

Mission Statement

We, the members of the York Association of the United Church of Christ,
are called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit to represent Christ by:

- supporting one another in our covenantal relationship;
- calling clergy and laity to mutual accountability to the faith and order of the church;
- witnessing together to God's redeeming love. (adopted April 28, 1991)

Reflections on General Synod

The theme for General Synod 28 was Imagine What's Possible. That is just what each congregation in the York Association is called to do. The experience of General Synod is energizing. Everywhere you went you were energized with new ideas to bring back to your local church and you were encouraged as a delegate to share what you learned with the churches in your particular Association as well. The workshops were informative, the plenary sessions went smoothly, the keynote speakers were dynamic, the music was inspirational and the worship services were moving and Spirit led. I would gladly come to any church event and share what I learned at General Synod 28. You can reach me at 717-542-8214 or LRD574@aol.com. Grace and gratitude, Lee Ann Strine - Faith

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This year's 28th General Synod in Tampa, Florida, may have been the least contentious of all the Synods I have attended as a delegate or visitor (six). For example, a resolution supporting *The Right of LGBT Persons to Adopt and Raise Children* was passed by a unanimous voice vote, and a resolution calling for international LGBT rights was supported by 98% of the delegates. The most controversial piece of business was about changing our form of governance. The amendments approved by the delegates to GS28 will combine the five current governing boards into one 52 member United Church of Christ Board, but only after two thirds of the UCC Conferences also ratify the amendments.

One of the more interesting matters which came out of this Synod was the formation of a national Theological Forum. After some considerable concerns were expressed about whether a Theological Commission might be tempted to pronounce mandates about what we believe in the UCC, the Committee which worked on this resolution changed the name of the group from Commission to Forum. It is my hope that this will provide a place where some of the less dominant theological viewpoints in the UCC can be expressed and heard, something I am not sure we have done well in the past.

Three new Collegium Officers were elected - the Rev. J. Bennett Guess as Executive Minister of Local Church Ministries, the Rev. James Moos as Executive Minister of Wider Church Ministries, and Mr. W. Mark Clark as Associate General Minister. A new electronic voting system caused some considerable consternation until everyone learned how it worked. Ultimately it seemed to allow for quicker votes than in the past, when tellers were used to hand count votes.

More information about General Synod can be found at [ucc.org](http://ucc.org). - Mike Loser

### Navigating Life's Last Stages

Emmanuel United Church of Christ of York invites all interested persons to attend a four-session program entitled "Navigating Life's Last Stages: What Do I Need to Know and Why?" Most of us enter unknown territory when an illness or situation arises that creates the need to make difficult decisions concerning care surrounding imminent death. Confronting these issues not only helps to clarify matters for the one facing death, but gives much needed direction to family and loved ones who may not know what that person's wishes may be. Preparing advanced directives and providing the opportunity to share personal wishes with one's family can enrich the last stages of life. The program will offer the following:

**Funeral Arrangements - Sunday, September 18, 2011 – 2:00PM - Mr. Mark Harris**, author of *Grave Matters: A Journey Through the Modern Funeral Industry*. In addition to the traditional choices, more recent alternatives such as "Green Burials" will be explained.

**Advanced Directives - Sunday, October 23, 2011 – 2:00PM** - Many people believe the assistance of an attorney is necessary to prepare Advanced Directives. This is not the case. **Diane Gerhart**, the Education Coordinator from the Palliative Care Department at York Hospital/WellSpan Health will explain these directives and the options they present. Forms will be available and assistance provided for those interested in completing them.

**Support Systems and End-of-Life Care - Sunday, November 13, 2011 – 2:00PM - Dr. Dominic Glorioso, Jr. DO.** will offer guidance in how to bridge the gap between the medical community and Hospice. What are the different facets of palliative care? How do we begin family conversations during this difficult time? How do we cope with role reversals?

All sessions will be held at the Yorktown Community Center located at 1059 Kelly Drive, York, PA 17404. Pre-registration is not required; however, knowing how many plan to attend will be helpful in preparing the amount of materials needed. Please email [eucc\\_york@yahoo.com](mailto:eucc_york@yahoo.com) or call Emmanuel UCC at 717-801-1082 to express interest in attending any or all of the sessions. Visit our website for directions. <http://www.emmanuelnyork.org>.

