Family Fest 2013 - Sun, Fun and Fellowship!
Submitted by Christine Mills

On Labor Day Weekend Ukrainian Orthodox traveled miles to come to All Saints Camp for the Annual Family Fest Weekend. This year it was a huge success with family and friends traveling from near and far for a weekend full of relaxation and fellowship. Friday evening everyone arrived and was welcomed with dinner and conversation. Later in the evening the kids enjoyed watching a movie in the Pavilion. One of the joys of gathering at All Saints Camp is seeing old friends and enjoying time together. The weather was beautiful and allowed for many activities to be enjoyed at the camp.

Saturday morning started with morning prayers. Following prayers, everyone gathered for a hearty breakfast. It was a sunny hot weekend so perfect for games and competitions. One highlight is the Annual “Kickball Game.” The game is a lot of fun because teams consist of everyone from very young toddlers to those young at heart. The game is always intense, however, no one ever remembers who won. This is the one game that always has a fan base with people bringing chairs to sit at the side line. Even though there was a winning team (maybe) everyone enjoys playing and cheering for everyone. Following the game everyone gathered for lunch.

(continued on page 4)
do. Does it fulfill the necessary honor that should be given, or does it feed Ukraine as a gift in memory of the deceased? Let us be cognizant of what we of someone who, perhaps, rarely darkened the door of their parish church, foolish indeed! Does a gaudy, ostentatious monument erected over the tomb longer has any bearing at all, the race to have the most elaborate monument is where rank and human honors have no effect on the just judgment, a balance As we go before God naked and each approaches the judgment as equals, and honored without being part of an ostentatious show. Hmmm, even the should also reflect a certain modesty. When one vies to have a stone of the to be modest, so the monuments marking the resting places of the deceased including the representation of a cross, our ensign of victory. Christians are in reality contain corruption. The corpse rots and disintegrates (well, as much as modern embalming allows) and so the sepulchre, though clean and embellished on the outside, is full of uncleanness inside.

Let us put things in perspective. There should be some sort of monument, including the representation of a cross, our ensign of victory. Christians are to be modest, so the monuments marking the resting places of the deceased should also reflect a certain modesty. When one vies to have a stone of the costliest polished marble in a unique design that will best any in the cemetery, one is giving in to a very prideful display. The departed are to be reverenced and honored without being part of an ostentatious show. Hmmm, even the funeral service remarks that here, in death, is where rich and poor, king and servant, lie down together in equality.

As we go before God naked and each approaches the judgment as equals, where rank and human honors have no effect on the just judgment, a balance is made. If before God, in the end, we come as equals and human rank no longer has any bearing at all, the race to have the most elaborate monument is foolish indeed! Does a gaudy, ostentatious monument erected over the tomb of someone who, perhaps, rarely darkened the door of their parish church, enhance their chances of getting to heaven? No. Human pride and competition with others sadly can enter into the choice of a monument.

If one has so much money to spur on a prideful display, wouldn’t it be better to purchase a more modest one and give the rest for our orphanages in Ukraine as a gift in memory of the deceased? Let us be cognizant of what we do. Does it fulfill the necessary honor that should be given, or does it feed blistered pride?

As a friendly courtesy, I went to the viewing at the funeral home of the 30 year old son of a colleague at work. I was very surprised to see that the casket had a six pack of beer, a portable television and some biker paraphernalia in it. I took it that it would not be a religious funeral. Any comments about this?

The scenario which you have just described says a lot about the individual and what was of utmost importance in his life. The items reveal not just what seemed to take the place of God as a ruling factor for him. If one is not a Christian in any way enlivened to Christ, all that is left is the purely fleshly existence and its needs and wants. Love of beer, sports, television or even biker stuff in itself is not a negative. Such interests can be the pastime of a practical Christian without spiritual detriment. If it is when these pursuits are the SOLE interests and focus of life that we have the red flag raised that there is spiritual danger. Let us face it, the vast majority of people around us
67th Annual UOL Convention
July 23-27, 2014
South Bound Brook, New Jersey

It is time to start thinking about attending the UOL Convention. This year the National Executive Board is working with the St. Sophia UOL Chapter as well as all local chapters to plan a wonderful convention. The Convention Committee includes members from the Northampton, Allentown, Carteret, Maplewood, Wilmington, Philadelphia and South Bound Brook Chapters.

