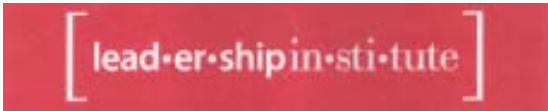


THE MESSENGER

For the congregation of Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church

October 10, 2008
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www.nationalchurch.org



COR Leadership Institute

Thirteen members of Metropolitan attended a weekend Leadership Institute at Church of the Resurrection in Kansas City. COR (as it is colloquially known) is one of the largest United Methodist congregations in the United States and a leader in innovative techniques for growing mainline Protestant congregations. Five of us attended the pre-conference offerings on Contemporary Worship and Youth Ministry. We were awed by the expansive reach of the church and the quality of its offerings — all of which are true to our Methodist tra-

dition. If you notice a new excitement among church leaders or if we try a few new things, be open to the spirit moving among us; it will be transformative. If you'd like more information about COR, its Leadership Institute, or would like to be a part of a team that attends next year, let someone on the church staff know. Many of us hope to return for another round of amazing music, energized youth programs, inspired lectures and preaching, and sharing this vital experience with members of our Metropolitan community. Our team this year was: *Charlie Parker,*

Jimmy Sherrod, Pat House, Pam Settlege, Helen Simon, Casey Elliott, Sue Roach, Jeff Clouser, Leigh Rollins, John Tate, Mary Jean Evans, Linda Davenport and Joyce Shields - we would love to share our experiences! Be on the lookout each month for the COR Box in the Messenger where we will share a little of what we learned. One thing we learned this trip is: We need to be a church that DOES WHAT IT TAKES! Join us in taking Metropolitan to a new level.



Attendees of the BWARM Conference build a paper chain.

Metropolitan Memorial was the picture of diversity Oct. 4 when some 50 people came together for the Baltimore-Washington Area Reconciling United Methodists' "Extreme Church, Extreme Hospitality" conference.

Misook Ahn, Anne Brown, Jeff Clouser, Jim Conley, Ann Michel, Barbara Osgood and I represented Metropolitan. The Rev. David Argo, district superintendent of the Greater Washington District, also attended.

The Rev. Youtha C. Hardman-Cromwell, who teaches "Sexual Issues in Parish Ministry" at Wesley Theological Seminary, kicked off the conference with a keynote speech on "Burnishing Your Shield: Combating Homophobia with Scripture." She methodically broke down passages of the Bible that often are used to denounce homosexuality — which, she noted, is not a term found in Scripture, as it only was coined in 1892 — and put them in cultural context. She then used other passages of Scripture, including Jesus' teachings, to put them in perspective.

"We must take the Bible seriously," she

BWARM Conference By Lesli Bales-Sherrod

said. "We can only do that if we read and study it."

Participants then had the opportunity to attend two of seven workshops offered on topics such as communicating with children about gender identity and sexual orientation, finding common ground with those with whom we disagree, and reaching out to young adults. Dumbarton United Methodist's Playback Theater Troup used one session to reenact stories of exclusionary experiences and to devise alternative outcomes that would have exemplified extreme hospitality.

"I learned that survey research among young Americans ages 16-29 reveals that their most common perception of Christianity is that it is 'anti-homosexual.' Overall, 91 percent of young non-Christians and 80 percent of young churchgoers believe this to be true," said Ann Michel. "If we want to reverse the decline of younger people in our church, we must do everything we can to counter this unfortunate perception."

Anne Brown said one of her workshops included a discussion on the United Methodist Book of Discipline and its exclusive language that homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching.

"Our group was asked, 'How do we bear witness to God's redeeming grace?'" she

said. "We stand in solidarity with all who have been excluded or marginalized by the church! The role of the church is to lead, not to follow."

Jeff Clouser attended a session on using up-to-date language to communicate about issues of sex, gender, politics, race and ethnicity.

"I learned that what we say and the words we use help our church to be either inclusive or exclusive to our Gay, Lesbian, Bi, Transgender friends."

The conference was book-ended by two powerful worship services that included stirring songs, prayer, liturgy and sharing. During morning worship, participants were asked to think of a word that they associated with hospitality, use it as a prayer and then write it on a colorful strip of paper. Conference-goers then worked together to create a paper chain, which was draped on the alter. During afternoon worship, participants dismantled the chain, taking home a strip of paper containing someone else's prayer and making that prayer their own.

