



# The Spotlight

Richmond United Methodist Church

8538 Delaware Drive - Bangor, PA 18013

Pastor: Samuel Kofi Ashley

Church Office: 610-588-7317

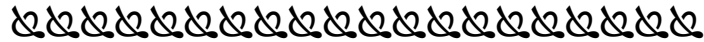
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October 2010

## **A Time for Everything**

The book of Ecclesiastes is a book of contrasts. There are deep nuggets of wisdom in this book. The author of the book is searching for the meaning and purpose of life. The book explores many topics on joy, sorrow, wealth, pleasure, etc. As I see the leaves change I do identify with the writer that there is a time for everything under the sun. For everything there is a season and we enter the fall season in our own lives and as a church. We have begun a new season which ends the season of summer, and ushers us into the season of fall, and then obviously there will be another season called winter, which my wife Sarah never looks forward to. But it has its own beauty and purpose.

The writer of Ecclesiastes says that there is a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to harvest; a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to break down and a time to build up, a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance; a time to cast away stones and a time to gather stones, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek and a time to lose, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to keep silence and a time to speak, a time for war and a time for peace.

For our church family, the summer was a time to go on vacation, and now it is time to

return to church, to come together again to celebrate the work of the year through our charge conference, and join our hearts together to worship the Lord, serve the Lord and build up God's church.

The writer of the book is telling us to set priorities because there is a time for everything under the sun. We are encouraged to prepare adequately for the seasons and set our goals according to the seasons and times. For many of us, our lives are so busy and stressful. We don't even pay attention to the seasons. In the midst of finding time to work, we must also find time to settle down and relax. One thing we can do is make a list from the beginning of the week and cross items off as the week progresses. It will give us a sense of accomplishment.

The writer is saying there is a time for everything, so we cannot take on too many tasks and responsibilities, lest we become ineffective in what we do. We need to be part of different organizations, yes, but we cannot participate in every single activity. We must make time for God in there...we have to be part of the church activities too, because there is a spiritual benefit to church and above all, in the Lord. We all have to make the best of our time and the seasons God has given us. We cannot continue to procrastinate, because time and seasons wait

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### **A Time for Everything cont.**

for no one.

I want to remind everyone that we are back to our regular schedule of two services, at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. with Sunday school at 9:15 a.m. and we miss all of you who have not been attending. I am sure a lot has happened since we last saw you, and we'd love to share in your joys and support you in your concerns. Remember, joy shared is double joy and sorrow shared is half sorrow! Do come and join us in our Coffee Hour from 9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. in Thomas Hall and share in the love, joy and fellowship of your Richmond Church Family. Let us celebrate our successes and walk along side each other as we enter this new season. Every year, at charge conference, we have to give a record of those attending, as well as those giving. Please come and be counted in the number! Help us build the church of God at Richmond, and strive together to attain the purposes and plans God has for us as a church.

Please keep Richmond UMC in your prayers and remember me in your prayers as I lift you all up in my prayers as well. May God bless you and help you set your priorities to include His season as well, because King Solomon says everything else is meaningless except giving God worship.

Peace and blessings to you,

*Pastor Kofi*

### **Confirmation Class 2011**

All Christians are called to make a profession of their faith in God. For young adults, this act of profession is called "Confirmation." Other denominations may call it something different. The process of becoming a member of the United Methodist Church involves two different steps.

The first step is through the Sacrament of Baptism. In the United Methodist Church, a person may be baptized as an infant and confirmed as an adolescent or adult. Baptism is a public declaration of God's love by the Holy Spirit. The United Methodist Church believes that "through Baptism we are initiated into Christ's Holy Church."

Confirmation, on the other hand, is an adolescent's personal response to God's love and grace which allows one to become a member of the Church.

I am very excited about Confirmation of 2011 because many of the youth have themselves told their parents they want to be confirmed. Our Confirmation Class is going to start in January and will end in May of 2011. Once again parents of youth who are in the sixth grade AND 12 years of age, as well as adults who have not been confirmed should contact the Church Office at 610-588-7317 and give their names for registration.

I would encourage parents to start bringing their youth to Church. I am going to involve them in different activities such as serving as acolytes, greeters, ushers, reading scripture and in other areas they could offer their gifts.

### **Weis/Mr. Z's Receipts**

Thank you for all of the Weis and Mr. Z's register receipts, please keep bringing them in. Please do not cut off the receipt at the balance amount, they must see that the transaction completed in order to count the receipt. It does not matter how old the receipt is, as long as it is legible. We can only use register receipts from the Bangor and Pocono Area stores, all others must be discarded. Thanks again for supporting the church by shopping and saving your store receipts.