The first exciting news is that the hotel rate has been set and it is $89 a night!! Yes, it is hard to believe but the committee under the guidance of Martha Misko and His Eminence Metropolitan Antony have negotiated a wonderful rate. This rate of $89 a night includes parking, and it is almost $40 a night less than recent hotel rates. So, this is the year to come to the Convention! It is hard to believe that this rate is even possible in 2014!!

We will be staying at the Holiday Inn in Somerset and all of the events will be held at the Cultural Center in South Bound Brook. The hotel is lovely with guest rooms that are large and comfortable. You can check out the hotel web-page to see the rooms and you will see from the web-page that the rate negotiated was a huge savings.

Wednesday evening we encourage you to come to South Bound Brook, get settled in and enjoy a fun-filled hospitality night. The hospitality night is hosted by the Maplewood Chapter. They hosted the hospitality night at the Convention in Parma.

Hospitality night is always lots of fun! Take time this hospitality night to get to know our newest UOL Chapter. Our St. Sophia chapter will be there and you can get to know our seminarians.

Thursday morning will start with Divine Liturgy. The entire Convention body will join together as one body in Christ and celebrate Divine Liturgy. It is always a joy to worship our Lord together.

The Convention sessions will start on Thursday after Divine Liturgy. At the sessions we have the opportunity to work together, to discuss issues that our parishes and chapters face as well as to get inspired by each other and our Hierarchs.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied."
Matthew 5:6

This year the theme for the UOL Convention comes from the Beatitudes. One of the joys of the Convention is the inspiration UOL members get from our Hierarchs, so come to the Convention and get inspired by the words of our Hierarchs as they speak to us about the UOL Convention theme.

Start making your plans now to attend the Convention!
If you haven’t been to the Convention in a few years- 2014 is your year to return!

67th Annual UOL Convention
July 23-27, 2014
South Bound Brook, New Jersey

NEWS FROM THE JUNIOR UOL PRESIDENT
Kateryna Kocelko

Glory to Jesus Christ!

I hope everyone is having a safe year so far. The Junior National Executive Board had their first meeting of the year on September 14th 2013 in Northampton, Pennsylvania. We would like to thank the Chapter and Parish of Northampton for all of their warmth and hospitality. The junior board really enjoyed their time in Northampton.

During the meeting we discussed many topics for the upcoming year and looked over the goals for the year, which were established at the 2013 Convention in Parma, Ohio. Each chapter will be receiving information about some of the upcoming events in the UOL such as: Thanksgiving Tithing, “Soup”er Bowl Sunday, Bring a Friend to Church Day and the Holodomor Remembrance Contest. The board also talked about the upcoming 2014 Great Lent Giveaway, which at convention the delegates decided would benefit “Focus North America.”

This year we want to focus on getting the chapters more active and gaining new chapters. We are trying to create more projects in which chapters can work together to continue to be more active on a local and national level of the UOL. Also we are working on making turning in forms easier and more convenient by putting them on the website. Lastly we are continuing to work on our prayer book app for the specific needs of teenagers in everyday life.

October 18th-20th marked the fourth annual Youth Sobor in South Bound Brook, NJ. There will be more information on the events that took place in the upcoming bulletin.

If you haven’t already, please make sure you turn in your dues and roster forms to the Financial Secretary, Sarah Hershey. They were due September 30th, so please turn them in as soon as possible. Also please make sure your election report forms are turned in.

If there are ever any questions or concerns the board is always here if help is needed. Feel free to contact any one of us. I hope everyone has a blessed holiday season. Remember to take time to be thankful for everything that God has given you throughout this holiday season, and try to do something good for those who are not as fortunate. I pray that everyone has a safe holiday and please do the same for the rest of the board and me.

In Christ’s Love,
Kateryna Kocelko

(Matthew 5:6)
homes are now equipped to have boards to display a montage of the family photos or even slide shows about the person’s life. Instead of a casket cluttered with the detritus of earthly life, let us show rather a symbol of our abiding hope, for all these earthly articles will corrupt and fade like most defacing dreams. Let us not mimic the world, which has no hope.

