



# The Messenger



Chalfont United Methodist Church \* 11 Meadowbrook Lane, Chalfont, PA 18914-2810  
Phone: (215) 822-2807 \* Parsonage: (215) 822-0745 e mail: Office@chalfontumc.org

November 2009

## **BROCCOLI AND SHEAVES**

November 1, 2009, was our church's 113th anniversary. It was most appropriate to have our former pastor, Rev. Gerald H. Ihle, present with us for the worship service, the sermon, the Lord's Supper, and the luncheon afterward. His wife Janet was with him, and she did the Scripture readings. When they first arrived, we greeted them with these words: *"Welcome home!"*

Pastor Ihle caught our attention right at the beginning with a large stalk of broccoli. He had grown it in his own garden. He grew potatoes, too. Do you know when to dig up the ripe potatoes? You do it when the leaves dry up and fall off. That is the visible sign that the invisible vegetable is ready.

In a message especially fitting for our anniversary Sunday--celebrating the past and looking forward to the future--Pastor Ihle assured us that it's harvest time for souls, for the Gospel, and for the Kingdom of God. Have we planted the seeds that can yield a harvest? Have we invited someone to church? offered a ride? welcomed our visitors? called or visited people who have missed a Sunday?

Maybe we thought the potatoes were dying, when we saw the leaves withered and dry. Just the opposite is the case: the signs of decay and death above ground are only clues that there is life and nutrition waiting to be harvested. The harvest may be a bushel of potatoes, stalks of broccoli, or sheaves of wheat. The harvest may be souls won to Christ, spirits re-born, and lives re-dedicated to God. Let us pray that the Lord of the harvest will send us, His laborers, into the world!

*"He who goes out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with him." (Psalm 126:6 NIV)*

**As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, let us give thanks to God for His gifts of life and health, salvation and fellowship, family and friends, and especially for our church family.**

*Rev. Charles A. Green, Pastor*

We, the members of Chalfont United Methodist Church, are committed to:  
**KNOW** the love of God in Jesus Christ - **GROW** as disciples of Jesus Christ - **GO** share the love of God in Jesus Christ

The Vision of the people of Chalfont United Methodist Church is to nurture  
**FAITH, FAMILY and FELLOWSHIP**

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

**In Memoriam: Donald M. Schied** passed away on September 27. He was the husband of **Adele** and the father of **David** and **Christopher Schied**. Donald was a long time member of the Chalfont Fire Company and Chalfont United Methodist Church.

**In Memoriam: Beatrice Bauman** passed away on September 21. She was previously a member of CUMC and was 101 years old at her death.

**Congratulations:** on the birth of **Madeline Elizabeth**, the granddaughter of **Betty Gendall**.

## THANK YOU

**Thank you for your donations to the Food Larder.** We are deeply grateful for your support. 14 bags of groceries were donated on September 28.

**The Schied family would like to thank Pastor Beale and Pastor Green for all their hospital and home visits during Don's short illness and passing.** We want to thank the congregation and friends for all of their prayers, visits, phone calls and cards. It is certainly comforting to have your support in getting through this difficult time.

Donna and I would like to thank you for the wonderful Sunday morning we spent with you at Chalfont Methodist. We were blest by the message and the fellowship, not only of the church, but by old friends as well. Thank you for the generous offering which will be applied to the purchase of (Gideon)Bibles..Richard Jacoby.

## ALTERNATE FORMS OF GIVING

### **Gifts That Give Back to You**

**There are several ways you can make a significant future gift to the church while retaining, or in many cases increasing, the income you receive from the asset used to make the gift.** Each of these gifts entitles you to a current charitable deduction in the year of the gift. Because you receive income in return for your gift, your charitable deduction is limited to the value of the portion that will ultimately pass to the church. The various ways of giving are:

- Charitable gift annuity
- Deferred charitable gift annuity
- Flexible deferred charitable gift annuity
- Pooled income fund
- Charitable remainder annuity trust
- Charitable remainder unitrust
- Charitable lead trust

