



The Webster Word

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday, Oct. 5

- Communion Sunday

Wednesday, Oct. 8

- SCCW meeting, 7:00 PM

Saturday, Oct. 11

- Quarter Auction, 7:00 PM
Social Hall

Sunday, Oct. 12

- Praise Team Service

Sunday, Oct. 19

- Octogenarian Sunday —
Service and Reception

Saturday, Oct. 25

- Christian Ed. Halloween
Party, 6-8 PM, Social Hall

Sunday, Oct. 26

- Open and Affirming
Committee, Update and
pot luck lunch

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VOLUME 6, ISSUE 7

OCTOBER 2008

Pastor's Message

Dear Webster Family,

I was looking through many years of "The Word" as I was cleaning out some files, getting ready for my big move. I found that all the issues are a treasure for me to keep and enjoy for a very long time.

I have been busily preparing for my retirement, as I attended a retirement seminar for the UCC pastors, and I met up with my pastor from Tiburon, California who stood beside me, as I was ordained. It was November 1995, and I was ordained a hospice chaplain. When I saw Rev. Phil Rider at the seminar, he said that he is now a hospice chaplain in Montgomery County. It's amazing how our ministry takes us places we never knew we would go, or whom we might meet, and where God will call us next.

I have so many plans following November 30th, that I want to share them with you. First off, I am heading out for San Diego to visit with my daughter Pam, husband Will and sons Austin and Dillon. I will joyfully bake the Christmas cookies, shop and wrap presents, and enjoy their new yellow lab, Bella. Oh yes, they are also raising some chickens too. Pam always enjoyed organic foods, and has an organic garden and now, she raises free-range chickens. She is in nursing school too, and I hope to help her with her final exams before her Christmas holiday break. I haven't spent Christmas with Pam since Austin was born (on December 26, 1995) and this year promises to be a very special one for our family.

I have been taking very good care of my health lately, and I want to share with you my new plan. I have consulted with a holistic health practitioner and she has placed me on a special diet that will hopefully clear up the allergies I have been experiencing. I have been on this diet for around nine days, and I feel much better now. I also want to report to you that the holistic therapy for lowering the cholesterol has worked very well, and my numbers are down 50 points since I have been on this therapy. So, I am taking care of my health, resting when I need to, and looking forward to some respite time during the winter months, traveling from California to Florida and then coming home to begin some part time employment in the county.

I have been assured that the Webster family will grow and prosper, and when the next pastor is called and gets settled, I hope to return and be a part of the congregation, enjoy the love, the fellowship and the spiritual growth that you all provide for each other, in the times of joy, as well as times of trial.

I hope you have a wonderful October and enjoy the harvest time of Harford County with your family and friends. For the young families, I look forward to our Halloween party, and for our Octogenarians, we get to celebrate your special day on October 19th. For all of us in-betweeners, I ask that you will carry on the legacy of the best music program and the best children's program, and the warmest and friendliest church in the county.

Blessings and love to you all,
Pastor Lonna



Moderator's Message

In the coming months during my term as Moderator, I will use this space to communicate with our congregation on the process of transition. As the chair of the Webster Governing Board, I know you will look to the Board for strong leadership during this period of pastoral transition. And we want to make certain that members of the church understand both the process and the possibilities involved in interim time.

Starting this first week in October, the Interim Pastor Selection Committee will hold its first meeting and will be assisted by UCC Conference/Association staff. The members of this Committee are Gary Lyttle, Graham Silsby, Linda Placzankis, David Brown, and Genevieve Snodgrass. They will consider the resumes and conduct interviews with candidates referred by the Association. The approach to this ministry can vary from church to church, but we expect that certain norms will apply in the interim pastor's time:

Ann Helton, Moderator

- An expectation that the interim will be time-limited to about one year
- An expectation the interim period will give us time to assess our history, mission, and unique features
- An expectation we will work with the interim pastor to address issues that would significantly impact the next pastorate

Please pray for your leadership to wisely guide these beginnings and reflect the spirit of our congregation and the Spirit of the Lord. I am available at any time to meet and discuss the work of transition and any business of the Church and I welcome your help and guidance, also. Many of you at Webster have been through this process before and have much to offer in the form of experience.

And remember we are planning a special and joyous celebration on November 30 to honor, reflect on, and thank Pastor Lonna's service to Webster Church.

The Webster Word

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United Church of Christ**

Contributions to the newsletter
may be left in The Webster Word
mailbox at the church office or
e-mailed to
websterucc@comcast.net
by the last Sunday of each month.
Submitted text may be edited for
content and space.

A Note from the Deacons

Gary Lyttle, Chairman

The deaconate has been working on the upcoming Octogenarian Sunday to be held on October 19. This event was held a few years ago and we honored several people that are no longer with us because the Lord has called them home. This year we will be honoring Levin Heath, Larry and Ann Guess, Rowena Harrison, Vernon Eddington, Genevieve Snodgrass, Ruth Walker, Virginia Walter, Walter Cooley, Kirk and Helen Wyatt, Irv Chidsey, and Gunther and Erna Bienes.

