



Musings from Pastor Dan

Jesus said, “*The time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service. And these things they will do to you because they have not known the Father nor me.*” These words from John’s Gospel, 16:2b-3 has rung true through the centuries and will continue to be true in the time to come. We are all aware, or at least should be aware, of Christians around the world that are tortured and/or killed simply because they profess their faith in Jesus Christ. Many others suffer various forms of persecution.

Persecutions, torture, and death are not new to Christianity. Such atrocities are recorded as early as 64 A.D., when Emperor Nero blamed Christians for the burning of Rome. Though some Roman Emperors are notorious for their persecution of Christians, are you aware that more Christians were martyred or tortured in the 20th century than in the previous 19 centuries combined?



It seems this century will prove equally fatal for Christians around the world. Many Christian publications regularly report atrocities committed against Christians ranging from arrest and detention to murder.

For example, *The Voice of The Martyrs* recently reported that, “Ten members of a Christian aid team were murdered in northern Afghanistan on Aug. 5 after spending three weeks providing medical care to villagers, according to The New York Times (NYT).”

“Six Americans, a Briton, a German and two Afghans were ambushed when they stopped to eat lunch in Sharrun Valley, in the Hindu Kush mountains of northern Afghanistan. The Taliban, who have claimed responsibility for the killings, have accused

the team of spying and being Christian missionaries.”

In another incident, “Authorities in Karakalpakstan, an autonomous region of Uzbekistan, have renewed a crackdown on Protestant Christians in recent weeks, according to Forum 18 News.

“On July 8, two Christians were sentenced to 10 days in prison for religious activities. One of the imprisoned believers, Lepes Omarov, had previously faced opposition for his Christian activities. According to Forum 18, only state-registered Muslim communities and one Russian Orthodox parish are allowed to operate in Karakalpakstan. All other religious activity in the area is illegal.”



Imagine for a moment living under circumstances such as these, where our families, jobs, and even our lives are at risk simply

for professing Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. I suspect, because we are so insulated from these events, that such circumstances are virtually unimaginable. Yet, these events happen daily! These are our brothers and sisters in Christ, martyred every day, tortured every day, threatened every day, because of their Christian faith—yet they persist!

The issue of Christian persecution often weighs heavily on me. I pray it begins to weigh heavily on you as well. Please pray for our fellow believers. Perhaps you can go to the *Voice of the Martyrs* web-site at www.persecution.com to keep up to date on the atrocities committed against Christians and how they persevere in the faith. They need our help, and it is so easy for us to provide it. What are you going to do? I pray you think about it.

Pastor Dan

Many Thanks!

Did you know or have you heard that Lynn Lord Gambrill celebrated her 95th birthday on August 6th? Leaving the 80s and moving ahead as I said before, I cannot find a "word" that would truly explain my appreciation for everyone. "Love and Compassion"

Love always,
Lynn



Wow! Thanks for the crew who volunteered their time (and sweat) on a recent Saturday morning to weed and trim the church's landscaping. It looks awesome! Thank you.

Birth Announcement

Congratulations to Chris and Cheryl Griffith on the birth of their son, Garrett Emerson Griffith, born August 8, 2010.

Garrett is the grandson of Henry and Yvonne Nagel, Wayne Griffith and Patti and Calvin Bradley. Best wishes from your Union UMC family.



College Students

Won't you please help us collect college students' email and "snail mail" addresses? We can let them know that their church is thinking of them by sending them the Lamplighter and other communications via email. Marjorie Scott would also like to start a care package project.

Most importantly, please remember to keep them in your prayers. Let us know of additions or changes to the prayer list. Thank you.

College Students

Hunter Bennett, Tyler Bennett, Casey Edgell, Ryan Edgell, Katie Harding, J.T. Nagel, Laura Richardson, Lauren Ruf, Shelby Ruf, Gregory Russell, Rob Scott, Danielle Stewart, Brittany Wilson

Senior Choir

Sr. Choir practice will begin on Wednesday, September 15th at 7 p.m. in the chapel. If you like to have fun, tell jokes and laugh, come to Sr. Choir practice on the date and date above. Oh, and we sing, too!

We sing on the second and fourth Sundays of each month to give all the praise and glory to our Lord. So, please come joins us.

Love in Christ,
Debbie Riggan

Women's Sunday School Class

Why not join us on Sunday, Sept. 12, 2010, as we begin a new year of searching for ways to apply God's commands to our lives? This is an informal group for all women. We spend time in sharing, prayer, laughter, studying how God's Holy Word works in our lives, and taking time to listen for him whispering our names. All are encouraged to join us. Age is not important, we are all looking for the same thing – ways to draw nearer to God. Sometimes the hardest thing is to make the initial visit. We promise you that you will be welcomed with open arms and know you will fit right in with us..

We meet in the Berea Classroom. It is the last room before entering the Pre-School. We start at 9:30 AM. We do not use study books. We start with a planned passage of scripture and go where the Spirit leads us. Hope you can join us!

Getting to Know You

Would you like a visit from Pastor Dan? If so, please give us your contact information by either calling the church office (410)754-9210 or dropping us a note with your name, address and telephone numbers. Thanks!

