

Volume XXVI, Number 7  
July 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.*

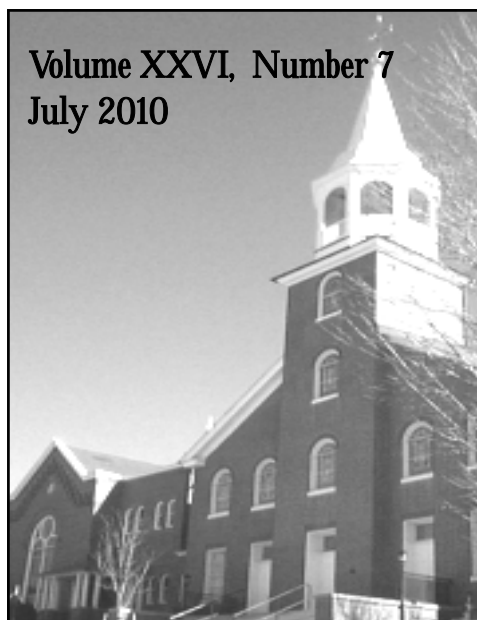
## *Michelle's Musings: "Christmas in July?"*

My family and I recently went to an amusement park, and among the thrills and turns and dips it was nice to find that my kids still enjoyed the simple pleasure of the merry-go-round and its hypnotic motion: fluid, reliable, cyclical, predictable. My husband, Andrew, and I would watch as they would swing around the bend, smiling and waving to us, and then quick as a blink they'd pass by and we'd be left watching the backs of their heads as they moved further and further away. Then they would reach that magic point, that place on the other side of the circle directly across from us where their journey was suddenly transformed from one where they were moving away from us, to one where they were moving ever closer.

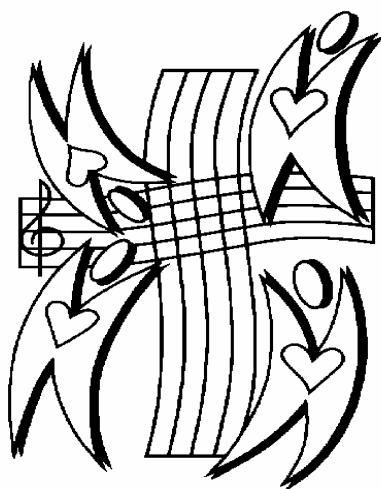
As a community of faith, we are coming up on such a moment. On July 6 we will celebrate the six-month point between our last celebration of the Epiphany (January 6) and our next. The Epiphany, also known as "Little Christmas," is a feast day of the Christian tradition during which we celebrate both the unique presence of God among us in the birth of Jesus (as witnessed to by the wise men in the second chapter of the Gospel of Matthew), as well as the ever-presence of God in our lives. As people of faith, we have 'an epiphany' when we experience a sudden realization of the Divine, the miraculous, in and around us within the ebb and flow of life.

When we celebrated Epiphany Sunday this past January, each member of the congregation was invited to take an Epiphany Star. Like two sides of the same coin, each star had two words printed on them, on opposing sides - words which are related but together represent tensions in our lives. Such pairings include trust/skepticism, delight/disapproval, endurance/surrender, and confidence/doubt. We were challenged to keep

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## Music—Drama—Dance Camp

For ages: K (completed) — 8th Grade

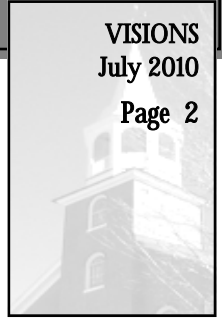
July 12<sup>th</sup>—16<sup>th</sup>: 9:00 am — Noon

Camp Performance: Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup> — 7:00 pm

Director: Terry Sparks

For more info, contact Terry Sparks at 240.409.0049

Application Form Enclosed. Fee — \$20



our star in a place where we would encounter it regularly over the course of the year - in our wallets, taped to our computer or mirror, etc. - and to use it as an object of reflection, to consider how the Lord is speaking to us through them. At what times is God calling us to one versus the other? What do we turn to in order to decide when to lean on one over the other? These are not always easy questions to answer, but through prayerful reflection we are given the chance to live in the tension and to listen for God's voice, to experience a moment of epiphany.