For more information on BWARM, visit www.bwarm.org. For more information on Metropolitan's Reconciling Ministry subcommittee, contact Anne Brown at annepbrown@hotmail.com or 202.257.9431.

Staff Spotlight: Barbara Gaskill

By Lesli Bales-Sherrod

“You dance in church?”

More than 20 years after Barbara Gaskill became director of liturgical dance for Metropolitan Memorial, she still hears this question. But she understands the confusion; in fact, she can relate.

“This was a foreign idea to me,” remembers Barbara, who never had danced in church before she was asked to do so for Metropolitan in 1986. “I had no idea what Fran Cleaver wanted.”

A classically trained ballerina who now teaches dance history, theory and criticism at the University of Maryland, it is Barbara’s job as director of liturgical dance to “involve dance in worship as often as possible,” she explains.

Though Barbara would like to drop “liturgical” from her title because it conjures images of something formal, the term acts as a buffer for those who are uncomfortable with the thought of dancing in church, she notes.

“This question of the proper use of the body in church goes all the way back to the ancient Greeks – body versus spirit,” she explains. “In the Judeo-Christian tradition, the body is ‘evil’ and the mind or the spirit is ‘good.’ There are traces of that in how Christians have approached dance forever.”

However, non-Judeo-Christians and even Judeo-Christians in the non-Western world embrace movement as part of worship, Barbara adds, many using dance as a central element of their church experience.

“My goal is to weave that movement into the worship service and not have it be intrusive or strange, but have it enrich the experience for the congregation,” she says.

In the past, Barbara has used a “pickup group” of people for liturgical dance, but she now is trying to build a group that meets regularly, like the choirs do. She recently started “Dance, Movement and Song!” for older children (preferably those 7 and up), youth and adults. The group meets in the choir room following the children’s message during the 11:15 a.m. worship service each Sunday.

“You do not need a dance background,” Barbara stresses. “There are a lot of ways you can use movement in worship – it can be a very pedestrian movement that you infuse with spirituality or (a movement that involves) dance steps. A mixed group is good.”

Barbara sees myriad possibilities for incorporating dance into worship and draws her inspiration from diverse sources, from African-American churches to Taize chants. Lately she has been feeling more of a multicultural influence, she notes, and she would like to use dance as a vehicle for multicultural connections, whether through working on folk dances of other countries or using different music to create dance pieces appropriate for Metropolitan’s worship services.

Barbara isn’t just using dance to reach those inside the church, however; she has taken her work to the mission field, launching The Ballet Studio in 1992 as a way to provide dance training for children whose parents could not afford lessons.

“It was my attempt to involve the arts in service, not just as an in-house thing,” she explains. “And not service in the sense of do-gooder projects, but as a deep involvement and expression of our Christian mission, because of what dance can do for the individual and because it is a way of bringing people together.”



Barbara Gaskill helps a student with her technique

The Ballet Studio, which receives some financial support from Metropolitan, operated out of another church’s fellowship hall until 2003. The next year The Ballet Studio started a pilot program with Brightwood Elementary in Northwest D.C., and today Barbara teaches two classes there each weekday afternoon.

“Being in the D.C. public school system has been the most multicultural experience I’ve ever had,” Barbara insists. “I have started calling it a Volunteers in Mission project without leaving home.”

According to demographics on the D.C. Public Schools Web site, 54 percent of the students at Brightwood are English Language Learners and 64 percent are on free or reduced lunch. But that’s not how Barbara sees it.

“I get to do this,” she says passionately of the unpaid position. “Five afternoons a week, I get to visit Ethiopia, Rwanda, Mexico, Sri Lanka, Thailand (and other countries) because of the children and what they bring to class.

“To me, working with those kids is a way of showing them what faith can be, what it can do for your life,” Barbara adds. “It is allowing God to work through you to make a whole bunch of things happen.”

Originally named The Ballet Studio because of Barbara’s background, the after-school program has grown into much more than that. Her ideas range from piano lessons to yoga to teaching children how to write and produce their own play, but she cannot do it alone.

“I want to get more music people involved and more theater people involved, and this would be particularly good for older teens,” Barbara lists, excitedly. “It’s a tremendous enrichment opportunity for the students and for anyone who works with them.”