Celebration Service

9:30 a.m. —
10:30 a.m.
in Fellowship Hall

Sunday School

9:30 a.m. —
10:30 a.m.

Traditional Service

11:00 a.m. —
12 noon in the Sanctuary

Italian Sub Sale

Friday, September 17th 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Tickets on sale beginning September 1st

\$7.50

12-inch Italian sub with all the condiments, bag of chips and a brownie

Benefit: General Fund

Tickets may be purchased from Charlotte Harrison, Pansy Wilson or the church office.

Volunteers are needed to prepare and deliver. If you can help please contact Mary Harding 410-829-1225

LAMPLIGHTER CONTRIBUTIONS

are welcome by
the **15th** of
each month.

Please submit
information to
Emily Phillips at
ebphillips20@
hotmail.com

Finance Team Update

Thank You! Thank You! Thank you to everyone who attended the UUMC Family Night at the Federalsburg Family Restaurant (Tastee Freez) on Tuesday, August 17th. The overwhelming turn out was absolutely terrific. It was so nice to see so many of our church families there having dinner together and having the opportunity to visit with one another. That's what is so special about a small town community, when asked we are always there to support each other.

The proceeds from this event will be used to launch the Pioneer Club which is a part of UUMC Children's Ministry Program.

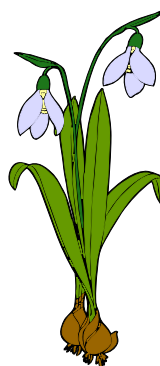
New Friends Fellowship of Christian Women

Calling all women! It is certainly not too early to mark your calendar for Tuesday, October 5th. This will start our 16th year of meeting together for a meal, fellowship, music and a program.

Pastor Dan Gedman will be our guest speaker, and the music will be provided by "Revived", a gospel singing trio composed of Ron Messick, Jill Queen and Galen Queen.

Just bring your favorite covered dish and \$3.00 to help cover the cost. An entrée and drinks will be provided. No need to make a reservation, come and bring a friend with you! See you on **October 5th at 6 PM!**

Fall Bulb Sale



The Fall Bulb Sale that began on August 22nd will conclude on Sunday, September 26th with all orders being due to Virginia Liddell. Please utilize this fundraiser as an opportunity to sell to your relatives, neighbors and friends. All sales benefit Union UMC's General Fund.

If you need an order form or have any questions please contact Virginia Liddell at 410-754-8511. Order forms are also available in the church office.

Lamplighter via E-Mail

Many people have chosen to receive the LampLighter via email. Those who have chosen to receive their LampLighter electronically are helping to reduce our church budget by saving on the printing, paper and postage costs. If you would like to start receiving your LampLighter via email, please email Emily so she can add you to our email list. Also, the LampLighter can be found at myunion-church.com

Union Preschool Mission Statement

It is the Mission of Union Preschool (UPS) to provide a Christian-based, developmentally appropriate educational experience that develops academic and social skills of all children, while nurturing respect for self, others and the community.



Back to Sunday School

The school year has begun and as is our tradition at Union UMC, the Sunday after Labor Day, September 12th, is **Back to Sunday School**.

Bring your children, your grandchildren and their friends for the start of an exciting new year filled with opportunities to learn about God's amazing love.

All youth and teachers will begin their morning with songs of praise in the 9:30 a.m. worship service in Fellowship Hall. Following Pastor Dan's Children's message students will be dismissed with their teachers for the remainder of the hour and may be picked up by their parents in their classrooms at 10:30 a.m.

Be sure to come early each week and enjoy some juice and refreshments beginning by 9:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Parents are invited to come and stay for Praise and Worship from 9:30—10:30 a.m. and/ or to the Traditional Worship Service at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary. Your presence is welcome. We can't wait to see you!

Children's Choir

Children ages 4 and older are invited to join Union UMC's Children Choir. The first practice of the new school year will be **Thursday, September 9th at 6:30 p.m.** We hope your children or grandchildren will join us for fun, song and refreshments? Any questions please call Emily Phillips 410-754-389 or Dawn Coulbourn 410-754-7071.



Union Preschool Open House/ Health Fair

On Wednesday, August 25th UPS held its Annual Back to School Night which is a combination Open House and Health Fair. It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces returning as well as new children with their families. We are so excited to begin the school year with two wonderful groups of children in both the 3 and 4 year old classes. Union UMC welcomes you!

Let me also say thank you to all the volunteers who donated their time, supplies and skills to make the 2nd Annual Health Fair a great success.

The first day of school for UPS was August 31st. Please keep the children, their families, the teachers and the school in your prayers this school year. Thank you.

Emily Phillips

Imagine No Malaria

Dear Union Friends,

Your 2010 gift of \$223.66 to Imagine No Malaria supports the United Methodist Church's commitment to eliminate malaria is a major source of death and suffering in Africa by 2015. your contribution to this ministry will have a life-changing impact on entire families and ultimately on the health and livelihood of entire villages and communities for generations to come.

Imagine No Malaria is a comprehensive effort that includes bed net distribution, malaria prevention and education programs, development and rehabilitation of united Methodist hospitals and clinics and training programs for medical outreach workers.