*Each of these will be discussed in future issues of the Messenger*

## STEWARDSHIP

### **“Empowered by God - Responding by Grace”**

*“ .. just as you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us - see that you also excel in this grace of giving” (2 Cor.8:7).*

We who are Christians have been empowered by God. Through faith in Christ, we experience God's power and realize afresh that God owns everything. God is our Source! On a daily basis, God demonstrates again and again His abundant power as He *“richly provides us with everything” (1 Tim. 6:17).*

As we are empowered by God, we respond by grace. Like the Macedonian Christians, we begin by first giving ourselves to the Lord. When that happens, our resources - which are gifts on loan to us from God - will follow. First, there is the matter of our time. Time is like a giant bank account into which God daily deposits 86,400 seconds. How we use our time reveals where we have placed our priorities. We can consume those precious moments on ourselves and our pleasures or we can use them for God's glory in ministry to others. The choice is up to us. The same thing is true concerning our talents. However God has gifted us, what is of utmost importance is for us to use our talents in the Lord's work. The outreach of the Gospel in this ministry is made possible only as God's people do just that.

Finally, there is the matter of our treasure. Perhaps more than anything else, how we use our money reflects what is really important to us. In fact, as we review the record of how we have spent the financial resources God has entrusted to us in the past few months, we will have a powerful testimony of that which we value most.

As you consider your life during this time of stewardship emphasis, will you - like the Macedonian Christians - excel in the “grace of giving” by first giving yourself to the Lord? Will you respond by grace through giving your time, talents and treasure for God's glory in this ministry? Will you then covenant with God by faith to give in the coming months as God provides, even if you do not know the source of the funds?

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***Please ask God to give you specific direction concerning what you should give. Then, please complete the Faith Promise Card which is included with this brochure and bring it with you to the worship service on “Harvest Celebration Sunday,” November 22, 2009.***

***Thank you, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, for your faithful financial support in the past. Thank you as well for being “Empowered by God” and for “Responding by Grace” here at Chalfont United Methodist Church.***

## ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

The Entertainment books for 2010 are still available. The price is \$30 per book. Discounts are on dinners, movie tickets, theme parks, car rentals, hotels and much more. If we can sell over 30 books the profit will be 50% for the church, So ask your family, friends and coworkers if they would like to purchase an Entertainment Book. *(only 2 left) They are available after church or call Gail Schnell, 215-855-0953.*

## FALL CRAFT FESTIVAL REPORT

**During the September Council meeting Amy Ellsworth and Pat Kerr volunteered to cochair the Fall Craft Festival (Sat., October 24th).** With only 5 weeks to put it together Amy contacted the vendors and worked to get more vendors to fill the room. Larry Nuesch was called upon to get ads into the newspapers. Information was sent out to other free venues, placed in the newsletter, and announced in church. Banners were put out and balloons were purchased, but the weather did not cooperate on the day of the event. Warm apple crisp was made on Friday afternoon by volunteers of the church. A nice warm breakfast menu of pancakes and sausage was cooked by Larry Nuesch and Ed Schnell for vendors and customers to buy. UMW took on the lunch menu of Hot Dogs, Sauerkraut, Sloppy Joes, Chili and Cider. There was a bake sale table of great items made by the busy hands of our church people. *The church crafters had 3 tables of beautiful crafts all created by our gifted group.* And then there were also the vendors for jewelry, cookies, tie dyed shirts, baby blankets, machine embroidery totes & items, florals, vintage flatware, chocolates, decorative soap, dolls clothing ... and our photo club. There was face painting, pumpkin crafts for the kids and adults too. *The day netted a profit of approximately \$510.00, which is not bad for the number of people that attended.*

**On the issue of participation & support, there is something for us all to ponder.** An observation was made by several vendors concerning the *(seemingly limited)* participation of our church family at its own event. Consider that our actual membership on record is 160 families and that our active non-members include another 61 families *(on our mailing lists)*. Contrast that to the number of our church family that came out to support the event. About 23 families had one or more family member working at the Festival while another 11 families came to enjoy the event. If those numbers are accurate, about 15% of our church families participated. We decided to give this event another try, we're hoping that we could do better. ***Do you think that we can do better in the future?***

If you have a suggestion or comment, I'd love to hear it. We state that we are committed to: KNOW the love of God in Jesus Christ, GROW as Disciples of Jesus Christ, and GO share the love of God in Jesus Christ. What easier way to do this than to invite people to spend time in fellowship at an activity. You don't need to spend money or even volunteer, Just attend.