Barbara also needs people to help her supervise the children’s after-school snacks and clothing changes. Ideal volunteers for these tasks would be “anyone who can walk up and down stairs a lot,” she says.

Whether serving as director of liturgical dance or running The Ballet Studio, Barbara feels she is fulfilling her call by demonstrating “the way movement and music can be an enriching experience, not just on a secular level, but as an expression of faith.”

It’s something she discovered firsthand after she started attending Metropolitan in 1985, following a 20-year absence from church. Having attended a conservative offshoot of the Presbyterian church in her hometown in New York, liturgical dance was not something with which she was familiar, though she had been studying ballet since fourth grade.

“I was struggling to find out who I was spiritually, and one thing I always struggled with was public prayer,” Barbara remembers.

Then one day she read that Isadora Duncan, considered by many to be the mother of modern dance, said she had found her dance, and it was a prayer. It dawned on Barbara that it was the opposite for her.

“I have found my prayer, and it is dance.”

Study Ministry

The Living Faith Sunday School Sundays, 10:10 a.m., Christie Room

The Living Faith Sunday School class has embarked on a very interesting study of the New Testament in its historical context through a thought-provoking video series by Professor Bart D. Ehrman. Please join us in the Christie Room on Sundays at 10:10 a.m.! The following is a list of upcoming lectures:

- Oct. 12** - Matthew - Jesus the Jewish Messiah
- Oct 19** - Luke - Jesus the Savior of the World
- Oct 26** - John - Jesus the Man from Heaven
- Nov 2** - Noncanonical Gospels
- Nov 9** - The Historical Jesus - Sources and Problems
- Nov 16** - The Historical Jesus - Solutions and Methods
- Nov 23** - Jesus the Apocalyptic Prophet

Science & Religion Lecture "Evolving Systems in the Bio-Sphere, Should You Believe in Evolution" Presented by Dr. Robert M. Hazen

Tuesday, October 21, 6:30 p.m., Great Hall

Join us for our 2nd lecture in the Science & Religion series! The evening begins with a potluck dinner at 6 p.m., hosted by the members of the Science & Religion class. Those who wish to participate in the potluck, please contact Don and Nancy Smith at donnancy@verizon.net or Maynard Moore at maynardmoore@onebox.com. After dinner, everyone is invited for dessert and the lecture at 6:30 p.m..

Dr. Hazen researches the emergence of pre biotic chemical complexity in the origin of life. Hazen, research scientist at the Carnegie Institution of Washington's Geophysical Laboratory and Clarence Robinson Professor of Earth Science at George Mason University, earned degrees at M.I.T. and Harvard University.

- POSTPONED -

Connecting With Others: Dialogue for the 21st Century

Due to a death in Dr. Gattis' family, the Connecting with Others course scheduled to begin on October 7 has been postponed. The class will be held in early 2009 instead. Watch for new announcements towards the end of this year.

Exploring the Faith

Sunday, October 26, 10:10 a.m.

Join together on Sunday mornings with others seeking to better understand how to live as a Disciple in the 21st century global community. Short-term study series will use a blend of DVD presentations, Bible and book study, and an open discussion focused around seasonal themes and on topics such as Serious Answers to Hard Questions, Devotion to Jesus, Simply Christian, and World Religions. The class begins Sunday, October 26 at 10:10 a.m. in a church location to be announced. Contact Rev. Sandy Rector, srector@mmumc-dc.org or 202.363.4900, ext. 19 for more information.

Upcoming Great Hall Lectures

Sundays at 10:10 a.m.

October 12 - Faith and Politics

Guest speakers Mike McCurry and Burns Strider

October 19 - Annual Tyler Rusch Walk for the Homeless

October 26 - Islamic Fundamentalism

Lecture by Dr. Sathi Clarke, Wesley Theological Seminary

November 2 - Volunteers in Mission

Reflections from Nicaragua and Mississippi mission trips

UMW Bazaar

Mark your calendars! A special jewelry pre-sale will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 2, in the Vestry, giving Metropolitan Memorial's members first crack at what typically is the biggest seller at the annual United Methodist Women's fall bazaar. If there is a special lady in your life, this is a great chance to find a beautiful piece for her, at a great price too.

The bazaar itself will be held 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 8, and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 9, with lunch available after the second service.