## **Upcoming Conference Events**

### Sundays: October 17 & October 24

Free Viewing of “Wesley” The Movie following a light meal and time of fellowship, will be presented at two local churches. Mark your calendars!

October 17 at First United Methodist Church of Schuylkill Haven –Host: Rev. Dr. Christopher Fisher; Speaking: Dr. Charles Yrigoyen, co-author of United Methodism at Forty

October 24 at Wayne United Methodist Church –Host: Rev. Joseph DiPaolo, Speaking: Conference Lay Leader Dr. Mary White

This dual event, a project of the Eastern Penna. Evangelical Connection (EPEC) ([www.epaec.org](http://www.epaec.org)) is open to the public and the meal will begin at 5:00 P.M. Please sign up at least a week in advance by contacting Jane Bonner at [jbonner101@verizon.net](mailto:jbonner101@verizon.net) or 610-566-2703. (Fall Meeting of EPEC for planning and elections will be held October 28th at 7:00 at West Lawn UMC.)

### October 16th, 2010, 8:00 a.m.

Eastern Pennsylvania Conference UMC - Miles for Mission

5-mile walk/run/roll for World Service Missions

Scenic Audubon Loop of the Lower Perkiomen Valley Trail

101 New Mill Road, Oaks, PA 19456

Sign up a team from your church to collect pledges and walk. Pledges can be applied to your church’s World Service Apportionment. Bring a lunch and join the picnic after the walk – beverages provided.

Cost: \$25 per person, and includes a T-shirt

Register online at:  
<http://www.epaumc.org/milesformission>

### October 16, 2010, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Jazz Vespers at Tindley Temple United Methodist Church; 750-762 South Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19146

Music by Webb Thomas Sanctuary Project featuring songstress Chaquita Green. Tickets \$20. Contact Royal Pinder, 267-825-1501 or Raymond Debrest, 215-833-1524.

### October 20, 2010

Senior Options Seminar - Cornwall Manor's Freeman Auditorium (second floor of the Community Center), 1 Boyd Street, Cornwall, PA 17016. With so many available options for seniors, how do you choose what's best for you? Please join Cornwall Manor for a complimentary breakfast seminar to learn about the different types of senior services available, advantages vs. disadvantages of staying in your home; where to go for help when you need it; pros and cons of moving; understanding the different types of available housing and costs associated. Representatives from Cornwall Manor, Just Like Family, Lebanon County Area Agency on Aging and Lebanon Veterans Administration will be onsite to discuss services and answer questions. Tours of Cornwall Manor will be available after the seminar. Breakfast and registration begin at 9:00 AM. The seminar will run from 9:15 AM-11:30 AM. Please RSVP by October 13 by calling 717-273-2647, ext. 8237 or [slayser@cornwallmanor.org](mailto:slayser@cornwallmanor.org).  
<http://www.cornwallmanor.org>

### October 20-24

The Methodist School for Supernatural Ministry

Sponsored by Aldersgate Renewal Ministries\*

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### Upcoming Conference Events cont.

Two of the four keynote speakers are EPA Conference clergy:

Dr. Scott McDermott has pastored Washington Crossing UMC in Washington Crossing, PA since 1993. He has been an equipping session leader and general session speaker at several Aldersgate conferences. He has ministered around the world alongside many leaders of God's current supernatural revival and has experienced God moving in power in his local church. He also teaches at Perkins School of Theology. Dr. Frank Billman has pastored United Methodist churches since 1994 and currently serves on the ARM staff as Director of Church Relations where he is responsible for local church renewal events, International ministries and the Methodist School for Supernatural Ministry. He has preached and taught in a number of settings here in the USA in addition to Tanzania, Nepal and Liberia.

Topics will be ones not taught in most seminaries, e.g. *The Supernatural History of Methodism, Contemporary Manifestations of the Holy Spirit, Hearing from God, Praying for Healing, Dealing with the Demonic, etc.*

Aldersgate Renewal Ministries, 121 East Avenue, Goodlettsville, TN 37072; 1-877-857-9372 Info@AldersgateRenewal.org  
*"Encouraging United Methodists to be filled, gifted, empowered and led by the Holy Spirit in ministry to the world"*

### New Members

We are glad to welcome all members back for our Fall 2010 programs. Our congregation has been privileged to welcome six new members to our Richmond UMC family. Please take a moment to read a little bit about them here in your newsletter, and get to know them. And say hello when you see them in church!



### Jean Best

I'm a widow. I have three children – two boys and a girl. I have six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. I am retired.

### Donna Bond

I live in East Stroudsburg. I'm married to Walt. We have no children, but we have one dog, four cats and one bird who will be twenty-one years old in November! I am a hairdresser and have been working at that job for about



37 years, and I'm amazed that a lot (more than 50%) of my clients are Christians too. It really helps me to stay focused and on the straight-and-narrow path.

