



THE CHIMES

IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1905 Edmondson Avenue • Catonsville, Maryland 21228
PHONE: (410) 744-5014 • E-MAIL: welcome@immanuelucc21228.org • WEB: immanuelucc21228.org

The Consistory Officers

President

Pat Dempsey

Vice President

Sue DiPaula

Treasurer

Bryan Holley

Assistant Treasurer

Larry Dunham

Financial Secretary

Steve DiPaula

Secretary

Christina Jimenez

Comptroller

Les Luco

The Consistory Elders

Sue DiPaula

Susan Souder

Pat Dempsey

The Consistory Deacons

Bryan Holley

Christina Jimenez

Bob Garner

Ed Lanehart

Les Luco

Ministers

All Members

Ministers of Music

Les Luco

Marjay Contwor

Nevin Oklumfor

Administrative Assistant

Jill Thomassen

Custodian

Denise Burton

“Reflections”

June 2017

After spending a week with my family in Texas, including a ton of extended family from my sister’s spouse, Victor, I’ve been trying to become more accepting of another generation of Baptist millennials. They have firmly closed personal beliefs when it comes to the Bible and set in stone theologies. One of Victor’s step-children, Kristy, is married to Adam and they have two young kids. They are missionaries based in Thailand and are currently spending 22+ hours on their way back to Thailand.

Representing the UCC in my family tree has always been an evolving challenge. I’m pretty sure that my soul will, at some time, be prayed for in another country with a ton of other people who live out their faiths differently. Have no fear, I was as nurturing and pastoral as I could be! But it did remind me of the complexities of my own journey through the years. As I think of this young couple surrounded by Buddhists, secular city dwellers, political corruption on steroids and sex trafficking as a major industry, I pray that their youth ministries will find ways to be creative, nurturing, and accepting. Inclusion will take a denominational change!

In just a matter of days, our national and international Wider Church will be landing here for General Synod 2017. We’ve been talking, planning, recruiting, and sustaining this massive gathering for several years. You’ve been bombarded with updates and messages from the Central Atlantic Conference and Chimes articles and Howdys from me. And now, the UCC is ready to “Make Waves” across Baltimore, beginning on June 30th!

Way too many people have no clue about who we are, what we do, and why we take the difficult paths to radically inclusive hospitality and strong justice issues. There will be thousands of us gathering at the Convention Center and across the Inner Harbor to worship, work, serve in various special service projects, and play together as a global community. We will be the ambassadors of our Conference and to the communities across Baltimore.

I can pretty much guarantee that we won’t be invisible in our local media as well as social media sources. We’re going to be dealing with a number of important issues in the Resolutions coming to be discussed and the structural recalibration of our National Church setting. Don’t be surprised when we make some headlines.

As a voting delegate representing our Chesapeake Association, I will be assigned as a committee member working on one of the many Resolutions that will shape the UCC’s immediate concerns and responses in the context of the current political upheaval we are living in now. My assignment with Committee 14 is the Resolution of Witness [On Recognizing and Studying Gun Violence as a Public Health Emergency](#) (pdf). If we didn’t take stands on the hard stuff, we just wouldn’t be UCC!

You can see the list of issues we'll be dealing with below. It would take 13 pages to fill you in on what they say and what they hope to do. If you want to know the scoop, Jill and I will give you the link or print the pages for you upon request. It's worth the time to see what your Church will be doing in a couple of weeks!

If you have any concerns or opinions you'd like to share with me before Synod begins, just drop by, call, text or email. Just so you know, I'll be voting according to my own conscience after studying each Resolution, participating in committee discussions, and engaging my colleagues, other CAC delegates, and a whole lot of prayer. The UCC is made for times like these, and I'm grateful and proud to be a part of our General Synod.

Live streaming will be available through www.ucc.org at the General Synod tab! Welcome to Baltimore, UCC friends!

Rev Bev

SUMMARY OF UCC RESOLUTIONS

1. ON ENHANCED SUPPORT OF AMERICAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION FOUNDED CHURCHES THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE MERGER FORMING THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2. A Call for the United Church of Christ to Advocate for the Rights of Children Living Under Israeli Military Occupation
3. ON CORPORAL PUNISHMENT OF CHILDREN IN HOMES AND INSTITUTIONS
4. Bring Down the Wall in the Caribbean
5. Resolution Declaring the Work of the Pattern of Giving in the United Church of Christ Complete
6. The Disparity of Rights of Adoptees to Access Birth Certificates for Adults
7. ON PROPOSING A NEW FRAMEWORK FOR COVENANTAL GIVING AND IMPLEMENTING FUNDRAISING BEST PRACTICES
8. ON RECOGNIZING AND STUDYING GUN VIOLENCE AS A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY
9. ON BECOMING AN IMMIGRANT WELCOMING CHURCH
10. A More Just Economy: Living Wages and Job Creation
11. Resolution of Witness in Support of Legislation Authorizing Medical Aid in Dying
12. Enact Minimum Wage Laws of \$15 Per Hour
13. ON ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY TRAINING FOR AUTHORIZED MINISTERS
14. Resolution of Witness in Support of Adult Survivors of Child Abuse and Neglect
15. Affirming and Supporting the Authorized Ministries of Under-represented Clergy in Local Congregations: A Call for Greater Representation and Economic Justice
16. Toward Disability Justice: A Call to the Church and Churches
17. Affirming the Coalition of Immokalee Workers' Boycott of Wendy's

GENERAL SYNOD NEWS

WILL YOU HELP MAKE SURE WE'RE READY??

