



# Beyond The Red Doors

Conshohocken United Methodist Church

October 2009 Newsletter

*“Conshohocken UMC exists to reach people of all ages, teach them Christ’s values and guide them as deeply committed Christians to show the world that God lives”*



## “A Note from the Pastor”

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We’ve enjoyed the messages these past couple of weeks pertaining to the “Celebrate the Gift” series. We know that God calls us to answer His call in different areas of our lives which include the home, workplace, church, community and world.

Throughout these weeks, we’ve heard and seen how God is moving in the life of CUMC. This year, vital programs and ministries have made a positive impact and are evident by the growth in attendance at worship services, involvement in fundraising opportunities, people hungry for spiritual nourishment, etc.

On Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, we will give thanks for all the blessings that are ours and consecrate our financial commitments to our church’s mission and ministry for next year. I simply ask that you pray ***before*** you fill it out in order to know what God is calling you to give. The Bible says, “*Each man (and woman) should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for **God loves a cheerful giver***”.

*2 Corinthians 9:7*

If you haven’t been in church on a regular basis, you’re missing out on being a witness to God’s blessings poured out to those who gather to praise the precious name of Jesus Christ!

Hope to see you soon,  
Pastor Jose “Ricky” Ayala

## **REMINDER for Sunday, October 11th:**

There will only be **one** (combined) worship service beginning at 10:30 a.m. (Note: No Sunday School). Also, CUMC Ministry Team is providing refreshments and baked goods for anyone coming out to the “Coffee Fellowship Time” held in Wesley Hall from 10-10:30 a.m.



### Being Part of a Family

Family members depend on each other for all kinds of things, big and small, for the good of the family. Just as our immediate family depends on us, so does our church family. No matter what your talent or how much or little time you have to offer, there is something you can do. Let’s challenge ourselves to do something for our church family. It doesn’t have to be a major project or require a long commitment. Offer to fill in for an usher or greeter, visit someone who is homebound, help out with a fundraiser, or help with cleaning or repairs at church. The possibilities are endless. As the hymn reminds us, “I am the Church, You are the Church, We are the Church together.”



**A NOTE ABOUT  
HOSPITAL VISITS**

Please call our office (610) 828-1250 or the Pastor's cell phone (267) 438-4234 if you or a loved one is in the hospital in order to get a visit. The Pastor fully understands your privacy and does not want to simply "show up" uninvited. If it's someone special to you that you'd like the Pastor to visit, please make arrangements for you and the Pastor to go together



**Thinking of You**

Each month, Ginny Teaford will be highlighting a homebound member of our church family. Please consider sending a personal note or a "Thinking of You" card to brighten that persons spirits.

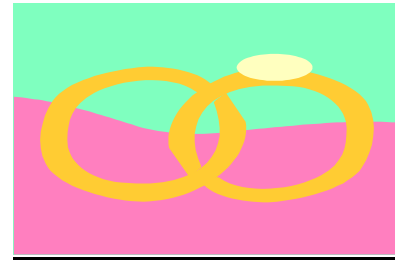
This month's member is:  
Margaret McElwee  
127 East 7th Avenue  
Conshohocken, PA 19428



**NEED A HALL TO RENT?  
Church Members, Special Guests,  
Families, Friends:**

- **BIRTHDAY PARTIES**
- **BRIDAL SHOWERS**
- **BABY SHOWERS**
- **WEDDING PARTIES**
- **MEETINGS**

For more details, contact Joni McCormick, our Facility Coordinator at 610-828-1250 or [jonimcc@verizon.net](mailto:jonimcc@verizon.net)



**October Wedding Anniversaries**

- 10/2 Edith & Leroy Shaw
- 10/5 Sue & Jake Kriebel
- 10/9 Lila & Brian Backenstose
- 10/21 Libby & Dave Broggi
- 10/21 Lynda & Kevin Lawrence

If you are having an anniversary in October are not listed here, that means we do not have a record of your wedding anniversary. Please call the church office with that information.

**October Birthdays!**  
~Make A Wish~

**Day:**

- 1 Libby Broggi
- 2 Ester Backenstose
- 8 Frances Ellam
- 8 Pastor Ricky
- 13 Brian Backenstose
- 16 James Smith
- 22 Marcia Marine
- 25 Jackie Auris
- 30 Robert Tucker

If you are having a birthday in October and are not listed here, that means we do not have a record of your birth date. Please call the church office with that information. We want to wish you a happy birthday!



## FINANCE CORNER

### *Commitment Sunday*

October 11 is Commitment Sunday, a time when we commit ourselves to the service of the Lord through our time, our talents, and our gifts. In the weeks leading up to Commitment Sunday, Pastor Ricky has taken us on a spiritual journey with his Celebrate the Gift sermon series. During this time, we hope you have prayerfully considered where you need to be with respect to your giving and where you would like CUMC to be next year and in the years to follow. Pledge cards will be mailed out in advance of Commitment Sunday, please bring your completed card to our Celebration Sunday services, or mail your card back to the church if you cannot attend our services.

