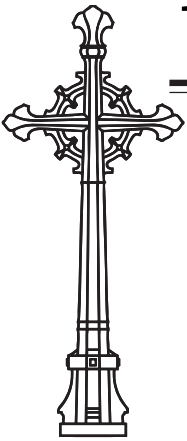


# THE MESSENGER

April 4, 2008  
Volume XVIII, No. 9

For the congregations of the Greater Metropolitan Parish

www.nationalchurch.org



As many of you are aware, Bishop Schol has announced that I will be serving as the lead pastor of Olivet United Methodist Church in Lusby, Maryland beginning July 1.

Leaving Metropolitan Memorial is a bit like leaving home for the first time, since I have served here since I was a seminary intern at Wesley. I feel like I grew up here. Also, my husband Doug has been attending this church since high school. I doubt that he ever thought that he would be married to one of the ministers!



My first experience here was worshipping on Christmas Eve while I was engaged to Doug. We came to the family service and saw the famous nativity scene costumes created by Mary Golladay. I would never have thought I would serve as a pastor here. Or have children of my own become a part of this community. I was always planning to go back to my home state of Ohio upon graduation.

In fact, I never planned on interning here, either! During seminary graduation ceremony, I was standing outside the church taking photos of the professors and graduates in line for the processional. That was the first time I remember talking to Dr. Trotter who said, "In fall, you should do your internship here." I replied, "No, I already have an internship!"

However, about two months into my internship at Little Falls Presbyterian, the senior and associate ministers left the church and a transitional pastor was to be put in place. This meant that I could not continue my internship, so I called up Dr. Trotter and asked if his offer still stood. He said yes.

Interning gave me the chance to reflect on this particular church in light of my seminary studies. I had great people to learn from: Ann Michel and Rev. Amy McCullough guided me through lots of learning. With endless patience, they gave me a long "rope" as I explored the ministries. I only hung myself a few times!

After graduating, the Bishop appointed me to serve part-time at Eldbrooke and part-time at Metropolitan. Since then, you have continued to help me grow in my leadership skills, as you allowed me to take on a variety of areas from pastoral care to outreach to youth ministry. Thank you for seeing me through the early years of my ministry! With all this valuable experience, I hope to bless the next church.

*Olivet UMC is located in Lusby, Maryland in Calvert County. Olivet has a worshipping community of 85, received 10 people by professions of faith in the last year, and paid 100 percent of its apportionment.*

## Wanna Llama,

## Mama?

What mother wouldn't love a cuddly animal for Mother's Day, especially if she doesn't have to clean up after it?



This Mother's Day, our youth group will host a LIVING GIFT MARKET where people are invited to honor friends and family by "buying" gifts of animals for people in need all around the world.

Each gift sets off a chain of events - a person at Metropolitan buys an animal, the animal is given to a hungry, rural family - then, when the animal produces offspring, the family gives the baby to *another* family and the gift is passed along! Whole communities are changed through giving that begins with our Youth Group and our church community.

**So be sure to mark your calendar! On May 11 we will have one worship service at 10 a.m. and a Living Gift Market at 11 a.m.**

*faith*

## Upcoming Events

### NOOR

#### A Drama by Akbar Ahmed

You are cordially invited to attend a reading of the play **NOOR** on **Tuesday, April 8, 2008 at 7 p.m. at the Washington Hebrew Congregation**. The event is presented by Washington Hebrew Congregation, the Amram Scholar Series and the DC JCC. It is free and open to the public.



Akbar Ahmed's **NOOR** is a drama set in an unspecified modern Islamic capital and tells the story of three brothers and their debate of how to respond to a militia that has kidnapped their youngest sister, Noor. This new heralded play is edgy, thoughtful and sensitively done.  
<http://www.whcscholar.org/html/noor.html>

### Finding Your Own Path: UMW Women's Retreat April 13



Please join us for a special women's retreat on Sunday, April 13 from 4-8 p.m. in the Great Hall at the church. It will be a time of prayer, reflection and fellowship, led by Patrisha House, Metropolitan's Director of Worship, Music and Arts.

This event is open to all women of the church. It's a wonderful chance for members of various circles to interact and an opportunity to invite new women to visit.

