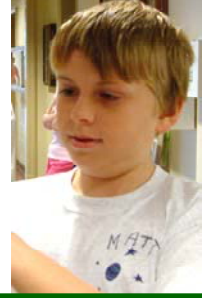


Towson United Methodist Church's mission is to  
proclaim the Word of God and to make disciples of Jesus Christ.  
Faithful discipleship includes  
celebration, connection, development, service, and sharing.

Towson UMC's Monthly Newsletter  
September 2010  
Volume 51, Issue 9

# High September Opire

Sharing With You the  
MANY FACES of  
Vacation Bible Camp 2010  
taken by  
Anthony Ricci (left) &  
Matt Musachio (right)  
Front & Back Covers



## The Hanging Garden Boxes of Edenwald

Perhaps you have not yet seen the new garden at Edenwald Retirement Community, which has a walkway lined with benches and patio furniture and a bocce court.

The outstanding part of this new garden is the placement of 26 hanging garden boxes planted by residents.

Our own Eva Ryder is one of the residents who traveled on a bus trip to a garden center, purchased soil, and chose the plantings for her box. Each box is 4 feet long, 12 inches wide, and 15 inches deep and is identified with the selected plantings on a placard mounted on the front.

The committee of volunteers undertook quite a project requiring decisions on placement of the hanging garden boxes, appointments with greenhouses, and structural problems, especially with the water source needed for daily misting or watering.

The selection of plants was to encourage butterflies and hummingbirds. Bees have already discovered a new feeding place. Everyone can enjoy and appreciate the results of the expertise and green thumbs of Eva and her fellow residents.



Eva Ryder

## Snakes in the Center

A snake, a peregrine falcon, and a red tailed hawk were among the animals to visit our church's Child Development Center in August as a part of our summer camp Maryland ecology theme. We got to pet the box turtle, and hear the Eastern screech owl



screeeeeee and watch him turn his head all the way around to his back when Scales & Tales of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources provided the Center's children with an "In House Field Trip." During the summer we enjoyed

learning about nature, planting a vegetable garden, and participating in recycling. We were busy studying animal skins and bones, painting pictures of the trees we saw on our weekly woods walks, and using maps we created of the Center that showed us how to get places such as the refrigerator for snack. We kept cool during this hot summer with lots of sprinkler days and water play.



## Church family NEWS:

### MARRIAGES:

**John Colton** married **Alice Ann Robertson** Saturday, August 21, 2010.

### BAPTISMS:

**Audrey Iris Beaven**, daughter of Cindy & Colin Beaven was born April 19, 2010 and baptized July 25, 2010.

### DEATH &

### RESURRECTION:

**Floyd Howard** passed away July 15, 2010. He was 91 years old and had been a member of Towson Church since March, 1956.

**Irvin C. Tillman** passed away August 1, 2010 at 91 years old in Wellington, FL.

**Miriam Keller** passed away Sunday, June 20, 2010. Miriam's Memorial Service will be held **Sunday, September 12 at 1:30 PM** in the Sanctuary of our church. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting you send a contribution to the church's Hampton Lane Child Development Center's Tuition Aid Fund.

### ADDRESS CHANGE FOR THOSE SHUT-IN:

Your cards and notes are appreciated! Visitors are also welcome.

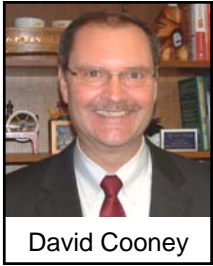
### **Doris Wenzel**

Ravenwood Lutheran Village  
1109 Luther Dr.  
Hagerstown, MD 21740

### **Rev. Eric Peacher**

Mays Chapel Ridge  
Wellspring, Room #1  
12261 Roundwood Road  
Timonium, MD 21093

# From the Senior Pastor



Dear Friends,

I am so excited about all that happens at this church. Worship attendance is up. Our youth choir tour had so many young people that two buses were required – a first. Vacation Bible Camp filled our

building with children. Our Thursday evening summer worship experience showed a 46% increased level of participation from last year. If you were here for Ministry Celebration Sunday at the end of August, you saw and heard about all that is happening in our core discipleship categories of celebration, development, connection, service, and sharing. This is a vital and active church, and it is because of you.