In 2009 CUMC was forced to cut back its spending in areas such as church property maintenance & enhancement, hiring new personnel (music director & Christian education director), Christian education and outreach ministries, Conference obligations, etc. We need your continued efforts to grow CUMC financially. Offering two worship services each Sunday is a great opportunity for us to increase our membership. We must all continue to reach out to our communities, spread God's word, make disciples of Christ, and bring people to our church. We must continue to ensure that our current church family is nurtured and their needs are being fulfilled. To be successful in both of these endeavors, CUMC has to have a balanced budget that allows the missions, programs, and activities of this church to continue and our church to flourish.

### *2009 Finance Update through August 31, 2008*

As of August 31 our total cash received was **\$137,534**, which is **53%** of our budgeted annual expenses, i.e. **\$258,234**.

For **July**, we collected **\$13,831** against budgeted expenses of **\$20,372** (for 4 weeks) leaving a deficit of **\$6,541**. For **August**, we collected **\$18,955** against budgeted expenses of **\$25,465** (for 5 weeks) leaving a deficit of **\$6,510**. Our goal for **September** is to

meet our monthly expenses of **\$20,372** plus make up the deficits from July and August, which total \$6,541 + 6,510 = **\$13,051**.

### *Fund Raising Update*

The "Less Grazing, More Praizing" fundraiser ended on September 5. Thanks to everyone who participated. Phase 2 of this fundraiser started on September 5.

We sold food at the Conshohocken FunFest on September 19.

CUMC is selling Christmas wreaths again this year. Keep your eyes open for more information on this fundraiser.

Thanks to all the volunteers who turn out for these fundraisers. This is an important source of income and it has helped improve our cash flow this year.



Ministry Team organized a trip to the Phillies vs. Marlins game on Sat. Oct. 3rd. The project was called "Red goes Green". The Phillies organization makes a special effort to collect recyclable items. Our church participated, including the Youth Fellowship Group (above picture). The volunteers were admitted free and given a meal voucher for their help. The participants went up and down the aisles to collect the recycles. Thanks Ministry Team!





## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Conshohocken United Methodist Church believes that Christian Education is at the heart of the church. Christian Education strives to nurture the community in faith, and encourage growth in knowledge and experience. We strive to inspire and empower the community to live as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Our vision is to create a Sunday School program that is fun, engaging and vital.

### ***What to Expect from our Sunday School Program***

For the 2009-2010 Sunday School year, the program runs from 9:30 AM to 10:15 AM, September 13, 2009 through June 20, 2010.

### **Rotational Workshops**

Each week children will learn bible lessons utilizing various methods such as music, bible readings, art, workshops, activities, storytelling, technology-based learning such as selected and approved websites, and games. The various delivery methods will not only provide a foundation in Christian beliefs, but also facilitate lasting relationships among the children.

Each Sunday will begin with the children learning a new song or verse of a song. On the last Sunday of every month, the children will perform the newly learned music for the traditional service. Children learning musical instruments as well as singing talents will be featured during these times.

### **Kid's Breakfast**

Because Conshohocken United Methodist now going to have two services each Sunday, a healthy breakfast will be provided during the Sunday School year during the fellowship time between services from 10:15 AM to 10:45 AM.

### **Music Opportunity**

The children and youth of our church are also utilizing music on their road to becoming Disciples of Christ. Children may enroll in guitar, drum and/or piano lessons which are provided by church members. Musicians will be featured throughout the school year during both traditional and contemporary services. Singing talents will also be featured. The children's talents are endless!



Administrative Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. There may be a possibility to have additional meetings for special occasions such as preparing for Charge Conference. Please take the time to thank the above individuals who have answered the "call to serve" in the areas of ministry at Conshohocken UMC. May God continue to provide us with His love and guidance as we wholeheartedly strive to serve Him.

# ***CUMC IS THE PLACE TO BE!!!***



## **CUMC SHOPPING CARD FUNDRAISER**

The CUMC gift card fundraiser is starting again on October 11th. **All orders are due by Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup> so those who place orders can have their cards for Black Friday shopping.** Please return orders forms to Michele Conner at church, send via mail to Michele's home (16 Pleasant Road Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462), or email it to [the.conner.clan@comcast.net](mailto:the.conner.clan@comcast.net). Checks should be made payable to CUMC.

An order form will be available in the Narthex or email me for a copy. Please indicate the number of cards you want next to the company name. Then total the number of cards purchased and the total dollar amount and put that information on the last page of the list. Please include your name and phone number also in case I have questions.

Please keep in mind that CUMC makes a percentage of each card purchased. The percentages range from 1.5% to 25%.

These cards are not just for gifts. Below are some examples of how the cards can be used.