Reservations are not required, but if you plan on coming please drop an email to your circle leader so we can get an idea of turnout.

There will be a light supper served. There is no charge for the event.

### Prayer Shawl Ministry



Join us for this wonderful time of friendship and ministry! For more information contact Annette Fletchall at 202.363.9231.

- Tuesday, April 15 at 1:30 p.m.
- Sunday, April 20 at 12:30 p.m.



### April AARP Meeting

**Monday, April 21**

Please join us for our April meeting in the Vestry!

Caroline Keith will discuss her biography of former Senator Millard Tydings. Ms. Keith has won awards from both the Society for History in the Federal Government and the Maryland Historical Society for this book. Social time is at 12:30 p.m., and the meeting starts at 1 p.m. Refreshments will be served.



### Mississippi VIM Trip

Everyone interested in participating in the Mississippi VIM trip June 21 – 28 is invited to attend a planning meeting on April 30 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 101. The trip will cost \$700 for those who fly and \$350 for those who drive. A deposit of \$350 for those flying and \$100 for those driving is due at the April 2nd meeting. For further information, contact Lee Crockett at 301.320.3621 [leecrockett@verizon.net](mailto:leecrockett@verizon.net) or Eliza Hamner at [eliza\\_hamner@yahoo.com](mailto:eliza_hamner@yahoo.com).



### The Young Artists Series, Washington, DC

The Arts Council of  
Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church  
in association with  
The Stecher and Horowitz Foundation  
presents

**Charlie Albright, piano**

First-Prize Winner,  
2006 New York Piano Competition

**Sunday, May 4, 2008 at 3 p.m.**

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
for information call: 212.581.8380

## Discussion and Learning Opportunities

On Sunday, March 30, we began a number of special opportunities for thoughtful discernment and discussion on the reconciling issue, including a three-week sermon series and a five-week guest speaker series in the Great Hall. To make these Great Hall sessions available to everyone, they will be offered during the 10:10 a.m. Study Hour and repeated after the 11:15 a.m. worship service. The second session will include a light lunch.

### Sermon Series:

## Homosexuality and the Church

Sundays April 20 – May 4

A three-week sermon series on the subject of homosexuality and the church will be offered April 20 – May 4. As the series begins, we welcome back to our pulpit Dr. William A. Holmes, who served as Senior Pastor of Metropolitan Memorial from 1975-1998, and Dr. Mary E. Kraus, who served as an associate at Metropolitan from 1982 - 1984. Dr. Kraus is now pastor of Dumbarton UMC in Georgetown.



**Sunday, April 20**  
Rev. Dr. William A. Holmes  
Minister Emeritus  
Metropolitan Memorial UMC



**Sunday, April 27**  
Rev. Dr. Mary E. Kraus  
Minister  
Dumbarton UMC



**Sunday, May 4**  
Rev. Dr. Charles A. Parker  
Senior Minister  
Metropolitan Memorial UMC

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### The Metropolitan Players Present

## *The Laramie Project*

April 25, 26 & 27

(not recommended for children under 12)

Friday, April 25 - 8 p.m. • Saturday, April 26 - 5 p.m.

Sunday, April 27 - 2 p.m.

The Advocacy Team and Metropolitan Players, on behalf of the church, encourage you to attend one of the performances as a way to further our discussion about becoming a Reconciling Congregation. Please invite your friends and neighbors. There will be no charge for admission, but donations will be accepted. Please contact Pat House at [phouse@mmumc-dc.org](mailto:phouse@mmumc-dc.org) or 202.363.4900, ext. 23 for reservations.

### Guest Speaker Series: “First Person Voices”

Presented Sunday Mornings  
at 10:10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

#### April 6

#### *Relative Freedom*, a short documentary

**Joe Kuehne**, local filmmaker, will present and discuss his documentary short film, *Relative Freedom*. The film details Kuehne’s journey to interview members of his immediate family on how they feel about his homosexuality, whether they believe it to be a sin, and whether it means he will go to hell. The film documents the family’s difficulty reconciling their love for their son/brother with their firm religious beliefs and raises questions of faith and spirituality, sexuality, and family relationships. Mr. Kuehne will share his experiences struggling to reconcile his religious upbringing and spiritual maturation with his sexuality.

