

Volume XXVI,  
Number 9  
September 2010

# Christ Reformed United Church of Christ

# VISIONS

*No matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.  
Because Jesus has taught us to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, strength,  
and mind, and to love our neighbors as ourselves we invite people of every race, ethnicity, sexual  
orientation, age, marital status, economic circumstance, and physical and mental ability into the worship,  
rites and sacraments, fellowship, and leadership of our church.*

## Markings: A Splendid Table

One of my means for winding down on my way home after worship on Sunday is to listen to *The Splendid Table*, a radio program on WYPR hosted by Lynne Rossetto Kasper. It deals with all things related to food. There's a couple who talk about great "road food," places they've eaten while visiting different parts of the country. A guest or two talking about a book, television program or movie related to food. There's the obligatory wine snob. Lots of recipes and tips, all flavored with an unabashed enthusiasm for food. Perhaps it is that I'm usually leaving church about lunch time . . .

The Splendid Table is descriptive not only of Kasper's vision for eating, but also an apt expression of the church's vision for its communal life. Just as Kasper seeks to elevate our meals to something more than simply fuel for our bodies, the church seeks to elevate our lives to something more than a string of days. "How does one cook creatively?" is not that far removed from "How does one live faithfully?"

There is always the temptation to boil down our lives to efficiency and convenience. Those companies that produce the items that stock the shelves and freezers in the supermarket know that all too well. They recognize and reinforce the idea that our lives are hectic and overburdened, way too busy to take time to simmer and savor. The Pew Research Center reports that 41% of us eat fast food at least once a week and the number one reason given is, not surprisingly, it's convenient. In fact, of all the reasons people give for doing so, "it tastes good" is not listed.

At the end of John's gospel, the risen Jesus appears to the disciples by the Sea of Galilee. They share a meal of bread and fish and then he says

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## MIDDLETOWN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

## SEPTEMBER 25, 2010

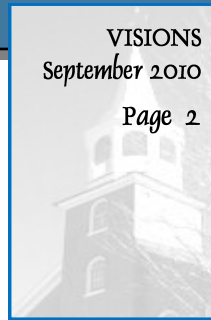


**10:00 PARADE ON MAIN STREET**

**10:00-2:00 LUNCH & BAKE SALE IN THE SOCIAL ROOM**

**MOON BOUNCE ✧ BALLOONS ✧ POPCORN ✧ WATER AVAILABLE ON THE LAWN**

**23RD ANNUAL QUILT RAFFLE & CRAFTS ON MAIN STREET**



to Peter three times, "Do you love me?" Peter, who had every reason to believe Jesus would chastise him for his denials, said "Yes, Lord, you know that I do." And Jesus responds, "Then feed my sheep."

Jesus' charge operates on several levels. One of the hallmarks of the earliest church was how they took care of those in need. Jesus modeled compassion that knew no bounds. The poor and the outcast always had the best place at his table. The disciples grew to share Jesus' vision. And feeding the sheep also meant tending to people's spiritual well being. As our bodies crave real nourishment, so do our souls. Jesus called Peter to set a splendid table before all he met.

Jesus' words will be a recurring theme in the coming months as we kick off a new "church year." I invite you to think creatively about how we can live out their meaning. For what are you hungering? Where are people in our community and world waiting to be fed? Where are we willing to forego the convenience of life's drive through lane for the promise of real communion? Who is welcome at God's table and how do we let them know about the invitation? You're invited to come to the kitchen and help get dinner ready.

~Mark

## *Notes*

### **Guest Pastor Visiting**

Thomas Vesterling, a pastor in the Evangelical Church of Middle Germany, arrives in the U.S. in early September. He's coming to spend a year in our country learning how churches function here. He will spend the first two months working with a UCC church in Washington, DC. Around the beginning of November he'll come to Middletown to begin a three month stay with us. While here he will help in all parts of our church's program. He is quite fluent in English, so will be able to work in worship, education, fellowship and mission interpretation.

The EKM will pay Thomas' salary while here, but we'll need to arrange for housing and use of a car while at CRUCC. Several people have already offered to house Thomas for a couple of weeks at a time. If you might be willing to provide a room for Thomas for part of the stay or if you might have a vehicle he could use, please contact Debbie in the church office or speak to Mark.