A clergyman practicing a double life only fools himself. Just going through the proper motions when one’s heart is divided by service to sin is the ultimate self-deception. Without repentance, that priest is headed for his own spiritual danger of freeing a person from the bondage and influence of Satan by the sacrament, while yet freely choosing to be in bondage himself. How can he convey the power of the Gospel when he is so tied up in Satan’s bondage? How can a priest be in bondage to Satan and yet freely choose to be in bondage himself over to grave immorality. Satan always wants to drive a wedge between us and God, and so if he can corrupt priests in a major way, he might reap his reward. It is a sad thing when the evil one can so compromise a priest that he gives himself over to grave immorality, even more so when he is so tied up in Satan’s bondage.

With wisdom gathered over the years, the prayers of the church over the past and present generations can work miracles. The current suffering causes the past problems and difficulties to fade as being relatively unimportant now.

On the other path, bitterness and frustration lead to a situation where the spectre of the coming end becomes a black hole of despair and recrimination. God often is blamed and rejected, while it is forgotten that the evil one is the source of our decay. Satan always seems to involve us in petty actions that bind us to him in one way or another. Even a life that is relatively blameless can be derailed towards the end of life. When chronic or acute physical infirmities come upon us or a terminal disease inflicts its pain with narrowing horizons, man reacts often in one of two ways. Either one becomes accepting of the situation and fights the disease as best as one can or one can despair, blame God and become increasingly bitter, nasty and miserable. In one, this unwanted reality of pain and debility can turn out to be a spiritually cleansing time. While the body languishes and deteriorates, the soul can be purified. People often following this path seem to move forward from petty resentments and the remembered wrongs of this life to a resolution through forgiveness. The current suffering causes the past problems and difficulties to fade as being relatively unimportant now.

The truth is that the evil one plays on our weaknesses, even more so those of our past. In the past year, she developed a terminal disease and suffered a good bit. Close up to the time of her repose, someone things seemed to straighten out for her and she died calmly. I never expected such a benign reaction from her, but I came to feel that a lot of loose ends seemed to resolve before the end. Your comments please!

Life is full of entanglements and troubles and Satan always seems to involve us in petty actions that bind us to him in one way or another. Even a life that is relatively blameless can be derailed towards the end of life. When chronic or acute physical infirmities come upon us or a terminal disease inflicts its pain with narrowing horizons, man reacts often in one of two ways. Either one becomes accepting of the situation and fights the disease as best as one can or one can despair, blame God and become increasingly bitter, nasty and miserable. In one, this unwanted reality of pain and debility can turn out to be a spiritually cleansing time. While the body languishes and deteriorates, the soul can be purified. People often following this path seem to move forward from petty resentments and the remembered wrongs of this life to a resolution through forgiveness. The current suffering causes the past problems and difficulties to fade as being relatively unimportant now.

On the other path, bitterness and frustration lead to a situation where the spectre of the coming end becomes a black hole of despair and recrimination. God often is blamed and rejected, while it is forgotten that the evil one is the source of our decay. Satan always seems to involve us in petty actions that bind us to him in one way or another. Even a life that is relatively blameless can be derailed towards the end of life. When chronic or acute physical infirmities come upon us or a terminal disease inflicts its pain with narrowing horizons, man reacts often in one of two ways. Either one becomes accepting of the situation and fights the disease as best as one can or one can despair, blame God and become increasingly bitter, nasty and miserable. In one, this unwanted reality of pain and debility can turn out to be a spiritually cleansing time. While the body languishes and deteriorates, the soul can be purified. People often following this path seem to move forward from petty resentments and the remembered wrongs of this life to a resolution through forgiveness. The current suffering causes the past problems and difficulties to fade as being relatively unimportant now.

The truth is that the evil one plays on our weaknesses, even more so those of our past.
Coatesville UOL Holds Successful Beef and Beer
Submitted by Jeanne Ruczak-Eckman

The Coatesville chapter held another successful Beef and Beer fundraiser on Saturday, October 12th. It was at the Thordale Fire Hall. The dinner benefited UOL charities and the 2016 Convention Fund. The Junior members were on hand to help out as well. Raffles included a 40” flat screen TV, an AVON basket, and many other items. Everyone who attended had a great time!

