

High April Spire

Towson United Methodist Church's mission is to
proclaim the Word of God and to make disciples of Jesus Christ.
Faithful discipleship includes
celebration, connection, development, service, and sharing.

Towson UMC's Monthly Newsletter
April 2011 — Volume 52, Issue 4



Inside the Labyrinth here at Towson UM Church

Sunday, March 27,
3:00 PM
Concert: "Something
Old and Something
New for Lent"

Palm Sunday, April 17
Services at
8:30 & 11:00 AM

Holy Thursday, April 21
Services at
12 noon & 7:30 PM

Good Friday, April 22
Services at
12 noon & 7:30 PM

Easter Sunday, April 24
Services at
8:30 & 11:00 AM

More inside...



A fishing boat is noticeably out of place after being swept ashore in Ofunato, Japan.
U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialists 1st Class Matthew M. Bradley.

UMCOR & THE ADVANCE (United Methodist Committee on Relief)

100% of each gift reaches its intended mission or ministry

The United Methodist Church, which has had a long-time relationship with Christians in Japan, has been monitoring events following the catastrophic March 11 earthquake and tsunami — and subsequent nuclear threat — in Japan. The name of UMCOR's emergency appeal is **Japan Emergency, UMCOR Advance #3021317**. A grant (given through The Advance) to the United Church of Christ in Japan will help the church respond to the most pressing humanitarian needs, such as clean drinking water, food, basic cooking and eating supplies, clothing, and heating fuel. Should the government indicate that it has covered these needs,

UMCOR will work with Peace Winds Japan, to distribute blankets, food, and water among earthquake and tsunami survivors.

Read more at: <http://new.gbgm-umc.org>

There are many needs around the world being addressed by UMCOR and The Advance. Early Response Teams are currently being sent to help victims of the floods in Northern New Jersey. You may help victims of disasters in **North America through UMCOR Advance #901670**.

You may give online or send a check here (Towson UM Church) made payable to Towson UMC, noting The Advance number (s) you would like to support.



Courtesy of Alertnet.org

Thank You!

Please pass along our sincerest thanks to all the folks at Towson UMC from all of us at Detachment 1 in Iraq. The cookies, cakes, and snacks were a huge hit here; but more importantly, they remind us that you all are thinking of us and you "have our backs."

Sincerely, Lieutenant Colonel Daniel J. Coburn
Maryland Army National Guard, Towson

Thank you so much for the generous donation of coats, hats, scarves, pants, shirts, and sweaters to Margaret Brent Elementary Middle School (Baltimore PS#53). We were able to give away nearly half of what you donated at our annual Winter Program. The rest we will keep for children and families that come into the school and need some warm clothing. Our children and families really appreciate your kindness and generosity during these cold winter months. Your donated clothing is being used and appreciated by many of our Margaret Brent Families. Thank you!

Many, many thanks to Boy Scout Troop #818 of Phoenix, Maryland for their donation of food to TUMC's Emergency Food Pantry. We are thrilled with the huge amount of food you collected and delivered to us from your neighborhood food drive. We are honored to have been the recipients of the food, a result of Boy Scout hard work and dedication. May God bless the Scouts and the adults of Troop #818.

This note is to say "thank you" to the friends and members of Towson United Methodist Women for the birthdays and get-well cards. They were such a warm and wonderful welcome. It made me feel better knowing you were thinking of me.

Fondly, Ida Lou Hudler

Church Family News:

Announcements of Death & Resurrection

- We just learned that Janice V. Perry died Friday, September 3, 2010.
- Jack Pluhar died Wednesday, February 23, 2011.
- Eva Ryder passed away Saturday, March 5, 2011.
- Barbara J. Oliver (known to us as Barbara Bohner when she lived in the Towson area) died in Brockport, New York on Tuesday, February 15, 2011.

Thank you, again, for a wonderful Women's Retreat. The women of the Design Team did a fantastic job of making the retreat meaningful and inspiring. It was truly a wonderful experience to share with others. Thank you for all your hard work! It was very much appreciated. —A Few Ladies of the Church

The Baltimore/Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church's Board of Child Care thanks Katherine Rigney for 50 years of "Gung-ho" volunteer service!

