



# The Messenger



Chalfont United Methodist Church \* 11 Meadowbrook Lane, Chalfont, PA 18914-2810  
Phone: (215) 822-2807 \* e mail: office@chalfontumc.org

October/November, 2013

## PASTOR'S CHARGE CONFERENCE REPORT

**Our theme for this year has been “Living into Your Destiny: Becoming the Church that God Is Calling Us To Be”** (*as well as the individuals God is calling us to be*) and as we move into another year we are finding ways to live into our destiny and the vision God has placed before us.

**We believe Chalfont UMC is being called to embody the words of Jesus in Matthew 11:28 -29**, “*Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls*” (NRSV) and also John 14: 12, “*The one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father*” (NRSV).

**Keeping these verses in mind, Charge Conference on September 19, 2013 approved the following four goals/ministries for the coming year.**

1. This spring/summer we planted a community vegetable garden. All of the produce was given to the local food pantry. **Next year we are hoping to double the size of the garden and we will seek ways to include the community.** This will allow us to build stronger relationships with those who do not attend Chalfont UMC.

2. **We are going to participate in the Conference-wide capital stewardship campaign “Fulfilling Our Covenant.”** We are hoping to raise funds for the church that will allow us to begin to develop the church property to provide new outdoor spaces/places for people to experience God and enable people to find rest for their souls. We will explore the possibility of installing (*over the next several years!*) prayer and memorial gardens, a walking/prayer trail, a labyrinth, a court yard, and a paved walkway from the parking lot to our pavilion.

3. **On October 16, 2013 we are starting “The Koffee Klatch, an Alzheimer’s Café,” a new ministry for persons with dementia and their caregivers.** The goal of this ministry is to provide a warm, welcoming and accepting environment allowing families with dementia to step out of the rigors and stress of the day to day and into a few hours of gentle respite once a month. The time will include coffee and conversation. Different types of activities will be offered each month such as a sing-a-long, reminiscence games, arts, crafts, etc.

4. One of the strong points of being United Methodist is our connectionalism. **It was decided at Annual Conference in May that one way for us to live more fully into our connectional system was to partner with other UM churches in our area.** To that end, each church has been placed in clusters known as Mission ConneXion Groups. (*Yes, ConneXion is spelled differently to remind us that Christ is to be at the center of all that we do.*) Together, we will explore ways to build relationships with each other, share resources, and find avenues to publicize our events to encourage cross-over participation among our churches. Perhaps we will even be able to develop new joint ministries and missions. This could lead to us having an even greater impact for Christ in our communities.

**God showed us last December that God was not done with us yet.** There is still work for us to do and we are humbled that God has invited us to be on the journey with him. We will continue to be open and faithful to God’s leading as we continue to become the church and the people that God is calling us to be. *Pastor Barb*

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

**Congratulations:** to **Betty and Cassel Williams**, who celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary.

**Welcome:** to our new members: **Jim Ellsworth** (*the father of Amy Ellsworth and Cathy Burkhardt*), **Greg Ehrenzeller**, **Yolunda** and **Harry McGinnis**, **Virginia Muldoon**, **Judy** and **Bill Vandegrift**.

### THANK YOU

**Thank you from the New Britain Baptist Food Larder** for our donation of \$283.00 and 12 bags of groceries.

**Thank you from Heifer International** for our gift of \$70.00.

**Thank you for your generous donation of \$568.00** in support of UMCOR's response to disasters in the United States.

**Thank you for your gift of \$50.00 to the Mission to Moldova**, which helps the neediest children at the orphanage and provides necessary items for their school.

**Thank you from Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County.** Your donation of \$100.00 will help our vision become a reality.

## BEACON CONCERT

NOVEMBER 8th

**You've been waiting and now it's finally here: the 2nd Annual Beacon Bag Bonanza!** Join the Chalfont UMC house band in our November food drive for local food pantries.

**Beacon will be performing a concert of some of our favorite contemporary selections** on Friday, November 8th at 7 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Come join us for a night of favorites by stellar artists like Chris Tomlin, Kari Jobe, MercyMe, Kristian Stanfill, and Matt Redman. Bring all of your friends and a bag of groceries (*or even just a can of peaches or a box of spaghetti*) and enjoy an evening of great music!

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT FUNDRAISER

**The Music Department at CUMC is growing by leaps and bounds!** But, we're running a bit short on robes and copies of music.

**There's also a very exciting Christmas program on the way** (*more info about that soon!*) We need your help to keep growing. There will be a change jar located in the Narthex throughout November - any little amount is very much appreciated!

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

**A "BIG THANK YOU" to everyone who helped make the Ladies Night Out and Silent Auction a great success.** With the donations from the congregation along with the items collected from businesses, we had 64 items to bid on. We had a wide range of items to select from.

**The dinner was prepared by the wonderful cooks of the UMW and served by the capable men of the UMM.** And of course, home made desserts rounded out the meal. There were 75 ladies in attendance and 12 men helping in the kitchen.

**From the generosity of the ladies attending, the silent auction collected \$2,230.00 and the profit from the dinner was \$301.00, with a total of \$2,531.00.** That will be divided among the Alzheimer's Café, Doylestown FISH, Doylestown, "A Women's Place", and Aid for Friends.

We all enjoyed the delightful music played by Pastor Erin, it was a wonderful touch to the evening.

### **OCTOBER MEETING:**

**On Saturday, October 19th, the UMW will be meeting at 9:00, with a continental breakfast.** Plans will be discussed about future plans for the UMW.

### **COOKIE SALE DECEMBER 14**

There will be a drop off date for donated cookies on December 13th at 6:00 PM. ***It's not too early to plan what cookies you would like to donate for the sale.***

### **AN INVITATION:**

All ladies of the church are welcome to come and join in at our meeting. Come and enjoy the fellowship with other Christian women.