Engage in a little retail therapy for a cause, and get a bargain while you're at it! Baked goods, books, collectibles, gift baskets, and hand-crafted items such as Christmas ornaments, greeting cards and Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls are among the treasures. Last year more than \$16,000 was raised and given to local and global charities that support women and children across the world.

With less than a month before the sale, the UMW needs your help to make sure the church is ready for this opportunity to showcase the church to the neighborhood and the wider Washington community. Here's how you can help:

•**Donate.** Donations will be accepted until Thursday, Oct. 30, and may be dropped off in the UMW closet on the lower level of the church. (No toys or clothes this year, please.) The one exception is jewelry, which should be left with whomever is working the front desk in the office on weekdays and with the librarian in the library on Sundays.

•**Sort and price.** UMW members meet 10 a.m.-noon Tuesdays in the Terrace Room near the UMW closet to sort and price donations. A special evening session of sorting and pricing will be held 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 14. For more information, call Bobbi Turnbull at 301.320.4154.

•**Spread the news.** Flyers are available at the front desk of the church, and we're always looking for more ways to get the word out. If you have a club, community or school newsletter or listserv, pass it along to Lesli Bales-Sherrod, who is handling publicity for the bazaar this year. Lesli can be reached at lesli_balessherrod@yahoo.com or at 202-363-5587.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Anita Seline at amseline@aol.com or 202.237.5505.

Service & Advocacy at Metropolitan

Tyler Rusch Memorial Help the Homeless Walk

Sunday, October 19

Join us for this year's "Help the Homeless Walk!" This annual walk is the principal source of funding for Metropolitan's homeless shelter ministry. Last year's walk raised over \$18,000 dollars! Registration forms are available online at http://www.nationalchurch.org/pdf/walk_reg.pdf and at the church office. Please fill out the registration form and return it to the church office.

Metropolitan's "Help the Homeless Walk" is part of the Fannie Mae Foundation's Help the Homeless Fundraising Initiative. Not only do individual registrations directly benefit Metropolitan House, but we receive bonus funds from the Fannie Mae Foundation based on the number of people who participate. The more people who walk, the more Metropolitan House benefits.

There will be two start times at 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., so you can walk after either church service. Sunday School students will participate with their classes during Sunday School hour. Persons of all ages are encouraged to take part. The Mann School Track will be used by the youngest children and anyone else who prefers a shorter walk. There will be a three-quarters mile course through the neighborhood for those who prefer a longer route.

Metropolitan's "Help the Homeless Walk" is held in memory of Tyler Christian Rusch, a young member of the church who was killed in an automobile accident in 2003. Tyler was a frequent volunteer at Metropolitan House shelter for the homeless.



Volunteers in Mission Sunday, October 26

It's time to start considering options for Metropolitan's 2009 VIM trips. On Sunday, October 26 at 12:30 p.m. there will be an information session for persons interested in discussing and determining our 2009 destinations and dates. As we have done in the last three years, there will be two VIM trips: one international and one domestic.

There has been expressed interest in serving in Virginia, West Virginia, or Pennsylvania in a 3 to 4 day domestic mission trip. There also are VIM service possibilities in Kenya or South Africa. The destinations for the 2009 trips have not been chosen, as that decision will fall to those interested in serving on a VIM team.

All are welcome to attend the VIM meeting. If you are unable to attend but remain interested in the possibility of participating in VIM, please contact, VIM chair, Anne Brown at annebrown@hotmail.com or at 202.257.9431.

Dr. Charles Parker Presents the Arthur S. Flemming Senior Advocate Award

Charlie Parker presented the Inaugural Arthur S. Flemming Senior Advocate Award to Dr. Edgar S. Cahn at the Emmaus Services for the Aging 30th Anniversary Program. This was a particularly meaningful opportunity for Charlie as Dr. Flemming's grandson. For 16 years, Charlie worked in non-profit ministries in Washington, DC, as the Executive Director of Bread for the City and then Emmaus Services for the Aging. Emmaus was founded in 1978 by Dr. Flemming, a distinguished public servant who was the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare in the Eisenhower Administration and an important force in the shaping of Social Security policy for more than four decades. He was the only person in U.S. History to receive two Presidential Medals of Freedom: one from President Eisenhower in 1957 and the second from President Clinton in 1994. In addition, Dr. Flemming has the distinction of having served every United States President from Franklin Roosevelt through Bill Clinton.

CPR/AED Training

Saturday, November 1, 2008, 9 a.m.