Bring a Friend to Church Day
Submitted by Betsy Abrahamson

In recent years, parishioners of Orthodox churches all over the eastern United States have invited friends, family, and fellow companions to join them in attending a liturgy service. Of course it is encouraged to do this every Sunday, but one day in particular has been set aside in previous years at some parishes for a special “Bring a Friend to Church” day. The availability of a certain date for a parishioner to bring their friend would ensure that this particular day would be a holy day, if the invitee so chose to attend the liturgy.

Also, this would be a day for parishioners to introduce their home life (friends, co-workers, etc.) to their parish life, and create a friendly and welcoming environment in the church community. Bringing along a friend to the liturgy on this day would not be mandatory for parishioners, of course. “Bring a Friend to Church” day is meant to create a friendlier environment to non-parishioners, so as to provide a sort of “get-away” from their daily lives.

After the liturgy, there could be a brunch or meal that would be served by people of the church, like coffee hour may be offered on any other Sunday. Attendants of the liturgy would not be required to stay and participate in the meal, but it would be encouraged. The meal provides an opportunity to socialize and learn more about the parish, its people, and its history.

“The Bring a Friend to Church” day has received some acknowledgement in previous years. However, it is time to expand and make it a more known day. “Bring a Friend to Church” day has the potential to expand local knowledge of Orthodox Christians and their beliefs, as well as to spread our welcoming attitude to friends, co-workers, etc. to their parish life, and create a friendly and welcoming environment in the church community. Bringing along a friend to the liturgy on this day would not be mandatory for parishioners, of course. “Bring a Friend to Church” day is meant to create a friendlier environment to non-parishioners, so as to provide a sort of “get-away” from their daily lives.

Also, this would be a day for parishioners to introduce their home life (friends, co-workers, etc.) to their parish church, and create a friendly and welcoming environment in the church community. Bringing along a friend to the liturgy on this day would not be mandatory for parishioners, of course. “Bring a Friend to Church” day is meant to create a friendlier environment to non-parishioners, so as to provide a sort of “get-away” from their daily lives.

After the liturgy, there could be a brunch or meal that would be served by people of the church, like coffee hour may be offered on any other Sunday. Attendants of the liturgy would not be required to stay and participate in the meal, but it would be encouraged. The meal provides an opportunity to socialize and learn more about the parish, its people, and its history.

“Bring a Friend to Church” day has received some acknowledgement in previous years. However, it is time to expand and make it a more known day. “Bring a Friend to Church” day has the potential to expand local knowledge of Orthodox Christians and their beliefs, as well as to spread our welcoming attitude to friends, co-workers, etc. to their parish life, and create a friendly and welcoming environment in the church community. Bringing along a friend to the liturgy on this day would not be mandatory for parishioners, of course. “Bring a Friend to Church” day is meant to create a friendlier environment to non-parishioners, so as to provide a sort of “get-away” from their daily lives.

12TH ANNUAL UOL LENTEN RETREAT

“Well done, good and faithful servant” Matthew 25:23

Retreat will focus on vocations and using your talents

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2014

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:
His Eminence Metropolitan Antony
His Grace Bishop Daniel
Fr. Anthony Perkins

St. Francis Center for Renewal
395 Bridle Path Road
Bethlehem, PA

Retreat registration $40 (late fee $10). Retreat is one full day including all meals, breakfast, lunch and dinner.

For more information contact: Oleh or Natalie Bilynsky at nsufler@aol.com call – 610-892-7315

Thanksgiving Tithing
Submitted by Mark Meschisen

The Ukrainian Orthodox League is ready to announce the beneficiary of the 2013 Thanksgiving Tithing Project. This year the National Executive Boards of the Senior and Junior UOL have decided to support the Pokrova (Protection of the Birth-Giver of God) Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Philadelphia, PA in the wake of their devastating fire (please see article below about the fire).