I am deeply concerned, however. We have a major financial problem. Our Chair of Finance, Dave Garman, has written and spoken about the situation. I want to encourage you to take his message seriously.

Our income from the promises made in last year's stewardship campaign is right where it should be. Everyone is doing what they said they would do and some more. We are so grateful for that ongoing, faithful support. Unfortunately, other budgeted income lines have not kept pace, including two contracts for building use which fell through. All told, we anticipate a \$90,000 shortfall for 2010. This is 10% below budget, which in some years, we could absorb. The last few years, however, we have prepared bare bones budgets, working diligently to keep the costs down. This means there is no wiggle room, and \$90,000 is devastating.

The easy response is to say cut the budget, and your finance committee is working on that, trying to find extra dollars everywhere possible. Ultimately, because building cost and staffing comprise nearly  $\frac{3}{4}$  of our budget, cost cutting sufficient enough to meet the shortfall means delayed or no maintenance or a review of staffing. In other words, we are staring at potentially drastic measures. It hurts me to write this, but you need to know our situation. I am proud that we have done well financially the past several years, including meeting our budget in 2009 in a terrible economic climate.

This year the cost of doing ministry has just outstripped our giving, and when all is said and done, we have to live within our means.

My hope is that we will rise to the occasion. Long time members have said to me that whenever there has been a need this congregation has stood to meet it. Finance members have said this is not insurmountable, that an average of an extra \$300 from each of our regular givers between now and the end of the year will meet the challenge.

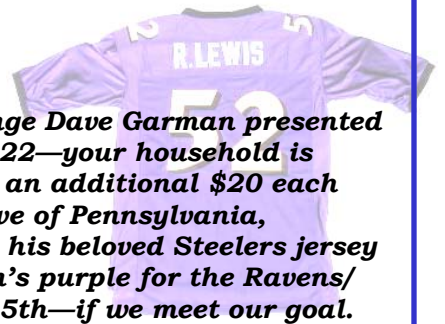
If you are a regular, planned giver, know that you are the backbone of our financial security. Your gifts are the ones upon which this church depends, and you are the ones who keep the doors open. You cannot be thanked enough. But even as we say thank you, we are asking you to do more, to find ways to give extra gifts to stave off drastic measures.

If you are not a regular giver but care about this church, I am especially appealing to you. We need your help. Now is the time to send a gift! If you want a place where you can be married, where your children can be baptized, where the entire family can learn the stories of Jesus, where you can grow in faith, where you can serve others in the community and around the country, where you know you can always worship, where you can call when you need prayer in the hospital or when a funeral is needed, now is the time to send your gift. So many important, life-changing things happen because of this church, but the truth is they are not free, and we cannot provide them without the support of those who care. The more who carry the load, the lighter the load for all.

Trust that we will be good stewards of every gift received and that our elected financial officers are working hard to meet the challenge and to be faithful to the task you have given them. Pray for our church and about how you might respond. Let's not let dollars block the great momentum we have. This church is too needed to be hindered.

Yours in Christ,  
David

***To meet the challenge Dave Garman presented us Sunday, August 22—your household is being asked to give an additional \$20 each week. Dave, a native of Pennsylvania, promises to give up his beloved Steelers jersey and wear the Raven's purple for the Ravens/Steelers game Dec. 5th—if we meet our goal.***



# From the Associate Pastor



Mary Jo Sims

***All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful,  
the Lord God made them all.***

Cecil Frances Alexander wrote poems for children that were paraphrases of articles in the Apostles' Creed. The text of this well-known hymn is based on article 2 of the Creed, "maker of heaven and earth." While often considered a children's hymn, "All Things Bright and Beautiful" is a favorite of many, young or old. It reminds us of God's love not only for us humans, but also for the entire created order.

