



THE INTERDENOMINATIONAL CHURCH USHERS ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND, INC.

Julia A Kitchen
State President

Louis Parker
Board of Trustees Chairperson

Javon Davis
Junior & Young People President

September 2021

Unit Presidents

Anne Arundel
Sherry Blackstone

Baltimore
Lamar Garrett

Calvert
Delores Sewell

Harford/Cecil
Ollie M. Danage

Prince George's
Sandra Sellman

ECHO

Julia A. Kitchen, State President
and State Reporter

"This Is Our Season To Show Others God's Kindness and His Blessings that He Has Shown To Us"

Congratulations to Immediate Past National President Ruth I. Jones and Immediate Past Chairman of the Board of Directors, Melinda H. Wilkins for a wonderful, awesome 102nd Virtual National Convention. You would have never known it was a "FIRST" for the National. Hats off to Usher Donna A. Hines and the technical team. Job well done----Usher Ronald Jones, Team Leader.

To our new National President Charles J. Brown and your staff, Congratulations!

We have the following appointed National Officers:

Sister Gwen Middleton-----Alumni Department Chairman
Sister Debora Darden----- Junior & Young Peoples Department Supervisor
Sister Ollie M. Danage-----Allan A. C Griffith, Sr. Education Department Chairman
Sister Patrice Coleman----- Henry Ballard Music Department Co-Chairman
Sister Linda Parker----- Corresponding Secretary
Brother Gerald A. Hill, Sr.---Andrew "Jody" Finch Monitor Chairman
Brother Willie Strait, Jr.-----W. J. Minnifield Leadership & Training Department Chairman

Congratulations to our King Gerald A. Hill, Sr. for bringing home the "Crown". He placed 1st in the medium states from the National School of Ushering.

Usher Ada K. McCoy received her Master's Degree Diploma from the National School of Ushering. We had three graduates for the year 2020: Ushers Colleen Moon, D. Renae Strait and Willie Strait, Jr. Congratulations to all.

Trying to Get Back to Normal.....Our annual picnic was hosted by the Baltimore Unit on Saturday, August 21st at Oregon Ridge in Cockeysville, MD. It was a hot day for the fellowship. Thank you President Lamar Garrett.

To God be the Glory for the wonderful things that He is doing for the State of Maryland. Please pray for one another. Keep the Faith!

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Department Reports

For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning,
That we should love one another. 1 John 3-11

Date: Saturday, September 4th, 2021

Name: Anne Arundel Unit

We had our Annual Crab Feast it couldn't been a success without everyone working together. This was our first drive by Crab Feast it really was a nice event. I would like to thank our Chairperson Sis. Morgan and the board members and the Captains for working so hard Great job, I also would like to thank everyone that supported our event.

I have been working with Sis. Kitchen on our Memorial Weekend the last Sunday in September.

Our Education department will be having a Stay at Home Bake Sale to benefit the Anne Arundel Unit Alverta E. Darden Education Department. From August 1, 2021 thru October 31, 2021. Bake what you would like. The amount you would spend on the items to bake your dessert is what you should consider donating. Send all monies to Tina Brown.

Thank you,

Anne Arundel County Unit President
Sherry A. Blackstone

State President
Julia A. Kitchen

Board of Trustees Chairperson
Louis Parker

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State Report

Baltimore Unit President's Report

²² You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Ephesians 4:22-24 (NLT)