### Brian Hontz



I have been a born-again Christian since 1976. I have been married to my high school sweetheart for the past 31 years. I have three children ages 28, 25 and 22. I work in Willow Grove, PA at the

Naval Air Station as a Marriage and Family Therapist. I am also a retired Marine, having

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**New Members cont.**

served 22 years. I've been very active in all phases of Christian Ministry and look forward to serving here at Richmond UMC.

Kathy Hontz

I am Kathy Hontz, the oldest daughter of Jesse and Janet Miller, and Brian Hontz's wife of 31 years. I have been blessed with the honor of being a mother to 3 children, who I home schooled through high school graduation. My most recent "pint-sized" is our new grandson, Ephraim Emmanuel. Most recently, God has also fulfilled one of my childhood dreams and utilized my gift of teaching as I became certified in education in both PA and NJ. I have accepted a new teaching position as the sixth grade teacher at Plumstead Christian School and am honored to minister to the families and students of the school community.



Erin Hontz

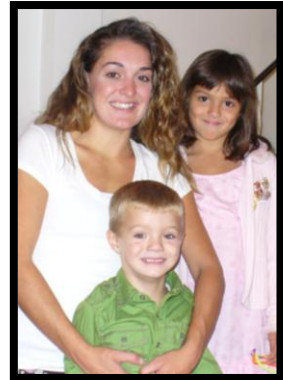


Hi Everyone! My name is Erin Hontz, and I'm a new mommy to a beautiful baby boy, Ephraim (it's pronounced F-RUM). He will be one in October and has his share of special needs; however, he loves to smile and make new friends. During my days, I work as a head teacher in the infant room at a local child care center. My life may seem full most

days, but I'm enjoying the ride as God continues to guide my son and I.

Roberta Holden

I have two kids, a girl, Alexis and a boy, Alex. Alexis attends Washington elementary and is in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Alex attends preschool at Slate Belt Child Care. We currently reside in Washington Township and love outdoors, sports and having fun. We really love being part of your congregation.



**October Contemporary Services**

Because of the Sausage and Pancake Supper to be held on the first Saturday of October (October 2), our Contemporary Worship Services for the month of October ONLY, will be held on the 2nd and 4th Saturday – i.e. October 9<sup>th</sup> and 23rd at 5 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Please note those dates in your calendar and join us for a time of praise and worship! We will revert back to the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month in November. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Kofi at 610-588-7317 or 570-730-2747, or via email at [kofiashley@hotmail.com](mailto:kofiashley@hotmail.com).

**Articles for November Newsletter**

Articles for the November issue of The Spotlight are due by Friday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, to Chris Clark. Articles can be submitted by phone (610-253-7008), by E-Mail (Murdock@alumni.cmu.edu), or by mail (15 Bunker Hill Court; Easton, PA 18040).



## **Birthdays & Anniversaries**

### October Birthdays:



- 03 Matthew Kolba
- 04 Doris Mann  
Mylene Hetu  
Ray Hetu
- 07 Sharon Fox  
Debbie Frinzi  
Erik Josephson  
Chris McEwen  
Charles Bergey
- 08 Russell Hock  
Bob Hess
- 10 Bruce Fox  
Erin Hontz
- 11 Jolene Andreeko
- 12 April Berry  
Gavin Andreeko  
Diane Shaw
- 13 Grace Szumski  
Christopher Johnson
- 14 Terry Willever
- 15 Charlene Daly
- 20 Nancy George
- 21 Albert Mack  
Jake Traute
- 22 Jessica Klaver
- 23 Jayleigh Figurski  
Drew Andreeko
- 24 Ephraim Hontz
- 25 Tracy Berger  
Arthur Good  
Amanda Karner  
Robbie Ohland, Jr.
- 26 Danielle Hess  
Carol Hentz
- 27 Eric Jorge
- 29 Autumn Templin
- 31 Sabrina DePue

### October Anniversaries:



- 01 John and Alissa Sellers
- 10 Bruce and Sharon Fox
- 23 Ted and Ora Emmons
- 25 Larry and Joan Hallett  
Michael and Janean Fey
- 27 Terry and Joni Willever  
Eric and Sandee Striba

### **Birthday & Anniversaries List Changes**

If you see a name is missing from the Birthday & Anniversary lists published in the newsletter or see any other corrections that need to be made, please contact the church office and the newsletter editor with the changes.