This year Katherine Rigney celebrates her 50th anniversary with the Auxiliary, and is perhaps one of the longest

serving, active members in the volunteer group's 57-year history. She was recently inducted into the Maryland Senior Citizen's Hall of Fame for her volunteer work with the Auxiliary, as well as with many other organizations.

Some of the enjoyment Katherine says she has had as an Auxiliary member is "seeing the development of children and their successes." She continues, "We are primarily successful in educating children and providing a home life for them and stability they've never had."

Congratulations & Thank You, Katherine!

(Excerpts taken from *Keywords*, a quarterly publication put out by the Board of Child Care located on Gaither Road in Baltimore County.)



Please pray for the following friends and relatives of our church family who are serving our country abroad:

- Paul Sovitsky, son-in-law of Rev. & Mrs. Eric Peacher
- Neil White, cousin of Kaitlin Hamilton
- Paul, Michaela Lynn & Ashlin May Teague's uncle
- Jason Aird, cousin of Anne Sleeman
- David Watts, nephew of Richard & Jaymie Watts
- Nicholas L. Davis, nephew of Susan Davis Bengel and cousin of Luke Bengel
- Eric Markel, Margot Gerding's niece's husband
- Russell C. Quandt, nephew of Elizabeth Taylor
- Robert Chamberlain, son of Jack Chamberlain
- John Chamberlin, friend of Alan Kines
- The troops deployed from Towson's Maryland Army National Guard
- Brian Shipley, grandson of Eleanor W. Brown

From the Senior Pastor

Grace and Peace,

The massive earthquake in Haiti last year and the recent massive earthquake in Japan have figuratively shaken many even as they have literally shaken the ground. Of course, the destruction caused and the climbing death toll has caused great sadness. We do not have to personally know anyone affected to grieve for those whose lives were lost or suddenly changed drastically. Additionally, these kinds of events remind us of just how vulnerable our lives are, and even how vulnerable our earth is.

We live in an age of amazing technology, and I do not just mean iPhones and Kindles and 3D HD Television. I am talking about technology that allows us to build cities and high speed trains, and dams and bridges and ports, wind farms, and nuclear power plants. It is spectacular, really. However, for all of our industrial skill, we still can only watch almost helplessly as hurricanes level much of a city such as New Orleans, or tornados cart away entire sections of towns, or tsunamis flood and destroy great swaths of shoreline, or earthquakes tumble engineering marvels. While I believe that these are truly natural disasters, not God-caused acts of vengeance on any particular place or people, there is awesomeness to their power that humbles us by making it clear that there is indeed a power greater than us. We can measure the size of the earthquake, but we cannot stop it.

Now here is a thought. The power of nature is greater than our power but is nothing compared to the power of God. Wind, fire, flood, and earthquakes can destroy what we build, redirect rivers, add to or lessen land mass, even raise and lower mountains. God, however, had the power to call all of creation into being and has the power to change, shape, or even destroy all of creation. It is power beyond imagination. This is why the Bible speaks of fearing the Lord or of trembling in the presence of the Lord. Only a fool would not fear and tremble in the presence of one so mighty.

How incredible it is, then, that this all mighty God chooses to love us and to care for us as a parent cares for a child. The Lord, who could sweep us into oblivion with the flick of a finger, chooses instead to embrace us and call us beloved. How do we know this? We know this because God sent his one true son into this world and allowed him to suffer and die so that we can be saved and live.

We are preparing to celebrate Easter, the commemoration of Christ's passion, death, and resurrection, the proclamation of the good news that because Christ lives we live also. Don't let Easter just be about spring and Easter Eggs and family dinners and new outfits. Let the shaking ground remind you that our very lives are in the hands of God and that mercifully God has chosen to hold us. Let that reminder put a song of praise on your lips and a desire to worship in your hearts. Come Holy Thursday to remember the night in the Upper Room. Come Good Friday so as not to forget what Jesus has done for you. Come Easter Sunday to celebrate God's amazing gift of life. Come knowing that neither earthquake nor tsunami nor hurricane nor tornado nor fire nor flood can separate us from the love of almighty, all powerful God.

Thanks be to God.

David



David Cooney



UPPER ROOM DAILY DEVOTIONALS...

(in regular and large print) for March/April are available in the main lobby of the church on the devotions table under the stained glass display.