Date: September 4, 2021

From: June 2021 – August 2021

1. **The Baltimore Unit amended and received adoption of the Baltimore Unit Constitution and Bylaws by a two-thirds vote** by the assemble members entitled to vote on June 12th 2021. The Amendments to the Baltimore Unit Constitution and Bylaws now aligns with the ICUA of Maryland Inc., State Constitution and Bylaws and shall take effect immediately upon adoption.
2. **The Baltimore Unit Educational Department** donated a 171books to New Song Academy, located at 1530 Presstman Street, Baltimore, Md. 21217. The Baltimore Unit wishes to thank the Unit Members whom both donated and participated in the delivered the books on 14 June 2021.
3. **The Officers and members of the Baltimore Unit** wishes to Congratulate Usher Gerald A. Hill Sr., for his selection as the King during the “National King & Queen Contest” while representing the ICUA of Maryland, Inc. at the National Convention 2021! Awesome job Bro Gerald! We are so proud of you!
4. **The Baltimore Unit Hosted the Annual State Picnic at Oregon Ridge Park in Cockeysville, Maryland** and wishes to thank the Members of the ICUA of Maryland, Inc., for attending a day of food, fun and Christian Fellowship. We also wish to thank and acknowledge our Chair and Co-Chair for the event, Brother Gerald A. Hill Sr. and Brother Wayne Boyd. We also want to thank our Chef, Brother E.J Arnette for his time, talent and culinary skills.

Recommendation: 1. For the State Board of Directors to consider raising the Annual State Picnic budget from \$800 to \$1000; and 2. For the State Board of Directors to consider reestablishing the Young Adult Department due to the number of Junior Ushers across the State that will turn 21 years of age this calendar year.

Names:

Bro. Lamar Garrett, Baltimore Unit President
Sis. Julia A. Kitchen, State President
Bro. Louis Parker, Board of Trustees Chairperson

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“Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Date: September 4, 2021

Name: Delores Sewell, Calvert County Unit

Accomplishments:

Attended, Virtual NUCUAA, Inc. Convention. The convention was a great success.

Attended, State Picnic held by the Baltimore Unit

All unit deans met with the new School of Ushering Dean Wilton Graham. We will continue meeting virtually on the 3rd Thursday and 4th Saturday of the month until further notice.

St. Edmonds United Methodist Church held election of officers. Usher Frank McBride was elected President.

We plan to hold elections for new County officers on September 23rd at our county meeting.

We made a monetary donation to East-John Youth Center, Inc. The East-John Youth Center located in Lusby, MD is a non-profit 501C organization operating a multi-purpose facility focused on providing educational, recreational, nutritional programs and other resources for low-income youth and their families. They also provide a safe learning environment throughout the school year and summer which include the following programs: **Adolescent Clubhouse, Calvert Mentors, Heartfelt, Homework Center, Summer Day Camp and MoreTasty Blessings.**

Goals:

Continue our monthly meetings on the 4th Thursday of each month via conference call.

Recommendations:

I recommend everyone who has not received their COVID vaccination, please do so as soon as possible.

Continue wearing your mask, social distancing and washing your hands.

Delores Sewell, Unit President

Julia A. Kitchen, State President

Louis Parker, Board of Trustees Chairperson

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UCUA of Harford & Cecil Counties Unit

Zoom Meeting

Date: September 4, 2021

Name: UCUA of Harford & Cecil Counties Unit

“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Since our last State Meeting, on June 5, 2021, the officers and members of Harford and Cecil Counties Unit had a blessed time at our 102nd Virtual National Convention. We had five members who registered for the National Convention.

A blessed message by our Host Pastor, Rev. Pitre from Arizona entitled, “The Kind of Labor that will Prosper”. His scripture was 1 Corinthians 3: 8-11.

Congratulations to King Gerald Hill for winning 1st Place for the State of Maryland.

We had 7 Ushers for the State of Maryland to be installed as a National Officer.

Congratulations to the following Ushers.

1. Usher Linda Parker for being the Corresponding Secretary to President Charles J. Brown.

2. Usher Gwendolyn Middleton for being the Chairman of Alumni.

3. Usher Gerald Hills for being the Chairman of Andrew “Jody” Finch Monitors.

4. Usher Patrice Coleman for being the Co-Chairman of Henry Ballard Music.

5. Usher Willie Strait for being the Chairman of the Willie J. Minnifield Training.

6. Usher Deborah Darden being the Supervisor of the Junior & Young People’s Department.

7. Usher Ollie M. Danage being the Chairman of the Allan A.C. Griffith, Sr. Education Department.

UCUA had 8 members to attend ICUA’s Annual Picnic which the Baltimore Unit was the Host, on Saturday, August 21st. Members had a blessed time fellowshiping, eating, playing games, and winning door prizes.

