



September 2010 Issue

## Quotes

"A genuine leader doesn't reflect consensus, he molds consensus."

(Martin Luther King Jr.)

"Never preach your doubts; men have enough of their own". (Unknown)

"Show me a good loser and I'll show you a loser" (Leo Durocher)

If you go to my Facebook Page (I'm the only Maryland Bob on Facebook) you will see the quote from Martin Luther King on it. Facebook provides a place for people to put a quote or a statement that in an encapsulated form reflects something of who they are or how they see themselves or maybe even who they want to be. It's a good idea. Whether we choose to write our own "snapshot idea" that is central to our self understanding or quote someone else who said what we believe in having the clarity of such a statement not only presents a snapshot picture of ourselves but gives us something we obviously value and want to live up to.

The quote that I provided about "doubt" has been on the back of office desk for years. Well, it was until somehow it got old and crumbly and apparently fell off and landed in the trash can somewhere along the way. I went to quote it for this article and it was gone. It might be gone from my desk but it's still very much present implanted in my heart. I looked it up on the web and couldn't find it so while I don't remember who originally coined it; I still value its message. I try not to preach my doubts, although I have them because like the quote says, I figure you have enough of your own. It's a good reminder to preach what we believe in – not what we doubt.

The current quote I treasure so much is from Martin Luther King Jr. I believe he said it precisely and well. "A genuine leader doesn't reflect consensus, he molds consensus". How true it is. One of the banes of modern culture (or more precisely what passes for culture) is the idea that we don't have leaders, we have people who simply guide discussions or lick their finger and put it up in the air to see which way the wind is blowing. I have done my best to be a genuine leader – not a phony vote taker. It goes to the core of what I believe to be leadership. There are times when I have been woefully wrong, but other times when I was right, no matter what the vote was. Being a leader means being willing to risk making mistakes, or being wrong – but always acting with courage. I hold myself to that standard, not being a vote taker.

The third quote, well I'll leave that one alone but it reflects my desire to work hard, play hard and be tenacious in life. We don't have to be "bad" losers but we have to love winning. It's the mark of every successful coach or athlete or person I ever knew.

What two or three quotes would reflect what you believe in? What sums up your greatest values? What statements become not only your goal in life but your measuring stick as well?

Not a sermon – just a question!

# NEWS FROM OUR MINISTRIES

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION –Mary Chance



Sunday School starts September 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 A.M. Classes for all ages. Never too young or too old to learn about the Lord's place in our lives!

In addition to our regular classes (see class list elsewhere in the newsletter) the Adult I Class (which meets in the Small Conference Room) will be taught by Dr. Chance and Mario Mendoza and will be a Bible Study class centered around the Lectionary Readings for the day. This will provide an interesting and biblically centered lesson (with discussion) around the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons for that particular Sunday. It will sometimes, but not always be directly related to the sermon for the day as Dr. Chance usually follows the lectionary for his preaching. Come and be a part of this experimental and exciting new class!

## EVANGELISM/MEMBERSHIP - Karen Shpiece



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!! Sept. 12, following the 11:00 service we'll hold our Second Annual Homecoming Harvest Festival. Last year's Harvest Festival was so much fun and so well received, we've decided to do it again!!! The day will feature a lovely meal and many activities. Activities will include: Carmeled apples, face painting, moon-bounce, apple bobbing and more!!! So mark your calendars! Of course, we'll need a lot of help, so please see Karen or Amy to volunteer to help.

A large focus for this day is to bring back folks we've been missing in church. If you think hard, I'll bet you can think of three or four people you haven't seen for quite some time. Please, pick up the phone and invite them to this special Sunday filled with fun and fellowship.



## FELLOWSHIP - Amy Buckingham

We have dates available for fellowship hour. Please check your calendars and sign up for a Sunday fellowship hour.

## OUTREACH, Lissa Costa



### Carroll House Shelter:

Joel and Debbie Owen made a delicious spaghetti and meatball dinner for the Carroll House in August. The youth group will provide September's meal. Thanks to all the cooks!

### Backpacks for Kids:

Thanks to Chad McCabe and the youth for organizing this wonderful charity drive and thanks to everyone who brought in backpacks!



## WORSHIP – Debbie Sullivan

I hope September finds that everyone had a safe, healthy, fun and blessed summer and it will be good to see families returning to church. Our Worship service will return to 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.



## PROPERTY, Joel Owen

The building and grounds survived the last two thunderstorms in relatively good shape. We lost 1/3 of a maple tree and a small dogwood tree, due to the strong winds. The maple was pruned up and the dogwood will be replaced this fall. (cont'd on next page)

Unfortunately it seems that vandalism around the church is on the rise. Since spring our church sign has been broken twice, and a parking lot light lens once. The Board will be discussing ideas to reduce this sort of activity.

