Special Summer Opportunities for Christian Growth

Don’t Miss Vacation Bible School June 22 - 26!
All children ages 4 years and above are welcome. Incoming 7th graders and above are invited to be youth helpers. The program runs 9:30 a.m. until noon at Riverdale Presbyterian Church, with optional afternoon art/craft and youth service camps. To register or for more information contact Karen Nazareth at 301-422-1400 x 13 or uumc.dce@verizon.net.

Summer Midweek Bible Study June 3 - July 15
Please join us on Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the parlor. We will be studying the book of Romans.

One Night Vacation Bible School – Wed., July 22
The evening will start with a potluck dinner at 6 p.m., followed by small group sessions for children, youth and adults. This is an annual tradition and we hope you can come along!

♪ Mark your calendars now! June 14 at 10 a.m. will be a “Great Day of Singing” at UUMC. Bring your friends and neighbors and join us as we celebrate together and praise God with our hymns and songs. Together we can continue the Wesley tradition of being a “singing church.” ♪

From our Pastor

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ,

We come to another end of the school year and the beginning of summer. Vacations for many are on the horizon. In my prayers for you and for me I began asking what do you and what do I need at this time of year, this time that we usually call summer vacation? In exploring that question, I was reminded that the word holiday is a synonym for vacation. I had never considered the meanings behind these two words as significant. But I do now. I found that vacation comes from the Latin vacātiō, which means “to be free from something,”¹ and holiday is a contraction of the two words holy and day.² Although they are now used interchangeably, I believe there is an important difference. Once I looked into their origins I realized that holiday is more akin to the meaning of Sabbath.

For most of my life I’ve expected a mini-vacation every week from work: it’s called a day-off. In connection to the Latin vacātiō, my day-off was literally to be free from my normal work. Most of us would not confuse our day-off with a day of Sabbath. Our Sabbath is a time away, like a mini-vacation, but its purpose is different. Sabbath is to re-remember that all that we have is from God, all that we are is of God, and it is only through God that we will know rest. Sabbath helps us remember who we are.

Considering the aforementioned, my question still remains and is now more urgent: what do you and I need at this time of year? Do we need time away – a vacation? Or do we need a holy-day – a Sabbath? These are not necessarily mutually exclusive. But we all know vacations that have left us more exhausted physically and spiritually at the end than when we began. My experience is that to have Sabbath time in my vacation requires intentionality.

For myself, I have answered my question: I need time away so as to have a Sabbath. I need time to be still, to be quiet, and to reflect. But I also realize (continued on next page)

UUMC Summer Schedule

Our summer worship schedule begins on Sunday, June 7, with a single service at 10 a.m. replacing the 8:30 and 11 a.m. services. The summer schedule will continue through August 23. Adult Sunday school will meet at 9 a.m.
that having a Sabbath may be a very new idea for many. For most of my life – and many of my first years as a pastor – Sabbath was a concept spoken about in scripture but one that only marginally touched my life. Thankfully, for me, Sabbath is no longer just a word or a concept. I've come to know the deep connectedness and rest that comes from spending time in Sabbath. Still, though, it is hard to protect my time and be intentional so that my Sabbath occurs. What I have found is that the more I practice Sabbath, the more I experience it in my workaday life.

What do you need, a vacation or a Sabbath?

Perry

1 http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/vacation
2 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vacation

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Summer Arts Contest: What I Saw on my Summer Vacation!

The UUMC Visual Arts Guild announces a summer arts contest for children, youth and university students. This summer, take a photo, do a drawing, paint a picture, produce a work in textile or pottery, or work in any other visual media, which describes your views and experiences over the summer. The submission deadline will be in late September (the exact date will be announced later). The works will be displayed in October and judged by members of the UUMC Visual Arts Guild. There will be prizes, but we don't know what yet. (Donations of prizes are gratefully accepted.)

Rules: Artists generally avoid rules, and if there are rules, we tend to break them! On the other hand, we thought it appropriate to have rules for parents! So, parents, you can provide the art materials or camera. But let your child select the subject and use the materials and/or point the camera. Parents can also provide frames or materials to display the finished work.

For more information, contact Michelle Marcotte.

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Coffee Hour – Keeping It Simple

Providing coffee hour in the gym after the worship service is an easy way to help serve your church family. Please sign up – for one specific Sunday – on the sheet on the bulletin board outside the kitchen next to the gym. You are asked to bring three things on that day: something salty, something sweet and something healthy – keep it simple! Your duties on that morning are as follows: put out napkins, cups, and plates (located in the kitchen), use pitchers near the kitchen sink to make ice water and lemonade (the lemonade mix is next to the sink), and put out your food. (The coffee is already made.) Please, also clean up: put away extra paper goods, wash out pitchers, and wipe off the coffee hour tables. Thank you so much for your help! You will get a reminder call or email the week preceding your turn.

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A Letter of Introduction

Dear Church Family,

I am excited to share with you that beginning September 2009 we will be partnering with Wesley Theological Seminary as a teaching congregation for the Practice in Ministry and Mission. Stephen Harris is our student intern. Many of you may remember that I introduced Stephen and Ashley, his wife, in the 11:00 worship on May 3.