The suggested donation is \$1.00.



Mary Jo Sims

From the Associate Pastor

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

Psalm 23:1

Psalm 23 is a favorite among us. Thus, to be truthful, I wondered when we selected it as the theme for this year's Women's Retreat, if there would be enough new insights for us to consider over a weekend.

Not to worry. In fact, we had no sooner gathered, when I was engaged in conversation about the Psalm with one of our wise women. She shared with me that when she was younger, she used to recite the Psalm this way: "The Lord is **my** shepherd, . . .," but that as the years went by, she had changed the focus to "The **Lord** is my shepherd, . . ."

Jesus tells us in the Sermon on the Mount that we cannot serve two masters (Matthew 6:24). Likewise, Joshua (24:15) advises the Israelites, "choose this day whom you will serve." We can serve God and claim God as our shepherd. Or, we can choose someone else.

One of the activities on the Women's Retreat was stringing a beaded bracelet. The bracelet consists of various colored glass beads and different shaped metal beads. The colors and shapes represent various key words and phrases of the 23rd Psalm. It is a visual reminder that it is the Lord, and none other, who shepherds us.

Anyone who knows me knows that I wear very little jewelry. I consider it a major accomplishment each morning if I remember to put my earrings in my pierced ears and my watch (hardly a fancy piece of jewelry) on my wrist. The idea that I would be mindful enough to wear a bracelet on a daily basis is a real stretch for me. But, with the exception of Sunday mornings, I don't think I have missed donning my Psalm 23 bracelet since I strung it on the Women's Retreat three and a half weeks ago. It reminds me each day that "The **Lord** is my shepherd, . . ."

How do we follow our shepherd? How has God been shepherding you in your life in recent weeks and months? Are there changes that need to be made so that the emphasis is less on you and more on the One who is the shepherd? How do you discern the shepherd's voice and follow where the shepherd leads?

In the name of the Good Shepherd,

Mary Jo



Kathie Metz

Kathie's Music Notes

And now, without further ado (or snow days), we proudly present the Carol Choir and some friends from Sunday School in *Once Upon a Parable!* Sunday, April 10th, at 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary



All the bad weather really cut into our rehearsal time, so Carol Choir has not sung for worship since Christmas. But the children are working very hard to learn lines and music, and I think we'll be ready for you on the 10th! Sally Tarr is doing her wonderful thing with motions and movement; Melanie and Joey Webster are creating a set and some props; Jeannine Neuen and Cathy Rosellini are pitching in their wonderful help, as always, and I think you will enjoy the show. Please come!

Holy Week and Easter are very late this year, and that timing works in favor of the choirs learning the special music for the services. You have heard our very talented youth play in worship last fall and on Youth Sunday. The low brass players will be joined by Joyce Keedy on trumpet to add to the anthem accompaniments on Easter. It is very exciting and a great blessing to have these folks in our church using their musical abilities for our worship services. I'm very much looking forward to all the "alleluias" we can raise on Easter morning!

PATHWAYS Tutoring



Thanks to all for the congratulations in regard to the Ravens Certificate of Recognition for service to the community I received in November of 2010. I am hoping one of the benefits will be more exposure to funding in the Ravens organization!

The spring is arriving and we will be wrapping up PATHWAYS for the year in May. In addition, we will continue to identify new funding resources to support our program. Our budget for transportation, academic resources, healthy snacks, awards, holiday gifts, and the culminating family dinner has been approximately \$9,500.00 a year.



Once again, we can anticipate transportation costs will increase next year based solely on the cost of fuel. Fuel costs trickle down to the cost of food, postage, and academic resources as well.

The Board of Directors will be brainstorming and pursuing funding for next year. We are looking for donations large and small, private and corporate. For example, one anonymous donor sent a check for \$1,000.00 last year! Another volunteer tutor, Martha Welsh, has added us to the education-focused family trust she manages, The Welsh Charitable Foundation.

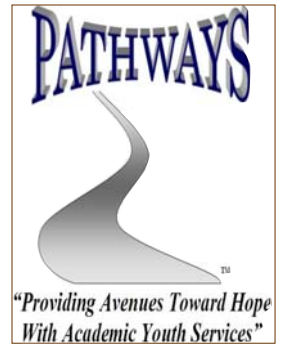


If you believe we are making a difference by educating and mentoring low income, disadvantaged youth, and that this is vital to our society's success, please consider a donation. Or, help us identify possible donors (private and corporate) and we will do the work to contact and share our program with them and request support. Contact me or any member of the Board of Directors with your ideas and/or gifts.