For the past six months, we have been racing forward, plunging into life ever further from the day we were blessed with our Epiphany Stars. But now we find ourselves experiencing Christmas in July, that time when we turn around that bend and find ourselves racing back to the Christmas season, each day closer to our next special encounter with Emmanuel, the Christ Child of the Epiphany. When we greet him on that occasion, what wisdom will we have discovered on our journey? In what ways will he have spoken to us as we reflected on our lives and listened for his voice in those words on our stars?

If you are in need of a star, it's not too late. Just let us know and we will get one for you: a Christmas present in July.

~Michelle

## Notes

### "Care Notes" Now Available

**Need a morale boost?** Read the Care Note "Finding Hope When times are Tough."

**Got a case of the "Blahs"?**

Peruse the Care Note entitled "Humor — It Helps Us As We Age."

**Are you dealing with the loss of a friend or loved one?**

Maybe "Easing Your Grief Little by Little" may give you a lift.

The Called to Care Ministry recently chose ten topics from the many "Care Notes" presented by Abbey Press to offer to our congregation. They may be found in a display on the top of the bookcase where the after worship coffee hour is held. Stop by, look over the titles and pick up a free copy for yourself or a friend. We hope it brings a blessing from your friends of the Called to Care Ministry.



### Sanctuary Restoration Update

The Restoration Team has been hard at work over the last month. The Structure team hopes to have a project description go out to contractors for bid by July 3. Once the bids are back we'll call a meeting of the congregation to consider the recommended proposal. The Contents Task Force has spent a lot of time consulting with organ builders and our insurance company to determine the specific damage that will be covered. They have also contracted with DSL Sound for an acoustic study of the sanctuary to determine what combination of floor surfaces, organ restoration and sound equipment will provide the best sound in the sanctuary. If you have questions please contact any member of the task force.

#### 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.

## "A Perfect Storm of Caring" by Rev. Mark Wakefield

Sebastian Junger's 1997 book-turned-movie, The Perfect Storm tells the story of the personal side of a weather phenomenon. On October 30, 1991 meteorological conditions off the east coast coalesced into a storm of epic proportions that caused the death of a number of fishermen and a would-be rescuer and destroyed beach property along the coast.

Since that time the term, "perfect storm" has become a part of popular language. Whether referring to the forces that lead to economic trouble, the personnel problems that afflict a sports team or an epidemic health issue, the perfect storm suggests a multiplier effect beyond the power of any single factor.

But, as we witnessed a couple of weeks ago, a perfect storm can bring together many forces for good as well. It began with a garage full of "stuff" behind the Parish House. Leftovers from previous yard sales, drop-offs from benefactors looking to clean out their own living spaces and items which had become homeless and which seemed almost magnetically attracted to the garage space. In addition there were a lot of items in CRUCC members' attics and basements just waiting to be donated. The supplies were there.

We also had a committed group of volunteers. Beginning with the Youth Group's tradition of holding a yard sale the core of participants grew when Judy Brandenburg offered to recruit volunteers and direct the organizing. She and Patrick Shafer, the Senior High Youth Leader, were the masterminds.

And, finally, we had an important and appealing cause which would be supported. The Honduras Scholarship Fund has sent dozens and dozens of Honduran children to school over the last decade, thanks to support from churches like ours.

The perfect storm of "stuff," volunteers and cause yielded more than \$2100 for the scholarship fund. As Patrick said, "This means 21 kids will go to school who would not have otherwise." Many thanks to all the donors, helpers and buyers who made this year's yard sale such a great success!