### **Future Newsletter Due Dates!**

Article submission due dates for the rest of 2010 & beginning 2011:

Issue:	Articles due by:
December	Friday, November 19 <sup>th</sup>
January 2011	Friday, December 17 <sup>th</sup>
February 2011	Friday, January 21 <sup>st</sup>
March 2011	Friday, February 18 <sup>th</sup>

### **2010 Charge Conference – October 17**

The Charge Conference is a time when people of the church come together for an annual meeting with the Superintendent. It is a time to celebrate the past year and look forward to the future. Everyone in the church is invited to come to East Bangor UMC at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 17, 2010 to participate in this year's Charge Conference.

The District Superintendent, Bronwyn Yocum, will chair the meeting. This is a good time to interact with the Superintendent, and to see how the United Methodist Church works. Next year, the annual charge conference will shift back to Richmond Church.

*Pastor Kofi Ashley*

### **Bridge Ministry**

We are scheduled to feed the Bridge Ministry folks on Wednesday, November 10, 2010 at the First United Methodist church on South 2nd. Street in Easton, Pa. Please, no more clothing or household items until further notice. We currently are not sure where they will be by November, but we will keep everyone informed if and when they move. The meal will be spaghetti and meatballs, a loaf of bread, a stick of butter, and a pan of brownies or something comparable. The pans and recipe will be in the Narthex by the end of October, and Charles & Carol Hentz (610-588-9044) will be calling to line up the next 8 volunteer families to prepare the meal and have it at our church by 6:00 PM. We usually take 8 or 9 pans of food to feed anywhere from 50 to 90 people who attend the Wednesday service organized by Chip Burt and Tim DeLeone and their friends. Anyone wishing to come and help serve is welcome and you do not have to prepare food to be of assistance. Please consider that if you forget that you agreed to prepare a pan of food to feed a group of people who count on that meal to fill their empty stomach, they cannot go out and buy a burger because they have no money. They just go hungry that night. When we serve the meal and you see the smiles on the faces of the folks we are serving, especially the children, you know



that you have accomplished something good. In addition, being there gives us an understanding of just how lucky we are, for there, but by the grace of God, go I!

*Charlie Hentz*

### **The New Pastor**

A new pastor moved into town and went out one Saturday to visit his community. All went well until he came to one house. It was obvious that someone was home, but no one came to the door even after he knocked several times. Finally, he took out his card, wrote on the back "Revelation 3:20" and stuck it in the door. The next day, as he was counting the offering he found his card in the collection plate. Below his message was a notation "Genesis 3:10." Upon opening his Bible to the passage he let out a roar of laughter.

Revelation 3:20 reads: (Pastor's note) "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If any man hear my voice, and opens the door, I will come in to him, and will dine with him, and he with me."

Genesis 3:10 reads: "And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked."

### **Army of the Lord**

Jack was in front of me coming out of church one day, and the preacher was standing at the door as he always is to shake hands. The preacher grabbed Jack by the hand and pulled him aside. The Pastor said to him, "You need to join the Army of the Lord!"

Jack replied, "I'm already in the Army of the Lord, Pastor."

Pastor questioned, "How come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?"

Jack whispered back, "I'm in the secret service."



### Tin Bucket Missionary Update

Do you remember your first Bible? I do; I received it when I completed confirmation at Richmond UMC in 1992. Sadly, I know many students who don't own Bibles. Similarly, can you imagine never having read the Bible before? I recently sat across from a student who expressed interest in meeting with me one on one to read the Bible next quarter. She doesn't own a Bible and has never read one before! After we decided that we would start to meet she asked, "Do I have to pay you?" I kind of chuckled and said "no" and that I would love to read the Bible with her simply because I love and care about her. Shortly after I met with Shelly, I was reading in Matthew 10

and came across this verse, "Freely you have received, freely give." Jesus is a free gift given to all of us who believe and receive Him into our hearts. We have so freely been given so much through Jesus and we are to give Him away free of charge. Please pray for Shelly that she would come to faith in Jesus and that we would set up a weekly time to meet and read the Bible together this fall. Thank you so much for your prayers and support that make this ministry possible! Through your support I am able to buy Shelly and other students their very first Bibles!

Grateful for you,

*Lisa Olson*

### East Asia Update

THANK you for praying for me! I felt the effects of your prayers and I'm so grateful for your partnership in the Gospel through prayer! In just 12 days I visited 5 cities, met with 3 missionaries and visited 3 students.

*What I saw God do:*

- deepen friendships with Shelly, Paige and XiXi.
- gave me strength and health for each new day.
- opportunities to give each family a Bible in Chinese.
- conversations on plane rides to talk about Jesus with those sitting next to me. (Yaoqing and Wang)
- connection with an old international friend from my Penn State days who is living in a city I visited. She is leading her co-workers and friends to Jesus. I met two women who came to know Jesus in the