For now I would like to thank those who have supported PATHWAYS with financial contributions for the year 2010-11:

God Bless You All,
Stephanie Kimmons
Director of PATHWAYS
stephaniekimmons@comcast.net
410-592-5442

The Board of Child Care of the United Methodist Church
The Rotary Club of Towson
The Towson/Timonium Kiwanis
The Welsh Charitable Foundation
The members of Towson United Methodist Church
Maria and Dale Springer – Ladies Tea hosts



Needed: Female Chaperones for CAMP HOPE

In order to be in compliance with our Safe Sanctuaries Policy, we need two adult female chaperones for our Camp Hope Week, which is scheduled for July 17th through July 23rd. Without these chaperones, our female youth will be unable to participate in this program. Camp Hope is a non-profit organization, started many years ago out of Frostburg UMC, which repairs housing for elderly, mentally and physically challenged, and low income families in and around Allegany County, MD.

CAMP HOPE is an acronym for Christian Appalachian Mountain Project,
Helping Other People Enthusiastically.

You can visit their website at www.camphopemission.com for more information.

If you can serve as a chaperone,
please contact Mary Jo Sims (msims@towsonumc.org) or
Richard Deuber (krradeuber@verizon.net).

Thanks for your prayerful consideration of this calling.



Children's Ministry

"Easter is indeed Good News for children. And it is our joy and also our baptismal responsibility to share it with them and to include them in the congregation's celebration of Easter. To do this we must know the stories well and know how children hear them at different ages. And we must plan ways of introducing the children to and including them in the Lenten disciples and events with which we celebrate the season."

by Carolyn Brown in
Sharing the Easter Faith with Children



Preparations are being made for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Activities on **Saturday, April 23** beginning at 9:30 in the morning in Fellowship Hall. Your families, grandchildren, and friends are invited to join us beginning with

breakfast treats, juice, and coffee. Children will learn about the symbols of Easter through an Easter tree story. Easter Eggs will be filled and ready for the children to hunt and discover the many 'SURPRISES' in each egg.

Isn't this what Easter is all about. New growth, God's wonderful surprise of resurrection on Easter Sunday, and the many surprises God has in store for our lives.

—Jeannine Neuen

VACATION BIBLE CAMP

We hope the

Shake it Up Café Where Kids Carry Out God's Recipe

is on your calendars!

Camp will be

July 25 – 29, 2011 from 9:00 AM to Noon.

It is going to be a great week.

Check out the interactive website and online registration for campers and volunteers.

Go to:

[http://www.cokesburyvbs.com/shake-it-up-cafe/vbs.php?](http://www.cokesburyvbs.com/shake-it-up-cafe/vbs.php?title=TowsonUMCVBS)

[title=TowsonUMCVBS](http://www.cokesburyvbs.com/shake-it-up-cafe/vbs.php?title=TowsonUMCVBS) —or—

www.towsonumc.org and click on the Shake it Up Café logo.



On Sundays, May 1 & May 8, we will have pre-registration available in Fellowship Hall beginning at 9:30 AM.

Invite your FRIENDS and GRANDCHILDREN

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Children ages 2 – 5th grade join us for the annual Easter Egg Hunt.

We ask that all children be accompanied by an adult.

All are welcome but we need to know if you will be attending.

Please contact Jo Miller at jomiller@1214@hotmail.com or call 410-821-1673



DONATIONS are needed for our Easter Egg Hunt: **Wrapped candy or stickers for filling the Easter Eggs**
A marked Donation Box is in the church's main office

KNITTERS NEEDED TO HELP INFANT VICTIMS OF A DISASTER



Mission Central (see cover of our March 2011 *High Spire*) includes a CROSS OVER BABY SWEATER in every Layette Kit sent to a family who has an infant and has just experienced a disaster (such as the earthquake/tsunami in Japan or the flooding in Northern New Jersey). UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) delivers our relief packages.

Please contact Nancy Andrew at 410-296-2749 or njandrew2@comcast.net for the instructions.

