



Table of Contents

Working Together In Ministry	2
Member Spotlight	3
AU Campus Ministry	3
Youth Connection	4
Life at Metropolitan	5
Reconciling Ministries Network Update	6
Service and Advocacy at Metropolitan	6
Study Opportunities at Metropolitan	7
United Methodist Women	7
Children's Ministries	8
A Little Night Music	9



THE MESSENGER

For the congregation of the Metropolitan Memorial Cooperative Parish
(Including Metropolitan Memorial, St. Luke's, and Wesley United Methodist Churches)

August 14, 2009
Volume XIV, No. 8
www.nationalchurch.org

Working Together In Ministry

At our last Staff-Parish Relations Committee meeting, the committee asked me to prepare an article on some of the highlights of our time together over the past two years. When I sat down to put this together, I was amazed to see the scope of what we have accomplished together. Soon after I came to Metropolitan, we launched a visioning process under the leadership of the Church Council that resulted in three defining statements (see box below). The visioning process continues with the Church Council conducting an inventory of ongoing ministries and an assessment for what ministries need to be ended, scaled back, or revised in order to make people and financial resources available for new and expanded ministries in other areas.

Into the midst of this visioning process the Bishop invited us to engage in a new model for ministry by becoming a cooperative parish with St. Luke's and Wesley United Methodist Churches. While this was obviously not what we had envisioned while we were doing our visioning process, we are continuing to discover the synergy and opportunities that come with our three campuses working together. We are particularly proud of the leadership that our parish provides in the area of homelessness, including on-site homeless shelters at Metropolitan Memorial and St. Luke's as well as significant contributions that members of all three churches provide in their work with the Community Council for the Homeless at Friendship Place (CCHFP), Capital Interfaith Hospitality Network (CIHN), and the Washington Interfaith Network (WIN). We are now offering five very different worship experiences each week, and outstanding special services, including Advent, Holy Week, and Healing Services. A team of our members also leads the worship at Grand Oaks each month.

There have been a number of changes in our staff including hiring Pat House as Director of Worship, Music and Arts; Rev. Jimmy Sherrod as Minister of Youth and New Worship; Rev. Kate Murphey as an Associate Minister with a focus on Wesley UMC and coordination of our service ministries; Anita Seline as Director of Children's Ministry; Linda Hutter as Bookkeeper; Helen Simon as Office Manager, Cody Nielsen as Associate for Campus Ministry, and Rafael Reyes as Director of Building and Grounds. Each of these people brings great gifts and a strong commitment to our church, and our staff team has been enriched by their contributions.

Much of my professional work before coming to Metropolitan Memorial is in the field of stewardship, and I am particularly pleased with the greatly strengthened stew-

ardship program we have experienced with 10% growth in giving per year during challenging economic times as well as the creation of a new Stewardship Committee that will bring a focus to this Christian discipline throughout the year. We have also recently formed a new Hospitality Committee that will help us to find ways to extend the radical hospitality in our vision statement.

In 2008, the church completed the first comprehensive audit that had been conducted in seven years, and much of the work of our multi-year construction project has been completed. In addition, the Board of Trustees has developed ten-year projections on capital maintenance projects which will be invaluable as we work to develop budget projections over the next decade.

Work continues in a number of important ministries, and I would note just a few like the children and youth ministries that focus on the youngest members of our church family. We also have a new emphasis on our relationship with American University and have created an AU ministry team to strengthen our outreach efforts to students at AU. Powerful hands-on ministries continue through our dedicated members of the Prayer Shawl ministry who knit and bless shawls that have been given to a wide diversity of people from new babies to those in the last stages of their lives. We are a people of service as demonstrated by our history of contributions such as 35 years of support to the Appalachian Service Project through mission team work and financial support, the annual Rebuilding Together ministry, a domestic Volunteers in Mission trip to a Hurricane Katrina-affected area, and international Volunteers in Mission teams to Nicaragua and Kenya.

