

THE LINK

Volume 59

Issue 5

Our Graduates of 2008

Congratulations and may God bless your new journeys, Graduates!

HIGH SCHOOL

- William Boyer, son of Beth & Ken Boyer will be attending Ohio University at Athens, majoring in Exercise Physiology
- Kelly Daniels, daughter of Kathy & Ted Daniels will attend the Scripps School of Journalism at Ohio University, majoring in Journalism & Communication
- Alex Hill, son of Patti & Steve Hill will be attending Ohio State University, majoring in Aerospace Engineering

UNDERGRAD

- Jenna Barnthouse, daughter of Barb & Keith Raudebaugh Case Western Reserve - Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary degree. She will then take her state board test in June.
- Luke Gebhart, son of Warren Gebhart North Central State College - Associates Degree in Respiratory Therapy
- Amanda Hill, daughter of Patti & Steve Hill Malone College - B.S. in Early Childhood Education. She plans to teach elementary school.
- Eric North, son of Bea & Bruce North Syracuse University NY College of Environmental Science & Forestry, Cum Laude. He will be working as a Tree Consultant / Arborist in Norwood, MA.
- Patrick McNaull, son of Mary & Tom McNaull Ohio Northern University - B.S. in Mechanical Engineering graduating with High Distinction. He plans to attend OSU Graduate School in Mechanical Engineering.
- Megan Oberholtzer, daughter of Carol & Kevin Oberholtzer Ohio State University - B.S. in Middle School Education. She plans to pursue her Masters in Education at Ohio State.
- Corey Robey, daughter of Kim & Bob Hablaub Kent State University - Bachelor of Nursing degree. She plans to find a job in nursing.
- Jennie Ziegler, granddaughter of Erva Jean & Dick Patterson Ohio State University - B.A. in English and a B.A. in International Studies.

MASTERS

- Susan Achberger, daughter of Jan & Bill Achberger Michigan State University - MS in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. She hopes to work in a chemistry lab.
- Jeff Cummings, Cong. Care staff member of Christ UMC Ashland Theological Seminary - Master of Divinity. He plans to pursue United Methodist ordination with an emphasis on hospital chaplaincy.

June / July 2008

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Our website:
www.ChristUMCAshland.org



What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

<p>OFFICE HOURS MON -THUR 9AM - 4:00PM FRIDAY 9AM-11AM</p> <p>PHONE: 419-289-0507 FAX: 419-289-1541 christum@zoominternet.net</p>	<p>CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</p> <p>REFLECTING GOD'S LOVE</p> <p>THROUGH CHRISTIAN WORSHIP,</p> <p>NURTURE AND OUTREACH</p>	<p>SUNDAY SCHEDULE WORSHIP ~ 9:30AM CHURCH SCHOOL ~ 10:45AM</p> <p>TIME OF PRAYER ~ 5:00PM GOD CONNECT ~ 6:00PM YOUTH FELLOWSHIP ~ 7:00PM</p>
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From the Pastor's Study . . .



During my high school years one of my summer responsibilities was to mow the fields of our farm. We had a red 1930's Farmall M Tractor. I used to marvel at the owner's manual because of all the fuss it made over the new improvement called "pneumatic tires." A sickle bar mower was bolted to the hitch and there was many a time when raising and lowering that mower bar left me shaky and tired. There was no better feeling than to watch the grass lay down as the mower cut through it; but when the blades loosened and the mower clogged up -- what a hassle!

I remember clearly my father's instructions about the first cut down a field. "Look for a tree or some object on the horizon and drive toward it. If your first cut is straight the others will be much easier." I also remember getting distracted by the mower or other things and looking back on a weaving path that complicated the mowing for the rest of that section. There is a very practical lesson for life in this.

Too often we let our eyes get distracted by the problems of the moment so that we forget to look where we are going. The moment we forget where we are going, we create a lot of obstacles for the accomplishment of our goal.

I believe that the church must hold up a vision that is Christ centered and mission focused. When we look ahead the one we want to be driving toward is Christ and Christ alone. Christ and his work are the reason the church exists; serving Christ is the goal of our life together as his disciples; and Jesus ought to be the only object on the horizon that the church is driving toward.

There are times, however, when the church is guilty of misdirecting the focus. We often do this when we become leader focused. Whenever we are seduced into the adoration or criticism of our brothers and sisters in leadership, we are guilty of driving toward the wrong thing. While adoration and criticism seem like such opposites, they accomplish the same results - they take our

focus away from Christ. I believe this is why St. Paul is so animated in 2 Corinthians about having nothing to boast about save Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Every ministry of the church has the potential for loving its leader or loving to complain about its leader. But whenever the central focus is upon the leader, then people are not taking responsibility for their own discipleship.

By our baptism into Christ Jesus, we each have a ministry in his church, and we are each accountable for our behavior in the church. Whether or not we like or dislike a leader does not excuse us from our responsibility to serve Christ and the work he has called us to. The mission is far more important than the sinners who guide it.