Community Blood Drive!

On Saturday, March 5th we held our first blood drive for the 2011 year. Sixty-four donors came to Fellowship Hall arriving as early as 6:45a! The steady stream of donors continued until 1:00p. Of the 64 presenting we had ten walk-ins AND ten new donors who helped to add to the drive. At the end of the day the Red Cross was able to harvest 58 pints of blood from our Whole Blood and Double Red donors! Great Job!

All Blood Drive Participants were eligible to receive Door Prizes. Recipients are:

John Stritehoff — \$50 Gift Certificate for Carrabbas

Joe Corson — Regal Movie Gift Pack with 2 movie passes and a \$10 concession stand coupon

A big **THANK YOU** goes out to everyone who helped to make the event a success! The effort over many months consisted of pre-event preparations and recruitment, in addition to the donors and event volunteers who made sure the donors were registered, hydrated, comfortable and smoothly moving through the process. We hope everyone will return and contribute in the next drive. And for those who donated, remember to visit Chick-fil-A in Towson Town Center and thank them for your free coupon!

Help keep the momentum going! Please put the next blood drive on your calendars now and plan to come out and help with your life saving donation!

NEXT COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Sept. 17th 2011 — 7:00 am to 1:00 pm

To register or for more information:

E-mail Margot Gerding at

TumcBloodDrive@verizon.net

or check our website at

www.towsonumc.org/blood_drive.htm



DUE DATES FOR FUTURE ARTICLES IN THE HIGH SPIRE

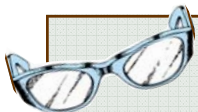
May 2011 issue — due Wednesday, April 13

June 2011 issue — due Wednesday, May 11

All articles need to be in the marked folders outside Room 315

OR — you may e-mail it to

Cathy Rosellini at crosellini@towsonumc.org.



THE SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY GROUP is collecting **OLD EYE GLASSES** and **USED CELL PHONES** to be recycled. Look for the basket in the main office of the church.

As you consider final plans for yourself and your family, please remember the Columbarium on the side of our church.

Niches are available for purchase by contacting Judy Hobbs at 410-337-9013.

Church News

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY COMING SOON



Would you like to place names with faces of TUMC members – and – would you like their addresses (including e-mail) and phone numbers? If so, you need to be included in our new church directory. You'll receive a printed directory, access to an online directory, and an 8x10 photograph – **all free**. Purchase of additional photographs is available, but not mandatory. Sign-up and choose any of the ten dates in April (listed below) for your photo session. Directories will then be available mid-June. Our goal is 100% participation, and you must participate to receive a directory.

HAVE YOUR PICTURE TAKEN FOR THE CHURCH DIRECTORY

Photo Session Dates & Times Available

Friday, April 1	2-9:20p
Saturday, April 2	9:30a-5:10p
Monday, April 4	2-9:20p
Tuesday, April 5	2-9:20p
Wednesday, April 6	2-9:20p
Wednesday, April 13	2-9:20p
Thursday, April 14	2-9:20p
Friday, April 15	2-9:20p
Saturday, April 16	9:30a-5:10p
Tuesday, April 26	2-9:20p

E-mail Merrill Frank at MJFgolf@aol.com OR call the church office 410-823-6511 to make your appointment.

FRESH FRUIT — Sunday, April 3

Fresh fruit will be collected in the main lobby of our church before the worship services for Manna House, a Baltimore City soup kitchen.

COMMUNION / MISSION OFFERING

Sunday, April 3: Summer Camps

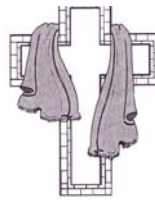
Three different types of camps for at-risk youth will be supported by this month's Mission Offering:

1. The **Campership Program** is for children who are referred by social workers of Baltimore County. Many of them have suffered the effects of poverty in addition to emotional and physical abuse, loss of a parent and/or have special needs. The children will have an enjoyable, yet structured environment that improves the child's self-confidence and provides them the opportunity to interact with others in a positive manner.
2. The **Deaf-Blind Camp of Maryland** offers campers a week of spiritual growth, fun activities, and learning opportunities. They offer many support services and each camper has a buddy to help him/her during the week. Most of these

campers are from families whose members are unemployed or underemployed.