For many of us, our family pet is an essential aspect of our lives. For example, if you want to know how important the family dog is, just be present at the driveway in front of the church on the morning that our youth choir, the Alleluia Singers, leave for choir tour. Parents come to send off their youth, but often the family dog comes, too! Certainly, we are grateful for our pets and the many ways in which they enrich our lives.

This fall, on Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 in the afternoon, the youth will lead us in a Service of the Blessing of the Pets. Mark your calendars now and plan on bringing your pet so we can share the joy that these wonderful creatures give us. Dogs and larger animals should be on leashes or harnesses. Smaller pets, such as cats, mice, and birds, should be in secure containers. **If you don't have a pet, please come anyway** and make the acquaintance of your friends' pets. We will convene on the lawn encircled by the driveway that leads to the church's front door. You may want to bring lawn chairs or a blanket to sit on.

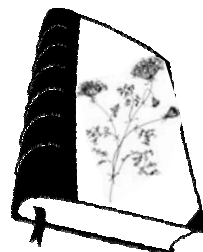
*Each little flower that opens,  
each little bird that sings,  
God make their glowing colors,  
and made their tiny wings.*

Your sister and servant in Christ,  
*Mary Jo*

**Blessing of the Pets  
Sunday,  
October 17<sup>th</sup>  
2:30 PM**



# Women's Book Club



We hope you plan to join us this year for our book discussions. We have chosen a variety of subjects, authors, and writing styles. It should be interesting!

All women at Towson United Methodist Church are invited. **We meet in the church Parlor the last Sunday of the month from 4:00 - 5:30 PM.**

Purchase or borrow the book.  
Read the book.  
Come to the discussion.  
Listen, discuss, laugh, and have fun with fellow readers!  
NO registration or obligation.

Need additional information?

—contact—

Marilyn Donoho, 410-825-0789  
ronmardon@verizon.net

—or—

Carol Woodworth, 410-870-1728  
carolwoodworth@comcast.net

Here is the 2010/2011 booklist:

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| Sept. 26 | <i>My Sister's Keeper</i><br>Jodi Picoult  |
| Oct. 31  | <i>Sarah's Key</i><br>Tatiana de Rosnay    |
| Nov. 28  | <i>The Sweet By and By</i><br>Todd Johnson |

December - no discussion

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| Jan. 30 | <i>Someone Knows My Name</i><br>Lawrence Hill                |
| Feb. 27 | <i>Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet</i><br>Jamie Ford |
| Mar. 27 | <i>The Particular Sadness of Lemon Cake</i><br>Aimee Bender  |

May 1 To be decided!  
(Easter is the last Sunday in April)

# Music Notes



Kathie Metz

Ministry Celebration Sunday offered us many, many opportunities to fill personal baskets with the blessings of possibilities from our church. Here is a run-down of choirs with rehearsal days and times, start dates, and special activities.

YOU are very welcome to have a try-out...not the kind where you try out to be a member of a group (we don't do that around here!), but the kind where you are present to find out if a specific choir is for you.



## SINGERS:

<u>Choir</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Rehearsal Time</u>	
<u>Chancel Choir</u>	Adults	Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00 PM	Starts Sept. 8
<u>Joyful Noise</u>	Adults	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sundays, 8:00 AM	Starts Sept. 19
<u>Alleluia Singers</u>	Youth	Sundays, 5:00-6:00 PM	Starts Sept. 12
<u>Carol Choir</u>	Grades 2-5	Tuesdays, 6:00-7:00 PM	Starts Sept. 14
<u>Trebles</u>	Grade 1	Tuesdays, 6:00-6:30 PM	Starts Sept. 14
<u>Cherubs</u>	4 yrs-Kindergarten	Tuesdays, 6:00-6:30 PM	Starts Sept. 14