The church has grown with 72 new members who joined the church, and our community of faith has been strengthened by the gifts and talents that each of the new members and our other members bring to our work together. Our weekly average attendance has grown over the last two years: From January to June 2007 to January to June 2009, the average at MMUMC increased from 341 to 403. There is, however, no way to quantify the spirit and community of caring that are the hallmark features of our church family. It is my privilege to be in ministry in our Cooperative Parish as we work together to extend radical hospitality, transform lives, and pursue justice. We can look with pride at all that we have accomplished together over the last two years, and great anticipation to all the ways that God will call us in ministry together in the future.

Our Mission: Building an inclusive, caring Christian community that invites others into a deepening relationship with God and challenges them to grow as disciples for the transformation of the world.

Our Vision: Extending radical hospitality, transforming lives, and pursuing justice.

Our Call: Praising, Learning, Serving



Member Spotlight

Lily and Norm Amtower: The Journey of Two \$100 a Year Scholars Metropolitan's Greatest Generation



In 1939 the principal of Iron River High School in Michigan's upper peninsula suggested that graduating senior Lillian Maki apply for a \$100 a year scholarship to American University in far off Washington, DC. She got it. And coming during the deflationary great depression \$100 was a generous sum of money. Lily calls the scholarship almost a full-ride, "as AU tuition then was \$10 a semester hour." A year later, Norman Amtower, a graduating senior in Cumberland, Maryland, also got a \$100 a year AU scholarship.



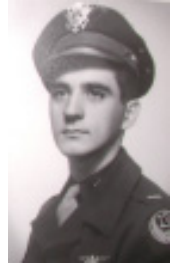
Lily arrived at AU 70 years ago this September. "There were only 500 students in those years," she remembers, "and there was compulsory chapel at Metropolitan every Thursday morning." Lily began singing in the choir. The following year she met and later fell in love with Norm.

World War II changed everything. In 1942 Norm, like his three brothers, was drafted. Seeking a good assignment, Norm chose the air force. He became an officer and spent months in Florida being trained as a bombardier. He was assigned to the new B-24s that were being hurriedly sent to the south Pacific to take the war to the Japanese.

Before departing he and Lily were married in California.

Norm flew 43 missions on B-24s, the four-engine bombers that were the pride of Henry Ford's Willow Run assembly plant outside Detroit. Norm received numerous medals and

citations. He participated in the famous but costly raid on the Balikpapan refinery in Indonesia, a target eight hours flying time away from the U.S. base on Guadalcanal. Balikpapan was vital source of fuel for Japan's war machine. It was the longest distance, in-formation bombing raid of the war. Of the nine planes in his group, only four came back, and Norm's craft was badly shot up. He was himself bloodied by shrapnel, a piece of which is a treasured souvenir. Norm survived only because of protective clothing.



Communications six decades ago was not what it is today. Norm and Lily's first child was born in November 1944 and the letter announcing that momentous event arrived five weeks later.

Altogether, Norm and Lily have seven children and four grandchildren. During their working years, the couple moved often, mainly on the west coast and Midwest, as Norm was an administrator for senior citizen homes run by the United Methodist Church. Since retiring from Asbury Village in Gaithersburg, Norm and Lily have lived in Frederick, MD. And each Sunday for the past 22 years, the Amtowers have made the 100 mile round-trip journey to Metropolitan, where in a very real sense their lives together began. For over two decades Lily sang tenor in chancel choir and Norm was an usher in the 11:00 service.

Last month, the Amtowers—in robust health but now 87, decided it was getting to be too much. This exemplary duo, so emblematic of our greatest generation, characteristically withdrew quietly, without fanfare. They leave behind dozens of friends, who offer their grateful salute, bidding the Amtowers a fond farewell and wishing them many more years of health and happiness.

AU Campus Ministry

The Students Return!!!

Everywhere you look around, there are students beginning another year of study. Some have returned from a long summer, others have started their journey, and still others are beginning a Master's degree or Ph. D. program. This month, hundreds of thousands of college students will return to the universities around the country, all seeking degrees which will benefit them down the road. But what about right now...what besides school is going on in their lives? That is where campus ministry comes in. As a local church located in a unique location, and with an established partnership with the established campus ministry on American University's campus, we at Metropolitan have not only an opportunity but an obligation to be a presence for these college students. The question is...how.