## NEWS FROM THE KOFFEE KLATCH:

### An Alzheimer's Cafe

**The doors to the cafe opened on Wednesday, October 21, to a wide variety of folks,** including persons with dementia, their family caregivers, professionals from local agencies, and Chalfont UMC volunteers.

**Music, crafts, and sensory activities blended with coffee and conversation for a warm and friendly start to The Koffee Klatch.** If you missed the fun, don't worry: The Klatch will open again on **Wednesday, November 20th**, for more merriment and some Thanksgiving surprises.

Drop on in any time between 10 and noon.

## CALENDAR

- 10/27 – United Methodist Bishop to preach.  
 11/3 – All Saints Day (*remembering the deceased*)  
 11/5 – Elections in the Family Life Center  
 11/8 – Beacon Concert (*donate canned goods*)  
 11/9 - Roast Beef dinner (*sponsored by Trustees*)  
 11/24 – Harvest Home (*donate canned goods*)  
 11/24 - Hanging of the Greens (*decorate the sanctuary between morning services, lunch following 11:00 service*)  
 12/14 - UMW Cookie Sale (*8:00 to 12:00 am*)  
 12/15 – Christmas Concert (*special event featuring the choir, the praise band, the children's choir and others*)  
 12/24 - Christmas Program (*4:00 pm in FLC; praise band*)  
 12/24 - Candlelight Service (*8:00 pm in sanctuary; choir*)

## FINANCE CORNER

*The finance committee wishes to thank everyone for their continued support this year.* Due to the changes we implemented and the dedication of the church family, we will be much closer to a balanced budget for 2013 than in recent years. Also, due to a recent bequest, we think we will be able to fully fund the budget for at least through 2014.

**We have seen an increased interest in the Giant Gift Card program and Electronic Giving**, both of which add greatly to the amount and stability of our income, especially during the summer months. If you shop at Giant and haven't tried the cards, it's a painless way to help the church financially.

### **Other Notes:**

1. **Envelopes** – we will not be automatically issuing boxes of envelopes to those who are giving regularly through the electronic giving program. If you would like to continue to have them, please contact Jim Reece or the church office before the end of 2013. Anyone else who doesn't have envelopes and wants them should also make it known to us as soon as possible.

2. **Statements** – we did not send out mid-year statements this year in order to save the expense. However, anyone who would like a statement can get one by contacting Jim Reece (*phone 215-822-1644 or email jim.reece@gmail.com*) or by contacting the church office. We can email it to you or give/mail you a printout.

*As always, if you have any financial-related questions or concerns, don't hesitate to ask.*

## THE CHURCH MOUSE

Today I found a round shiny bowl and I asked my Mom what it was. She told me that it would hold the water that the pastor uses to bless a baby or person when they are being baptized. What does Baptized mean? Baptism is a sign. It's meant to show the world that you love, trust, and have put your hope in Christ. Do you know if your parents had you baptized? Ask your parent to show you where the shiny bowl is and I should be close by. Then tell "Pat" the office lady where you found me.



## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

**Attention all children in grades K through 6th grade: it's time to make some music!** Join Pastor Erin at 10:30 a.m. for choir. Our short practices started on Sunday, October 6 at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary and are being well attended. ***Come and lift your voice in praise to God!***

## ROAST BEEF DINNER

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9**

**4:00 - 7:00 pm**

**The Trustees will be hosting our annual roast beef dinner.** One reason we hold these dinners is to raise much needed funds, but that's not the only reason. This is a great opportunity to be in community with other members. And it shows the outside community what we're doing and what we're all about.

**So if you haven't attended a dinner recently, we strongly suggest you try it out.** This year we will be selling tickets in advance, so if you can't come that day but would like to support the church, buy a ticket for a friend. The meal is served Family Style and includes great home-made desserts.

**Prices are: Adult \$13.00, Senior (65+) \$12.00, Children 5-12 \$7.00, Under 5 Free. All Takeouts are \$13.00.**

**It would be wonderful if everyone in the congregation could participate in one way, sell/buy a ticket, bake, help with the food prep, help with dinner setup, or help with cleanup.** We would like to make this the best dinner we've ever had. Please see the signup board in the FLC.

*Thank you, Trustees*

*The Messenger*

CHALFONT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
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Chalfont, Pennsylvania 18914-2810  
(215) 822-2807  
Web Page: [www.chalfontumc.org](http://www.chalfontumc.org)

STAFF DIRECTORY

REV. BARBARA SEEKFORD	Pastor
REV. KENNETH L. BEALE, SR.	Pastoral Care Minister
REV. ERIN MAURER	Deacon, Worship Leader
CRIS FRISCO	Director of Music
PATRICIA L. KERR	Administrative Assistant

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IMPORTANT DATES

**Sunday, October 27**

*(UM Bishop to preach at both services)*

**Sunday, November 3**

*(All Saint's Day)*

**Tuesday, November 5**

*(Elections in the Family Life Center)*

**Friday, November 8**

*(Beacon Concert - 7:00 pm)*

**Saturday, November 9**

*(Roast Beef Dinner)*

**Sunday, November 24**

*(Harvest Home Sunday; Hanging of the Greens between services; lunch after 11:00 service.)*

**ROAST BEEF DINNER  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9**

**4:00 TO 7:00 PM**

**ADULTS: \$13.00**

**SENIORS (65+): \$12.00**

**CHILD (5-12): \$7.00**

**UNDER 5: FREE**

**ALL TAKEOUTS: \$13.00**

**"HOMEMADE DESSERTS INCLUDED"**