## RINGERS:

<u>Handbell Choir</u>	<u>Rehearsal Times</u>	
<u>TOWER CHIMES</u> (Advanced handbell ringers)	Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 PM	Starts Sept. 8
<u>CELEBRATION RINGERS</u> (Members can read music and have handbell experience)	Sundays, 4:00-5:00 PM	Starts Sept. 12
<u>FIRST-TIME BELLS</u> (Members can read music but have never played bells)	Tuesdays, 8:00-8:45 PM	Starts Sept. 14
<u>GENESIS</u> (Members do not read music and have no handbell experience)	Tuesdays, 7:00-7:45 PM	Starts Sept. 14

## INSTRUMENTALISTS:

PLEASE tell me how you would be willing to participate in the music ministry here at TUMC!

Letters have been mailed to children and youth. If you haven't received yours, please let me or another staff member know that; if you haven't turned in the registration forms and plan to sing/ring/whatever, please be in touch very soon!

There are retreats and special services to prepare for...make sure you are part of the celebration!



### **DUE DATES FOR FUTURE ARTICLES IN THE HIGH SPIRE**

October 2010 Issue — due Wednesday, September 15

November 2010 Issue — due Wednesday, October 13

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

OR — you may e-mail it to Cathy Rosellini at [croellini@towsonumc.org](mailto:croellini@towsonumc.org).

**Please Note** that if your email address and/or phone number is in your article, it is posted in the *High Spire* and on our web page, unless you tell me otherwise.

# Christian Education



Jeannine Neuen

September is a month of anticipation, excitement, and anxiety. What a basket of emotions as we begin a new school year whether as children, youth, adults, parents, friends, or grandparents! We all are part of the fall beginnings.

During Vacation Bible Camp this summer we learned a "Praise Phrase" each day. To our basket of emotions, please remember to add...

**Our God is Wonderful, Incredible, Amazing, Magnificent, and Awesome.**

Let us PRAISE GOD each day among the anticipation, excitement, and anxiety.

—Jeannine Neuen

## CHILDREN...

The Children's Moment for Ministry Celebration Sunday was titled, "Did Jesus have to go to School?" Jesus surrounded Himself with people who loved learning about God, and He showed us the importance of studying and learning. It is important that we study and learn so our minds will grow full with knowledge. Not only do we need to go to school, but we also need to come to church to learn and grow. We look forward to seeing all the children in Children & Worship or Children's Church and in Sunday School.

## Sunday morning opportunities at 9:45 AM:

Birth to Toddlers:  
Childcare in the Cribbery (Nursery) Room 122

### Sunday School ROCK SOLID CURRICULUM:

Toddlers/Twos: Room 119  
Threes/Fours: Room 115  
Five/Kindergarten: Room 111



Sunday School  
ROTATION MODEL:  
Obedience/Courage  
is our theme for 2010/2011

Grades 1 – 5 will be rotating to different centers each week. On **September 12** the children will have a kickoff for our first Old Testament unit of study (9/19 – 10/10) on Ruth/Naomi/Boaz and will meet in Room 312.

A separate Children's Ministries Newsletter will go out to the children/parents that are in Grades 1 – 5 to explain in detail the new program.

**"Special Thanks"** to our theme and rotation stories selection committee:

Ruth Steer, Stephanie Kimmons, JJ Farley, Robin Smith, Margery Schammel, Verna Lewis, Kathie Metz, Gary Neuen, Anne Sleeman, & Susan Brown.

