



## CMCL Summer Worship Schedule

*Beginning Sunday, June 18, 2006*

### 9:15–10 a.m.

Parrot Café—offering coffee, tea, newspapers and conversation

### 10 a.m.

Morning Worship

### 7 p.m. (beginning Thursday, June 22)

Thursday evening worship

## Is it true? Will I really be able to go to “church” Thursday evening?

*Thoughts and reflections on new service at CMCL by Jim Bowman.*

Thursday evening worship, what it is and what it is not.

I've often thought that worship as expressed in Sunday morning gathering time does not do justice to the idea of Sabbath. How so? Does it not force us into a rigid schedule on the very day we are to rest from our labors? Was not the Sabbath created for humankind and not the other way around? Should not our worship be holistic bringing together rest for mind and body?

On the practical side, given mobile lifestyles, does not an alternative choice speak well of CMCL's desire to minister to the whole person and family units? It offers a real choice rather than a restricted option to attend or not to attend.

We're not on a new journey. We've been down this path before. It's how we grow!

Remembering the beginnings of early service reminds me of the small group gathered. Yes, singing was a bit of challenge at first, but the huddled group soon expanded to accommodate the growing collection of intrigued early risers. Yes, it was true to CMCL in content and style. Very soon a committed core formed. Very soon we chose to make early service our own worshiping community. And CMCL became the richer for it.

As we head into the summer months, consider repeating the history of the formation of early service. And when we look back, we'll say it was a good thing for us individually and CMCL collectively. Yes, form may need to follow function. But it will be alternative only in time and style, but not content. We will use the bulletin content for the Sunday to

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## That empty space next door

## A vision thing for CMCL?

Is it a bird, is it a plane?

Is it a parking lot?

Is it a playground?

Is it a condominium for retirees?

Is it a set of classrooms or community meeting space?

Suppose CMCL had a chance purchase the real estate (currently a parking lot and printing business) across the alley from the Christian Ed wing.

That opportunity came to us Monday, May 15, when we received a call from one of the owners of Liberty Craftsmen, the business located on the north-east corner of Concord and Grant Streets. Liberty Craftsmen is moving and they will be selling their building and the parking lot that is across from CMCL's Christian Ed entrance. They have offered to deal with us directly before they would put the property on the market.

Rod Houser, who took the call from Liberty Craftsmen, reported the offer to Program Commission that was meeting that evening. Program Commission asked Rod to schedule a walkthrough of the building with the owner.

Don Hess, member of current building committee and council chair elect, Pam Dintaman and Rod did the walkthrough on Tuesday. Don reported to Congregational Council on Wednesday, May 24, that the opportunity to acquire parking is one that we should consider very seriously. He also shared his opinion that the structural integrity of the building is such that it would have limited if any use for us. Other issues include environmental impact that the printing operation may have had on the property.

Council members showed high interest in continuing conversation with the owner and took the following action: Council authorizes the current building committee to make an offer to Liberty Craftsmen Inc. for the purchase of the property on the corner of Grant and Concord Street with conditions that include ratification by Congregational Council and the congregation of CMCL and obtaining financing for the purchase price.

The committee has made an offer to Liberty Craftsmen so that conversation is sure to continue toward our possible acquisition of the property. It is important to note that any offer to purchase is contingent on ratification by the CMCL congregation and arrangements to finance the purchase.

Watch for more information on this developing story and for opportunities for your input into the conversation.

### *Thursday worship continued from front page*

follow. Initially a smaller group size should afford us an opportunity for more personal sharing, engaging in dialogue with the sermon in formation.

Guilt for not attending Sunday services should be short lived as one experiences the breath of the Spirit Thursday evenings. Want a double dose? It's your choice...

### **You deserve a break**

## **Come to church cleaning, June 17**

Are you tired of weekends of work at home with the same old people? Why not do something different on Saturday, June 17th. Come to CMCL anytime between 8:30 and 3:00 to enjoy working with a different group of people cleaning, fixing, and sprucing up the church and Christian ed. areas. Coffee, juice, and doughnuts will be provided to boost your strength and spirits.

The facilities committee needs your help with the following tasks:

- paint the alcove in the front of the sanctuary
- paint the rear of the sanctuary
- paint the inside of the front entrance doors
- eat a doughnut
- clean windows in the annex and on the east side of the main building
- clean out the rain gutters
- wash walls where needed
- remove the garbage disposal
- learn to know someone new
- install a shelf in the men's bathroom on the ground floor
- install a rack for the fire blankets to be stored in the usher's closet
- weed and clean up the annex courtyard
- use a power trimmer to cut back the weeds at the south end of the Chr. ed. wing
- whistle while you work
- general cleanup of trash and debris from areas outside the buildings
- check and replace light bulbs not working
- replace light ballasts as needed
- check emergency lighting
- hum a merry tune
- fix the latch on the annex door
- re-hang a rain gutter above the annex balcony
- remove and repair the chr. ed. lobby's door
- return home with a feeling of accomplishment and a good excuse to skip the cleaning this week

We have opportunities for generalists and specialists. Bring your favorite cleaning agents and tools. We also will have rags, cleaning agents, buckets and tools. As you can see we are in need this year of a number of people whose gift is painting with a roller or brush.

If some people have drop cloths that they could lend to us for the day, please contact Dave Lutz. home: 354-2845, office: 355-3406, email: dmroquelutz@paonline.com

### ***Environmental Action at CMCL***

Earlier this spring, 35 CMCL households responded to the following three questions:

1. What one personal action do you (or does your family) take that you believe has the most positive impact on the environment?
2. What one personal action do you think you could take that would have the most positive environmental impact?
3. What personal environmental action gives you the most enjoyment?

The exercise generated between sixty and seventy great ideas. If you have not seen the list of responses, check them out on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Room.

### **On the horizon...**

On Sunday, May 21, the congregation decided to proceed with the finishing of the basement under the Christian Education wing. Council is appointing a fundraising group chaired by Leon Miller with Carolyn Weaver and Cynthia Nolt as participants from the council. CMCL would like to have \$130,000 raised in pledges and gifts before beginning the project. Along with their fundraising efforts, opportunities will be offered to also give to the piano replacement fund.

### **Mentor Pair Activity**

For mentor-mentee pairs, we have arranged an evening of work at the Material Resource Center in Ephrata on Thursday, June 17th. Given a limitation on the number of persons MRC can accommodate, please let Jim Bowman know as soon as you have decided to join the fun. Details will follow as needed. Contact Jim at jim@bowco.com or 367-3769.

<b>Budget Update – May 14, 2006</b>		
9/1/05 – 8/31/06	9/1/05 – 5/14/06	
Budget	Budget	Giving
\$351,000	\$243,000	\$245,182