Working together with Mark Schaefer, the American University Methodist Protestant Chaplain, Metropolitan has for a year now been working to create a partnership. An AU team of congregation members are working to meet the needs of the students. These individuals include Angela Gildner (chair of the team), Penny Pagano, Julie Clements, Laura Huff, Ann Cochran, Maynard Moore, Suzanne Forsyth, Anne Matthews, Hayden Rhudy, Barbara Gaskill, and Lauren Frail, an AU student. Together the team has worked to establish many relationships with students and staff on campus. We'd like your help in this endeavor as we continue our important work.

As you see students this fall, we ask that you connect them with one of these individuals in the congregation, as well as connecting them with Cody Nielsen, our Associate for Campus Ministry. He will be starting a gathering group between services in his office (near the music room) and will also be having a tuesday lunch gathering of folks. We also would like to start a mentoring program for these students and would love to have a chance to talk with any of you who are interested. Please contact Cody Nielsen or Laura Huff regarding this developing program.

As a student, the AU team and myself (Cody Nielsen) would like to get to know you. Drop me a line at j.cody.nielsen@gmail.com or feel free to call at 319.759.9688. There will be a group sitting together during service so look around for the college students. Additionally, I would introduce you to many of the activities of the AU methodist Protestant Chaplaincy, as much of our work takes place in conjunction with their activities. Please do not hesitate to be in contact as the semester gets going. Take care.

J. Cody Nielsen

Youth Connection



Tuesdays on the Town

Summer is flying by (whoa...did you see it? it just went by). I can't believe it's almost time for school to start back. I know, most of us don't want to think about that just yet! Well, don't think about it! Enjoy your

last few days before you hit the books. We've had a blast each Tuesday night for "Tuesdays on the Town" this summer. From enjoying a Nats game to laser tag, we've had plenty of opportunities to build community and connect with one another. There are still a couple of more "Tuesdays on the Town" to enjoy. On August 18, we will gather at 6 p.m. for "Destination Unknown." Really, that's because we haven't decided where to go yet. So, if you have ideas, please share! On August 25, we will celebrate an awesome summer with a pool party at the Palisades pool on Seven Locks Road. If you want to ride in the church van, please be there at 5:45 p.m.

Just because "Tuesdays on the Town" ends doesn't mean our group goes away! In September, we will begin our regular ministry year. On Sunday, September 13, we will have our fall kickoff celebration. This event is designed to introduce you to the coming year, get you acquainted with other youth, and help parents to understand what our ministry is all about. We will have dinner, worship together, and then share in small groups. Please make plans to attend. Other exciting things coming up this fall include a retreat and a lock-in. We'll also engage in service ministry, learn about worship, and deepen our discipleship. I hope to see you this fall!

Remember, you can keep up to date by going to www.nationachurch.org and click on youth ministry or go to www.metropolitanyouth.blogspot.com. We are also on Facebook at Metropolitan Youth. We are NOT, however, on Twitter (cuz I'm just not convinced that everyone needs to know everything you are doing every second of the day). Maybe I can be convinced! I am available by e-mail at jsherrod@mmumc-dc.org or text me at 865.805.5373.

ASP 2009

From July 12-18, three teams from Metropolitan worked to repair homes in Raleigh County, West Virginia. The group consisted of 15 youth and 6 adult leaders: Nick Adams, Simon



Courtney, Bella Davenport, Alex Fishman, Emily House, Katie Mayo, Mariah McGee, Marissa Mizroch, Evan Rector, Hailey Rector, Jennifer Rogers, Marisa Remez, Ellie Sarnoff, Justin Settlege, Danielle Whitehead, Ned Bachman, Hope Bachman-Miller, Mike House, Kevin Settlege, and Jimmy Sherrod.



The groups built porches, put down tile flooring, worked on roofs, and underpinned a mobile home. After the first day, Bella Davenport exclaimed, "I learned how to use a power saw today! It was cool." Beyond learning how to use neat tools, the group built relationships with one another and with the families they served in this part of Appalachia. Raleigh County is halfway between Charleston and Beckley, West Virginia. The center in which we stayed was in a valley that was only

about 200 yards wide, if that. The people of the mountains are as beautiful as the environment in which they live.