### **Service of Installation for Suzanne Morris**

The Catocin Association of the Central Atlantic Conference of the United Church of Christ and Homewood at Crumland Farms cordially invites your presence and prayers for the Installation of Suzanne Morris, Sunday, September 19, 2010, 2:30 P.M. at Homewood at Crumland Farms, Frederick, Maryland.

The Service will be held inside the main building in the chapel. A reception will follow the service. Homewood at Crumland Farms is located at 7401 Willow Road, Frederick, Maryland 21702.

### **Sanctuary Restoration Update**

The Fire Restoration Team recently met with the Insurance Board representative to reconcile the repair bids we have received with the IB's proposed settlement.



The Consistory will meet with

the Fire Team to hear their recommendations and to plan the next steps for having the congregation review and authorize the next steps. The Consistory is calling for an informational meeting of the congregation on September 19th to explain the scope of the work and the costs involved. There will then be a business meeting of the congregation on September 26 to vote on the recommendations. A letter to the congregation about these meetings will be sent soon.

If you have any questions, please contact a member of the Fire Restoration Team.

#### **Sanctuary Restoration Teams & Leaders**

**Structure — Bill Falconer, Team Leader**

**Contents — Diana Corl, Team Leader**

**Finance — Bob Galey, Team Leader**

**Communications — Denise Coleman, Team Leader**

**Volunteers — Judy Brandenburg & Sharon Thomas, Team Leaders**

If you have interest in working with one of these teams towards restoration, please contact a team leader.

If you should have any questions about the restoration in general, please contact Tim Worrell.

**Feeding All of God's Sheep:**  
**October is Disability Awareness Month**

On October 3, we will kick-off a month devoted to celebrating the universal power of God's Good News for all members of our human family and to renew our commitment to ensuring that everyone who desires access to that Good News can find it here at Christ Reformed. When it comes to exploring the Word of God, experiencing and participating in worship, approaching prayer, and engaging in fellowship, we all have special needs, but some needs are more unique than others.

Although we are calling this celebration "Disability Awareness Month," our focus will really be on recognizing differing "abilities," how every one of us approaches learning and encounters the Lord with unique strengths and gifts, but also with needs that may differ from those around us. And these differing needs and styles come into heightened focus when we consider categories traditionally called "disabilities." Recognizing that providing access to the Good News is not an option but a command from Christ, we will take time to recognize some of the areas of special consideration traditionally found under the disabilities umbrella including mental health and behavioral disabilities, intellectual, developmental and learning disabilities, health and mobility disabilities, and communicative disabilities.

During the Sunday School Hour on October 3, Way Station, Inc. will present a puppet show, "Kids on the Block," to promote tolerance of differences and combating bullying. This presentation will be engaging and appropriate for all ages. It will be followed by a presentation from the Child and Adolescent Program of the Frederick County Mental Health Association. And during worship we will hear testimonials from an adult client of the Mental Health Association and also from a client's family member to witness to the broader impacts of living with a disability.

If you would like to help plan elements of Disability Awareness Month or have questions about accessibility services available at Christ Reformed, please contact Michelle Beadle at the church office or via email at michelle.beadle@comcast.net.

**Children's Center News**

The Children's Center had a very busy summer with many field trips, guests, and special events. Our preschool enrollment was low due to the difficult economic times, however, our school age group had a record number enrolled. The fall enrollment has been very active, particularly the last week before FCPS

opened on Aug. 23rd., and mostly with school age children. Space does remain in the preschool classes, although they are filling up. If you know of someone who needs child care or preschool, have them contact the Center at 301-371-0360.

Thanks to the teachers, staff, and children for their patience dealing without a downstairs bathroom all summer. At times it got quite chaotic! Special thanks to Mickey Keller and Lee Warren for all their efforts in completion of the social room bathrooms. They look fantastic!

On June 11, 2010 Pastor Mark married Don Orcutt and me in an outdoor ceremony at ThorpeWood in the Catocin Mountains. The words Mark spoke during the service reflected my work with children and Don's love of golf! It was perfect and many guests were quite impressed with Mark's service. Music Director, Terry Sparks, sang with Mark and accompanied a celtic harpist. Their contributions made the wedding personal for us both and it was very beautiful. The Children's Center staff and spouses and church staff were invited guests. A good time was had by all. Honeymoon takes place in Scotland/Ireland in the beginning of September with Tina Ruffner, Assistant Director, in charge at the Center during my absence.