They are putting together a five-year plan of themes and stories that the children should learn before moving on to our youth program.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

### **BEGINNING September 12**

- Children & Worship begins at 8:30 & 11:00
- 9:45 - 10:45 AM: Graded Sunday School for T/2 – Kindergarten & "Kids in the Disciple Zone" Rotation Sunday School for Grades 1 – 5
- Children's Church begins at 11:00 AM

September 19

- Third Graders receive their Bibles at 11:00 AM service

October 10

- Children's Sabbath- "Blessed to Be a Blessing"

December 4

- Hanging of the Greens

December 7 & December 14

- "We Want to See Jesus"  
Preschool program children ages 3–1<sup>st</sup> grade – 6:00–7:30 PM

February 25 – 27, 2011

- Women's Retreat

July 25 – 29, 2011

- Vacation Bible Camp – Shake It Up Café...Where Kids Carry Out God's Recipe

## SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

Sept. 5 — 10:00 AM  
(one service)

Beginning  
September 12

8:30 & 11:00 AM  
(two services)  
9:45 Sunday School &  
Adult Christian  
Connections

**Wednesday Morning  
Bible Study  
10:30 - 11:30**

Do you have a biblical passage  
that is bugging you?

Or a theological issue you'd like to talk over  
with someone?

Or a need to do some shared Bible study  
along about mid-week?

Then maybe the Wednesday morning Bible Study is what you're looking for. This study will resume weekly session on **Wednesday, September 8** in Room 214-216. Rev. Bill Raker leads this study and some twelve to sixteen persons participate weekly as we look at the scripture lessons used in the previous Sunday's services or at other Bible Study material as special seasons may lead us to do. You do not need to sign up ahead of time, but if you have questions, feel free to call Bill Raker at 410-665-7052. Just set the time aside, bring your version of the Bible, and come.



**UPPER ROOM DEVOTIONALS...**

(in regular and large print) for September/October are available in the main lobby of the church on the devotions table under the stained glass display. The suggested donation is \$1.00.



**WE ARE EAGERLY  
LOOKING FORWARD  
TO SEPTEMBER FOR  
A LOT OF REASONS:**

- #1 We hope it will be cooler.
- #2 It's the time when the Towson UM

Women start the Fall season.

#3 And... the headliner for the kick-off program will feature **REV. MARY JO SIMS** with an up front and personal report on her trip to Zimbabwe!!

The date is **September 21 at 10:30 AM in Fellowship Hall**. Mary Jo will take us on a whirlwind trip to Zimbabwe, Africa. Lunch will be served after the presentation at a cost of \$8.00. Reservations may be made through Thelma McCormick, 1055 West Joppa Road, Unit 564, Towson, MD 21204.

Everyone is invited (men included). Come out and help us celebrate the start of the Fall Season.

# Making Disciples

Hello Everyone,

We are blessed to have so many opportunities to increase our understanding of our faith! Each class and discussion group offers time to explore ideas and share them with others. Each mission offers a place to put our faith into action and learn more about agape love. Each administrative group offers ways for us to interact lovingly and to empower the programs of the church. Each worship service offers the chance to directly encounter the living Lord. What an awesome avalanche of opportunity we have here at TUMC!



Margery Schammel

I'm excited about the **Christian Connections classes** we have this year for adults. Each class is held here at church Sunday mornings between 9:45 & 10:45. You are invited to attend one of these offerings during this time. They are:

- **Christians Under Construction** (a discussion based class of primarily couples with children);
- the **Men's Class** (a discussion based class of men of all ages);
- the **Bible Class** (a discussion class based on reading a book, comprised of men and women of all ages);
- the **Tower Class** (a discussion class based on online lessons, comprised of men and women of all ages);
- the **Pastor's Class** (a lecture style class led by Dr. Cooney);
- **Angels in the Infield** (a discussion based class for women of all ages);
- and a new class this year is **Parenting Teens** and will be led by Alicia Corson. They will meet for 8 weeks and use downloaded materials to direct their discussions.

Please contact me for more information about any of these classes and watch the bulletin for updates!