There was a lot of learning about how to make spindles for porches, about the people of Appalachia, about ourselves, and about culture. On Wednesday night, the group went to an Assembly of God church for worship. Hailey Rector pointed out, "I really liked the preacher. He kept us engaged during the sermon." Of course, right along



with singing "Country Roads" and "You are Holy" was another ASP favorite: Dairy Queen. The nightly visits to get ice cream gave the group a unique opportunity to bond and create lasting friendships. It was also an opportunity to chat with people in the neighborhood, as this was one of the few places to eat in the area.

This was the 35th year that Metropolitan Memorial youth have been involved with Appalachia Service Project. There have been countless stories of lives and perspectives changed. It may have been the relationship that developed between youth and their leaders, or it may have been the connection between the work teams and the families they served. Whatever the case may be, this ministry has always been about accepting people where they are. That goes both ways. On the last night, Ned Bachman, an ASP veteran, noted that one of Tex Evans special sayings was that at ASP we "accept people right where they are and just the way they are." He said, "This goes both ways. I have always found that when I come into a family's home, I am always reminded that I am the one who is being accepted right where I am and just the way I am. That does not always happen in Washington, DC." That was a powerful statement in the share circle on Friday night that reminded us all of the grace of God that was and is present in the relationships we build and the work we do in service to God and each other.

Thank you for your support of this year's Appalachia Service Project team. Please be in prayer about how you might be able to help next year. Please consider praying for the ministry, supporting it financially, or possibly become an adult leader for next year.

with joy and peace,

Jimmy Sherrod

Life at Metropolitan

Crossroads: A Weekly Worship Experience

Saturdays, 5 p.m. St. Luke's Campus

Join us for a worship experience that features a high energy band as well as creative uses of visuals and multimedia. A nursery is provided, and a time of gathering to build community over refreshments follows the service. Questions? Contact Jimmy Sherrod, 202.363.4900, ext. 24 or jsherrod@mmumc-dc.org and check out our blog at www.xroadsdc.blogspot.com. St. Luke's Campus is at 3655 Calvert St. NW.

"RethinkChurch"

Sundays at 11:30 a.m.

St. Luke's Campus (3655 Calvert St. NW)

What does it mean to be the church today, and what does that church look like? How can we live out our faith in a way that makes a difference in the Glover Park community and beyond? Join us throughout the summer as we gather for a time of casual contemplation, some prayer and praise, and new visioning for our future as we **RethinkChurch**.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Sunday, August 16 at 12:30 p.m.

and Tuesday, August 18 at 1:30 p.m.

Join us for a wonderful time of knitting, crocheting, fellowship, ministry and fun! Questions? Contact Annette Fletchall at 202.363.9231.

Ice Cream Social

Sunday, August 23

10:10 a.m., Great Hall

The United Methodist Women are hosting an ice cream social on Sunday, August 23 during the study hour. It's free! So grab your partner by the hand and rally the kids and stop by for your favorite flavor. For more information email UMW President, Anne Brown at anne_p_brown@live.com.



"Standing in the Need of Prayer"

Summer Healing Service

Wesley United Methodist Church

Thursday, August 27 at 7 p.m.

Metropolitan Memorial will hold a healing service at Wesley UMC (5312 Connecticut Avenue, N.W). You may have friends and neighbors who are experiencing difficult times of pain and loss ~ be sure to invite them. This service offers healing through music, prayer and word. Anointing with oil is also offered.

Focus on Senior Ministries

Metropolitan wants to enhance our emphasis on seniors and increase awareness of existing senior-related ministries. We are creating a group to help plan an approach for potential new senior ministries. If you are interested in participating in this venture, please call Reverend Sandy Rector at 202.363.4900, ext. 19.