~Louisa Potts, Director



**All-Church Camp-Out and Jamboree**  
*What's Not to Love?*



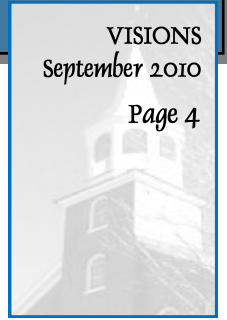
- BBQ
- Moon bounce
- Games and activities
- Movies & popcorn (for kids & adults)
- Songs and s'mores around the campfire
- Pancake breakfast

All right here in our own backyard!!

When: Sat. urday, Sept. 11 (tent set-up starts at 2:00)  
Where: On the green behind the church  
More Info: christreformeducc.org or 301-371-6610  
*\* Tent camping not required, but please RSVP for dinner.*

This month in Children's Church, we are learning about  
**RESPECT** – *Showing others they are important by what you say and do!*

Memory Verse: "Show proper respect for everyone." (1 Peter 2:17 NiRV)



### Week 1: September 5<sup>th</sup>

**Bible Story:** Who's the Boss? (Showing respect for authority) *Romans 13:1-7*

**Bottom Line:**

*You respect God when you show respect for people in charge.*

**For Discussion:**

*Can you name at least three benefits that could happen when you show respect for people in charge?*

### Week 2: September 12<sup>th</sup>

**Bible Story:** Actions Speak Louder (David spares Saul's life)  
*1 Samuel 18:28-29; 19:1-12; 23:14; 24:1-22*

**Bottom Line:**

You can show respect with your actions.

**For Discussion:**

Can you name three respectful actions?

How about three **Disrespectful** actions?

Why do you think God cares whether we show others respect?

### Week 3: September 19<sup>th</sup>

**Bible Story:** What You Say (taming the tongue)  
*James 3:9-12*

**Bottom Line:**

You can show respect with your words.

**For Discussion:**

Quick – name at least three things you can say to show respect to a leader (like a parent or teacher).

How about to a friend?

### Week 4: September 26<sup>th</sup>

**Bible Story:** Chain of Command (the faith of the centurion)  
*Matthew 8:5-13*

**Bottom Line:**

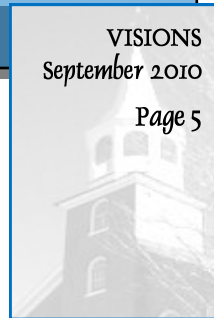
Show respect to God because He's in charge of everything.

**For Discussion:**

How many different ways can you think of to show respect for God?

(Hint: think about words and actions...)





## Middle School Youth News

Attention Middle Schoolers

# F R O G

Curious to learn what F R O G means?

Watch for your invitation to join us as we jump start the new school year with fun activities and fellowship.

### 2010-2011 Sunday School Year

- September 5     **2010-2011 Sunday School Curriculum Kick-off Celebration**  
Presentation of Bibles to 4<sup>th</sup> graders and kindergarteners. Each class is invited to gather and celebrate the beginning of a new year of study and fellowship.
- September 11    **All-Church Camp-Out and Jamboree (on the Green)**  
See our web site for the schedule of activities and registration information.
- September 12    **Rally Day and Youth Sunday School Open House**  
During the Sunday School hour, parents and caretakers are encouraged to visit their children in their Sunday School classrooms to get to know their teacher(s), their classmates, and to learn about the curriculum and upcoming events.

### **2010-2011 Sunday School Classes Answer the Call to "Feed My Sheep," Literally.**

Throughout the 2010-2011 Sunday School year, classes will be encouraged to support food provision programs by learning about various services in our area, collecting food through the "You-Can Two-Can" campaign (to launch in October), and participating in mission projects in the greater community. If you have ideas for how our Sunday School classes can help those in need of food assistance, share it with your child's Sunday School Teacher or contact Michelle Beadle in the church office (301-371-6610/michelle.beadle@comcast.net).