I'm also excited about Confirmation this year! We are using new curriculum, published by Cokesbury for Confirmation, titled "Credo." It will be fun to tailor this new material to our needs. As always, we have many adults eager to help our youth as they explore their faith in this intensive program offered 9:45-10:45 every Sunday morning, September – May. Confirmation is open to youth in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and older. If you are interested in Confirmation, please contact me: 410-823-2485 or [mschammel@towsonumc.org](mailto:mschammel@towsonumc.org).

God bless,

Margery

# Missions & Outreach

## COMMUNION / MISSION OFFERING

Sunday, September 5

PATHWAYS Tutoring Program

See more information on page 9 (right).

## FRESH FRUIT — Sunday, September 5

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



## MISSION NIGHT at Chick-fil-A York Road in Cockeysville On Monday, September 6

Join us and have dinner anytime between 5 & 8 PM, while a portion goes to missions. Just tell the cashier (inside or drive-thru) you are with Towson United Methodist Church. A portion of the cost of your meal will go towards our Volunteers-in-Mission. See you then!

## AMERICAN RED CROSS COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

The NEXT BLOOD DRIVE here at TUMC will be Saturday, September 18 between 7:15 and 1:15. TUMCBloodDrive@verizon.net.

Every person will receive a free gift just for attending AND

will be entered to win a special door prize!!!!

Feel free to spread the word among your family, friends, and neighbors!  
All are welcome!



## WANTED — YOUR UNUSED TOOLS!

The Mission Work Area (MWA) is gathering new and old unused tools to be used for various mission activities and trips, both here at church and away on VIM trips. Basic tools like hammers, tape measures, wonder bars, screwdrivers, taping knives, etc.... Are great examples of tools to have on hand. Power tools are also welcome but should be in good working order. If you have extra tools looking for a good home, or you are just downsizing, think of donating them to the MWA. Please drop off your donations in the box labeled "MWA Tools" in the church lobby. Thanks! Any questions, contact Margot at [magerding@verizon.net](mailto:magerding@verizon.net).

THE SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY GROUP

is collecting



OLD EYE GLASSES to be recycled.

Look for the basket in the main office of the church.



## PAY IT FORWARD

The idea of "Pay It Forward" is to encourage individuals to love and care for other members of the church community. You will have the option of signing up for three possible service opportunities.

**Opportunity One**.....reading to elderly in the church that are presently in homes

**Opportunity Two**.....making meals for people who have recently been under the weather

**Opportunity Three**.....providing transportation for those in need of appointments or rides to church

Once you have signed up, you will be contacted about your service and the service you signed up for will be worked around your schedule and availability.

We look forward to many people signing up for one of these projects and we know you will find your gift of kindness and caring both exciting and rewarding.

For more information on "Pay It Forward,"

please contact Lu Ann Blackman at

[theblackmanfamily@comcast.net](mailto:theblackmanfamily@comcast.net) or 410-790-9148.



## OUR EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY

We are amazed how many folks we had for Thursday evening and Saturday morning in July at our Emergency Food Pantry. Thursday evening we received 17 families, Saturday morning 15, and we deliver food to another 20+ households.

The numbers are growing, which means

the need is growing.

You can help ... whenever you are at the market, consider picking up a few extra items and put them in the Sharing Bins located in our church lobby.

Currently, we need:

Canned ravioli, Spaghetti O's, etc.

Canned fruit (no peaches, please)

Canned chili

Chunky beef soup

Chunky chicken soup

You may also consider tuna fish, beef stew, crackers, cookies, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, and cereals.

We are open to the public:

Last Thursday of the month 6:00-7:00 PM

Last Saturday of the month 9:00-10:30 AM

We set up right in the main lobby of our church.

Want to volunteer? Please call Dwight Kines at

410-828-0792 or [djkines@comcast.net](mailto:djkines@comcast.net). THANKS!