With Thanksgiving fast approaching, it is time for us to take a good look at our lives and the many blessings that Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has bestowed on us. Thanksgiving is an ideal opportunity to give thanks to the Lord and share our blessings with our brothers and sisters in need. Thanksgiving is understood to signify a 10% donation. The Ukrainian Orthodox League graciously asks you to consider donating 10% of the total cost of your Thanksgiving celebration.

Donations may be made to your local UOL chapters or sent to the League’s Financial Secretary, Lauren Bentley at 818 Barley Sheaf Road Coatesville, PA 19320-2216. Please direct questions to Mark Meschisen Senior NEB Chair of the Christian Care Giving and Missions Commission at marcusimesh29@gmail.com

Local Philadelphia News, Reporter Queen Muse, CBS described the fire and a miracle:

“Parishioners of a Philadelphia Ukrainian Orthodox church say the four-alarm fire that destroyed millions of dollars in furniture and artifacts and left a gaping hole in the center of the historic building also revealed a miracle.

‘The fire was blazing, so when we saw the fire, we thought everything burned.’ Saint Mary the Protectress Ukrainian Orthodox Church treasurer and parishioner Pasha Pasko said. ‘But now that we can see inside, we looked at it and said it’s amazing so many icons are still there.’

Although a large portion of the church’s roof collapsed and more than 100 firefighters doused the building in water to tame the blaze, several icons remained untouched by the flames at the historic house of worship in the East Oak Lane section of the city on Sunday.

‘It’s a holy place, you know, and it’s just not damaged the way we thought it would be,’ Prasko said. ‘We even talked about it yesterday and said it would be a miracle if her icon would be saved; and here it is, saved. I think it’s a miracle.’

‘I think it’s a miracle that a few of the icons survived because they are mostly made of wood. I could only say that for believers they’ll believe that it miraculously survived the fire; I mean the church burned, but her icon survived, and the congregation will survive. That’s what it means to me.’

Philadelphia Firefighter Arthur Davis said he’s never seen anything like it before. At one point, 125 firefighters and 33 engines were on the scene trying to get the fire under control.”

Coffee hour may be offered on any other Sunday. Attendants of the liturgy would not be required to stay and participate in the meal, but it would be encouraged. The meal provides an opportunity to socialize and learn more about the parish, its people, and its history.

Although a large portion of the church’s roof collapsed and more than 100 firefighters doused the building in water to tame the blaze, several icons remained untouched by the flames at the historic house of worship in the East Oak Lane section of the city on Sunday.

‘It’s a holy place, you know, and it’s just not damaged the way we thought it would be,’ Prasko said. ‘We even talked about it yesterday and said it would be a miracle if her icon would be saved; and here it is, saved. I think it’s a miracle.’

‘I think it’s a miracle that a few of the icons survived because they are mostly made of wood. I could only say that for believers they’ll believe that it miraculously survived the fire; I mean the church burned, but her icon survived, and the congregation will survive. That’s what it means to me.’

Philadelphia Firefighter Arthur Davis said he’s never seen anything like it before. At one point, 125 firefighters and 33 engines were on the scene trying to get the fire under control.”

The alarm fire that destroyed millions of dollars in furniture and artifacts and left a gaping hole in the center of the historic building also revealed a miracle.

‘The fire was blazing, so when we saw the fire, we thought everything burned.’ Saint Mary the Protectress Ukrainian Orthodox Church treasurer and parishioner Pasha Prasko said. ‘But now that we can see inside, we looked at it and said it’s amazing so many icons are still there.’

Although a large portion of the church’s roof collapsed and more than 100 firefighters doused the building in water to tame the blaze, several icons remained untouched by the flames at the historic house of worship in the East Oak Lane section of the city on Sunday.

‘It’s a holy place, you know, and it’s just not damaged the way we thought it would be,’ Prasko said. ‘We even talked about it yesterday and said it would be a miracle if her icon would be saved; and here it is, saved. I think it’s a miracle.’

‘I think it’s a miracle that a few of the icons survived because they are mostly made of wood. I could only say that for believers they’ll believe that it miraculously survived the fire; I mean the church burned, but her icon survived, and the congregation will survive. That’s what it means to me.’

Philadelphia Firefighter Arthur Davis said he’s never seen anything like it before. At one point, 125 firefighters and 33 engines were on the scene trying to get the fire under control.”