## Around the Congregation

### *Baptisms*

**Liam Patrick Shafer**, son of Amanda & Patrick Shafer, was baptized on Sunday, August 29, 2010.

### *Wedding Congratulations*

**Mr. Paul Murphy and Ms. Katie Shank** were married on August 28, 2010 by Rev. Mark Wakefield

### *Memorials*

**Katherine Keller Fink** died on August 12, 2010. A service celebrating her life was held on August 16th.

### **Church Attendance August 2010**

	8:15 am	10:30 am
<b>August 1</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>97</b>
<b>August 8</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>August 15</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>109</b>
<b>August 22</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>August 29</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>153</b>

**August Average — 167  
2010 Average — 185**

**PB&J for Hoffman Homes:  
September 19**

It's that time of year again! Our annual collection of peanut butter and jelly for the residents at Hoffman Homes for Youth is quickly approaching. Take advantage of the back-to-school sales now and stock up.



**Save the Date!**

**Sunday, October 3rd  
Sign-up to Serve  
or provide a dessert!**

**Care and Share Sunday—First Sunday of Each Month**

The first Sunday of each month, we collect food items for the **Middletown Food Bank** and paper goods for use at the **Heartly House** domestic violence shelter. As you shop this month, please pick up a few items and bring them with you to worship. Collection boxes are found in the hallway between the sanctuary and the chapel. For a detailed list of items needed by Heartly House, please visit [www.heartlyhouse.org](http://www.heartlyhouse.org).



**April – July 2010  
Our Church  
has donated  
Over 497 food  
bank items to  
the Middletown  
Food Bank  
Well Done!**



**Heartly House, Inc.**

24-Hour Crisis Hotline ☎ 301-662-8800

*Around the Congregation (continued)*

*Nursery Volunteers*

September 5	Wendy Campbell
September 12	Robyn Bramhall
September 19	Dana Austin
September 26	Joyce Kefauver

*Ushers*

September 5	Team 1
September 12	Team 2
September 19	Team 3
September 26	Team 4

*Sound Technicians*

September 5	Matt Anticevich
September 12	Tony Verdi
September 19	Luke Verdi
September 26	Chris Johnson

*Alcolytes*

September 5	Thomas Corl/Taylor Long
September 12	Trevor McClure/Brooke Deavers
September 19	Eric vom Lehn/Alexis Gabb
September 26	Logan Bramhall/Sam Bower

*Layreaders*

September 5	Beth Mummert
September 12	Gregg Petermann
September 19	Gail Johnson
September 26	Janet Lawler Heavner

*Coffee Hour Hosts*

September 5	Called To Care Group
September 12	Paul & Crystal Fink
September 19	Jean & Bob Galey
September 26	Mary & Griff Garwood

**Parish Life Breakfast – September 12, 2010 – 7:00 A.M.-10:00 A.M.**

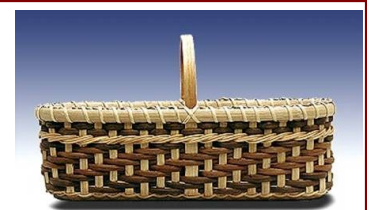
Parish Life will be sponsoring a breakfast following the Camp Out on September 12<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Menu will include: Pancakes, sausage, fruit, jams, butter, syrup, juice, milk and coffee and tea. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex if you plan to attend. There is no fee for the breakfast, but any donations will help offset the cost of the breakfast. Hope to see you then.



**Basket Classes Resume**

We are gearing up for our first basket classes, which will be held on **Tuesday September 21<sup>st</sup>** at 6:30 p.m., and **Tuesday September 28<sup>th</sup>** at 12:30 in the Parish House. We will be making "Twill Cutie," a small basket with a wooden handle and base, and woven with regular and smoked reed in the twill pattern. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

The cost for the basket is \$15.00. Newcomers are always welcome. Please call Diana Corl at 301-371-7737 or Gail Johnson at 301-371-6580 for more information.



Weaving Ministry will meet on **Monday, September 20 from 6:30 to 8:00PM at the Parish House.** For more information, contact Kathie Tucker at [wmcrucc@aol.com](mailto:wmcrucc@aol.com) or 301.662.4793.