The Deacons Hower have designed a beautiful Invitation that has been sent out and Deacons Joyce Reynolds, Pat Mengel, and Linda Placzankis will host the social hour afterwards. Deacon Gary Lyttle and Doris will arrange for flowers for the honorees. We sin-

cerely hope that all of you will come out to help us honor our 80 year olds and enjoy the beautiful service that is planned for that day. Special Music for the event will have Larry Guess singing "The Lords Prayer" and a solo by our own great soprano Gwen Stolzenbach, and other special things are planned for that day.

We are very lucky to have fourteen members of our church who have reached the age of 80 and beyond. They all have been great servants of Christ and our church.

It is not every church that has the diversity of having a large cross section of young and old and all that are in the middle. We are truly blessed as a congregation and a community. Please put the date on your calendar and come help us celebrate these wonderful people!

Trustee's Report

Church improvements have begun. A full report will be available next month.

SCCW Report

The Society of Congregational Christian Women (SCCW) is inviting all of the women from Webster Church to attend our meetings on the second Wednesday of the month.

On Saturday, November 8, 2008, from 9 AM to 2 PM, the SCCW of Webster Church will hold their annual Bazaar. The SCCW will have a Country Store, Bake Table, Craft Table, White Elephant Table, and our famous Silent Auction. We are looking for items for any of these tables. The items for the White Elephant Table should be clean and like new. NO clothing please. These items can be brought to the church starting Sunday, November 2nd. In the Country Store we have plants, dried flowers, jellies, home canned fruits, vegetables, etc. Of course we will accept crafts for the craft table and lots of baked items

Doris Lyttle

for the Bake Table. We are planning on baking apple and pumpkin pies. If you have any items for the Silent Auction, please see Doris Lyttle. A new feature of the bazaar this year will be our famous all-you-can-eat breakfast as well as our usual lunch. If anyone has clean quart jars they can donate for our chicken corn soup, please put them in the kitchen on the counter between the stoves. It is okay if they don't have lids. Reserve November 6th, 7th, and 8th to help make pies and help at the bazaar.

Don't forget our SCCW meeting on October 8th, at 7 PM, at Bessie Bowman's house. We will finalize our plans for the Bazaar, and Peg Niland, Executive Director of the Harford Land Trust will be our guest speaker.

Village News

~ That "bug" is going around. Five of us were sick all within a 24 hour period. Hopefully, no one else is in line for it.

~ Prayers to Martha Hancock in Baltimore who fell and broke her hip and needed surgery to fix that plus a by-pass in her leg.

~ Mini family reunion on the 27th brought 15 of us together in Darlington.

~ Best to Bob and Annie who will be going to Germany. He is a Vice-President of Goodyear and must close down his house in Ohio.

~ Lonna is counting down her last days. What an exciting future is ahead of you.

~ Belated Happy Birthday to Andrew who turned the big "4" in September.

~ Angie, not our ex-organist, is hanging in there. One of the nicest people to know has a difficult road ahead of her. Keep this young woman in your prayers.

Carol Galion

~ Saw Christmas decorations in some of the stores. Halloween isn't here yet.

~ Happy Birthday to the October birthday people - Ray turns 60, Marge turns 81, and John turns 85.

~ Happy Anniversary to all those celebrating.

~ Have you noticed how more beautiful our babies are getting? Each one carries a different hair color, and it is unique to see.

~ How are are school students doing now that the first month has gone by? Parents - keep your eye on those progress reports which will soon be out.

~ And most important, remember what November is besides Thanksgiving? It is our voting month. Get out there and make your decision.

~ Keep me informed on all the goings in your lives. Contact by phone, mail, or Amelia's e-mail.

Brownie Troop 1111



Regina Anderson, Co-leader

Girl Scout Brownie Troop 1111 is off to a great start this school year! We are currently planning a weekend camping trip for October 24th-26th at Camp Conowingo. In addition, we have earned our Write Away Try-it badge. This was accomplished by writing an autobiography, reading a biography about someone notable, and writing a letter to a friend. We have plans to earn many more badges this year and will remain busy!

We are open to ideas for service projects;

this is the Girl Scout way of helping in our community. Last year, we adopted an assisted living facility in Darlington; at Christmastime, we made scarves for the residents and sang Christmas carols. At our last troop meeting we dedicated part of our meeting to cleaning up the church grounds. We walked around and picked up trash; we hope to show our appreciation for being welcomed into Webster church to hold our meetings.

Webster Church supports the youth of the community by providing a safe meeting place for local youth organizations. Currently meeting regularly at the church are Girl Scout Brownie Troop 1111, Boy Scout Pack 965, and Boy Scout Troop 965.