Believe it or not, it has been two years since our last CPR/AED class at Metropolitan. If you took the class then, it is time for you to renew your certification card. If you have never had the training, this class is for you too. Join us to learn new techniques of CPR and how to use an AED. Did you know that there are two AED's at the church in wall cabinets located outside the church office on the ground floor and near the library on the first floor? The class is taught by a certified instructor and costs \$58. Please pre-register and pay for the class in advance by either contacting Rev. Sandy Rector at 202.363.4900, ext. 19 or srector@mmumc-dc.org or look for the CPR sign up table on Sunday mornings in the foyer near the coffee set up. This training is sponsored by the Wellness Committee.



Seasons of Sympathy Tea Sunday, November 2, 12:30 p.m.

Grieving can be a long and difficult process, taking time, patience and support. If you have experienced the loss of a loved one, please join us at this informal gathering to find comfort and reflect with others. Pastoral staff and trained volunteers from Stephen Ministry will be on hand to listen and guide discussion. Light refreshments and tea will be served. Please RSVP by October 26 to Rev. Sandy Rector at 202.363.4900, ext. 19 or srector@mmumc-dc.org This is sponsored by Metropolitan's Congregational Care Ministries.

Great Hall Lecture

**Volunteers in Mission Presentation of 2008 Trips
Sunday, November 2, 10:10 a.m., Great Hall**

All are welcome to come and hear reflections from members and see pictures from our 2008 VIM trips. Earlier this year an international VIM team served in Nicaragua and a domestic VIM team served in Pass Christian, Mississippi.

Our Community

Save The Date

Washington Women's

Chorus Concert

Darkness Into Light

Saturday, October 18, 7 p.m., Sanctuary

The Washington Women's Chorus is opening its 13th season with a concert exploring a rich musical journey going from darkness into light. Under the direction of Donald Paul Richardson, WWC Founder and Artistic Director, and accompanied by the talented Laurie Vivona Bunn, the WWC will sing compositions about dusk, night, dawn and day. The concert will include three DC-area premieres by New Zealand composer David Hamilton. Tickets are \$20/adults and \$18/seniors and students. Contact: 202.244.7367 or www.WashingtonWomensChorus.org.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Join us for fellowship and ministry! Questions? Contact Annette Fletchall at 202.363.9231.

- Sunday, October 19 at 12:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 21 at 1:30 p.m.

AARP to Offer Flu Shots

Monday, October 20, Noon, Vestry

AARP will offer flu and pneumonia shots on October 20 from noon to 2 p.m. in the Vestry. Please consult your physician to make sure you should get the pneumonia shot. Both shots are free for those with Medicare Part B or Bravo (bring your card!), and the flu shots are free for those with Aetna. For others the flu shots are \$30, and the pneumonia shots are \$40. Refreshments will be served.

Clean-Up Fix-Up Touch-Up

Saturday, November 15, 9:30 a.m.

The Board of Trustees of the Church is planning a work day on Saturday, November 15 from 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. to address some needed chores around the facility. Activities will include cleaning the kitchen, cleaning and polishing the sanctuary furniture, gardening work outside, and touch-up painting. Please plan to come and spend whatever time you are able to contribute.

UM Board of Church and Society

Election Guide Available

A 2008 election guide that compares the platforms of the Democratic and Republican parties with the United Methodist "Social Principles" and *Book of Resolutions* is available. The guide was prepared by the Washington, D.C.-based General Board of Church & Society (GBCS), one of the denomination's four international program agencies. The guide can be downloaded from GBCS's Web page at www.umc-gbcs.org. "As United Methodists, we are called to transform the world," the election guide's introduction states. "Part of that transformation is made through faithful advocacy, community involvement and leadership."

Sermon Ideas

One of the great ideas that I heard on our trip to the Church of the Resurrection was that Adam Hamilton periodically asks the congregation for their thoughts on what he should preach on. He takes those thoughts on retreat, prays about them, and starts to develop sermon outlines for the coming two years. I loved this idea, and hoped that you could share with me your thoughts on the following questions:

1. What life situations would you like to see addressed in the sermons?
2. Are there parts of the Bible or theological questions you would like to explore?
3. Are there places in your life where you're hurting and need guidance?
4. What do you feel are your spiritual deficiencies?
5. Are there subjects that your non-churchgoing friends would come to listen to?