- Purchase cards for the supermarket through CUMC and then use the cards to buy your groceries.
- If you want to purchase clothes for someone as a gift or for family, then purchase clothing store cards through CUMC and buy the clothes with the card.
- Purchase a card to Walmart to buy toiletries or other household items as well as upcoming holiday gifts.
- Use a See's Candies card to purchase the Christmas candy you will need.
- Buy a Dick's Sporting Goods or a hardware store card and use it to buy dad something for Christmas or his birthday.
- Purchase a Kohl's/ Boscov's/JC Penney card to purchase a gift for someone for the holidays or birthday.
- Every Friday night is pizza night...buy a \$14.00 Domino's large pizza/soda combo certificate and CUMC earns \$3.50 for each one. Or buy a gift card for the restaurant you frequent often and use it to pay.
- Buy a Hallmark card and use it to purchase all of your holiday greeting cards and gift wrap.

These are just a few examples of the flexibility of these cards. It's a win-win situation!

There are no delivery charges!! Delivered to you after church! No need to go to the store for a gift card anymore! **IT COULDN'T BE EASIER!**

Please help CUMC and purchase some cards! This could be a very **BIG** fundraiser for CUMC if everyone would participate.

Please feel free to contact Michele Conner at 484-231-8494 with any questions about this fundraiser.

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING CUMC!!!!**



## Coushohocken United Methodist Church

30754 Sixth Avenue  
Coushohocken, PA 19128  
(610) 538-1707

### 2009 CUMC Personnel Information

#### Staff

Pastor – Jose “Ricky” Ayala (w) 610-828-1250 [pastorricky@verizon.net](mailto:pastorricky@verizon.net)

*In Case of Emergency or Hospital Visit*, call Pastor Ricky’s cell at 267-438-4234

Admin Assistant/Facility Coordinator – Joan McCormick 610-828-1250 [jonimcc@verizon.net](mailto:jonimcc@verizon.net)

Sexton – Bob Maziarz 610-825-0563 [maze1958@verizon.net](mailto:maze1958@verizon.net)

#### Teams

**Lay Leader** - Rick Barton 610-397-1581 [rickdbarton@msn.com](mailto:rickdbarton@msn.com)

**People Chair**- Dr. Gary Atkinson 610-828-8946 [gary.atkinson@verizon.net](mailto:gary.atkinson@verizon.net)

Members: Sally Hilton, Lee Guagliata, Lawrence Ogunkua, Rick Barton

**Ministry Chair** - Gregory Kriebel 610-828-2039 [gckriebel@comcast.net](mailto:gckriebel@comcast.net)

Members: Nancy Maguire

**Christian Education Director** – Christine Bertino 610-828-3085 [christine.bertino@gmail.com](mailto:christine.bertino@gmail.com)

Members: Lila Backenstose, Joanne Lapinski, Michele Conner, Dyan Rhoads, Michele Mitchell

**Finance Chair**- Carleton Cox 610-327-0552 [coxmaps@worldnet.att.net](mailto:coxmaps@worldnet.att.net)

Treasurer: Jennifer Kriebel 610-828-2039 [jennmyers13@hotmail.com](mailto:jennmyers13@hotmail.com)

Finance Secretary: William Pope, 610-296-3838 x1343 [bill.pope@McKesson.com](mailto:bill.pope@McKesson.com)

Members: Richard Barton, Chan Crawford

**Worship Chair**- Dr. Bukola Ogunkua 610-272-0537 [bukogunkua@aol.com](mailto:bukogunkua@aol.com)

Members: Stephanie Williams, Mark Atkinson, Anita L. Barton, Irene Wise

**Administrative Council Chair**- Jake Kriebel 610-828-6479 [jakekriebel@comcast.net](mailto:jakekriebel@comcast.net)

Administrative Council Recording Secretary: Randi Wright

**Property Team Chair**- James Lapinski 215-768-6472; 610-834-0715 [jr1001@verizon.net](mailto:jr1001@verizon.net)

Members: Jim Smith, Ann Waters, Robert Maziarz, Dennis Hannan

#### Programs

Media Relations Coordinator: Lyn Barr 610-213-5161 [kneetitup@msn.com](mailto:kneetitup@msn.com)

Nursery Coordinator (during service): Judy Rhoads 610-275-3125 [jrhoads119@comcast.net](mailto:jrhoads119@comcast.net)

Health & Welfare Ministries Coordinator: Virginia Teaford 610.828.9792 [vgin40@msn.com](mailto:vgin40@msn.com)

Membership Secretary: Ruth Thomas 610-941-4392 [manda3724@aol.com](mailto:manda3724@aol.com)

Church Historian: Dr. Gary Atkinson 610-828-8946 [gary.atkinson@verizon.net](mailto:gary.atkinson@verizon.net)

Beyond the Red Doors Newsletter: Anna Hoffman 484-684-7335 [amhoffman507@comcast.net](mailto:amhoffman507@comcast.net)