Special thanks to the carpenters club members who have continued to meet and make small repairs this summer.

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## One Offering – Regional Ministries

During the last two weeks of September we take our Annual Offering for the ministries of the Christian Church – Capital Area. 100% of what we collect will be sent to the whole church to come back to the Regional Church.

The Regional Church performs many ministries that we can't do by ourselves and that are done so much better with all the other 47 congregations of the Christian Church-Capital Area.

For instance the region provides these and many more ministries:

- The Camp & Conference program where people of all ages but especially our young people can go to regional camps and conferences to share with people from other congregations in spiritual growth and development.
- Starting new churches in the Capital Area where new disciples may find new ministries and the church may grow.
- Clergy Association, Disciples Women and Disciples Men provide a program where clergy, women and men from all of congregations can gather and share in cross congregational growth and ministry.
- Assistance for churches in transition, churches looking for a new minister or ministers looking for a new church.
- Regional Youth Council where youth from across the region can participate in regional youth programs.
- The **Christian Church Capital Area** is a regional manifestation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), serving over 40 congregations in Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia, Northern Virginia, and West Virginia. The region offers resources and services to help our congregations live out their witness and ministry in their communities.

Your "One Offering – Regional Ministries" will go 100% to helping our regional church grow and expand its ministries.

Won't you help us help the Christian Church-Capital Area?

Place your over and above offering in an envelope marked "One Offering – Regional Ministries" in the offering plate on either September 19 or 26. Thanks to you the Christian Church Capital Area continues to prosper!

# FALL/WINTER SCHEDULE

Begins **SEPTEMBER 12<sup>th</sup>**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 A.M.**

**WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.**

**FELLOWSHIP 12:30 P.M.**

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## **BY THE NUMBERS**



### Sunday Morning Worship Attendance

<b>JULY 2010</b>	/	<b>Year to Date</b>
78		101

Everyone is called to help to grow the church by inviting friends, family, neighbors, co-workers.



## **HOME COMING SUNDAY** **SEPTEMBER 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Lots of Fun, Fellowship & Activities planned!**  
**And Best of all a GREAT LUNCH!**

# STAFF REFLECTIONS...



## *A Word from our Minister Intern:*

"Welcome back! It's that time of year again and school is upon us. I know every Youth at Aspen Hill is excited to return for another year of learning and meeting new friends. I would like to thank EVERYONE for giving so generously to the Backpack Drive, it was a GREAT SUCCESS! As we get back into the rhythm of things I want to remind the Youth that we have a lot of wonderful activities planned for this year with trips and service projects as well as Sunday School and Mid-Week gatherings on Thursdays from 7:00-8:30 at the church. This year will bring a lot of chances to serve God and our community so come on out, bring a friend, and be ready for some faith in action!"

Chad



## *A Word from our Music Director...*

Greetings from your Aspen Hill Christian Church Music Ministry. Notice that I wrote ministry rather than department. Our philosophy at Aspen Hill is to serve our fellow man, you, and to serve God through the wondrous spiritual gift of music.

There is a saying in opera that when it is too important to say it then sing it. Music has the mysterious capacity to communicate with our souls on a level deeper than conscious awareness, many times without the use of words. When we combine that capacity with the profound communicative images words can conjure the effect can be life, mind and spirit changing.

If you would like to open your soul to this experience come join us on Thursday nights at 7:30 this fall in the sanctuary where there is no ego stroked, but spirits stoked. Also come learn how to use the blessed instrument you have been given, your voice, more efficiently and effectively! If any of you play other instruments we would welcome you with open arms into our music ministry.

Our rehearsals will begin Thursday night, September 2, at 7:30pm. I fervently hope to see you there.

Jon

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## Gad A Bouts News

Time to order 2011 Calendars!

Once again it is time to order the spiral Scull calendars. If you want to order one or more 2011 calendars, please call Helen no later than Monday, September 20. The cost is payable on delivery to you – Not when you place your order.

Please mark the following dates on your calendars:

WED. Sept 1 – 10:30 A.M. Gads meeting and lunch  
SUN. Sept 12 – 12:30 P.M. Lunch Bunch - all welcomed!  
MON. Sept 20 – Deadline to order calendars.  
WED. Dec 8 – 12Noon Xmas Luncheon @ O'Donnell's

We hope all Gads can make a special effort to attend our September 1 meeting. We also welcome new Gad to join us as we brainstorm activities for the coming months, share stories, keep in touch with our shut-ins, and just enjoy being together. We each contribute \$2.00 monthly to help support various projects throughout the year.