#### April 13

#### *Methodist Church Doctrine*

**Rev. Dr. J. Phillip Wogaman**, president of the American Theological Society and professor emeritus of Christian Ethics at Wesley Theological Seminary, will discuss Methodist church doctrine on homosexuality.

#### April 27

#### *United Methodist and Gay*

**Rev. Thomas Starnes**, a former District Superintendent, and his son, **Floyd Starnes**, who is openly gay, will share reflections on being gay in the United Methodist Church.

#### May 4

#### *Reflections on “The Laramie Project”*

Cast members from the Metro Player’s production of **The Laramie Project** will discuss the play and explore what it says about us as Christians and a society.

#### To Be Announced

*Finishing the Journey* (2nd Series)

# Confirmation Retreat - 2008

Camping out, sitting by the fire, running around in the woods – the Confirmation Retreat Weekend Is **ALMOST HERE!**

On Friday May 2 - We will depart from the church at 4 p.m.

We will head to Camp Manidokan and will return to the church on Sunday at noon. Be sure to turn in your permission form which is available on the website!

## Youth Group Schedule:

- Sunday, April 6** - 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, April 13** - 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, April 20** - 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

In April, our evening youth group will focus on how Heifer makes a difference. We will play games, consider our impact on the world economy and create items that we will sell in the market on May 11, including: SOAP, CANDLES, PRAYER BEADS, GIFT ORNAMENTS.

Robert C. Earnest	4/1	Art Rynearson	4/18
Lilah Mehri	4/1	Patricia Whitehead	4/18
Paige Rumelt	4/1	Corbin Christopher	4/19
Carolyn Wogaman	4/1	George Guess	4/19
Barbara Burgeson	4/2	Gretchen Smith-Mui	4/19
Tacie Fox	4/2	Jeremy Solo Park	4/19
Gerald Krieger	4/2	Caralee Adams	4/20
Nora Topalian	4/2	Dorothy Robinson	4/20
Madeleine Wallace	4/2	Karen Laass	4/21
Judson Danies	4/3	William Magruder	4/21
Sierra Hendricks	4/3	Sam Utiger	4/21
Robert Kettler	4/3	Katherine Craven	4/22
John Meak	4/3	Julie Krieger	4/22
Elza Cartner	4/4	Cynthia Love	4/22
Morgan Evans	4/4	Brenna Means	4/22
Gary Grosicki	4/4	Marina Rousset	4/22
Warrick Staines	4/4	Timothy Rousset	4/22
Spencer Stone	4/4	Christina Dickie	4/23
Deborah Tumarkin	4/4	Jason Kennedy	4/23
Tony Gattis	4/5	Erykka Thompson	4/23
Paul Krogh	4/5	William Jackson	4/24
William Taylor	4/5	Alexandra Khadduri	4/24
Forrest Wright	4/5	Benjamin Roth	4/24
Abby Comey	4/6	William Smith	4/24
Jennie Stathis	4/6	Terri Carter	4/25
Damien Tomkins	4/6	Max Hulme	4/25
Hiroshi Daifuku	4/7	Ryan Anger	4/26
Anna Spiegel	4/7	Stephanie Brennan	4/26
Zachary Fellows	4/8	Kathy Condon	4/26
Barbara Morgan	4/9	Geoff Jacobi	4/26
Cristoph de Montille	4/10	Stephanie Stevens	4/26
Michael Megginson	4/10	Jason Scott Shaver	4/27
Kristen Rommel	4/10	Aaron Bird	4/28
Alison Daifuku	4/11	Bruce Emmerling	4/28
Brenna Stebbing	4/11	Anastasia Mattsson	4/28
Brien Comey	4/12	Jeffrey Michel	4/28
Phillip Chambers	4/13	Sue Carlson	4/29
Michele Dash	4/13	Natalie Crowley	4/29
Colin Davies	4/13	Steve Rabson	4/29
Mary Rhoads	4/13	Christopher Wolf	4/29
Daniel Browning	4/14		
Sherry Alexander	4/15		
Fran Cleaver	4/15		
Peter Fellows	4/15		
Cintia Guimaraes	4/15		
Sally T. Atwater	4/16		
Ann Michel	4/16		
Lauren Romano	4/16		
Katherine Vogt	4/16		
Lia Arbogast	4/17		
Brendan Banez	4/17		
Anna Sproul	4/17		
William Stricklin	4/17		
Harper Anderson	4/18		
Christopher Axthelm	4/18		
Pamela Bisson	4/18		