Stephen and Ashley are from West Columbia, SC and are big University of South Carolina Gamecock fans. They graduated from Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC, Stephen with a BA in religion and Ashley with a BA in math and a minor in religion. They now live in Odenton, MD, but intend to move closer to DC. Ashley is a mathematician working at Ft. Meade and is pursuing a master’s degree at Johns Hopkins. Stephen is entering his second year at Wesley Seminary. He also substitute teaches for Anne Arundel County public schools. They have a dog named Duchess and love music and movies.

Our role as a teaching congregation is to mentor and work with Stephen to develop his ministerial identity and self-confidence. It is important that we help him gain as much experience as possible. I am his clergy mentor and from our church he will be assigned a Learning Partner.

Stephen and Ashley will be visiting with us at times throughout the summer. I will continue to introduce them to you. Wish them well and welcome them into our church family.

Perry

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A note about the “Second Mile Giving” campaign: We did not have the full results of the giving campaign at newsletter deadline. Once those figures are available, the finance committee will give a report to the congregation.
Fun! Excitement! Competition! And No Agenda!

Come join your UUMC family as we gather for a night of games, Friday, June 5 at 6:30. We will gather in Fellowship Hall where pizza and drinks will be provided, but bring a snack if you choose. Possible games include Fluxx, one of Looney Labs finest... it only has two rules... draw a card, play a card... but subject to change on any given turn! Or Cranium, “the game that uses your whole brain.” Some people claim Apples to Apples is a lot of fun – come see if you agree! And then there are Teams of Enemies, where you answer as a team but the teams keep changing, Clever Endeavor, “the game of clever clues” and Wise and Otherwise, “the game where the beginning is half of the whole...and in the end it will be known who ate the figs.” And the always challenging Scrabble, especially if you can’t spell! Other board and card games will be provided, or bring your favorite and talk other folks into playing! Please feel free to drop in later if you can’t make it at 6:30, or leave early if you have other plans for the rest of the evening. And bring a friend or two! Questions? Contact Jennifer Newlin.

Fireworks at UUMC!

Well, ok, technically they are on the UM campus, but we have the front row seats! This year we’ll have a picnic, with hot dogs and lemonade...and ICE CREAM! On Saturday, July 4, come early and get a good spot! The picnic starting time will be announced, and fireworks are at dusk. As we did last year, we’d like to offer a welcoming church presence to the community. Volunteers are needed to help with food and hospitality. Please contact Karen Nazareth at uumc.dce@verizon.net for more information.

Coming Fall 2009: Immerse in Simple Living – The Three Simple Rules

Join us for a four week immersion series as we examine John Wesley’s three general rules:

- Do no harm.
- Do good.
- Stay in love with God.

During worship, small group studies, and service opportunities we will explore together the Wesleyan Way of Life with the hope that the experience will change not only our hearts, but our church and our world. ..... Watch this space! ..... 

Bagels and Birds

Our newly formed group has enjoyed two successful outings, where several species of birds were observed: orchard and Baltimore Orioles, blue gray gnatcatchers, goldfinches, and bluebirds (among others). Please join us for our next outing! We will meet on Saturday, July 11 at 7:30 a.m. at Sarah and John Wakefield’s house. After eating a light breakfast, we will carpool to Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens where we hope to see a variety of wading birds, such as blue herons and egrets. Also, the lotus will be blooming. If you have not experienced these five foot tall flowering plants, you will be amazed! Please do sign up ahead of time on the sheet provided on a bulletin board in the long hallway between the sanctuary and the gym. For more information, contact Alice LaRusso or Sarah Wakefield.

Spring 2009 Rummage Sale Report

The rummage sale this spring brought in $2832.80, of which 10% comes back to the church’s operating (core) budget.

Historically, the rummage sale was organized by UUMC’s unit of the United Methodist Women. It was their only source of income for yearly donations to local charities such as Meals on Wheels, Help-by-Phone, Susannah Wesley House in Baltimore, Housing Initiative of Prince George’s County, Mt. Rainier Elementary School and others. The money was also used to maintain the two kitchens, which included replacing appliances when needed. In addition, the United Methodist Men received 10% for their assistance. For many years, Louise Toalston, with great dedication, assumed the major role in organizing the work. When Louise became ill, Carol and Howard Chow and Charlotte and Bob Roberson stepped in to fill her shoes.

After Louise’s passing in December 2005, Duane Kidwell and Jennifer Newlin volunteered to assume the leadership role in organizing future rummage sales. However, neither were members of the UMW; their passions were with the Wesley Foundation and Missions. So beginning in spring of 2006, the monies raised in the rummage sale have been distributed as follows:

- 10% to the church’s operating (core) budget
- $300 to the UMW, with which paper goods for church functions are purchased
- The remainder is split 50/50 between Missions and Wesley Foundation

(continued on next page)
In addition, all those wonderful new, lightweight tables used frequently in the Memorial Hall were purchased with funds from the sale.

All this could not be possible without the continued support of the many volunteers who donate goods, arrange and price items, and provide support on sale days. What a wonderful way to bring a little “green” to our community by recycling items to people who can use them.