Hope for Creaking Achy Bodies:

Improving Movement Series

Thursday, September 10 - Thursday, October 1

What: "An Introduction to the Feldenkrais/Anat Baniel Methods" will be sponsored by the Wellness Committee beginning Thursday, September 10. This seven-lesson series of movement can be useful for those experiencing aches and pains and limitation of movement. Classes are free, but registration is required.

Where: Great Hall, Metropolitan, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Who: The class is open to all who attend Metropolitan. Pat Simpich, a member of Metropolitan and of the Wellness Committee, will lead the class. Pat is a Guild Certified Feldenkrais Practitioner and a certified Anat Baniel Method Practitioner with advanced certifications in the Anat Baniel Method for Children and for Anti-Aging. Join us as Pat guides students through *slow and gentle movements* during the lessons. Students wearing comfortable clothing sit on chairs or lie on mats and follow the guided movements. In addition to aiding movement, the lessons also evoke a renewed sense of well-being.

The Wellness Committee suggests that individuals with chronic conditions such as heart disease, recent illnesses, or injuries or who are recovering from surgery speak with their health care provider before beginning the program.

To register: Call Pat Simpich at 202 966-1566. For more information about these methods, view www.feldenkraismethod.com and www.anatbanielmethod.com.



Met-Flix

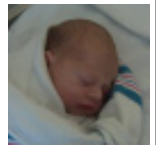
**Outdoor Movie at Metropolitan Memorial
Saturday, August 29 at 7 p.m.**



Bring your blankets and chairs and join us on the campus of Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church for a free evening of fun under the stars! Our movie for the evening will be Disney Pixar's "Finding Nemo." Movie begins at sundown.

Just Born!

•Congratulations to Angela and Craig Gildner on the birth of their daughter, Margot Ann Gildner, born on July 23.



Congratulations!

•Congratulations to Rev. Arlester Brown and his wife, Ozeal Shyne Brown on their 60th Wedding Anniversary on August 29!

Our Condolences

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family and friends of Georgeanne Mundell (Georgie) who died on August 7, 2009.

Please Remember Metropolitan while you are on vacation!

Summer is the time that many of us retreat from the frantic pace of the school year, and many of us are away on vacations. Please remember that our church's financial needs do not take a vacation, and we rely on your continued pledge support even when we must miss you in worship. Please keep your pledge current while you enjoy a wonderful summer break!

Reconciling Ministries Network Update



The Reconciling Ministries Network is celebrating its 25th anniversary this September. RMN is marking the occasion with a 4-day convocation in Estes Park, Colorado.

RMN is a growing movement of United Methodist individuals, congregations, campus ministries, and other groups working for the full participation of all people in the United Methodist Church. RMN also mobilizes United Methodists of all sexual orientations and gender identities to transform our Church and world into the full expression of Christ's inclusive love.

Metropolitan's Reconciling Ministries committee is overseen by Metropolitan's Advocacy Ministry team. For more information contact Anne Brown at anne_p_brown@live.com.

As of July 1, RMN encompasses 381 Reconciling Congregations, Campus Ministries, and Communities and Ministries from all over the country. There are over 80,000 Reconciling United Methodists!

Congratulations also are extended to the first two United Methodist churches to become reconciling congregations: Washington Square UMC in New York City and Wesley UMC in Fresno, California. Happy 25th anniversary!

Service and Advocacy at Metropolitan

Discussion Forum on Congregational Diversity

Sundays, 10:10 a.m., Terrace Room

Join us for a discussion forum as the Advocacy Team considers issues related to racial and ethnic diversity in congregational life. This discussion will continue through August. At the same time, we will be worshipping with some of our sister congregations in the Metro area. For more information, contact Advocacy Team Chair Ann Michel at 202.885.8582 or amichel@wesleyseminary.edu or David Young at 703.786.8911 or dndweiszyoung@yahoo.com.

Congregational Visits. On the third Sunday of each month, the Advocacy Team will be organizing a series of group visits to worship with some of our sister congregations in the area. The next scheduled visit is on September 20 when we will be visiting Shiloh Baptist Church. Gather in the MMUMC foyer to depart at 10:15 a.m. for their 11 a.m. service.

Interested in Leading the Way for Metropolitan House?

