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Glade United Church
of Christ

Press Release

Glade United Church of Christ in Walkersville Announces 2008 Capital Campaign “Our Church – Our Future” to Raise \$595,000 for Capital Improvements

Walkersville, MD, January 10, 2008: After months of careful preparation, Glade United Church of Christ in Walkersville announces its “Our Church – Our Future” capital campaign, targeted to raise \$595,000 over the next three years for capital improvements to the church’s property and ministries.

“Our Church – Our Future” will focus on raising funds for a new and improved roof for the educational wing; upgrades to the educational wing, including classroom improvements; renovations to the church parish house; reduction of current capital debt; repair and maintenance of the church pipe organ; improvements to the sanctuary audio/video system; and paving of the church parking lot. The 2008 campaign is the congregation’s first major fundraising effort since 1997.

Glade UCC will officially launch the campaign at an all-member dinner on February 9 at the Cozy Inn in Thurmont. This dinner, generously funded through an advance donation, will give the church members a chance to celebrate together the beginning of this critical fundraising endeavor. The Rev. Joan P. Evans from Immanuel United Church of Christ in Cambridge, Maryland, will present the keynote address, sharing experiences from her congregation’s recently completed capital campaign.

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Brooks Widder, campaign co-chair, anticipates strong financial support from Glade UCC members. "Our faith, our passions, and all the hopes and desires of Glade UCC are the foundation of this campaign," Widder comments. "We're enthusiastic about this campaign because it is a necessary step in the life of this church. As Glade UCC continues to grow, the improvements funded by this campaign are a vital part of what we do now and in the years to come."

Campaign co-chair Alan Ven Douern agrees. "Whether it is replacing our leaky roof, sprucing up our youth education areas, or performing long overdue maintenance to our organ, a successful campaign will enable us to strengthen both our church and our future."

Ven Douern adds that the church has a long, proud history in the Walkersville area. It was 257 years ago when the Rev. Michael Schlatter from the Holland Synod was sent to the Monocacy area to organize churches for the German Reformed settlers. The new Reformed Congregation that was created in 1750 became known as Glade Church. Worship services were conducted in German until approximately 1823. In 1957, the Evangelical and Reformed churches, together with the Congregational Christian churches, came together to form the United Church of Christ.

"Glade has such a rich heritage, and we look back over the years and marvel at what has been accomplished through the generosity of our members," Ven Douern adds. "There's no doubt that this campaign will also be a successful endeavor, making a positive impact on not only our church and our congregation but also touching the lives of those we serve in the Walkersville community and beyond."

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Widder and Ven Douern lead the “Our Church – Our Future” campaign cabinet, which also consists of Mary Scheele, Administrative Support; Kathy Angleberger and Shannon Jordre Witnessing Stewards; Adriane Wodey, Advance Gifts; Marianne Brown and Jan Dinterman, Group Meetings and Hospitality; Jay Zimmerman, Publicity; and Rev. Dr. Gerald C. Hanberry, Glade UCC Pastor. The Rev. Dr. Robert F.R. Peters, Jr. from Church Finance Services is assisting with the campaign.

For more information regarding Glade UCC’s “Our Church – Our Future” campaign, please visit www.gladechurch.org or call 301-845-6775.

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