**MANY,  
MANY,  
MANY  
THANKS!!!**

The Yard Sale was a GREAT SUCCESS – MAKING \$2,140.00! All that success is due to all the donations given by many. Thanks for taking the time to gather and bring to the church.

Thanks also to ALL the helpers – some using trucks to gather or deliver items, many helping to set-up in the early morning – clearing the church garage and many for helping to sell, collect the money and then cleanup.

Thanks to Edna Alice Hoffman, Griff and Mary Garwood, Renee Huffer, Mickey Keller, Michele Morales, Bill Steigelmann, Linda DeLauder, Marcia Bowers, Beth Scott, Mary Lou Dent, Pat Joy, Tim Worrell, Beth Tucker, Collin Brandenburg, Alden Sparks, David and Eric vom Lehn, Bonnie Boykin, and Megan Lesznar.

~Patrick Shafer  
~Judy Brandenburg

## Community Outreach

### Collection of Honduras Supplies

Once again a group from the Catocin Association (including Merle Guyton, Wayne Brandenburg, Patrick Shafer, Tim Worrell, and Luke & Anna Verdi from our congregation) will be travelling to Honduras to build houses. They will depart on July 13 and return on July 22. As always, they will be collecting and carrying supplies to the people of Honduras.

Please drop your donations of **school supplies, Spanish Bibles (adult & children), baby and toddler clothes, etc.** in the suitcase in the narthex by July 11; or, bring them by the Parish House by July 12.



Save the Date!

**Sunday, August 1st  
Sign-up to Serve  
or provide a dessert!**

This month in Children's Church, we are learning about  
**Service – lending a hand to help someone else.**

Memory Verse: **"Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men."**  
(Ephesians 6:7 NIV)



**Week 1: July 4<sup>th</sup> ROADWORK**

*What in the world are you doing that's more than you have to do?*

**Jesus says to go the extra mile.** (Matthew 5:41)

*Talk about it as a family.*

*Kid Question: What does "going the extra mile" mean? Parent Question: Do you know anyone (or a company) that goes the extra mile or offers great service? How so?*

**Week 2: July 11<sup>th</sup> NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**

*What in the world are you doing to help someone else?*

**The Good Samaritan** (Luke 10:30-37)

*Talk about it as a family. Kid Question: What do you think is the most important thing to learn from Jesus' parable? Parent Question: Why do you suppose people pass by when someone needs help?*

**Week 3: July 18<sup>th</sup> FEET FIRST**

*What in the world are you doing to put others first?*

**Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet** (John 13:1-17)

*Talk about it as a family. Kid Question: What are three ways you can put someone else first this week? Parent Question: Who do you typically "put first"? How so?*

**Week 4: July 25<sup>th</sup> SECRET SERVICE**

*What in the world are you doing that only God knows?*

**Jesus says not to do good things just so that others will think highly of you!** (Matthew 6:1-4)

*Talk about it as a family. Kid Question: What did Jesus mean about not letting the left hand know what the right hand is doing? Parent Question: Has anyone ever done something kind for you in secret? What was it?*



Nursery Volunteers  
July 2010

July 4	Renee Weston
July 11	Nancy vom Lehn
July 18	Beth Tucker
July 25	Joyce Kefauver



Coming this Fall!

**Sunday School Registration for all students.**

Packets will be arriving at your house via snail mail by the end of July. If you do not receive a packet and wish to register your child in Sunday School, please contact Michelle Beadle at 301.371.6610 or [michelle.beadle@comcast.net](mailto:michelle.beadle@comcast.net)

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

Our quilt pattern selection this year 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 is a generous queen size (98" X 112") and 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 which is on display in the Chapel.

Tickets are \$1.00 each, or six for \$5.00. Tickets are sale in the Chapel each week and are available in the Church Office. Please take tickets to sell to your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers. Photos of the quilt are also available. 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!"