Coffee hour may be offered on any other Sunday. Attendants of the liturgy would not be required to stay and participate in the meal, but it would be encouraged. The meal provides an opportunity to socialize and learn more about the parish, its people, and its history.

Although a large portion of the church’s roof collapsed and more than 100 firefighters doused the building in water to tame the blaze, several icons remained untouched by the flames at the historic house of worship in the East Oak Lane section of the city on Sunday.

‘It’s a holy place, you know, and it’s just not damaged the way we thought it would be,’ Prasko said. ‘We even talked about it yesterday and said it would be a miracle if her icon would be saved; and here it is, saved. I think it’s a miracle.’

‘I think it’s a miracle that a few of the icons survived because they are mostly made of wood. I could only say that for believers they’ll believe that it miraculously survived the fire; I mean the church burned, but her icon survived, and the congregation will survive. That’s what it means to me.’

Philadelphia Firefighter Arthur Davis said he’s never seen anything like it before. At one point, 125 firefighters and 33 engines were on the scene trying to get the fire under control.”

Coffee hour may be offered on any other Sunday. Attendants of the liturgy would not be required to stay and participate in the meal, but it would be encouraged. The meal provides an opportunity to socialize and learn more about the parish, its people, and its history.

Although a large portion of the church’s roof collapsed and more than 100 firefighters doused the building in water to tame the blaze, several icons remained untouched by the flames at the historic house of worship in the East Oak Lane section of the city on Sunday.

‘It’s a holy place, you know, and it’s just not damaged the way we thought it would be,’ Prasko said. ‘We even talked about it yesterday and said it would be a miracle if her icon would be saved; and here it is, saved. I think it’s a miracle.’

‘I think it’s a miracle that a few of the icons survived because they are mostly made of wood. I could only say that for believers they’ll believe that it miraculously survived the fire; I mean the church burned, but her icon survived, and the congregation will survive. That’s what it means to me.’

Philadelphia Firefighter Arthur Davis said he’s never seen anything like it before. At one point, 125 firefighters and 33 engines were on the scene trying to get the fire under control.”
Join the Solemn March to honor the 10 million innocent victims of the Ukrainian Famine Genocide of 1932-1933

Saturday November 23, 2013

March starts at St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church (7th street between 2nd and 3rd avenues, New York City) UOC of USA members will meet at Cooper City Hall (7th and Third), to march together with our bishops and clergy. March gets under way at 10:45 am

Final Destination: St. Patrick’s Cathedral for the Solemn Requiem Memorial Service at 1 PM to observe the 80th Anniversary of the HOLODOMOR

Walk with us to commemorate the Holodomor, the artificial famine genocide suffered by millions of Ukrainians. We will never turn our backs on the past and will always remember the lives lost. In honor of the victims, we will not look away from unnecessary hunger here in this country. Join this walk to honor the past and provide for those in need today. Following the Requiem at St. Patrick’s Cathedral, the UOL has organized a modest luncheon to complete our day of remembrance. For cost information and to reserve a spot at the luncheon, please email the UOL at NYCmarch@uol orthodoxuws.com

Additionally, as a tribute the UOL will collect donations for City Harvest, an organization in NYC that provides daily meals for thousands of families. To contribute to this goal, you may bring a suggested donation of $5 - $25 to the event or send your donation payable to the Ukrainian Orthodox League to Lauren Bentley, UOL Financial Secretary 818 Barley Sheaf Road Coatesville, PA 19320. The UOL Christian Caregiving and Missions Commission will consolidate all donations collected and send them to City Harvest.

His Eminence Metropolitan Antony graced Johnson City, NY with his presence to bless a prayer trail constructed by the Sr. UOL of St. John the Baptist Church. A very spiritual weekend was filled with prayer and celebration of his 28 years of episcopacy. From Vespers, a bountiful meal and socializing on Saturday, to Divine Liturgy, glorification and veneration of icons on the prayer trail and feasting together on Sunday, the parishioners thoroughly enjoyed the weekend’s festivities and their guests. Accompanying his Eminence were seminarians: Subdeacon Ivan Chopko, Volodymyr Yavorsky, Volodymyr Sukaniets, Volodymyr Sukaniets Jr., and Eduardo Mouru Goncalves. Fr. Charles Baxter from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada was also visiting and served in the Divine Liturgy with Fr. Ivan Synyshvyy and Deacon Philip Harendza.

