



THE CHIMES

IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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“Reflections”

November 2018

Well, we did it again, y'all! We survived the 2018 Yard Sale for Earl's Place and made over \$1,400 dollars! Well done, team! Thank you for all of your contributions, really hard work and for the great hospitality you offered all of our friends and neighbors. And a special thank you to Karl for the great hot dogs!

We can also extend our gratitude to our Catonsville Cooperative Market friends for their support, free samples, and extending their welcome to all of us as well. This time, we had the opportunity to experience fellowship with some of our UCC friends who responded to our invitation through our CAC Conference office information sharing ministry. Thank Tristan and Angie for advertising for us!

The next few weeks are going to be full of special activities for our church and the CAC. On Saturday, November 17th, the Conference will be called into a special meeting to elect our new Conference Minister. Richard Canter and Sheila Helgerson will be joining me as voting delegates to represent Immanuel. This doesn't happen very often, and I believe the spirit of John Deckenback will be celebrating with us.

Sunday, November 18, is going to be a special day as well. One of our speakers from the Anti-Hate Forums, Grey Michael Parsons, a Native American, will be joining us for worship. He'll be sharing a circle of blessing with us, drumming and chanting in his native language, to begin and end the service. He'll also share a brief reflection that will give us a new perspective as we celebrate Thanksgiving.

That Sunday will also be our Annual Congregational Meeting Day! We'll take a look at the ministries we've been a part of and supported. We'll also adopt the 2019 Budget and look to the future. We've had a lot to be thankful for this year: new members, continuous visitors, increased community engagement, and our "no longer new" staff member, Donyae, who's creating a path for future Earl's Place guys as he works hard to keep our building in such great shape.

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If that wasn't enough for one Sunday, it will also be the kick off day to make Christmas cards for our two sister churches in Japan! Alfredo, Sue, and Miriam are compiling craft supplies, so if you want to help provide the fun stuff, all donations are very welcome! You don't have to be an exceptional artist or craft genius to make cards, so don't be shy.

As Thanksgiving quickly approaches, remember you can get some great produce, spices and pre-ordered turkeys (if you have a membership getting you into the ordering club) from the Cooperative Market! It also means that it's almost Putz construction time! If you've ever wanted to build a mountain landscape and play with ceramic figurines, join the 2018 Putz Team as we recreate the Christmas story visually and follow the tradition of the Moravians! Just let me know!

Let's continue to pray for our nation as election results are still being tabulated and a new Congress prepares for January. The work of restorative justice will always be a priority throughout our UCC churches, and especially along the border regions. We won't stop until all of the kids are reunited with their families. We won't stop until all families have access to clean water, Native American rights, environmental protection, health care and adequate education.

Don't let all of the fun and meaningful stuff pass you by this year! Advent is only a few weeks away! Happy Thanksgiving!

Rev Bev

P.S. Get your flu shot! It's not too late!

UCC Disaster Ministries Poised To Assist After Hurricane Michael

From the UCC website: Written by **Connie Larkman** October 12, 2018

As the people of Florida, Georgia and the Carolinas begin the long process of recovery from Hurricane Michael, an extraordinarily powerful Category 4 storm which slammed into the Florida panhandle on Wednesday, UCC Disaster Ministries remains poised to assist.

"Right now, there are no reports of damage to any UCC churches at this time and we are continuing to keep in close contact with Florida Conference Disaster Coordinator Alan Coe," said Zach Wolgemuth, UCC Disaster Ministries executive. He noted that Coe is participating in Florida Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster ([VOAD](#)) calls and keeping the national staff posted. "That said, many areas are not accessible, dangerous and without power. It will take days for initial assessments to be completed and intermediate needs to be identified."

At least thirteen people in four states died after the most powerful hurricane to hit the continental U.S. in over 50 years ripped through Florida on October 10, crossed into South Georgia spawning tornadoes, and brought flash flooding to North Carolina, drenching areas still reeling from Hurricane Florence. Massive winds topping 150 miles an hour toppled trees, tore roofs off homes and businesses, and blew structures apart in the Panama City area. Power outages are still affecting hundreds of thousands of people across Florida, Georgia, Alabama and the Carolinas.

"This most recent disaster will no doubt stretch our capacity and though it is at the forefront of the news cycle, we remain committed to the families and communities still displaced from disasters over a year ago even as we plan our long-term response to Michael." Wolgemuth said. "As is always the case, the best way to support survivors in this disaster is to give (financially), pray for first responders and survivors and plan to volunteer in long-term recovery."

"Within the span of one month we've witnessed a plethora of catastrophic disasters," he continued. "Two Indonesian earthquakes and a tsunami; a Haitian earthquake; Typhoon Mangkhut; Typhoon Titli; [Hurricane Florence](#) and now [Hurricane Michael](#)."

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"The images and stories coming from Hurricane Michael and these other disasters are heart-wrenching and remind us why long-term recovery is so important," Wolgemuth emphasized. "Disaster Ministries always stands ready to fill gaps and is supporting many of the early relief efforts to these disasters but we know that our presence is most needed in the months and years following any disaster. Sadly, research shows that 70% of all giving for disasters occurs within the first 2 months and only 5% is allocated to reconstruction and recovery. Recovery work is not flashy, it doesn't always make the news – but it's not about recognition. It is about being the church and responding to the greatest needs of the most vulnerable and in times like these when Christ calls us to extend the table.