Looking for a new way to support the Metropolitan House homeless ministry? The Metropolitan House Board of Directors is looking for folks who can lend their talents and leadership to this critical ministry, which will resume in October.

·**Meal Coordinator.** The board is seeking a volunteer meal coordinator who will communicate with church members and community volunteers who contribute meals to Metropolitan House, maintain a calendar of meal donors, and keep meal donors, shelter staff, and volunteers informed about the status of meal donations.

·**Communications Coordinator.** The board is looking for persons gifted in PR and/or web design to help Metropolitan House tell its story to both the congregation and the community.

·**Help the Homeless Walk Leaders.** The board is looking for persons willing to give leadership to the annual "Help the Homeless" fundraising walk, a major source of revenue to Metropolitan House.

If you are interested in learning more about these opportunities or other ways of being involved in the leadership of Metropolitan House, please contact Ann Michel, amichel@wesleyseminary.edu or 202-885-8582.

Part-time Paid Position Available: Resident Manager/Shelter Coordinator- Metropolitan House is seeking a part-time weeknight resident manager for its men's shelter program that provides transitional housing for a small group of homeless men. The goal of the program is to assist a pre-selected group of individuals toward self-sufficiency and permanent housing. Hours are from 6:30 p.m. - 7 a.m., one to two nights per week. Position begins in October and continues through April. Ideal for seminarians, graduate students, or anyone else who needs the daytime hours free. Interest in counseling, social work, or case management preferred. Starting salary is \$100/night. Send resume to hsimon@mumc-dc.org or fax to Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church, 202-686-2056, attn: Metropolitan House/Helen Simon.

Labor Day BBQ at St. Luke's Benefits their Shelter Ministry - On Monday, September 7 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., the leaders of the St. Luke's Shelter Ministry are hosting a BBQ and potluck gathering for friends, community members, and supporters. It will be held in the courtyard of St. Luke's campus of the Metropolitan Memorial Cooperative Parish, 3655 Calvert Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20007. Please come out to support the St. Luke's Shelter and learn more about this vital ministry.



Homelessness Fact

Point-In-Time survey Jan. 28, 2009 10% of homeless in the District are U.S. Military Veterans.

Study Opportunities at Metropolitan

Bible Plus Class

The Living Faith Sunday School Class has changed its name in order to more accurately reflect its focus and mission statement. We will still mainly use a video/discussion format and focus on the Bible, plus we will include related topics such as Biblical history, current thinking on Biblical issues and more.

Starting on September 13 the Bible Plus class will be looking at a video series by Professor Bart Ehrman, M.Div., Ph.D. on "Lost Christianities: Christian Scriptures and the Battles over Authentication." In the first centuries after Christ, there was no official New Testament. Early Christians read and followed many more scriptures than we have today. What did these other scriptures say? Do they exist today? If such beliefs were common, why do they no longer exist? September's schedule will be as follows:

September 13 - The Diversity of Early Christianity

September 20 - Christians Who Would be Jews

September 27 - Christians Who Refuse to be Jews

Please join us in the Christie Room on Sundays at 10:10 a.m.



Science and Religion Class

The Science and Religion class continues to meet in the Parlor each Sunday during August at 10:10 a.m., convenient for those who attend the 9 a.m. worship in the Great Hall, and for others who attend the 11:15 a.m.

service in the Sanctuary. After a series of vigorous discussions focused on the book by Thomas S. Kuhn, we now hear from Dr. Alexandra McPherron, who will speak from the perspective of a practicing scientist at NIH, whose training is in Molecular Biology and Genetics. Dr. McPherron will speak on the subject "The Revolution that Didn't Happen" with an article by Steven Weinberg. Chapter Summaries will be available. We usually have several visitors, and new participants are always welcome. This is a great opportunity to engage in a fruitful dialogue, and a good way to bring new people into the dialogue at Metropolitan Memorial. Comments and questions? Contact Coordinator Don Smith, donnancy@verizon.net or Maynard Moore, emaynard8@yahoo.com.

