCOR

Whitney is preparing to extend her ministry beyond the local church. After returning from the United Methodist Empowering Health Ministries event last year, she felt encouraged to develop a conference-wide health ministry. She is identifying parish nurses in the Baltimore Washington Annual Conference and creating a network for them to resource and learn from each other.

Global Ministries is exploring ways to support the annual conference in developing this program. UMCOR Health executive, Patricia Magyar, has been in conversation with Whitney. She says, "Out of the wonderful work that is happening in local churches, the next step is to broaden and strengthen the programs by connecting with others doing similar work."

Magyar continues, "With conferences like Empowering Health Ministries and resources like the on-line discussion group, faith community nurses have a number of opportunities to develop their programs on the conference and local level."

Reprinted from General Board of Global Ministries News Archives
<http://new.gb-gm-umc.org/umcor/newsroom/releases/archives08/healthministry>

America Is Aging: Better Living Through Chemistry

By Ken Whitney, Clinical Pharmacist

The focus of my last article highlighted some of the inadequacies in our healthcare system as they affect seniors and their medications. Also mentioned was "Medication Reconciliation", a major effort to rectify the situation as it applies to healthcare facilities. I suggested that we as seniors and as patients must take an active roll in protecting ourselves from medication misadventure, and in helping to make the system work better for ourselves. So, what are we to do?

The first thing we can do is to understand that a person who is ill in a healthcare facility, or a person who is ill and needs to see his physician, is not in the best position to understand their prescribed medications. Healthcare workers and physicians explain medications to patients, but people who are ill are not in the best position to understand that information entirely. In these instances and in others like them, a family member or caregiver should be present so that illness will not cloud understanding. Our parish nurse has been providing this service for our members who are in need of this help.

Another important effort for us to make is to create and maintain an accurate list of our medications, including the medication's name, strength, how often it is taken, who prescribed it, and for what? This list should include any over-the counter and herbal medications that are taken. It would also be helpful to include an immunization record, since healthcare facilities must acquire this information.

It is not enough to create and maintain such a list. To be effective, it must be with you whenever you visit a doctor or are admitted to a healthcare facility. You should insist that the doctor's office photocopy your updated list, and place it in your chart. When being admitted to a healthcare facility, you should also be sure that they do the same.

So, how should you prepare such a list? Some people who are computer-oriented have used their home computers to create and maintain their list. For others, a form may be obtained, which can be filled in with the appropriate information. In any case, the easiest way to get started is to obtain a medication history form from the pharmacy where your prescriptions are filled. Ask for a twelve month history. Their computer will print a list of all the prescriptions you have had filled in the past twelve months. The different medications listed there can then be transcribed to your computer or to your hand-written medication form. In addition, be sure to list all over-the-counter medications you regularly take, along with herbal medications and dietary supplements. From there, just add new medications when they are prescribed, and cross out medications no longer taken. Be sure to use only one line to cross out a medication, so it still remains legible. Sometimes, it is important to know what a patient used to be prescribed and no longer takes.

Medication List forms are available at Hughes UMC, from the Parish Nurse, Carol Whitney's office. In addition, she is available to explain the forms and to aid you in filling them out, if that is necessary. Creating and maintaining this list accurately is a major safe-guard to the health of all Americans, and especially to seniors, who are the largest group of consumers of healthcare, and also the group most at risk for medication misadventure.

Asbury Guild Elves Day 2008

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 presents that fill these bags are donated and once again the Guild needs your help. 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; After shave 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 on November 14; details in the November Caller.

The Hughes Market Place Show

10700 Georgia Avenue
Wheaton, Maryland 20902

Hughes United Methodist Church cordially invites you to participate as a Patron or Sponsor in The Hughes Market Place Show. It will be held on Saturday, November 8, 2008 from 10:00 am. – 4:00 pm. Your name will be listed in the Show program.

This event will include merchants from Kensington Antique Row, who will do appraisals for a fee, craftspeople, and other dealers. The show will be well advertised two weeks prior in the local newspapers, our church website (<http://www.hughesumc.org/>) and through the merchants on Antique Row.

Your sponsorship is needed to help defray the cost of items such as advertising and other start up costs involved in promoting a show such as this. We would greatly appreciate everyone's participation in this show and one of the ways you can help is as a Patron or a Sponsor. Please keep this project in your prayers. We thank you for your donation as a Business Patron or Sponsor. For more information, please call Jan D'Hedouville at (301) 655-2410 or Joan Gartrell at (301) 949-7781..

Business Patron (\$50.00)

(PLEASE PRINT) Name _____
Doing Business As _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone Number _____

Sponsor (\$25.00)

(PLEASE PRINT) Name _____
Telephone Number _____

Date: _____

Signed: _____

This is your receipt for being a Business Patron or Sponsor of The Hughes Market Place Show.

October

<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. Monday evening music classes: 6 p.m. Bell Choir; 6:30 p.m. Wesley & KICK Choirs; & 7 p.m. Instrumental class.</p>			1 7 pm Life Skills Class 7:30 pm Loyalty Cir.	2 6:15 Chancel Bells 7:30 Chancel Choir	3	4
5 11:30 Blood Pressure Screening 6 pm Sr. Hi MYF	6 5-7 pm Monday Night Dinner 6 pm Prayer Group 7:30 pm Trustees	7 12 Friendship Circle 6 pm First Place Ex. 7 pm First Place Mtg. 7:30 Adult Basketball	8 10 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 7 pm Life Skills Class 7:30 pm Finance Com	9 6:15 Chancel Bells 7:30 Chancel Choir	10	11
12 5 pm BW Conference Hispanic Celebration	13 5-7 pm Monday Night Dinner 6 pm Prayer Group 7:30 Staff Parish	14 6 pm First Place Ex. 7 pm First Place Mtg. 7:30 pm SALT 7:30 Adult Basketball	15 7 pm Life Skills Class 6 pm UMW/UMM Pot Luck Dinner Rummage Sale Set-up	16 6:15 Chancel Bells 7:30 Chancel Choir Rummage Sale Set-up	17 Rummage Sale Set-up	18  Rummage Sale 9-2
19 11:30 Blood Pressure Screening 6 pm Sr. Hi MYF	20 5-7 pm Monday Night Dinner 6 pm Prayer Group 7:30 Ministry Groups	21 6 pm First Place Ex. 7 pm First Place Mtg. 7:30 Adult Basketball	22 10 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 7 pm Life Skills Class	23 6:15 Chancel Bells 7:30 Chancel Choir	24 8:30-12:30 Evergreen International Children's Day	25
26	27 5-7 pm Monday Night Dinner 6 pm Prayer Group	28 6 pm First Place Ex. 7 pm First Place Mtg. 7:30 pm SALT 7:30 Adult Basketball	29 7 pm Life Skills Class	30 6:15 Chancel Bells 7:30 Chancel Choir	31	

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