Pack 965 Happenings

The new school year has started. Boy Scout Pack 965 is on the move and we're happy to welcome 16 new families to our program. Our first Pack outing of the new year was a camping trip to Camp Saffran, near Whiteford. The weather was a little tough. Though the forecast called for some occasional showers, it just plain rained. But Cub Scouts don't

Jeff Schoenberger, Cubmaster

melt, and an intrepid group of boys basked in the liquid sunshine, cooked a couple meals (with some parental help), held a campfire, ate some s'mores, and slept in tents through a stormy night. They woke with smiles on their faces, ready to greet the new day, and happy to be out in the woods enjoying the nature around them.

News from Troop 965

This month Troop 965 will be hiking the Appalachian Trail. The boys participating in this annual backpacking outing will hike 5, 10, or 15 miles in Western Maryland. The highlight of the hike is sure to be the awesome view of Cumberland Valley from Annapolis Rock overlook.

Other activities this month include Fall Camporee at Broad Creek Memorial Scout Reservation, Adopt-a-Highway cleanup of Route 155, and Fall Court of Honor—the



troop's semiannual advancement recognition ceremony.

Fundraising events for the month include selling hot dogs, fries, drinks, and baked goods at the Darlington Apple Festival this weekend (Oct 4), and participation in Camp Master's Gourmet Popcorn sales.

Due to classes being held at Level VFC, the location of Troop meetings, through Nov 13, will be the Scout Room at Webster Church.

Sunday Worship Volunteer Schedule

<i>Date</i>	<i>Usher</i>	<i>Acolyte</i>	<i>Reader</i>
<i>October 5</i>	Jim Duffy Ken Joel	Mark Z.	David Wilhelm
<i>October 12</i>	Janet Cohen David Brown	Mac P.	Casey Anno
<i>October 19</i>	Jim Duffy Gabe Capasso	Lindsey C.	Ann Helton
<i>October 26</i>	Jim Gorham Graham Silsby	Natalie G.	Greg Reynolds
<i>November 2</i>	Joe Gallion Carol Gallion	Amber S.	David Brown

Christian Education Update

Susan Cohen

Rally Day started off our Fall Sunday School program with a fabulous turnout. We added three teachers this Fall, as well as a curriculum for toddlers. Classes and teachers for Fall 2008 are as follows:

Toddlers - Linda Placzankis and Kelly Hower

Pre-K & Early Elementary - Susan Cohen

and Erika Anderson

Older Elementary - Heidi Pensell and Chris Gorham

Middle School - Mary McFarland and Woody Hower

Floating Teacher - Karen Howes

Please join us—and invite your friends—to our annual Halloween Party. It is a fun time for people of all ages. The Party will be in the Social Hall on Saturday, October 25, 2008 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. As usual, we will have a costume contest and cake walk. We appreciate donations of baked goods for the cake walk. We will also have



snacks, games, and hopefully a hay ride around Webster Village.

Our Halloween festivities will continue after Church on Sunday, October 26, 2008. We will have lunch and go to Citizen's Nursing Home to do some trick or treating with the residents. Children (and adults, too) should bring their costumes to church and we will change into costumes before we head down to Citizen's.

We also have a number of other activities in the planning stages, including a "Slime Time" event and a Christmas Pageant and other Christmas activities.

We are exploring the possibility of hiring a paid nursery attendant to watch the babies during church. If you know of a trustworthy and qualified individual who may be interested, please contact Susan Cohen or Heidi Pensell.

Clerk's Report

Doris Lyttle



Baptism:

Carson Allen on July 13, 2008

Parents- James and Catherine (Muir) Allen

Marriages

Chris Malik & Yvonne Vetrone - June 28, 2008

Patrick Chayer & Tina Mengal - August 29, 2008

Deaths

Clara Reginaldi - June 2008

Things Happening at Webster Church

- Candidates were auditioned for the organist position and Neil Fong will be signed as our organist in October.
- A Church Chat was held to focus on transition for a new minister. Rev Pat Barth presented the steps to the congregation and answer questions.
- Interim Search Committee has been approved and will meet in October with Rev Barth to get names of candidates and conduct interviews.
- An Octogenarian Sunday celebration is being planned for Oct 19th
- An ONA Committee report was presented and will be presented to the congregation in October.
- The congregation voted at the Congregational meeting on September 7th in favor of using the remaining endowment funds to make the proposed improvements to the church building.

The Webster Word

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of the United Church of Christ
Rev Lonna C. Smith, Pastor

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Place mailing address here.



At the Church Chat, held on September 21, the following blessing was asked for Webster Congregational Christian United Church of Christ:



Heavenly Father, Creator of all things great and small. We come here today to ask your blessing on Webster Church in this period of transition. Give this congregation the strength and wisdom to accept and understand that this event and time is part of your plan. All of us have felt your love for our church and for 84 years you have allowed us to serve you and our community. We have seen transition before and we know we will see it again. Let us accept this as an opportunity to improve ourselves and our church. We ask that you care for Pastor Lonna and watch over her on her new journey in life. We ask that you give us guidance in our search for a new minister and send us someone who will lead us on our journey to glorify your name and do your work here in our little country church. We ask these things in your loving sons name our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
Amen