**\*If your birthday is missing from the list, please contact the church office, 202.363.4900 and let us know your date of birth.**



The Outreach Committee would like to thank all those who made the Easter Brunch possible. A special thanks to all of those who came, bringing family and friends for this wonderful time of fellowship and good food. And an extra special thanks is extended to all who made it happen by giving their vol-

unteer time and/or contributing food items for the bountiful brunch table. Forgive us if we have inadvertently missed your name but please know that you helped make this a tremendous event once again and your help is very much appreciated. Thanks to:

Caralee Adams, Cathy Anderson, Gayle Bauer, Jack Blaylock, Perry Brody, Meg Caddick, Ann Cochran, Dona Collary, John & Jane Cunningham, Kelly D'Angelo, David & Linda Davenport, Clara Diehl, Robin & Mike Emery, Linda Fort, Clem Gaskill, Carol Griffith, Eric Gunnerson, Rose Harper, Anne Harte, Pat House, Eric Imperial, Carolyn Johnson, Bess Jones, Phyllis Kokus, Kelly Kuwayama, Mark & Cindy Love, Lorraine Marsh, Ann Michel, Ken & Alva Millian, Barbara & Bruce Morgan, Shirley Moyer, Bob & Leslie Naille, Paul Norian, Phil Potter, Nathaniel Remez, Austin Rector, Terry Rusch, Carol Schleicher, Lois Schwoerer, Anita Seline, Pam Settlage, Joyce Shields, Pat Simpich, Craig Smith, Sharon Smith, Sheldon Smith, Joan Spencer, John & Barbara Tate, Martha Turner, Sue Wadel, Rick & Mary Beth West, Arlyss Wiggins.

# The Arts at Metropolitan



The Arts Council of Metropolitan Memorial UMC  
Presents on Sunday April 20

## The Art Collection of Rose Harper

### Exhibition Opening Reception

5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. in the Great Hall

As a connoisseur of fine art for over thirty years, Rose Harper has cultivated an art collection of extraordinary beauty and exceptional value. Exquisite, refined, and brilliant are words that define this eclectic collection of antiques and works of art created by prominent American, Asian, European, and South African painters, sculptors, and photographers.

The most valuable works in the Harper collection are paintings created by South Africa's preeminent artists. These rare works serve as historical documents of the black cultural expressions created during the apartheid era. The imagery demonstrates the relationship between the artists, their communities, and society. Within the rich diversity of creative expressions are references – both direct and metaphorical – to barriers and transcendence.

Ms. Harper will donate a portion of the proceeds to benefit the Bokamoso Life Centre, based in Winterveldt, South Africa. The center provides at risk youth with training in work and all-around life skills.

Rose Harper is an entrepreneur, philanthropist, lecturer, adjunct professor, author, global events planner, contributing writer to golf publications and Subject Matter Expert (SME) in the business of the golf industry, and a passionate golfer. The recipient of countless awards for her lifetime achievements in the field of sports development and business, she has established herself as an internationally renowned consultant in sports and special events management to U.S. Presidents, Royalty, celebrities, ambassadors, and Fortune 500 CEOs.

### Exhibition Lecture

#### *The Art of Collecting: Discovering the Picasso in your Collection*

Presented by Myrtis Bedolla, Founding Director of Galerie Myrtis

10:10 a.m. in the Great Hall

Join us as Ms. Bedolla discusses the cultural and historic relevance of art collecting, and offers tips for cultivating a fine art collection. She will address key issues to consider when weighing a potential purchase and share strategies used by art professionals to acquire art at the best possible price.