## CARPENTER'S KITCHEN

Saturday October 23

We will be cooking and serving dinner to the less fortunate at Mt. Vernon Place UM Church. Carpool leaves Towson UMC's parking lot promptly at 2:30, returning at 6:30. Cooks need to be at CK before the carpooling volunteers arrive. Contact Linda Diehl (410-522-1966) if you are able to volunteer. Thanks!

# PATHWAYS

PATHWAYS



"Providing Avenues Toward Hope  
With Academic Youth Services"

**PATHWAYS begins its FIFTH YEAR** in the mission area on October 5<sup>th</sup>. Reflecting on the success of our tutoring program, I can't help but be thankful for the vision of Justin Jones, our founder. God gave him a mission idea, and he listened. He came to Towson United Methodist because he realized its size, location, and commitment toward missions would result in a solid program. Praise God!

Every year has been a challenge and a blessing for our students and our volunteers. On **September 5<sup>th</sup>** you will hear Allison Jackson talk about the program during our Moment on Mission at the 10 o'clock service. After sharing how the program works, she will mention our current needs.

We have lost some tutors this year as lives change and new challenges and opportunities have been put in front of them. Several of those tutors have been with us for at least 2 years. A big thank you to all of you!

An invitation goes out to anyone who would like to fill some of those slots and help us grow. We have retired and currently-employed volunteers filling both the 4:00-5:00 and 5:00-6:00 PM sessions. You may volunteer for either one or both sessions. We are looking for people who are dependable and patient with students who need encouragement both academically and socially.



Another way you can help PATHWAYS and have a lovely afternoon is to sign up to join Maria Springer on **September 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM for a Nostalgic Ladies Tea**. Call her at 410-561-1157 if you have not already signed up! The cost is \$35.00 per person. Sorry men, we will try to come up with a fund raiser for you... how about a *Nostalgic Afternoon of Football*?

Please pray for us as we continue to change lives through the love of God and with the help of so many.

In conclusion —



## HELP PATHWAYS "RAISE" SOME FUNDS

(over and beyond your weekly church offering). Here is how... Donate extra money during our Moment on Mission: **Sunday, September 5.** Hear about our work tutoring students in need and offer your support. Send a check

(anytime during September) to Towson UMC with "PATHWAYS" in the memo line.

**Ladies Tea:** Participate in a ladies tea hosted by Maria Springer on **Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>**.

Bring a friend and enjoy an elegant afternoon.

The cost is \$35.00 per person.

Contact Maria at 410-561-1157

to make reservations.

—Stephanie Kimmons, Director  
stephaniekimmons@comcast.net

  
HOUSE OF RUTH  
MARYLAND

## Children's Books for the House of Ruth

During the month of October, the Guest Ministries Committee will be collecting funds to purchase books for children who are staying at the House of Ruth (these are funds over and beyond your weekly church offering). Through Scholastic Books, we are able to obtain a 25% discount. The books generally cost about \$10.

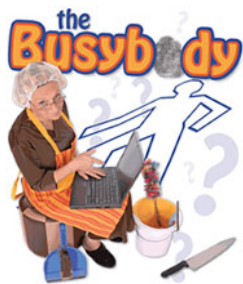
For those not familiar with the House of Ruth, this non-profit organization, established in 1977, is headquartered in Baltimore, Maryland. The House of Ruth provides services for women and their children who are victims of domestic violence. Since its inception, it has served over 100,000 victims of domestic violence.

Please place your contribution in the container at the Welcome Station in the foyer or place it in the offering plate along with your weekly church offering. Make separate checks for this extra gift payable to Towson United Methodist Church, designated to "Guest Ministries/ House of Ruth." Your generous and thoughtful contribution is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,  
Guest Ministries Committee  
Armilda Beard, Chair

What's this I hear? A Challenge?

Dave Garman,  
Chair of our Finance Committee  
promises to wear the RAVENS purple jersey  
instead of his beloved black & gold Steelers  
jersey the Friday and Sunday of the  
Steelers/Ravens game Sunday, Dec. 5th.  
All we have to do is raise the money  
OUR church needs to meet the budget...  
See Pastor David's letter on page 3.  
We can do this together!