### **SAFE SANCTUARY: A Faith Based Discussion**

Saturday, October 22, 2011

9:00AM-12:00 NOON

Free to Attend

Refreshments provided

HAYSHIRE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

100 Haybrook Drive, York, PA 17406

FOCUS: "Safe Sanctuary" is designed to make our church a safer place by being very intentional about protecting children, and other vulnerable persons from all forms of abuse--sexual, verbal, mental

Presenter: Laura Bair, Pastor at Starview UCC

Register via e-mail to Joyce Mummert @comcast.net or call 717-792-0681

*Planned and sponsored by the Disaster Preparedness Committee of the York Association*

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### **Around the Association**

**Heidelberg UCC – York** - Sunday, September 11 at 3:00 PM, Gen Powers invites all of those affiliated with the York Association to enjoy an afternoon of beautiful music. As part of her senior culminating project, Gen will be presenting a vocal recital at Heidelberg. She will be performing music from both the classical genre as well as several selections from Broadway Musicals. Gen has been working diligently with her voice teacher, Mrs. Margaret Moul Carli in preparation for the recital. The program will include 2 duets, one with her mom and one with her dad. Accompanying Gen will be pianist Carol Heagy. There will be a free-will offering taken and all of the proceeds will go toward the Community Breakfast and the Heidelberg Food Pantry. Hope to see everyone there!

**Locust Grove UCC – York** – Chicken barbecue and bake sale on Saturday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> beginning at 11:00 AM, rain or shine. The public is invited. Dinners will be available on a first-come, first-served basis, until sold out. The cost of the dinner is \$7.50. The dinner will include one-half chicken, baked potato, applesauce, dinner roll and butter, cupcake, and beverage. Dinners can be eaten on site or carried out. Our contact number for the chicken barbecue is 755-1318. To reserve dinners, please leave your name, phone number, and number of dinners. When picking up your dinners, please give your name.

**New Hope Fissel's UCC – Glen Rock** - will hold their Annual Family-Style Roast Beef Supper on Saturday, October 8, 2011. Serving begins at 3 pm. Tickets are available at the door Handicapped Accessible. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the church office at 235-2033. All are welcome!

**St. Paul's UCC - Dallastown** - Annual Yard, Craft, Pork BBQ and Chicken Corn Soup Sale Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> - 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Over 30 vendors participate! For information on renting spaces and/or tables, call the church office at 717-244-2090.

**Trinity UCC - Hallam** - Yoga/Zumba class beginning Wednesday, September 7th, 7-8 p.m. (1/2 hour Zumba - 1/2 hour Yoga). Zumba will be taught by a certified instructor. The cost is \$45/8-week session paid in advance (punch card) or \$6/week walk-in charge. For more information, please call Molly Dellinger at 252-1399. Portions of the proceeds to benefit Trinity UCC. Open to the community!

**Zion UCC - York** - Rep. Eugene DePasquale (D-95, York) will be the guest speaker for its Harvest Home Celebration on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. Harvest Home is an opportunity to 'Share the Harvest' with those less fortunate. All the donated canned and non-perishable goods and fresh vegetables, which are part of the chancel display, will be delivered to the York Rescue Mission following the service. Rep. DePasquale will present an informative discussion regarding Pennsylvania's financial situation and how it relates to our citizens concerned about their future and the future of their children and grandchildren. Zion United Church of Christ is located at 100 Lafayette Street, York (on the south side of Penn Park). The service will start at 10:00 a.m. Please direct questions to the church office at 854-1184.

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### **Senior Excursions on the Rail Trail**

The York County Department of Parks and Recreation is again sponsoring Senior Excursions in the parks. These rides are designed to transport senior citizens through the parks to see the natural beauty and hear about local history. The "People Mover" trailer is pulled by a pickup truck. Each ride is narrated by Parks Program Coordinator Jeri Jones. Dress for the weather. In the event of rain, the Parks will cancel the trip. The scheduled rides, times, cost and ride duration are as follows:

September 20 – Rail Trail County Park, New Freedom Train Station – Departures at 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$8.00 per person. Duration is 75 minutes.

October 11 – Spring Valley County Park, Animal Activity Area – Departures at 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$8.00 per person. Duration is 75 minutes.

For more information or to register, call York County Parks at (717) 840-7440.

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**If you know any woman currently undergoing chemotherapy**, please pass the word to her that there is a cleaning service that provides FREE housecleaning once per month for 4 months while she is in treatment. To qualify, she must sign up and have her doctor fax a note confirming the treatment. Cleaning for a Reason will have a participating maid service in her zip code area arrange for the service. This organization serves the entire USA and currently has 547 partners to help these women. It's our job to pass the word and let them know that there are people out there that care. Be a blessing to someone and pass this information along. <http://www.cleaningforareason.org/>. You may not know someone going through chemo, but someone on your email list might. Please forward!

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**October 2011 Newsletter Deadline is September 10th. The Newsletter will be mailed on September 15<sup>th</sup>.** Newsletter submissions should be addressed to:

Lisa K. Young – Editor  
3421 Stone Ridge Road - York, PA 17402

Or  
[Itsaboutme0503@comcast.net](mailto:Itsaboutme0503@comcast.net)