Pat Kerr, e-mail [gbpatkerr@verizon.net](mailto:gbpatkerr@verizon.net) or call 215-249-3094

## THANKSGIVING DINNER

**Now is the time to think about supporting the CUMC, Community sponsored Thanksgiving Dinner.** Do you know any needy groups or individuals who would like to participate? See Sue Cody.

## CAMERA CLUB

**Photographs for "America the Beautiful" are now hanging in the church hallway and library.** There are 33 photographs illustrating the words to this poem *(hymn)*. Brochures are available to help you see the show in its total. We welcome comments.

## CALENDAR

**November 7** - Roast Beef Dinner (community)

**November 25** - Thanksgiving Service (community)

**November 26** - Thanksgiving Dinner (community)

**December 6** - Hanging of the Greens, Luncheon

**December 20** - Happy Birthday, Jesus Breakfast

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

**The United Methodist Women will be meeting on November 21st, at 9:00 A.M.**

A Pot Luck Brunch will be served. ***Our guest speaker will be Laura Habecker, she will share with us her mission work in Alaska.***

The Mitten tree will also be set up for collection of mittens, scarves, hats and socks. This year items collected will be sent to Doylestown Free Clinic.

*All women on Chalfont United Methodist Church are welcome.*

## **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE**

**DECEMBER 12, 2009**

**9:00 to 11:00 am (or Sunday after church)**

**\$6.00 a pound**

**Bakers** *(bring cookies Friday night between 6:00-8:00 pm)*  
**no peanut butter cookies**

**Helpers** *(Saturday morning from 7:00 - 9:00 am)*

**Buyers** *(order and buy these holiday cookies)*

**order forms available**

*Call Lorraine Nuesch (215) 822-9584 or Gail Schnell (215) 855-0953.*

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**Bibles were presented to Clarke W. Bittner, Joseph Johnson and Kaitlyn Lockett on Sunday, October 18.** This continues a long tradition of giving Bibles to our children at CUMC.

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**HANGING OF THE GREENS & LUNCH**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 - after church**

The Messenger  
CHALFONT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
11 Meadowbrook Lane  
Chalfont, Pennsylvania 18914-2810  
(215) 822-2807  
Web Page: [www.chalfontumc.org](http://www.chalfontumc.org)

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REV. CHARLES A. GREEN *Pastor*  
REV. KENNETH L. BEALE, SR. *Visitation Pastor*  
CRIS FRISCO *Director of Music*  
DOTTIE HULLSTRUNG *Administrative Assistant*

**Address Service Requested**

**POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL, DO NOT HOLD**

*“Go through his open gates with great  
thanksgiving; enter his courts with praise.  
Give thanks to him and bless his name.  
For the Lord is always good. He is always  
loving and kind, and his faithfulness goes  
on and on to each succeeding generation.”*  
*Psalm 100:4,5*

Important Dates

**Saturday, November 7 - 4:00 to 7:00 pm**  
*(Roast Beef Dinner - community)*

**Wednesday, November 25**  
*(Thanksgiving Eve Service at CUMC - 7:30 pm)*

**Thursday, November 26**  
*(Thanksgiving Dinner - free- community)*

**Sunday November 29**  
*(1st Sunday in Advent)*

**Sunday, December 6**  
*(Hanging of the Greens, Soup and Sandwich Lunch -  
2nd Sunday in Advent)*

**Saturday, December 12**  
*(UMW Annual Cookie Sale)*

**Sunday, December 13**  
*(3rd Sunday in Advent)*

Church Meetings

**Membership:**

1<sup>st</sup> Monday - 7:30 pm

**Worship:**

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday - 7:00 pm

**Finance/Stewardship:**

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday - 7:30 pm

**Trustees:**

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday - 7:30 pm

**Church Council:**

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday - 7:30 pm