His Eminence was greeted and welcomed to our church by parish president Brian Baxendale and Jr. UOL members. He enlightened everyone in attendance through a sermon calling the story of Zachariah the lawyer who had asked Jesus how he could enter heaven and be granted eternal life. His Eminence highlighted Jesus’ response to abide by the greatest commandment, and explained what this means in our daily lives. Metropolitan Antony preached that in order to love God with our whole heart, and to love our neighbor as ourselves, we first need to love ourselves. He reminded us of the Lord’s Prayer, how we must ask for forgiveness from our trespasses, and forgive those who trespass against us. Through forgiveness and prayer, we can first love ourselves, and then be able to fully love our neighbors, family, and priests. This message will help each of us to reach salvation.

His Eminence Metropolitan Antony thanked St. John’s choir directed by Melody Onysko for their prayerful and beautiful singing. Following Divine Liturgy we processed to Gorick Park singing the Troparian of the Cross. There we held a short prayer service and then walked the Prayer Trail blessing each icon.

The Prayer Trail was organized and constructed by St. John’s Sr. UOL with the help of iconographer Michael Kapeluck. Each icon was donated by parish members. The Prayer Trail consists of eight stations along a circular path that borders the park. The prayer trail begins in the gazebo with the Orthodox Cross and then follows the path to include icons of Jesus Christ, the Theotokos, St. John the Baptist, St. Cyril and St. Methodius, Archangel Michael, St. Iov of Pochaiv, and King Prophet David. Two benches were also donated for a place to rest along the path. After the blessing we gathered for a picture and then had a banquet to celebrate the Blessing of the prayer trail and His Eminence’s 28 years of service in his episcopacy. After the meal the seminarians introduced themselves and told a little bit about themselves. We then held a collection and donated $550.00 to St. Sophia’s Seminary. The parish was spiritually enriched by Metropolitan Antony’s visit and the new Prayer Trail. Many Years Vladyko! Eispola eti despota!

Saints Peter and Paul, Carnegie, PA Jr./Sr. Chapters Ukrainian Food Fest, September 13 &14, 2013 Submitted by Pat Dorning, Sr. Chapter Reporter

The Holy Spirit graced our Church with the spirit of fellowship and cooperation during our recent, successful Ukrainian Food Fest. The Kitchen Workers and the Jr./Sr. Chapters worked together to provide the Carnegie area with the best in Ukie Food and Baked Goods.

Pierogies, haluski, holupchi and a myriad of other Ukrainian delicacies were lovingly prepared by our parishioners. Fabulous baked goods abounded. Fr. Steve Repa, a.k.a. Cake Boss, baked eight scrumptious, 20x12 cakes with mile high icing. They were in much demand! Our world renowned pierogies, which are the best in the land (we think so), were also sought after. Chairs Steve Sivulich, Sherri Walewski and Michael Kapeluck along with Bake Sale Chair, Pat Dorning, and Chinese Auction Chair, Tracey Sally, cooperated with practically the entire church population to pull this effort together. It was two days of fun and fellowship in service to our Church.

Use the enclosed envelope to make your donation!
Sunday Morning the bells rang out for everyone to gather at St. Thomas Chapel for Divine Liturgy. The Liturgy was co-celebrated by Fr. John Nakonachny, Fr. John Haluszczak and Fr. Deacon Jim Cairns. A large and delicious brunch was served in the Dining Hall, prepared by our kitchen staff led by Genya.

The afternoon was filled with swimming, volleyball, relaxation and a Memorial Service. After the Memorial Service, Family Fest guests were greeted to a special treat at the Pavilion. This year for the first time Family Fest had a wonderful “Western Night.” The Pavilion was transformed into a western country motif with wonderful decorations. Lights, candles and music brought everyone up the hill to dinner. A FANTASTIC meal was prepared by Deacon Jim Cairns and our kitchen staff headed up by Genya. We were treated to appetizers and punch followed by the Deacon’s famous “chicken” and all the fixin’s to go with it from Genya. It was an amazing meal with apple crisp and a chocolate fountain with fruit and other treats for dessert. We enjoyed music and dancing requests played throughout the evening, which also included round two of the Name Game. It was a wonderful evening under the stars!