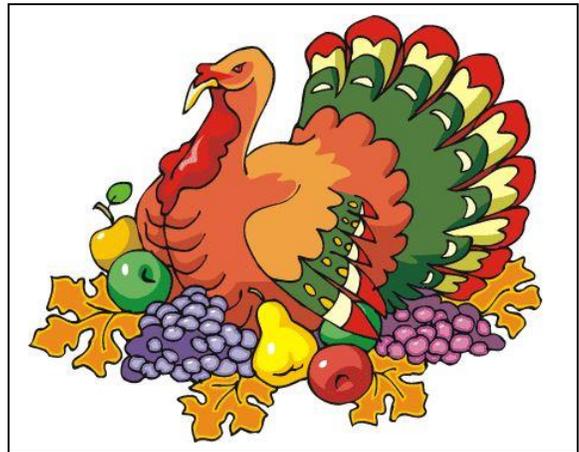
"My prayer is that we will have [sufficient volunteers and support](#) to continue the critical recovery efforts from last year's disasters and the ability to extend the table of support to families and communities from these most recent events," Wolgemuth said. "Please join us on the journey of healing and recovery for all."

Get more information on [volunteering](#) and donate to the [2018 Hurricane Response here](#).

Catonsville Emergency Assistance: Donating Food for Thanksgiving

Help make someone's holidays extra special! CEA is collecting these items for their clients' Thanksgiving Bags:

- cream soups
- canned yams
- gravy
- canned pie filling/pudding
- cans of evaporated/condensed milk
- canned pumpkin filling
- stuffing
- boxed mashed potatoes
- cranberry sauce



Catonsville Emergency Assistance relies on contributions of food—perishable, non-perishable, and frozen food—as well as dry goods/hygiene products such as toilet paper, toiletries, and paper towels. When possible, low-sodium food and lower sugar cereals are preferred. Food should not be more than a year old. Food can be dropped off at church for delivery to CEA. There is a basket in the sanctuary.

November Birthdays

06 – Leslie Dunham

12 – Jill Boyd

16 – Janet Leak

17 – Seth Kramer

19 – Isaac Oliver

21 – Nancy Taylor



Upcoming Events

Annual Reports Due – Tuesday, November 6 – reports due for inclusion in annual report.

Catonsville Cooperative Market Chili Cook Off – Saturday, November 10 from 5:00 until 7:00 Fellowship Hall

Consistory – November 11

Special Meeting of the CAC – Saturday, November 17 - special meeting for the purpose of calling the Rev. Freeman Palmer as Conference Minister.

Annual Congregational Meeting – Sunday, November 18

New Wave Singers Concert – Saturday, December 1st at 7:00pm

1st Sunday of Advent – Sunday, December 2



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Lectionary Readings

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

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost – Reformation Sunday – November 4, 2018

Ruth 1:1-18; Psalm 146:1-10; Hebrews 9:11-14; Mark 12:28-34

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost – November 11, 2018

Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17; Psalm 127; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44

Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost – November 18, 2018

1 Samuel 1:4-20; 1 Samuel 2:1-10; Hebrews 10:11-14 (15-18) 19-25; Mark 13:1-8

Reign of Christ Sunday – November 25, 2018

2 Samuel 23:1-7; Psalm 132:1-12; Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37

Prayer Concerns

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR HOME-BOUND MEMBERS:

PRAYER CONCERNS IN THE CHURCH FAMILY:

Joyce Stanton, continuing chemotherapy; Jill, Bell's Palsy.

PRAYER CONCERNS IN THE EXTENDED CHURCH FAMILY:

Loss of Ed Lanehart's sister, Anne; Bryan Holley's brother; Rev. Maeba Jonas' mother, Susan, cancer recurrence and chemotherapy; Sue and Steve DiPaula's extended family; Central Atlantic Conference; residents and staff of Earl's Place; Kim Turner, treatment for brain cancer; Joy Reid, recovering from knee surgery.

PRAYER CONCERNS IN OUR REGION:

Tree of Life Synagogue; Baltimore gun violence; local flood victims; Dreamers facing uncertain futures and all undocumented residents; refugee families in Baltimore County; Hurricane Florence and recovery; safety of law enforcement and first responders.

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNS:

California shooting victims; unresolved election results; Jeffersontown Kentucky shooting victims; people receiving pipe bombs; migrant caravan safety; family of Jamal Khashoggi; Hurricane Michael and recovery; Central Texas flooding; Indonesia; victims of sexual assault; California and western states wildfires; Reverend Michael Joseph and Peace Commission in Columbia; Reunification of immigrant and refugee kids with their families; Guatemala; Puerto Rico; teachers; Southern and Midwest storm and flood victims; Syria; all UCC disaster relief projects; prayers for our country; families fearful of deportation; all U.S. military deployed and stateside; refugees seeking safety and compassionate care.