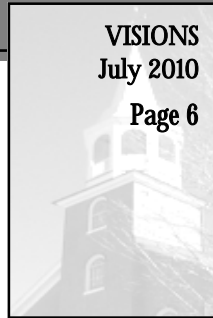


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### **Middletown Heritage Festival September 25, 2010**

It's not too early to think about how Christ Reformed can best celebrate its contributions to the community on Heritage Day. 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.

And there is so much more we can do. Last year we reminded Middletown that Christ Reformed Church is a "**Great Church for Families, Just Around the Corner**" by marching in the parade, offering free water, popcorn, and balloons, and making the moon bounce available for the enjoyment of countless children. Won't you be part of this year's celebration? We need a team of enthusiastic volunteers to help coordinate our parade participation, arrange for on site activities, and come up with more ways we can engage the community and show off what a wonderful faith home we have here. 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.



**Come One, Come All to the Christ Reformed  
All-Church Camp-Out and Jamboree  
September 11, 2010**

Mark your calendars and prepare your gear! All are invited to camp out under the stars on the green behind the Parish House on Saturday, September 11. Tent set-up will begin at 2:00 and we'll have games and activities for all ages throughout the day. When evening comes we'll have a cook out, gather around a fire, indulge in smores, and enjoy live entertainment. We will also offer "outside" movies for kids (TBD) and, later in the evening, for adults (*Evan Almighty*). After a night of peaceful sleep and a mix-n-match cereal breakfast buffet, we'll gather for Rally Day and worship, with no apologies for looking worse for wear!

Registration is required to secure a tent site. You don't have to camp to join in the festivities, but we will nevertheless appreciate the gift of knowing that you'll be present. Camping registration forms will be available in early summer (our own local Scouts will be helping map out the tent sites) and sign-ups for non-campers will be encouraged later in August. If you have any questions or would like to help plan this fun event, contact Michelle Beadle, Associate Pastor ([michelle.beadle@comcast.net](mailto:michelle.beadle@comcast.net) or 301-371-6610).



**This event is hosted by the Christian Education Board in gratitude for the gift of Sunday School.**



**2010 Farmer's Market  
Every Thursday through  
September 30th  
3:00 to 6:00 pm  
Questions?  
Contact Mark Boettcher  
240.422.9237**



**All-Seasons Book Club**

The book club will meet Wednesday, July 28th at 7 pm in the Parish House to discuss Blessings, a novel by Anna Quindlen.

"Late a night, a young couple drives up to an estate owned by Lydia Blessing and leaves a box. In this instant, the world of the estate called Blessings is changed forever."

**Church Softball League Game Schedule**

11—Middletown UCC Softball Schedule 2010  
Seeds 1-10 = A & B Division      Seeds 11-20 = C & D Division

Date	Be There	Game Start	Opponent	Field
7/4/2010	-	-	MAKE UP GAMES	-
7/11/2010	4:00pm	5:00pm	18- St. Timothys- White	Middletown #1
7/18/2010	4:30pm	5:00pm	14- New Beginning	Middletown #2
7/25/2010	4:00pm	5:00pm	19- Brook Hill	Pinecliff #5
8/1/2010	4:45pm	5:00pm	17- Trinity United Methodist	Ballenger#2
8/8/2010	4:30pm	5:00pm	12- Seventh Day	Middletown #2

**Baptisms**

*Samantha Jane Toepfer, daughter of Cara & Jeremy Bullock, granddaughter of Jane & Keith Staley, was baptized on June 13, 2010.*

*Landon Seth Ohler, son of Melody & Gilbert Ohler, was baptized on June 27, 2010.*

*Zoey Paige Moore, daughter of Courtney & Joshua Moore, was baptized on June 27, 2010.*