United Methodist Women

UMW Welcome Back Luncheon

Featuring Jeannine Parker

Sunday, September 20, 12:30 p.m., Great Hall

On Sunday, September 20 at 12:30 p.m. the United Methodist Women of Metropolitan will host a luncheon in the Great Hall. Our guest speaker, Jeannine Parker, will talk about her work with Bread for the City. UMW Circle 6 will host the event. Lunch is free to guests. UMW members are asked to contribute \$8. All are welcome. Newcomers are encouraged to come and learn about how to get involved in UMW and its many activities throughout the year.

Recognition Luncheon

Sunday, December 6, 12:30pm.

Each year the UMW of Metropolitan Memorial hold a Recognition Luncheon honoring women who have made a significant contribution to the church, the nation, and the world. This year the luncheon will be held on Sunday, December 6 at 12:30 p.m.. We are seeking nominations of outstanding women to honor this year. Please submit nominations to Robin Emery at 202.625.9273 or to emerymjon@aol.com by October 15. In addition to recognizing these special women, we will also celebrate the babies who have been born this year and remember with gratitude those who died this year.

Jewelry Donations

UMW Circle 5 is now accepting donations of jewelry for sale at the Bazaar in November. We will be sorting, cleaning and pricing throughout the summer, and we welcome any and all donations of jewelry. Please leave your donated pieces in the library on a Sunday or at the office desk during the week. All proceeds from the Bazaar go to helping women and children locally and globally and we need your help to further our mission.

UMW Bazaar: November 7 & 8 Donations and Volunteers Needed

The annual UMW bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 7 from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., and on Sunday, November 8 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. with lunch available after the second worship service. The UMW membership looks forward to this event every year to open our church up to the community and to join in fellowship with one another. Proceeds from the bazaar go to projects benefitting women and children worldwide.

Donations are needed!

·Look through your closets and attics for items that you no longer use but that would be a treasure to someone else! Bring your donations and gift items to the UMW closet, located on the lower level of the church near the Parlor. (No furniture, no clothing.)

·Please bring items all the way to the UMW closet. If the closet is locked, be sure your items are labelled "bazaar" and leave them just outside the closet. But kindly do not drop items on the stage or elsewhere in the Vestry...thanks!

·Receipts for your donations are available inside the closet or ask in the church office.

YOU are needed!

·**Thursdays, from 10 a.m. - noon.** Join in the fun and fellowship of pricing attic treasures in the Terrace Room. All hands are needed!

·**Tuesdays from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.** Help the sewing group as they create our ever-popular Raggedy Ann and Raggedy Andy dolls. Or, use your own handiwork skills to create a unique item for our arts and crafts table. If you knit, crochet, needlepoint, cross stitch, crewel, or sew, your creations would be welcomed at the crafts table.

For more information or if you would like to volunteer, contact bazaar coordinator Barbara Gaskill, Barbara@bgaskill.com or 202.244.3512.

Children's Ministries

The Blessing of the Backpacks

Metropolitan starts off the coming school year with a special blessing for kids at the August 30 worship services. Children and youth are invited to bring their school backpacks to church that morning. No homework will be assigned but members of the congregation will wish you well in the upcoming school year. Please plan to be a part of this special event.

Then join us in the Vestry during the study hour to construct school supply kits for UMCOR.

Here is a traditional English prayer, author unknown, for the upcoming school year:

Lord Jesus Christ, be with me today,
And help me in all I think, or do, or say.



Family Events of Note

Please mark your calendar!

Aug. 24 -UMW Ice Cream Social
10:10 a.m., Great Hall
Have a sundae on a Sunday!

Aug. 29 -"Finding Nemo" Free Outdoor Movie
7 p.m., Metropolitan Campus

Aug. 30 - Blessing of the Backpacks
9 a.m. & 11:15 a.m., Worship

UMCOR School Supply Service Project
10:10 a.m., Vestry

Sept. 6 - Labor Day weekend. No Sunday School

Sept. 13 - Sunday School starts

UMCOR School Kit Supplies

Don't forget! We are collecting school supplies to build school kits for UMCOR, the United Methodist Committee on Relief, which helps children around the world who attend school but do not have supplies because of economic or natural disasters. Please help by contributing any of the following!

