

# NEW MARKET UMC NEWSLETTER FOR SEPTEMBER 2011

Recently a house burned down in our neighborhood. The charred frame of what was once a home stands in Preston as evidence of how fire can destroy. By the grace of God, the family inside survived the fire a reminder that homes can be rebuilt. As I passed by the rubble last week I thought about what's most important in our lives. It's not the houses we inhabit but the families and the neighborhoods we serve which give us meaning. The purpose of our days is not cleaning houses and paying off mortgages but building relationships with those God has given us to love.

A similar conclusion was reached by our nation 10 years ago in the days following September 11<sup>th</sup>. It was in those grief stricken days that we appreciated the heroes who risk everything in order to serve their community and in which we were reminded how precious it is to have a family or a church to come home to.

This fall as our nation remembers the devastation we will remember God's call for us to be courageous. Not just in the extra-ordinary times when fires rage or buildings fall but also in the everyday moments where tempers jeopardize relationships or decisions form our future. We will together take a "courageous" journey in which we consider God's call for us to focus on our faith and our families. We will consider what it means for us to "be strong in the Lord" and how we can live today so that others will know who we live for.

Our "**Courageous Journey**" will begin on September 11<sup>th</sup> as we welcome our community to join us for worship. We hope you will each spend some time in prayer considering who may be looking for a church home or a relationship with the Lord and then invite them. We will continue the journey for four weeks of worship and Bible study. We encourage each member and friend of our congregations to participate in a small group, Sunday school class, or Bible study during this time so that we can grow strong together. We will provide daily scripture readings in the GPS to reinforce your steps.

We look forward to growing strong with you this fall!

Pastor Jenny, Pastor Jason & Pastor Scott



This is a note from your Pastors about the Parish:

Believe it or not it has only been a month since we began working together as a parish. We admit that it has taken us several weeks to get our feet under us. There were many things to learn at each church and our pastor team is working very hard to determine how to best serve each congregation. We appreciate your prayers and your feedback as we learn together how we can care for you and help you grow in faith while at the same time reaching those in the neighborhood that do not yet have a church home.



- 1 Scouts 628
- 5 Labor Day
- 6 Trustee's meeting 7pm schoolhouse
- 7 Bible Study 7pm Ed Bldg  
Youth group kickoff 6:30-8:30pm at Mt. Carmel
- 8 Scouts 628  
Choir 7:30pm
- 11 Parish Youth Picnic
- 12 Foster's Grill Scout 628 fundraiser  
3-9pm
- 13 SPRC meeting 7pm schoolhouse  
UMW circle of friends 11:30am
- 14 Bible Study 7pm Ed Bldg
- 15 Scouts 628  
Choir 7:30pm
- 20 Council meeting 7pm schoolhouse
- 21 Bible study 7pm Ed Bldg
- 22 Scouts 628  
Choir 7:30pm
- 23 First day of Fall
- 24 Bike trip-C&O canal (Brunswick to Harper's Ferry) meet at 9am
- 27 Outreach committee meeting 7pm  
Newsletter deadline
- 28 Bible study 7pm Ed Bldg
- 29 Scouts 628



**PRAYER & FASTING**

Every Wednesday we invite you to dedicate your lunch hour or another hour during your day to prayer. The pastors will be fasting and praying on Wednesdays. You can pray wherever you are, at work, home, school, or in the community. We will provide prayer focuses in the bulletin each Sunday and send an email prayer list on Tuesdays. We will have on our list, prayers for other churches in the parish and they will be praying for us. This will unite us as a body and link us together to the power of God.

**Adults, join a Small Group or Bible Study this fall and grow strong in faith!!**

**Sunday Mornings 9:30a.m.** Adult Class meets in the Education Building Kitchen. This faith forming Bible Study is open to all adults who wish to grow in faith and community. The class is lead by Thelma Gesling.

**Disciple Bible Study Tuesday mornings 9:30a.m.-11:00 a.m. in the Mt. Carmel conference room.** This is an in depth course in which participants covenant to daily readings and weekly small group sessions. The outcome of such commitment is a life formed by the word of God and supported by Christian friends. This year we will study "Under the Tree of Life" which focuses on the psalms, the Gospel of John, and the Book of Revelation. To have a book ordered for you contact Donna at 301-662-1303.

**Wednesday night Bible Study 7:00pm in the New Market Education Building.** All are welcome to join this Bible study in which the word of God is explored and applied to daily living. You can begin any week. September 14<sup>th</sup> this group will be sharing the "Courageous" small group study which challenges us to be strong in the faith for our families and community.

**All ages are invited to join us for Sunday school: 9:30a.m.-10:30a.m.** We have a class for every member of the family. We hope you will all join us to grow in faith!