Thank you.

Sarah Wakefield & Ann Strickling

**Within the Church Family**

**New Members**

UUMC is happy to welcome the following new members to our church family: Katelyn Fosta, who was confirmed and joined the church on April 12; Nick Welter, who joined on May 3; Rachel Kim, who joined on May 17; and Krista Schejbal, who joined on May 24.

**Congratulations to All of our Graduates!**

UUMC honored its high school and college graduates on April 19 and May 24. Our high school graduates are

- Teresa Findley, who was the student speaker at her commencement
- Collette Gravatt-Ferris, who will attend community college
- Kristina Toalston, who will attend Towson University

Our college graduates are

- Nathaniel (Nate) Brown, with a B.S. in aerospace engineering and a B.A. in economics from UMd
- William (Will) Bruner, with a B.S. in aerospace engineering from UMd
- Ryan Gomez, with a B.S. in operational research and information technology from Cornell University
- Adam LaRusso, with a B.S. in architecture from UMd
- Kara Ponting, with a B.S. in deaf studies from Towson University
- Greg Schwarzkopf, with a B.S. in mathematics and a minor in computer science from UMd

Our thoughts and prayers go with them all as they enter the next stage of their lives.

**A Note from Friends**

Hello to all from Raleigh,

I am looking out of our window on this wonderful morning of March 2, 2009 and I see SNOW. Yes, this part of North Carolina does have a four season climate and we like it very much. We have been very busy since our retirement in August 2008 and subsequent move down here after 43 years in the DC area (40 years as UUMC members). Our younger son Kevin, his wife Amy and two children (Jack 1½, Charlotte 4) are near by and are very much a large part of our lives. Although we transferred our membership to a local UMC here (Millbrook UMC http://host1.brevistech.com/~millbroo/index.php?pr=Home_Page), we are very appreciative of continuing to receive the UUMC newsletter and staying connected through the prayer line. Thank you for your continuing strong witness to the university and surrounding community.

In Christian Love,

Ulrich and Mary Strom
**University United Methodist Church**  
3621 Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20740  
301-422-1400  Fax: 301-935-5999  
Office hours Mon. - Thurs. 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
uumc.office@verizon.net  [www.uumcp.org](http://www.uumcp.org)

**Rev. Perry L. Williams, Senior Pastor**  
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(c) 443-536-3577  (h) 240-667-1290  
uumc.pastor@verizon.net

**Rev. Kim Capps**  
Campus Minister/Wesley Foundation Director  
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(o) 301-405-8451  
ucm@umd.edu or kim.capps@gmail.com

**Karen Nazareth, Director of Christian Formation**  
25012 Dunterry Ct., Gaithersburg, MD 20882  
(h) 301-482-1682  uumc.dce@verizon.net

Submissions may be made via email or by putting items in the “news” bag on the bulletin board outside the church office. Please include your name, phone number, and the name of the committee or group you represent, if applicable. The UUMC newsletter is published quarterly. The next newsletter will be in late August.

Duane Kidwell, Editor  
1005 Nora Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20904  
(h) 301-622-1544  cydweli@aol.com

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**Calendar**

**Summer at a Glance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 1</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Lay Leadership committee meeting</td>
<td>Parlor</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 3-6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 5</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Game night</td>
<td>Fellowship Hall</td>
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<td>June 7</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Summer worship schedule begins</td>
<td>Parlor</td>
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<td>June 9</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Church Council meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 14</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Great Day of Singing worship service</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Council of Ministries meeting</td>
<td>Robinson Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 22-26</td>
<td>9:30 a.m. - noon</td>
<td>Vacation Bible School</td>
<td>Riverdale Presbyterian Church</td>
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<td>July 4</td>
<td>evening</td>
<td>Community picnic on church lawn followed by U Md fireworks</td>
<td>Wakefield’s house</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 11</td>
<td>7:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Bagels and Birds</td>
<td>Fellowship Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 22</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>One night Vacation Bible School &amp; potluck</td>
<td>Church grounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 2</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Outdoor worship service</td>
<td>Robinson Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 23</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Last day for summer worship schedule</td>
<td>Parlor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 25</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Worship committee meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 30</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Fall worship schedule begins</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>after worship</td>
<td>Church Council meeting</td>
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**Each Week June 7 through August 23**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun.</td>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
<td>Sunday school for adults</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Summer worship service</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Children’s Sunday school</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Coffee Hour</td>
<td>Gym</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed.</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Bible study on Romans (June 3 - July 15)</td>
<td>Robinson Room</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>First &amp; third Saturdays at 10 a.m. – Knitting ministry</td>
<td>Parlor</td>
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Communion is offered on the first Sunday of every month.

**Looking Ahead**

- Sept. 13  Welcome Sunday
- Nov. 1  Recognition of UUMC’s 60th anniversary

Please check our calendar on the web at [www.uumcp.org](http://www.uumcp.org) for updated information.

**Join us on Sunday, August 2, at 10 a.m. for an outdoor worship service featuring communion and special music.**

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University United Methodist Church  
3621 Campus Drive  
College Park, Maryland 20740  

Address Correction Requested