**October 23**



*Choir Retreat*

**8:00—3:00  
Skycroft**

**Conversation on Church Membership**

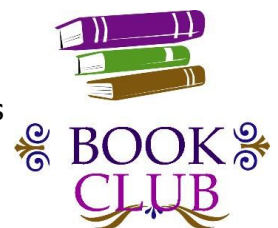
If you **have** been considering becoming a member of Christ Reformed UCC or would simply like to know more about our church and our ministries, you are invited to a conversation on church membership. It will take place **Tuesday, September 21, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Parish House. Childcare can be arranged if needed. If you plan to attend, please speak to Mark or Michelle.

**Book Club Selections for September & October**

Please join us at 7PM in the Parish House on the following dates to discuss:

**September 22:** The Cross Gardener by Jason F. Wright. From the New York Times best-selling author comes an inspiring story of life, love and moving on. This timeless tale explores one man's hope that even in his darkest hours, he is not alone.

**October 27:** The Help by Kathryn Stockett. Three determined women start a movement that forever changes a town and the way women view each other. Please reserve your copy from the library early...the estimated wait is about 50 days!



**Run For Shelter 5K Run & 2 Mile Family Fun Walk**

The Frederick County Bar Association is hosting the 2nd Annual 5K Run/Walk to benefit the Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs on **Saturday October 2nd at 9:30am** at Baker Park in Frederick. This year, the event is welcoming individuals and teams of four.



All proceeds from this event go directly to help provide emergency financial assistance to our neighbors in need. For more information, go to: [www.frederickbar.org/runforshelter.html](http://www.frederickbar.org/runforshelter.html).

*Christ Reformed  
United Church of Christ*

Rev. Mark Wakefield, Pastor  
Rev. Michelle Beadle, Associate Pastor

Contemporary Worship 8:15 a.m.  
Sunday School for All Ages 9:15 a.m.  
Traditional Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Coffee Hour following Worship

Church Office Hours  
Monday-Friday: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.  
301-371-6610  
Fax: 301-371-6912  
[christreformeducc@comcast.net](mailto:christreformeducc@comcast.net)  
[www.christreformeducc.org](http://www.christreformeducc.org)

P.O. Box 333  
12 South Church Street  
Middletown, Maryland 21769

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Frederick, Maryland 21701

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

CHRIST CHURCH  
CHILDREN'S CENTER

301-371-0360

Daycare – Early Learning Center  
Kindergarten thru 5th Grade  
6:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
Monday – Friday

*Reaching out to help people to know God through Jesus Christ.  
Equipping people to love God through the community of faith.  
Sending people to serve God throughout the world.*

**23rd Annual Middletown Heritage  
Festival Quilt Raffle**

Our quilt pattern is the "Boston Lone Star". We chose a 'star' pattern as we prepare to 'Raise the Star' following the March 4<sup>th</sup> fire. The quilt was purchased from Farm Family Quilts in Ronks, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Rudy E. Mast quilted 309 yards of stitches to complete this beautiful quilt. The quilt, which is on display in the Chapel, is a generous queen size (98" X 112").

Tickets are still available for \$1.00 each, or six for \$5.00 and are available in the Chapel each week and in the Church Office. Thanks to Judy Brandenburg who is our Raffle Coordinator.

Thanks for a great response last year. Let's have a *spectacular* response this year as we "Raise the Star!"



**Middletown Heritage Festival  
September 25, 2010**

Heritage Day is just around the corner and we need your help to show Middletown that Christ Reformed UCC is a **Great Church for Families, Just Around the Corner**. Once again, we will offer many of the activities and services that the community has come to love and rely on: serving lunch, selling apple dumplings, and hosting a quilt raffle and craft booth. We will also make our presence known by marching in the parade, offering free water, popcorn, fun temporary tattoos for kids, balloons, and making the moon bounce available for the enjoyment of countless children.

Please consider how you might be able to contribute to this year's celebration. We still need people to help:

- Decorate the float
- Walk in the parade and hand out gifts (or ride if you are unable to walk in the parade)
- Help with serving lunch or staffing the bake sale
- Staff the moon bounce
- Apply tattoos, hand out free water, balloons, and popcorn

Whatever your level of interest, there is a way that you can contribute: please contact Michelle Beadle at [michelle.beadle@comcast.net](mailto:michelle.beadle@comcast.net) or 301-371-6610.