**Birth-Kindergarten** will meet weekly in the nursery for faith formation lessons and play. **1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders** will meet weekly in the large room in the education building for lessons, games & activities.

A **middle school and senior high school** class will be offered in the School House. The group will begin together for fellowship and split into two groups for age appropriate faith formation lessons.

The **adult** class will meet in the Education Building Kitchen for study, fellowship & prayer!

## UMW Circle of friends

"Encourage one another--and the God of love and peace will be with you." 2 Corinthians 13: 11

The purpose of United Methodist Women is to know God and to develop a creative supportive fellowship; and to learn of missions through participation in global ministries of the church.

If you're new to our church or just never have been involved in a UMW group; you are most welcome to join us. Circle of Friends is an afternoon group which meets the second Tuesday of each month at 12:30pm. The place and date of each meeting will be in the bulletin and if you have any questions or need additional info, please call Thelma Gesling (301)-865-5514.

Circle of Friend's activities during the summer consisted of a bridal tea for Carolyn McMahon, one of our members, on July 12 at Thelma's home. It was a joyous occasion with 14 ladies wearing hats--thanks to Barb Zimmerman for her great collection. Carolyn and Tom Geary were married August 6. We made a trip to SERRV in New Windsor on August 9. Several items were purchased at this Fair Trade center followed by lunch at Johansson's in Westminster. Many of our ladies were helpers at VBS. "Game Day" is on Wednesdays at 12:30pm. Please contact Mary Lou Bernota (301)831-3339 or Thelma if you'd like to participate or for info.

Circle of Friends will resume their regular monthly meetings on September 13. Ruth Meyers is the hostess with the meeting being held in the Educational Bldg. kitchen. Joanne Russell is the program leader and Evelyn Gaver will be doing the cards for our "Friends to Care For".

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## UMW Evening circle

Interested in joining the UMW but you aren't able to make it to the UMW afternoon meetings? Please join us at the UMW Evening Circle! We will meet once a month starting in September. If you are interested in joining in fellowship with other women at NMUMC, please contact Melinda McCollum at 301-695-6229 or [msmccollum@verizon.net](mailto:msmccollum@verizon.net).



## FOR SEPTEMBER

Polly Peterson	9/15
Julie Grenier	9/19
Katherine Lake	9/28

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### THIS & THAT!

**Keeping on.....**How do we keep going when things go wrong spiritually, mentally, physically? I'm not talking so much about when your last nerve is hit because the washer quit or overflowed, the transmission in the car died, you forgot what you were going to say in an important meeting, you feel like God isn't there some days (actually He's there - we've gone away.) I think the Lord has knocked some sense into my head at the age I am now because I see some things just aren't worth worrying over or giving up on.

What I'm talking about is the sudden loss of someone dear, you get a pink slip about your job with a family to care for, your mind is slipping (I have a friend who has taught a Bible study for years and loves doing it but it's hard now getting her thoughts together) you come down with a serious illness or a chronic disease. I think we have choices. We can quit or find something in the midst of hardships to be thankful for. I have struggled over the years with the arthritis but I knew if I didn't keep moving on I'd be in a wheelchair. Yes, I would like my hands to be normal again but there are people with no hands. I am thankful I live in a day and age where you can have joint replacements,

You can mourn the death of a love one but be thankful they were in your life and know this life is not the end. My friend may have to give up being leader of the Bible studies but she can pass on her knowledge to the younger generation and be a support.

In keeping on remember that there are people who will go through where we've been and they can use our experiences and comfort. There's nothing like knowing someone who really knows what you are going through. Let God comfort them through you.

Blessings and Comfort, Marilyn Brooks



*Carolyn McMahon & Thomas Geary*

*August 6, 2011*

### **MISSION OFFERING FOR AUGUST**

Our mission focus for August is twofold:

**Central Maryland Youth for Christ** is a nonprofit, nondenominational ministry serving young people in both Frederick and Washington counties. YFC reaches young people everywhere, working together with the local church and other like-minded partners to raise up lifelong followers of Jesus who lead by their godliness in lifestyle, devotion to the Word of God and prayer, passion for sharing the love of Christ and commitment to social involvement. CMYFC has ministered to thousands of teens and young people over the last 23 years and, with God's strength and grace, they look forward to reaching many more teens with the love of Christ.

We have expanded our August mission to include **our own office at NMUMC**. We have a critical need for a **new computer package** (computer, software, and printer). Our current equipment is extremely inefficient and inadequate. We would like to raise \$1500 to replace the outdated equipment that cannot accommodate our anticipated increasing new efforts in communication and publicity. We feel that our exciting new vision for NMUMC can be more efficiently advanced with better tools.

So you have a choice this month. Please give prayerful consideration to making a contribution, and then designate which one -- or both -- of these causes you wish to support.