KIT CONTENTS

- 1 pair blunt scissors (rounded tip)
- 3 pads (or loose leaf) of 8 1/2" x 11" ruled paper
- 1 30-centimeter ruler
- 1 hand held pencil sharpener
- 6 unsharpened pencils with erasers
- 1 eraser, 2 1/2"
- 1 box of 24 crayons (only 24)

Please drop off supplies at the church office or bring them to the outdoor movie on Saturday, Aug. 29. Kids will be assembling UMCOR school kits Sunday, Aug. 30 during the study hour.

Summer Sunday School

Metropolitan's children learned about different ministries of the church and helped out with service projects in support of those ministries during Sunday School in July. Projects included decorating birdhouses for the Visitors' Corps and packing activity bags for children visiting Bread for the City.



Can You Help This Year?

As you make your plans for the fall, please plan to be a part of your child's Christian education by volunteering to be a greeter or a teacher for our Sunday School Godly Play classes. We are looking for volunteers to help at all age levels from 4 years old to 6th grade. Training is provided. Please prayerfully consider becoming part of this important ministry at Metropolitan. Contact Anita Seline at aseline@mmumc-dc.org or amseline@aol.com if you are interested or have questions.





Metropolitan's Cooperative Parish Musicians Present

A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC*

under the stars at St. Luke's

Saturday Evening, September 12th

Invite your neighbors and friends and join us for an evening under the stars at the St. Luke's campus of Metropolitan Memorial's Cooperative Parish. The event will begin following the 5 p.m. Crossroads worship. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be served under the portico and in the garden beginning at 6:30 p.m. The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. and conclude with a short coffee and dessert under (and with) the stars. This is a benefit concert to support the growing contemporary music ministries of our parish. The concert will highlight the various choirs, bands and soloists from our three campus churches as well as the Boys & Girls Club. The music will be a combination of contemporary, inspirational and original pieces. Come out for an evening of great music and warm fellowship.

Pastoral and Administrative Staff

Rev. Dr. Charles Parker — Senior Pastor, ext. 11, cparker@mmumc-dc.org

Rev. Sandy Rector — Associate Pastor, ext. 19, srector@mmumc-dc.org

Rev. Jimmy Sherrod — Associate Pastor, ext. 24, jsherrod@mmumc-dc.org

Rev. Kate Murphey — Associate Pastor, kmurphey@mmumc-dc.org

Anita Seline — Director of Children's Ministries, ext. 22, aseline@mmumc-dc.org

Patrisha House — Director of Worship, Music and Arts, ext. 28, phouse@mmumc-dc.org

Jeff Clouser — Director of Communications and Outreach, ext. 23, jclouser@mmumc-dc.org

J. Cody Nielsen — Associate for Campus Ministry, ext. 14, cnielsen@mmumc-dc.org

Bruce Caviness — 11a.m. Organist-Choirmaster, ext. 15, bcaviness@mmumc-dc.org

Casey Elliott — Dayspring Choir Director and 9 a.m. Worship Leader, ext. 12, celliott@mmumc-dc.org

Dona Collary — Director of Church Administration, ext. 17, dcollary@mmumc-dc.org

Linda Hutter — Bookkeeper, ext. 18, lhutter@mmumc-dc.org

Helen Simon - Office Manager, ext. 10, hsimon@mmumc-dc.org

Rafael Reyes - Director of Building and Grounds, ext. 20, rreyes@mmumc-dc.org

Linda Smith - Director of Nursery School, 202.362.8746, lsmith@mmumc-dc.org

THE MESSENGER is published by: By the Metropolitan Memorial Cooperative Parish
(Including Metropolitan Memorial, St. Luke's, and Wesley United Methodist Churches)

Metropolitan Memorial - 3401 Nebraska Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20016 Tel: 202.363.4900
Fax: 202.686.2056 E-Mail: jclouser@mmumc-dc.org website: <http://www.nationalchurch.org>

St. Luke's Campus - 3655 Calvert Street N.W., Washington, DC 20007

Wesley United Methodist Church - 5312 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20015