On Sunday, August 29, 2021, UCUA supported Anne Arundel's Tenth Crab Feast with purchasing 9 tickets. We had a wonderful time to seeing Ushers in person which was a blessing since the pandemic.

Save the Date! On Friday, June 10, 2022, at 6:30 PM, we will be Honoring the Cevis's at the Level Fire Hall in Havre de Grace, Maryland 21078. More information will be shared as we move forward through this pandemic.

We have sent out cards to our sick and bereaved families from June 5, 2021, to September 2, 2021. Please continue to pray for our sick, shut-in, bereaved families, and our Association.

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16b

Goals: By the end of 2021, the UCUA of Harford and Cecil Counties will achieve the following goals.

1. To continue to support all functions from the State and Units to maintain the unity throughout.
2. To ensure all communications being sent out in a timely manner to our State President, Vice President Liaison, Unit Presidents, Recording Secretary, Assistant Recording Secretary, and Members.
3. To ensure the Lord will continue to encourage our Juniors and Young People's Department to participate in our State functions.

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Psalm 133:1

Submitted by,

Sister Ollie M. Danage, President

UCUA of Harford & Cecil Counties

Sister Julia A. Kitchen, State President

Brother Louis Parker, Board of Trustees Chairperson

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Prince Georges Unit President Report:

Date: September 4, 2021

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord. 1 Corinthians 15:58

Accomplishments:

- I attended the Virtual National Convention from July 29th to July 31st.
- In lieu of the Corona Virus (COVID-19) pandemic, we continue to host monthly conference call meetings with The Prince Georges Unit members to get status on members and keep communication lines open.
- Our Unit donated 50 books to a Title 1 School, Lewisdale Elementary School in Hyattsville, MD. Gwen Middleton and Ada McCoy delivered the books to the school in mid June.
- Prince Georges Unit designated \$200 to be used to purchase 5 bookbags and fill them with school necessities for our Unit Outreach Project. The five children in our adopted family will receive these book bags.
- Unit members donated cleaning products to supplement items purchased to fill a clothes basket for our \$50 Alumni Outreach project. The clothes basket fill of items was given to our adopted family.
- Our Board of Directors reviewed and updated our By-Laws and created a draft copy which was distributed to Unit members for review and to be voted on at our September Unit meeting.
- The Prince Georges Unit is planning a Virtual Musical fundraiser on November 6, 2021. Details are forthcoming.
- Continuing to work on Prince Georges Web Page for new Web Site.

Recommendations:

Meeting Dates: Monthly Conference Calls

Committee Members: Colette McCorvey (Faith AME), Ada McCoy (Union UMC), Leslie Thompson (Queens Chapel UMC), Anthony Malone/Gwen Middleton (Union Bethel AME), Lowell Blagmon (Seaton Memorial AME), Wanda Grant (Greater Mt. Nebo AME), Gloria Terrell Holder (St. Paul UMC), Kimberly Simmons (Faith Temple of Praise), Helen Simmons (First Baptist Church of Suitland), Catherine Gross (New Horizon CFC)

Name: Chairperson: Sandra Sellman, President

President: Julia A. Kitchen

Board of Trustees Chairman: Louis Parker

State Alumni Outreach/Prince George's Unit Outreach

The Prince George's Unit purchased a basket and filled it with supplies as part of the State Alumni Outreach project. The basket contained cleaning and laundry supplies, tissue, and paper towels. The Unit donated masks and other items to complete the basket. The recipient of the basket was a grandmother that is raising her five grandchildren, whom the Unit has adopted.



The Prince George's Unit also purchased bookbags and filled them with grade specific school supplies for the grandchildren. The family was very grateful at the outpouring of love that was shown to them.



***The Interdenominational Church Ushers Association of
Maryland, Inc.***

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92nd Memorial Service



***“This is our season to show others God’s kindness and His blessings that
He has shown to us.” Galatians 5:22-23***

Sunday, September 26, 2021

2:30 p.m. Virtual

Rev. Hedy Drummond - Host Pastor

Sister Julia A. Kitchen - State President

Brother Louis Parker – Board of Trustees Chairperson

Zoom information will forward at a later date