I invite you to be in prayer for our church that we might continue to grow into a more mature faith. Pray for the grace that places responsibility far above adoration or criticism. Pray for the grace that sets our sights upon Christ and Christ alone.

Pastor Jim+

*Come, worship
together*



Summer Schedule for God Connect

The mission of God Connect is to reach persons whom we are not already serving with an experience of God's presence that shares the good news of Jesus Christ.

We will meet:

June 1, 22, & 29.

We will *not* meet:

June 8, 15 and the month of July.

We will resume our regular schedule in August.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



According to an Arabian proverb, "A friend is one to whom one may pour out all the contents of one's heart, chaff and grain together, knowing that the gentlest of hands will take and sift it, keep what is worth keeping and with a breath of kindness blow the rest away."

Stephen Ministers are members of Christ United Methodist Church who have gone through 50 hours of training to provide confidential one-to-one Christian care to people who are facing a crisis or simply going through a difficult time.

Your Stephen Minister will meet with you once a week for around an hour to listen to you, care for you, pray with and for you, and provide emotional and spiritual encouragement. Men are matched with male Stephen Ministers, women are matched with female Stephen Ministers.

To find out more about how you or someone you know could be matched with a Stephen Minister, talk with one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders: Pastor Jim Cox, Jeff Cummings, Jim Driskill, or Pat Denbow.

Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!

Caregivers Next Meeting

June 9, 2008 7:00 - 9:00 pm

July 14, 2008 7:00 - 9:00 pm



*Our
Congregational
Sympathy
to:*

~ the family and friends of Charlene Crumrine who died on May 23. She is a sister-in-law to Vivian & Gerald Kiplinger and Dorothy & Wilbur Crumrine.

The Gardener's Touch

You discovered me, a shriveled-up stalk in a flowerpot, square in the middle of a brick room of my own making. It had taken many years to create that room, one brick at a time, cemented with experience, and I was proud of it.

You entered my room, and with unconditional acceptance started chipping away, ever so delicately, here, then there, at the bricks and mortar. I was afraid the debris might injure me, so I hid.

Searching, you found me, and hugged me. Much to my surprise, I hugged back. A piece of mortar fell, allowing a tiny ray of sunlight in. I blinked, for the light was very bright and I had been in darkness for so long.

Another brick fell, then another, and yet another, letting in more and more light. I was fearful of becoming burned, and retreated quickly to the darkest corner I could find in my room.

You followed, putting your arm around me, sitting beside me, and said that you loved me. Those words flowed as a cool stream of fresh mountain water; my stalk became green, and a small leaf emerged.

Through the now-considerable hole in my room came words I had thought never to hear again, for they were not deserved. "God loves you." "What, me? No way," I thought. "Yes, you," your words and very actions repeated persistently.

You encouraged me to look around at the scenery outside. I was hesitant, but you said, "Try it." A wall fell down; another wall started to crumble. I was terrified, trembling at the destruction, and you prayed, holding me tight.

My room collapsed completely. You pulled me out so I wouldn't be crushed; affirming, praying, hugging, laughing and loving the entire way. But I wasn't very grateful, and complained because I had been uprooted from everything I knew.

I started to tip over in my dejection, and you righted me. You said, "Take a look around, for you are in the Lord's garden and sitting in his Sonshine." I still felt uncomfortable without my room, and asked, "Why does a stick need all this anyway?"

"Take a look at yourself," was your reply. To my astonishment, I discovered the twisted and withered brown stick was gone. I had become a small but gorgeous rosebush, covered with green leaves and a rosebud just beginning to form.

I was elated at this change, for I had never perceived such a possibility. I said, "I need to let everyone see these buds and all this growth, for this is not of my doing!" And you smiled, nodded your head, and said, "Yes."

Vicki Becker

[A Time to Weep, A Time to Rejoice, A Time to Care, Volume I](#)



***Do you feel like your
Sunday morning
Worship experience
needs a little
something extra?***

If you are not currently attending an adult Sunday school class, God's Group would like you to join us for Sunday morning fellowship.

**Discussion Leader; Jim Driskill
(with an occasional stand-in from the class)
Location: Room 215**

Curriculum: Seasons of the Spirit Curriculum Study Guide

This group focuses on current topics of interest tied into the week's liturgy. Past sessions have included; *Islam and Terrorism, Just War Theory, Jim Wills' book "God's Politics"* and topic discussions from recent events as reported from various local, national and international news sources. We are currently studying Leon Howells' book *"United Methodism @Risk, A wake-up Call"* lead by Gordon Ruggles.

We are also very active in contributing our time and resources to the various missions of Christ UMC. One of our ongoing missions is to send "CARE PACKAGES" to every college student, military member and occasional traveling church member twice each year. We have also contributed to the JOSHUA Mission Team and last year to the Boyer families work with the LOHADA mission in Tanzania, Africa.