Ms. Bedolla possesses over 20 years of experience as an advi-

sor to corporate, private, and institutional collectors in the acquisition and sale of fine art, and provides corporations, civic, and arts organizations with professional curatorial services, lectures, and educational programming. She is also a contributing writer to several arts-related online and print magazines.

### Exhibition Opening Reception & Concert

#### Jazz Concert Featuring Davey Yarborough & Esther Williams

4 p.m. in the Sanctuary



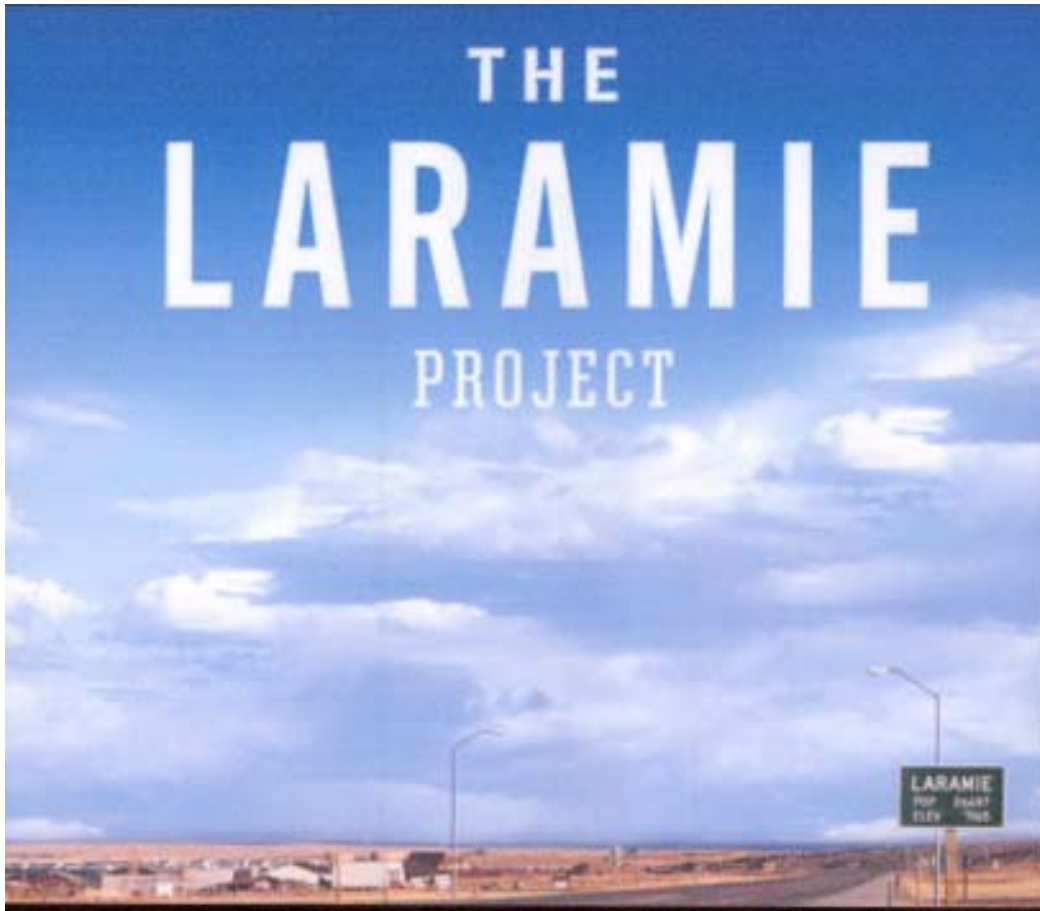
The Arts Council is pleased to present Davey Yarborough, saxophone, and Esther Williams, vocal, along with Jon Ozment, piano, Francis Thompson, drums, and Wes Biles, bass, in a jazz concert benefiting the Washington Jazz Arts Institute (WJAI). The WJAI was founded in 1998 by Davey Yarborough and his wife Esther Williams to further his dream of teaching music in a nurturing, mentoring atmosphere. A natural outgrowth of Davey's success at The Duke Ellington School of the Arts in DC, this dream was born of a desire to

inspire young people into careers in music.