3. **Camp Life Ministry** of the Baltimore/Washington Conference of The United Methodist Church has three camp sites: West River, Harmison, and Manidokan. A ministry called Camp Life serves an urgent need for children who have been impacted by the violence in Baltimore City, and another called Camp Hope reaches children with a parent or family member in prison. These camps provide children the opportunity to hear about Christ and how He can become a part of their everyday life.

We hope you will be generous with your support for these vulnerable children. Thank you!



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Knitters and crocheters meet to create the beautiful shawls sent to hospitals, hospices, and to those who are sick. Each shawl carries our prayers for God's blessings and mercy. Most of our knitters & crocheters are very good and love to teach anyone who wishes to learn. Yarn is donated. A bin marked within the Sharing Bins in the main lobby is where you may place yarn you wish to donate to this ministry.

Three different times are available to come to knit/crochet or learn:

1st Wednesday of each month 6-8pm (**April 6**)

AND

the 3rd Tuesday of each month
9-11am AND 6-8pm (**April 19**).

All gatherings are in the church parlor.



VOLUNTEERS WORK, HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF THE CHESAPEAKE

Saturday, April 9

Contact Fred Crider for more information: 410-308-1608 or dfrider@comcast.net.

OREGON RIDGE DINNER THEATRE

Sunday, April 10



See *The King and I*. Buffet lunch will be served at 12:30; show time is 2:00 PM (our own Jack Chamberlain has a part in the play!). Transportation is on your own. Cost: \$37.00 and includes buffet, show, & gratuity. Contact Nancy deLaski at 410-581-3881 by April 7th to reserve your seats. Make checks payable to "TUMC Senior Adult Council."



CAROL CHOIR presents
Once Upon a Parable!
Sunday, April 10
6:30 PM in the Sanctuary
See page 4 for details.

PALM SUNDAY — Sunday, April 17
The Triumphant Entrance

Worship Services at 8:30 & 11:00 AM
Sunday School for children & youth and Christian
Connections for Adults from 9:45-10:45.

HOLY THURSDAY — Thursday, April 21

Traditional Service at 12 Noon.
Walk to the Upper Room at 7:30 PM

GOOD FRIDAY — Friday, April 22

Walk to the Cross at 12 Noon & 7:30 PM

30-HOUR FAMINE

Youth activity here at church beginning **Friday, April 22**
and ending **Saturday, April 23**. Activity focuses on the
United Methodist program *Imagine No Malaria*.

EASTER EGG HUNT — Saturday, April 23

See page 6 for details.



Easter Sunday — **Sunday, April 24**

Worship services at 8:30 & 11:00 AM.
Sunday School for children (only) 9:45-10:45.
Alleluia Singers and Chancel Choir singing at
both services.

OUR EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY

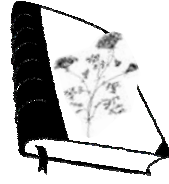
is open
the LAST THURSDAY (**April 28**)
of the month from 6-7 PM
AND
the LAST SATURDAY (**April 30**)
of the month
from 9-10:30 AM
in the main lobby of our church

UMYF — attention Youth

Dates for your calendar:
Sundays, April 3 & April 17
meet in Fellowship Hall at 6pm
Walking with Jesus: 24 hours that changed the
world (4/3) and candy making (4/17)
See the Carol Choir perform April 10.
Your 30-hr. famine begins Friday, April 22.
No UMYF Easter Sunday... have fun with your family!

TUMC WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Sunday, May 1 — 4pm



As Easter is the last Sunday in
April, we will meet the following
Sunday, May 1 at 4pm. The
selection is South of Broad
by Pat Conroy. The setting is
Charleston, South Carolina over
two decades, the 60s to the 80s.

We follow a group of close friends who were considered
outsiders in high school. As Conroy interweaves their
lives during this turbulent time, he brings them to San
Francisco to face a crisis. No one is prepared for this
final test of friendship.

Join us in the Parlor on May 1st at 4pm.

Your contacts are: Marilyn Donoho, 410-825-0789,
ronmardon@verizon.net —or— Carol Woodworth,
410-870-1728, carolwoodworth@comcast.net.

