

## 2011 Appointment Announcements

### Rev. Jason N. Shank from Community/Trinity UMC to Associate Pastor for Mt. Carmel Parish in Frederick



**Rev. Jason N. Shank** will graduate from Wesley Theological Seminary in May and will also be commissioned as a Provisional Elder at Annual Conference. Shank also holds a B.A. in Biblical Studies from Messiah College. For the past two years Shank has served as the Associate Pastor and Music Team Leader at Community/Trinity UMC Cooperative Parish in Crofton and Odenton. Shank brings with him a passion for worship design, teaching, preaching and Young Adult Ministry. He is passionate about reaching those outside of the church and finding new ways of actively being the body of Christ.

**Frederick Leadership Alignment:** A strategic team of pastors has been gathered to provide leadership for the congregations of **Mt. Carmel UMC, New Market UMC, and Christ Ballenger Creek UMC**. The collaborative approach will combine experience, education and giftedness in order to maximize the leadership offered in each location. Rev. Jennifer Smith will continue as lead pastor at Mt. Carmel UMC and become lead pastor of New Market UMC and Christ UMC (Ballenger Creek). Rev. Smith has served among a strong lay team at Mt. Carmel to triple the worshipping congregation, build a community ministry center and conduct successful capital campaigns.

Shank is the appointed associate pastor on the team and will focus on the New Market and CUMC congregations. He brings particular giftedness in worship leadership, young adult ministry and community-based mission and evangelism. Scott Clawson will serve as the associate pastor to the team offering his giftedness in pastoral care, worship leadership and project management. This pastor team will work in consultation with Pastor Rex Bowens as the Jackson Chapel Congregation continues the process of merger with CUMC.

**New Market UMC** has been around since 1801 and will be celebrating its 210th anniversary this year. They are a warm and caring congregation whose mission statement is "to brighten the corners wherever we are." Although few in numbers, they believe in doing the most with what they have. They support the Food Bank, Board of Child Care, Frederick Rescue Mission, Harvest of Hope, Youth for Christ, Hospice, Religious Coalition and Habitat for Humanity to name a few. The church also holds a weekly Bible study as well as two prayer groups. It offers adult and youth Sunday school. The church is looking forward to growing the congregation and expanding its youth programs.

**Mt. Carmel UMC** is a growing and missional congregation in Frederick. It returned home to its ministry "hill" this year after a year of exploration to open the "Hope Community Facility." The church offers four intimate and authentic services each weekend. Each service is unique and designed to meet the needs of the worshippers and attract the surrounding community. Worship attendance doubled in 2010, largely due to the opening of the Hope Community Preschool and Family Ministries, which has helped over a dozen new families find their way into worship. Mt. Carmel encourages small group participation and daily devotion of every worshipper. It has a monthly mission focus, which includes local, national and global missions. The church pays 100 percent of its apportionments each year and is honored to be developing a partnership with the Women's Education Center in Zimbabwe. Mt Carmel is eager to share growth strategies, leadership experience and supplies with the sister churches in order to encourage their growth and health.

**Christ Ballenger Creek UMC** is a thriving congregation chartered 22 years ago, serving the Ballenger Creek Community of Frederick. The church has a strong youth program, discipleship ministry and reaches the community through a variety of ministries, such as the Wednesday Cookie Connection where nearly 300 middle and high-schoolers come to the church each week for an after school snack and the opportunity to receive homework help in a positive place to spend time. The worshipping community is 80 to 100 people each week.

<http://www.bwcumc.org/appointments2011>