Thank you for your generosity and please continue to pray for our work and those we serve.

Peace and Joy,

Rev. Larry Hollon

General Secretary, UM Communications

Thanks to Jen Hiatt and everyone involved with VBS who made this donation possible.

Federalburg Marina

TOP TEN REASONS

to participate in the Remembrance5K (3.1 mile) Run (9:00 am) & 2 mile Walk (9:15 am)

Saturday Sept. 25, 2010

10. Enjoy the beautiful Hike/Bike Trail
9. Free t-shirt w/\$15 fee
8. Ages 0-5 go FREE! Wagons, strollers welcome on Walk
7. Bagels, cream cheese, OJ, bottled water, fruit for all participants
6. Help Celebrate Caroline Hospice's 25th Anniversary
5. Door prizes
4. Meet our wonderful staff: Autumn, Brandy and Heidi.
3. Medals with ribbons for all participants ages 12-under
2. User-friendly exercise: benches, water stop on Walk
1. Support HOSPICE! All proceeds stay in Caroline County



Invite family, friends, and neighbors.

VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED on 9/25:

6:30-9:00 am (registration) & 8:30-10:00 am (food, door prizes)

Call 410-479-3500 for more info and to ask about SLEEPWALKER entry. (For those who can't come on 9/25, but would like to support this cause!) Entry forms are available at all county churches, libraries and town offices and can also be downloaded at: www.carolinehospice.com

Church Office Hours:

Monday—Thursday
9 a.m.— 1 p.m.

Telephone:

410-754-9210

Website:

myunionchurch.com

The Gathering

THE GATHERING, sponsored by Community Matters, will begin its third year of serving a full meal to anyone who comes in on Wednesday, October 13, 2010.

This non-profit organization was founded in 2008 by several members of Union Church who recognized a need for gathering together for a meal. It is held in Union Church Fellowship Hall, which is handicap accessible, from 3 to 5 PM. All are welcome to enjoy good food, fellowship, and music provided by some local musicians. A nurse from the Caroline County Health Dept. offers blood pressure screenings to those who desire it.

We will meet monthly on the 2nd Wednesday of the month through June 2011.

There is no cost. Some choose to make a small donation, but it is never expected. Won't you join us - and why not invite a friend to come with you? Remember the date: Wednesday, October 13 from 3 to 5 PM.

Cub Scouts

Cub Scouts Pack 137 will resume its meetings on Monday, September 13th at 7 p.m. at Union UMC. Thank you again to Union for sponsoring the Pack.

Leaders from the Pack will be present for Federalburg Elementary's Back to School Night on September 1st and again on September 8th for Join Scouting Night, also at FES.

Cub Scouts is for boys ages 1st through 5th grades. If you have sons, grandsons or friends and other relatives in this age group please consider the benefits of joining such an awesome organization. For more information about scouting in general visit www.delmarvacouncil.org or contact Eddie Hitchens, Cub Master, by calling the church office 410-754-9210.



September Calendar of Events

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|---------------------------|
| | | | 1 <i>Ferdinand Nagel</i> | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 <i>Ava Carels</i> | 6 Labor Day Church office closed | 7 SPRC meeting 6:30 p.m. | 8 Trustees meeting 7 p.m. <i>Kay Cooper</i> <i>Virginia & Glenn Liddell's anniversary</i> | 9 Children's Choir practice 6:30 p.m. Lion's Club 6:30 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 Back to Sunday School 9:30 a.m. <i>Rob Steele, Pansy Wilson</i> | 13 Finance meeting 7 p.m. Cub Scouts 7 p.m. | 14 | 15 Sr. Choir practice 7 p.m. | 16 4 H meeting | 17 Union UMC Sub Sale <i>Ryan Edgell</i> | 18 |
| 19 | 20 Cub Scouts 7 p.m. <i>Norma Nagel, Bob Steele</i> | 21 Ruritans 6:30 p.m. <i>Morris Harrison</i> | 22 Sr. Choir practice 7 p.m. | 23 Children's Choir practice 6:30 p.m. Lion's Club 6:30 1st Day of Autumn <i>JoAnne Nagel</i> | 24 | 25 <i>Judy Planner</i> |
| 26 | 27 Cub Scouts 7 p.m. | 28 Church Council 7 p.m. | 29 Sr. Choir practice 7 p.m. | 30 | <i>Birthdays are in italics</i>  | |

Federalburg Community Food Pantry

September: Cereal

Won't you consider helping our less fortunate neighbors by making a monthly contribution? Donations may be placed in the wooden box in the Narthex.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

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Sermons Online

Did you miss a Sunday recently due to summer time plans or just wish you could hear the message again? Don't fret. Visit our website at www.myunionchurch.com to hear Pastor Dan deliver the sermon. From the *Home Page* click on *Adult Ministry* and then *Sermons*.

Union United Methodist Church

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THE LAMPLIGHTER

September Issue 2010

Back to Sunday School

September 12th, 2010

9:30—10:30 a.m. Sunday School

Praise & Worship Service

11 a.m.—12 noon Traditional Worship Service