Later that evening the domino tournament continued. This year, Connie Markiw was the victor. Sadly, while there was rejoicing in the Markiw home, there was also sadness with Dave being in last place in the tournament. There is always next year! Other tournaments included the Pictionary tournament that has now been going on for four years. It is a fun night with lots of laughs!

Monday morning started with Morning Prayers and breakfast. Following breakfast everyone cleaned up, said their good-byes and packed for their ride home. The drawing for the ASC Summer Raffle of the decorated Ostrich Pysanka was held and the winner was Karen Sheptak! We thank everyone for their support of the raffle that brought in $455 towards the SOS Project for tables and chairs for the camp.

We were glad to see over 85 participants for the weekend and we hope to see you next year! Plans are already underway for events and especially the Sunday evening dinner…. Beach Party??

Thank you to everyone who came and helped out in ANY way with Family Fest. Your support and presence were truly appreciated! See YOU Labor Day Weekend 2014!

Editor’s note: Thank you Christine for a fabulous Family Fest Weekend! It was wonderful!

---

**St. Vladimir Senior UOL Chapter**
**Philadelphia, PA**

On September 15th St. Vladimir’s Senior UOL Chapter sponsored a Senior UOL Open House. We invited all parishioners to a dinner and chapter meeting so that they could learn about the UOL. We planned a delicious pot-luck dinner and had a large group join our chapter meeting. That day six new members joined our chapter.

Our delegates gave a report from the UOL Convention and encouraged all chapter members to attend the Convention. We outlined projects for the upcoming year. Some of the projects we discussed were participating in Thanksgiving Tithing and donating all of our coffee hour funds for the month of November to our sister parish St. Mary Protectress. We also discussed attending new chapter member Zachary Kapeluck’s performances at Ballet X.

Each year our chapter takes a group photo. This year was quite exciting because we were able to take the picture with our new award. In fact, we decided that we would bring the award to our chapter projects and encourage you the reader to see who is holding the award in the picture. Once we took our “official” picture our Juniors and Pre-Juniors encouraged us to take a “silly face” picture — so here it is.

---

**St. Vladimir’s Senior UOL Chapter, Philadelphia, Pa**
**Annual Malanka**

Saturday, January 26, 2014
dancing, dinner and fun, fun, fun

for more information contact nsufler@aol.com

---

(Family Fest - continued from page 4)
A donation to the Tribute Fund is an acknowledgment of a Milestone, Memorial, or Accomplishment, or is a Special Recognition of an individual or group. Your much-appreciated contribution is used to support and further the Mission of the Ukrainian Orthodox League. All donations are published in the UOL Bulletin.

### Donor Occasion/Tribute

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Occasion/Tribute</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Demetrius</td>
<td>God’s blessings on Barbara Hedesh and William Kuzbyt. Our prayers for their good health.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Have you been wanting to honor or thank someone special? The tribute fund is the ideal way to honor someone or commemorate a special event! It is very easy to submit a Tribute. Don’t put it off – send your tribute today!!

With the holidays upon us, take the time to say "Thank you!" to someone who you have been thinking about.

To submit your Tribute:

To have your soldier receive either or both of the books please fill out the form. Saints Peter and Paul Parish will cover the packaging costs and shipping costs of these books to your soldiers.

Anyone wishing to financially support this project may send a check written to Saints Peter and Paul UOC with a check footnote - Books for Soldiers, and send to: Rose Raith, Saints Peter & Paul UOC, 21 Evergreen Road, Lyndora, PA 16045.

FORM: Please send the following to my soldier:

// The Orthodox Prayer Book  // The Orthodox Study Bible

SOLDIER’S NAME _____________________________________
Address __________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

and send to: Prayer Books and New Testament Books for Soldiers
c/o Karen K. Sheptak, 21 Evergreen Road, Lyndora, PA 16045