Please send your thoughts to me at sermons@mmumc-dc.org, or drop them in the box in the Narthex marked "Sermon Ideas." I'm looking forward to hearing from you!

Blessings,



United Methodist Women Bazaar

Donations Needed

Circle 2 needs books and CDs for the Bazaar. We take children's books, fiction, biographies, autobiographies, poetry books, travel and cookbooks. Hardbacks and paperbacks are welcome, just make sure that they are in good condition. No text books, please. That means no medical or law books. Donations can be left in the storage closet under the stairs near the Vestry.

Sorting and Pricing Donations

The UMW will hold a special evening of sorting and pricing donations for its fall bazaar from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 14. UMW members also meet 10 a.m. - noon each Tuesday in the Terrace Room to sort and price donations. For more information, call Bobbi Turnbull at 301.320.4154. Donations will be accepted until Thursday, Oct. 30. No toys or clothes please.

With Sympathy

We extend our sympathies and prayers to the family of Bess Jones, upon her death on October 1.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Austin Rector, son of Rev. Sandy Rector and Clark Rector, on becoming a member of the U.S. Marine Corps. Austin spent 13 weeks training as a part of the 3rd Battalion, India Company at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot at Parris Island, SC and graduated on October 3. He is headed to Camp Lejeune, NC for a 30 days at the School of Infantry with the Marine Combat Training Battalion, followed by a year in 29 Palms, CA where he will study for his Military Occupational Speciality in data communications. The Rector Family thanks all the members and friends of Metropolitan who wrote letters, prayed, and offered support during Austin's time at boot camp!



The Arts at metropolitan



Young Artists Concert Sunday, October 26, 3 p.m.

The Arts Council, in cooperation with the Stecher and Horowitz Foundation, is pleased to announce the first Young Artist concert of the season on Sunday, October 26 at 3 p.m. Mr. Allen Yueh will present a program of Schumann, Beethoven, and Liszt. The program will also include the Washington premiere of American composer John Musto's

Improvisation and Fugue that the Stecher and Horowitz Foundation commissioned for the 2008 New York Piano Competition.

Allen Yueh began his piano studies at the age of five. At the age of 17 years, in June of 2008, he became the First Prize-winner of The Fourth New York Piano Competition, a biennial event presented under the auspices of The Stecher and Horowitz Foundation. In addition to his cash prize, he was awarded appearances at Trinity Church, NYC; Temple Emanuel's Young Artist Series, NYC; Arts Canisius Series in Buffalo, NY; and The Young Artists Series in Washington, DC.

Born in Bridgewater, NJ, Allen began winning competitions at a young age. His early solo piano awards include: Gold Prizes in the Young Artist, Cyclical Work, and Concerto Divisions of the Young Pianist Competition of New Jersey (YPCNJ); First Place at the International Piano Alliance Competition; Top Prize at the Piano Teachers Congress of New York Competition; and First Prize at the Stryjniak Chopin Piano Competition. In addition to these early honors, he was the New Jersey winner of the Junior High School Piano Division of the 2003 Music

Teachers National Association (MTNA) Performance Competition. In 2004, he was the scholarship winner of the Piano Teachers Congress of New York Competition and the Greater Princeton Steinway Society Competition.

Allen Yueh won the Special Award for the 2005 Leschetizky Competition, and in 2006, was the scholarship winner of the Senior Division of the 24th Goldblatt Scholarship Competition and the first place winner of the 2006 Suburban Music Study Club scholarship competition. In 2008, he was the Junior Division winner of the Marian Garcia Piano Competition, held at Pennsylvania State University.

Allen has also competed internationally with success. In the summer of 2005, he was the winner of the "Città di Chioggia" Solo Junior Competition (Chioggia, VE) and one of the winners of the Senior Concerto Competition. As a result, Yueh performed the Chopin Piano Concerto No. 2 with the Orchestra Sinfonica del Festival di Chioggia under the direction of Pietro Perini at St. Nicolò Auditorium in Chioggia (VE), Italy. In July of 2007, Mr. Yueh was once again the first place winner of both the 2007 "Città di Chioggia" Solo Junior Competition and the Senior Concerto Competition. With the Orchestra Sinfonica del Festival di Chioggia, Yueh performed the Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No. 1. In addition to performing with the Plainfield Symphony Orchestra and the Orchestra Sinfonica del Festival di Chioggia, Mr. Yueh performed the Tchaikovsky Concerto No. 1 with the Summit Symphony Orchestra in May of 2008, having won the symphony's Young Artists Competition in January 2008.