2011 GRADUATES:

HIGH SCHOOL, COLLEGE, AND POST COLLEGE

Please contact the church office at 410-823-6511 or
e-mail towsonumc@towsonumc.org and
give us your graduation information
(where you are graduating from, your
college/post college major, and your
plans after graduation).



**Graduation Recognition Sunday is
Sunday, May 15, 2011.**

**Queen... Servant... Sinner... Saint
Whatever State... Whatever Condition...
Guide and Inspire**

From early times, women have been the strength and
wisdom in the home. Today, does our senior influence
still count, or are we purely *cosmetic*? The Towson
United Methodist Women's program, "**I AM WOMAN!**"
will explore this thought.

Please join us on **Tuesday, May 17 at 10:30 AM in
Fellowship Hall** for a program and luncheon. The cost
is \$8.00. Reservations can be made by calling Thelma
McCormick at 410-825-6188. You'll pay at the door.
SEE YOU THERE!

**BUS TRIP BENEFITS THE WESLEY BENEVOLENT
CARE FUND: Tuesday, June 7, 2011**

We'll travel by bus to the Totem Pole Playhouse
in Fayetteville, Pennsylvania and Hickory Bridge Farm
in Gettysburg. Please join us for the wonderful show
Hank Williams: Lost Highways. The show features
over 20 of Hank Williams' classic hits. After the show
we will have dinner at Hickory Bridge Farm, a long-time
favorite. The cost is \$85.00. The bus leaves Towson
UMC parking lot at 11:30 AM and returns at 8:30 PM.
Contact Dot Compton at 410-668-8788 or Marie Sasse
at 410-668-8209 to make your reservation.

Church News –continued



SMITH ISLAND TOUR Thursday, July 14

Bus departs from TUMC at 8 AM sharp, returning about 8:30 PM; or you can catch the bus at Oak Crest Village at 8:15 AM, returning about 8 PM.

Be sure to let Dee know which stop you want.

Day-trippers, this is the trip you have been waiting for!

Bus to Crisfield, MD; cruise from Somers Cove Marina to Smith Island. While on the island, we'll eat our deluxe family style lunch at the Bayside Inn Restaurant, topping it off with a slice of Smith Island 10-layered Cake, the official dessert of Maryland. Time for self-guided tour.

Call Dee Matson at 410-661-4694 SOON to make your reservation (she already has about 40 going)! The cost is \$95 per person, with a deposit of \$50, balance due June 30th. Make your check payable to "TUMC Senior Adult Council." Mail to:
8810 Walther Blvd, Apt. 3601, Parkville, MD 21234

WOMEN'S RETREAT 2012

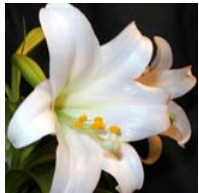
Mark your calendar...

A date and location has been chosen for our **2012 Women's Retreat — February 24-26, 2012.** Our retreat will be at **Greenwood Hills Bible Conference Center in Fayetteville, PA.**

If you have not turned in your 2011 retreat evaluation, please complete and put in the Education Work Area mailbox in the church's main office. Your comments are very important to us. Don't forget to stop by and see the 2011 retreat pictures on the third floor across from Room 312.

—Women's Retreat Design Team

**Sunday,
May 1
6:00 PM
Fellowship
Hall
TALENTS &
TREATS
Come out
and support
the Alleluia
Singers
(youth
choir).
This is a
fundraiser
for their
tour at the
end of June.
Very
talented
kids! And
very good
treats!**



EASTER FLOWERS 2011

The United Methodist Men have arranged for you to place a Memorial or Honor spring plant in the Chancel during the Easter Season. A complete listing of donors will be available on Easter Sunday and the following Sunday service if your order is received on or before Sunday, April 10th.

**The price for
each plant:
\$15.00**

Complete and mail to:
Towson United Methodist Men,
501 Hampton Lane, Towson, MD 21286
Make check payable to: TUMM

YOUR NAME _____

IN LOVING MEMORY OF _____

IN LOVING MEMORY OF _____

IN LOVING MEMORY OF _____

IN HONOR OF _____

IN HONOR OF _____

IN HONOR OF _____

PLEASE SEND MY PLANTS TO A SHUT-IN
 YES NO

I WISH TO PICK UP MY PLANT AFTER EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE
 YES NO