**RAINBOW DINNER THEATRE Benefits The Wesley Guild**  
 Please join us for a day of fun and entertainment on **Thursday, October 14** on our trip to **Rainbow Dinner Theatre** to see the comedy **The Busy Body**, and enjoy a wonderful buffet meal. The cost is \$70.00 per person. The bus leaves Towson United

Methodist Church parking lot at 9:30 AM and returns at 5:30 PM.

**Deadline** for reservations is **September 10**. Contact Alice Snyder at 410-825-3641.

**ON THE FRONT & BACK COVERS**

Anthony Ricki and Matt Musachio assisted me in taking digital photos during our Vacation Bible Camp the last week of July this year. I am so thrilled with the results of their efforts ... I wanted to share them with you. Anthony and Matt captured the joy, caring, learning, playing, singing, praying, and growing on the MANY FACES that attended VBC this year. I spent my time taking posed pictures, while Anthony and Matt took the candid shots. I am so proud of their accomplishments ... they grew so much, too, during that week. Please enjoy looking at these photos as much as I have preparing them for you to see!

—Cathy Rosellini



**NEWS from the Finance Committee:**  
 Several of our parishioners have set up recurring payments through their **ONLINE BANKING** and, not only are they saving postage, they never have to worry about missing a week when they can't attend the service. All you need is the church's address and your account number, which is your Envelope Number.

**INSTEAD OF PUTTING YOUR RECYCLABLE PAPER AT THE END OF YOUR DRIVEWAY ... BRING IT TO CHURCH!**  
 This is a fundraiser for the Church's General Budget. (remember: No cardboard of any kind.)  
 Thanks!



**TOWSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

501 Hampton Lane, Towson, Maryland 21286 ... 410-823-6511 ... 410-823-8916 Fax

Office hours are Monday through Friday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

[www.towsonumc.org](http://www.towsonumc.org)

**MINISTRY TEAM**

Rev. Dr. John R. Schol ..... Resident Bishop  
 Rev. Dr. Anthony Hunt ..... District Superintendent  
 Merrill Frank & Susan Gralley ..... Church Lay Leaders



David Cooney	Senior Pastor	410-823-3640	dcooney@towsonumc.org	off Thursdays
Mary Jo Sims	Associate Pastor	410-823-3713	msims@towsonumc.org	off Fridays
Bill Raker	Minister of Visitation	410-665-7052	mjr8wlr@comcast.net	works from home
Margery Schammel	Minister of Discipleship	410-823-2485	mschammel@towsonumc.org	part-time
Kathie Metz	Director of Music	410-823-6519	kmetz@towsonumc.org	off Fridays
Sally Tarr	Assistant Director of Music	410-823-6519		part-time
Jeannine Neuen	Director of Christian Education	410-823-3698	jneuen@towsonumc.org	off Thursdays
Cathy Rosellini	Communications; Webmaster	410-823-3689	croellini@towsonumc.org	off Fridays
Kim Ayres-Ashby	Business Manager	410-823-3693	kayres@towsonumc.org	off Sundays
Loren Todd	Building Superintendent	410-823-2153	ltodd@towsonumc.org	off Wednesdays
Homer Barnes	Maintenance Assistant			part-time
Liz Dahne	Receptionist & Information	410-823-6511	towsonumc@towsonumc.org	off Sundays

**The Pastors may be reached at their homes:**

David Cooney	410-666-3971	Mary Jo Sims	410-825-4050
Bill Raker	410-665-7052	Margery Schammel	410-592-3805



## Towson UMC ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB

You will find us at [Facebook.com/towsonumc](https://www.facebook.com/towsonumc) — click on that you “like” us.

Enjoy viewing the article about our church on Wikipedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Towson\\_Methodist\\_Church](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Towson_Methodist_Church)