Allen Yueh has studied exclusively with Ms. Yelena Ivanov, former professor at Gnesinsky Academy of Music in Moscow (Russia).

Youth Connection - Fall 2008

Metropolitan Youth Fall Harvest Festival

Dress in costume for this fun event!

Sunday, October 26, 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Everyone is invited to fellowship together as Metropolitan's youth host this fun annual event! Join us for games and crafts beginning at 4 p.m. then join us for a delicious spaghetti dinner at 5 p.m. and our famous Haunted Hallway at 6 p.m. Proceeds from the spaghetti dinner benefit Volunteers in Mission. Click here to view all of our youth activities!



Metropolitan's Youth enjoy an outing on the National Mall!

Youth Calendar

October

- 5: Youth Connection 5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- 12: Youth Connection 5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- 19: Homeless Walk - Youth Connection 5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- 26: Harvest Celebration and Haunted Hall

November

- 2: Youth Connection 5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- 9: Youth Connection 5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- 14: (Friday) Lock-in at church 7 p.m. - 8 a.m.
- 16: No Youth Connection
- 23: Youth Connection 5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- 30: Youth Connection TBD

December

- 7: Youth Connection 5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- 14 Youth Connection 5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- 21: No Youth (Merry Christmas)
- 28: No Youth (Happy New Year)

A look ahead...

- January 30 - February 1: Rock Retreat in Ocean City
- February 1: Football Party (Details TBD)

***Please note the date of the lock-in has changed**

Children & Youth Ministries



5th Annual Picnic on the Lawn

Picture perfect weather ~ ok, so perhaps not picture perfect but it worked out perfectly for us ~ loving friends and neighbors ~ an extra large moon bounce, face painting ~ music and fellowship ~ cotton candy and popcorn ~ WOW, what a day!

A very special thanks to all the members of the Children and Youth Ministry Team (underlined>) and their families who worked very hard to make Sunday's picnic so fabulous. Several other folks came early and stayed late to lend a helping hand – THANKS! And of course, a special thanks to all of you who joined us and brought all those yummy side dishes – it was a success because of all of us and I pray you enjoyed your day as much as I did mine. Below are some pics from the picnic!

Jeff and Kristen Rommel

Brian Crimy

Tony Brown

John Klick

Helen Simon

Julie and Rogers Christopher

Ryan and Megan Lordos

Anita Seline

Perry and David Brody

Craig Hukill

Carol Tippet

Pam Settlege (photographer)

Allen Dudley (Moon Bounce man)

*David Davenport – Special thanks and honor for David who worked tirelessly during the entire picnic keeping the hamburgers and hotdogs hot and ready to eat!

Kay Jacobs



Partnering in Campus Ministry

The AU Methodists and Metropolitan Memorial are becoming engaged in social issues throughout the community through "The Other Six Days Program." Last month, we picketed the closing of the Franklin Street Shelter. This month (October) we will be exploring Women's Rights and doing some hands on work throughout the community. I would love to have all of you join us as things get set for October and November when we will be taking a hard look at consumerism during the holiday season. Let me know if you would be interested in joining.

Healing Service

Join us for our Healing Service and Sunday Service every Thursday at 11 p.m. and Sundays at 7 p.m., respectively. Both are held at the Kay Spiritual Life Center and we would be grateful for your presence. I will be preaching at a healing service sometime within the next month and would love to have you come. In addition, on October 19, Dr. Charles Parker will be preaching on Sex. Yes, you heard me right! So come check it out.

A Joint Venture

Did you know that the Global Board of Church and Society and campus ministry are teaming up? Yes, it's true. Susan Burton (who is the Director of the UM Seminar Program) and campus ministry are establishing a relationship to work together to possibly hold some forums or movies dealing with social justice here at Metropolitan or on the American University campus. More information to come from this ministry.

If you would like to be involved in the campus ministry movement or would like to learn about what we are doing, please contact Cody Nielsen, 319.759.9688 or cnielsen@mmumc-dc.org. Also, if you would like me to come speak to your group, circle, or have any suggestions of how to get more AU students connected, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Blessings,

Cody

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