**Weddings**

*Elizabeth Nicole Rice and Eric Thomas Brewer were wed on May 29, 2010.*

*Erin Janine Kelly and Harry Brian Starliper were wed on June 5, 2010.*

*Louisa Potts and Donald Harold Orcutt were wed on June 11, 2010.*

*Nicholas Michael Fink and Michelle Lee Lescure were wed on June 12, 2010.*

**Funerals**

*Bobby Dale Frock, husband of Jean Frock, father of Felicia Krapf, passed away on June 2, 2010.*



**Middle School Youth News**



**Trinette Newman and niece, Kimberly, join the fun at Skating to Raise the Star.**

On behalf of the Middle School Youth Group, I would like to thank the Gabb, Corl, and Bramhall families for their donations and support for our Roller Skating to Raise the Star event. Thanks also to those who came out to skate or bike, and to Ms. Beth for being our on-site nurse. The rain may have hindered our attendance, but we still had fun and fellowship together.

*~Lisa Remsberg  
Middle School Youth Director*



**Logan Bramhall, Alexis Gabb, Trevor McClure, Olivia Remsberg, & Taylor Long enjoy an afternoon at Ski Roundtop.**

**Church Attendance  
June 2010**

	8:15 am	10:30 am
June 6	66	120
June 13	62	124
June 20	56	74
June 27	64	121

**June Average — 172  
2010 Average — 193**

**Dear CRUCC Congregation & Staff,**

Thank you all very deeply for the surprise celebration last Sunday it was unexpected and overwhelming. Thank you especially to Carol Anticevich for the beautiful, purple (my favorite color!) and Michelle Beadle for her lovely words and all of the CRUCC staff for their thoughtfulness. Thank you for all the kind messages from the congregation.

I've really enjoyed working with each and everyone during my time as church secretary. I'll miss my daily contact with all of the folks who e-mail, call or stop by the office. Especially thanks to those who volunteer in the office: Ruth Falconer, Diana & Lewis Corl, Kathy Schultz, Bunny Cramer, & Margie Hurd.

My joy comes in knowing I will remain a part of this kind, caring and loving congregation.

*~In Christ's Love,  
Sarah Petermann*

*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.*

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**July 19--23**

**9:00 am to 12:00 pm**

**Rising K-5th Graders  
Young Adventurers!!!**

**Sign-up Now!**

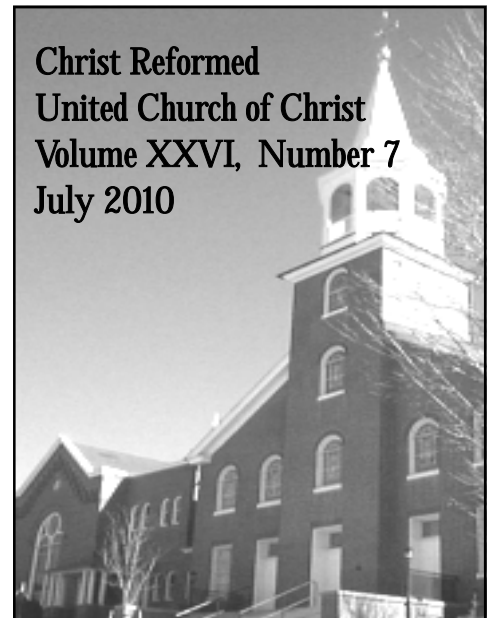
Join us under the Baobab Tree  
— Hear the Word — Be amazed  
at God's wildlife creations —

— Enjoy arts and crafts, special music, games, and story telling! —  
Registration fee is \$15 per child — forms available in the narthex,  
church office, and on our web site. Parents interested in learning  
more about the program can go to [thevbplace.org](http://thevbplace.org).

**SHARE — CARE — TRUST — LOVE — FOLLOW**



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***Summer Stewardship***

We hope your summer plans provide plenty of time for rest and renewal. While you are vacationing, however, we hope you keep in mind that the church's expenses do not take time off. Salaries, utilities, insurance and mission commitments are year-round realities. We appreciate your continuing support of the church through your pledges and offerings!