

LAMPLIGHTER



Special Council Retreat Edition

Council Retreat: The Council met Saturday February 26th from 8:00 AM to 1:30 PM to discuss the operations of DUMC and the vision for the future. There were 28 Council members present.

Communication: The Council continues to recognize the need for good positive communication. The Lamplighter is back on an every other month scheduling thanks to Jean Smith with some help from "Russell". There is a desire to revamp the www.DUMC.net website and the general consensus is to change the design, colors and format. We're seeking someone to work on this project. As part of communication, there was a discussion on how to bring the attendees of the two Sunday services together more often. One idea is to have a joint fellowship time between 9:45 AM and 10:45 AM on a quarterly basis in place of Sunday school.

Evangelism is identified as a church-wide responsibility of all members, committees and ministries. It's believed that DUMC is a friendly welcoming place and we will continue to find ways to invite the community to join in ministry. There might be new opportunities now that Pastor Lisa has become the Chaplain for the Anne Arundel County Police Department's Southern District. We can support the individuals involved with law enforcement and their families through actions and prayer. The Green Cathedral was mentioned as a gem of DUMC that can be used to encourage visitors to attend.

Signage was discussed and the need for certain exterior signs was identified. The Green Cathedral sign on Birdsville Road will have "Davidsonville United Methodist Church" added and there are plans to have some type of signage to communicate where service is being held. With signage, folks will know whether to go to the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall or Outdoors. In addition, the use of banners to promote the exciting events and happenings at DUMC was discussed. The plan would be to have two simple but aesthetically appealing uprights for banner use on the front lawn along Rt 214.

All Ages initiatives were discussed in an effort to make sure everyone is included in the ministries at DUMC. There have been well-attended lunches for the members of the congregation that have more birthday experience and there have been increased youth activities.

The Trustees shared some items they are working on to keep the facilities in good working order. The Trustees have formed a **Green Cathedral Committee** chaired by Cynthia and Tommie Howie. The committee has been working with master landscapers on plantings and some upgrades in keeping with the rustic outdoor atmosphere. The Council was advised that the owners of the adjacent property are planning to place a horse fence along the property boundary with DUMC. The Green Cathedral Committee has plans from some evergreens along the DUMC side of the fence line. The Council passed a motion presented by the Finance Committee and the Trustees to maintain a \$40,000 Trustees Reserve Fund coming from the proceeds of the CrossRoads Child Development Center (CCDC). The allocation of proceeds remains the same, reflecting 45% to the Building Fund, 45% to the Trustee Special Reserve, and 10% to Social Needs. Changes to the current policy are that distributions will be made quarterly and when the allocation to Trustees raises the balance of their account to \$40,000, any excess will be directed to the Building Fund.

The Building Committee reported on further research regarding the possibility of going back to the plan to build a second story over the new Sunday School wing. They will continue to meet on this matter and welcome and encourage all members of the congregation to join them for meetings.

The Endowment Fund committee chair Ray Weems shared information regarding the Completing the Vision initiative that included encouraging donations and the investment of the funds.

Calendar: Golf Tournament April 26th, Mother-Daughter Dinner May 7th, Strawberry Festival May 28th, ASP June 19th - 25th, Peach Festival August 13th, Autumn Jubilation September 24th.

In His peace,
Steve Leonard, 2011 Council Chair

Reflections on the Retreat

The retreat at West River was both interesting and challenging. Many aspects of our church life were discussed. We were very impressed with the positive feelings of the attendees. Our chairman, Steve Leonard, did a fine job keeping the agenda on track. Now we must put our plans into action by asking God to guide in all endeavors our church initiatives.

The Pecks

It was wonderful to see 28 very dedicated church members giving up their Saturday to plan and envision the next church year.

Jean Smith

I enjoyed the comradeship and the being with folks whom I admire, but pretty much the same thing was decided as in previous years. The group had a number of wonderful ideas, but few people taking ownership of these ideas to see to it that they came to fruition.

Blair Smith

*Without counsel plans fail,
but with many advisors, they succeed*

- Proverbs



March 2011

7 Tyler Cohen	16 Dorothy Beard
Dalton Fowler	Brenda Weber
Norma Ingram	19 Nancy Bassford
Davis Peck	22 Zachary Alexander
Cyrena Tate	Jenna Alexander
8 Barbara Emert	Susan Wood
9 Nancy Covington	25 Anita Gray
9 Cindy Wratchford	27 Margaret Belk
12 Vonda Vales	28 Virginia Howells
13 Chad Moeslein	29 Christopher Scruggs
15 George Carter	Russ Smith

March Dates to Remember

All you can eat Pancake Supper sponsored by the youth on Shrove Tuesday, March 8 from 5-7 p.m. Donations are greatly appreciated and proceeds benefit the Youth Program's Appalachia Service Project. Friends and neighbors are invited.

Ash Wednesday – March 9, 7:30 p.m. A service of worship with the imposition of Ashes will be held in the church sanctuary.

March 16, 23, 30, April 6 and 13 –Lenten dinners will be served at 6:30 each week. Services will be held in the Fellowship Hall and Informal Communion will be served. Services will start approximately 7:20 p.m. after the dinner.

The next regular edition of the Lamplighter will be April 1 for April/May. Please submit any articles by Mar. 21.

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Lamplighter Published – Bi-Monthly And
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