Snacks! Snacks! Snacks!

The Snack Committee and Association Liaisons have been busy collecting snacks and funds to purchase snacks, however we have not met our goal! In order to provide an extravagant welcome and radical hospitality for General Synod 2017 attendees, we need your help in providing snacks, snacks, snacks. For further information, please contact Steve or Linda Matthias at smatthias@verizon.net.



- Continued -

Still haven't signed up to Volunteer? It's not too late!! The LAC is looking for volunteers to:

- Help with the **APP Committee**. If you use apps on a mobile device, your skills are needed for this committee! We need people to help synod attendees learn how to use the General Synod APP, which is how the synod program will be accessed. If you are interested in helping with this committee, contact Doug White at dwhite21787@gmail.com.
- Help with the **Conference Booth** in the Exhibit Hall. Help the conference extend our welcome by working a few hours in the CAC booth in the exhibit hall. For more information, contact Jill White at gs2017lac@gmail.com.
- Help register people and work in the canteen for the **Red Cross Blood Drive**. The blood drive is Friday, June 30, and volunteers are needed from 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Volunteers will be registering blood donors and attending the donors in the canteen. To volunteer for the blood drive, contact Jill White.
- Not sure how you want to volunteer? Contact Jill White for other ways you can help at the Convention Center during Synod.

Don't forget the Service Projects!!

If you aren't able to attend Synod, but want to participate, you can still donate to the service projects!

We are collecting cold weather items for winter shelters in our Conference, however we will also take cash donations! If you'd like to contribute, please send checks, made payable to CAC Shelter Project and mail to the Conference Office.

We will also be taking donations for the Best Friends Animal Shelter Project. The animals would greatly appreciate donations of any safe, pet-friendly toys, food or non-toxic treats. Items collected will be distributed to local no-kill animal shelters. Monetary donations will also be collected and can be sent to the CAC office, with checks made payable to CAC Best Friends Animal Shelter Project (or CAC BFASP).

Donations to any Synod project can be mailed to the CAC Office at 918 S. Rolling Rd., Catonsville, MD 21228.

Have questions? Need more information? Contact Jill White at gs2017lac@gmail.com

We hope to see you at the Baltimore Convention Center June 30 – July 4 as a Volunteer or Visitor to General Synod 31. Don't miss this once in a lifetime opportunity!

June Birthdays

02 – Peggy Wiley

17 – Bryan Holley

23 – Cindy Pfefferkorn

24 – Diane Resides

29 – Jill Kramer

30 – Larry Dunham



Upcoming Events

Trinity Sunday – Sunday, June 11 – Please wear white.

Father's Day / Consistory – Sunday, June 18

Stuffing Party for General Synod – Saturday, June 24, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. John's UCC in the Social Hall. If you are able to help stuff 4000 welcome bags, please RSVP to Jill White – gs2017lac@gmail.com.

Meeting of UCC Climate Justice Retreat – Thursday, June 29 and Friday, June 30

General Synod 2017 – Thursday, June 29 through Tuesday, July 4 - Baltimore, MD



IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
1905 Edmondson Avenue
Catonsville, MD 21228-4231

Lectionary Readings

(Day-Date; First Reading; Psalm; Second Reading; Gospel)

Pentecost – June 4, 2017

*Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21; John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

Trinity Sunday – June 11, 2017

Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

Second Sunday after Pentecost – June 18, 2017

Genesis 18:1-15; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 (OR Exodus 19:2-8a; Psalm 100) Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23)

Third Sunday after Pentecost – June 25, 2017

Genesis 21:8-21; Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 (OR Jeremiah 20:7-13; Psalm 69:7-10, (11-15), 16-18) Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39

* During Eastertide a reading from Acts is often substituted for the lesson from the Hebrew Bible. On the Day of Pentecost, if the Old Testament passage from Numbers is chosen for the first reading, the passage from Acts is used as the second reading.

Prayer Concerns

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR HOME-BOUND MEMBERS:

Libby Walter

PRAYER CONCERNS IN THE CHURCH FAMILY:

Sue DiPaula, broken ankle and cracked rib; Lisa Ianuzzi, broken ankle

PRAYER CONCERNS IN THE EXTENDED CHURCH FAMILY:

Steve Schreiner's son, Alex; The DiPaula's extended family; Central Atlantic Conference; General Synod 2017.

PRAYER CONCERNS IN OUR REGION:

Refugee families in Baltimore County; Federal employees and civil servants; undocumented residents.

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNS:

Terrorism-Manchester, London, Paris, Kabul, Iran; Storm victims across the South; Syrian families and refugees across the world; North Korea; Russian aggression; families fearful of deportation; prayers for our country; all U.S. military deployed and stateside.