Since the summer of 2003, the WJAI has successfully conducted its summer and winter/fall Jazz Mentor Projects. This five-week project is free of charge to participants, giving music instruction to 24 students. Participants receive hands-on instruction on their instruments and the basic tools to become successful, well-rounded artists. In addition, they are exposed to the history of jazz through lecture, demonstration, audio and video files. Students are exposed to and interact with successful, working musicians. An end of the program performance at Peoples Congregational Church allows the community to see the benefits of structured arts activities.

Since 2003 the program has grown considerably thanks to ABC Radio, The Community Foundation's People Helping People Fund, The Meyer Foundation, Showtime, BET Jazz, Radio One, The Rex Foundation and many individual Angels and donors.

# Metro Players Present



by Moises Kaufman and Members of the Tectonic Theater Project  
*directed by Frances Bartley Cleaver*

## Performances

Friday, April 25 at 8 PM    Saturday, April 26 at 5 PM

Sunday, April 27 at 2 PM

Performances are free and open to the public – Reservations are preferred  
Contact: Patrisha House at [pthouse@mmumc-dc.org](mailto:pthouse@mmumc-dc.org) or 202.363.4900, ext. 23

Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church  
3401 Nebraska Avenue, NW (across from American University)

# Children's Ministry

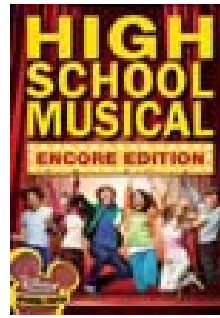


The Morning Star choir will rehearse for the rest of the year in the music office with Mrs. Cartwright while the Cherub Choir will rehearse with Mrs. Settlage in the choir room. Be sure to join us each week as we have 3 more performances before the end of the Sunday School year.

- April 20 - Morning Star Choir only at the 9 a.m. Worship Service
- May 11 – Both choirs for the single 10 a.m. worship service
- June 1 – Both choirs at both services for Children's Celebration Sunday

## Third Grade Bible Presentation

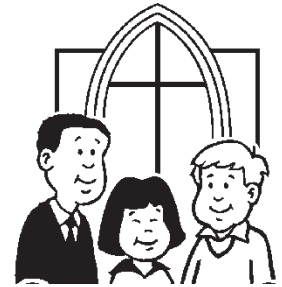
Calling all Rising Third Graders, time to order your Bible for this fall's Bible Presentation ceremony on Sunday, September 14 during the 9 a.m. worship service. Parents please call or email Kay Jacobi with the exact spelling for your child's personalized Bible. We hope to place orders in May because they can sometimes take up to 3 months for delivery. Thanks for a quick response!



## Family Movie Night

Mark your calendars now for our next family dinner and a movie on Friday, May 2 from 6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. We will watch the movie in the new Great Hall! The current movie selection is *High School Musical*. . .let me hear from you if you'd rather watch something else. . .and be on the lookout for more details about the HSM sing-along before the movie!

## Children's Celebration Sunday



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS...**  
**Children's Celebration Sunday is June 1!**



## News From Our Children by Kay Jacobi, Roving Reporter

### Did you read...

about the New Art in the Nursery during Advent? Several folks missed the note so I thought it was worth repeating again...

Our heartfelt thanks to The Sewing Group for their donation and framing of a beautiful piece of hand stitched embroidery. Marie Meredith did a beautiful cross stitch piece of embroidery which prominently hangs in the entryway to the infant nursery. Marie joined Metropolitan Memorial in 1954. She helped the sewing group by making all the Raggedy Andy suits and also made many other items to sell at the bazaars, including quilts, wall hangings, potholders, placemats and hearts for the muslin angels. Be sure to stop by to see this unique and special piece of art!



Spencer Adams as Toto!

The Jacobi girls loved seeing Spencer Adams in Wood Acres Elementary School's production of the *Wizard of Oz* last month. He was the best Toto we've ever seen on stage!

Let me hear from you too – I'd love to come see you on stage, or on the soccer field, or in the pool, or at a piano recital...you get the idea!

**If you have questions about any of these events or programs, please contact our Children's Ministry Director, Kay Jacobi at 202.363.4900, ext. 26 or [kjacobi@mmumc-dc.org](mailto:kjacobi@mmumc-dc.org).**