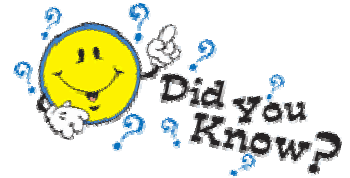
We are blessed with a wide range of political and theological thinking and ideas, SO, if you enjoy lively discussion, good food, laughter, music, art, an occasional tear, did we mention laughter? God's Group is where you need to be on Sunday morning right after the regular service.

GOD BLESS, HOPE TO SEE YOU SUNDAY!

UMCOR Responding to Natural Disasters:

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) has been responding to the recent natural disasters that have taken place around the world. A massive **earthquake in Sichuan Province of China** has killed at least 12,000 people and destroyed up to 80 percent of homes and businesses in the area. More than 300 aftershocks have been recorded, keeping people on edge. UMCOR partner Amity Foundation was able to send help to those affected within hours of the disaster. UMCOR is helping survivors of the latest spate of **tornadoes** that raced across the mid-South Saturday evening, May 10. Oklahoma, Missouri, Arkansas and Georgia are the states most-recently affected by severe storms in 2008. UMCOR is diligently working with partners to bring relief to those affected by **Cyclone Nargis** which struck Myanmar (Burma) on May 2. "The United Methodist Committee on Relief is persistently pursuing all avenues to provide relief in Myanmar," said Sam Dixon, UMCOR's top executive, in a release issued by UMCOR on May 12. You can help in our United Methodist efforts to provide relief through your donations. Funds may be sent through your church treasurer to the conference office marked for the various efforts using the UMCOR Advance numbers: China Earthquake is #982450; Domestic Disaster Response is #901670; and Myanmar Emergency is #3019674.

**There's
Something
for
Everyone**



Sunday School Classes begin at 10:45am and are offered for all ages. The emphasis for the Children and Youth classes will be about the sacraments and Worship during June & July.

Children

Infants & Toddlers - Room 112
2 & 3 Yr Old - Room 102
Pre-Kindergarten ~ 2nd grade
3rd grade ~ 6th grade

Youth

Jr. High ~ High School

Adults

CJU - Room 15
Cross Talk - Room 8
Eagle's Wings - Room 212
God's Group - Room 215
New Beginnings - Room 1

PASS IT ON

Available in the church office are small 'Pass It On' cards. By placing a label on the back, they can be used as a way of sharing with others some of the different ministries and activities found at Christ UMC. One idea of sharing is to share them with customers if you have a garage sale. For other ideas on how to pass it on, contact Growing In Christ Task Group members, Doris Hintz or Claudia Guenther-Snyder.

JUNE 2008

Your compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.

~Lamentations 3:22-23

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Student Baccalureate 9:30 Worship 5 Prayer 6 God Connect 7 YF 7:15 Bible study	2 6:30 Scouts -rm 6	3 10 Prayers, lounge	4 Choir rehearsal	5 1:30 UMW - Lounge 7 Finance - Rm 15	6	7
8 Communion 9:30 Worship JOSHUA Brunch 7:15 Bible study	9 6:30 Scouts 7 Stephen Ministry - rm 212 7-8:30 Chrysalis Bd - rm 108	10 9 Gloriosa Gardeners - Rm 15 10 Prayers - lounge	11 12 Quilt Guild - Rm 15 Choir rehearsal	12 7 Adm Board - rm 15	13 14 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Youth Day at Cedar Point and Annual Conference </div>	
15 FATHER'S DAY 9:30 Worship 2 Kingston 7:15 Bible study	16 6:30 Scouts - rm 6	17 10 Prayers, lounge 1:30 UMW Exec, Library	18	19 7 Study Discovery - Library	20 21 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Annual Conference at Lakeside </div>	
22 9:30 Worship 5 Prayer 6 God Connect 7 YF 7:15 Bible study	23 6:30 Scouts - rm 6	24 9 UMW Workday 10 Prayers -lounge 7 Quilt Guild - FH	25	26 7 Coordinating Committee - Rm15	27 5:30 Yth leave for trip to Niagara Falls, NY	28 9-9 Joan Scott
29 9:30 Worship 5 Prayer 6 God Connect 7:15 Bible study 8:30 Yth return	30 6:30 Scouts - rm 6				Choir Note: Starting June 22nd, the choirs will be taking a summer break. We will have our congregational hymn sing at the beginning of worship.	

WILLING SERVANTS OF THE CHURCH FOR JUNE

Greeters

1	Marge & Dean Irwin	Mary Lou and Peggy Spicer
8	Marilyn Kieft	Doris & Bob Quackenbush
15	Peggy & Glen Bille	Sharon & Terry Harper
22	Betty & Ron Clawson	Joyce & Marion Hess
29	Kathy & Ted Daniels	Mary Ann & Cloyd McNaull

Greeters are asked to arrive no later than 9:00, wear your red name tag, and stand at the front entrance (Claremont) or in the Foyer area at the Glass entrance (Broad St).

Please consider contributing to this ministry of hospitality. Patsy Barr is our greeter coordinator. If you are interested in helping she can be contacted at 419-289-0411.

Ushers

George Bringman - Head usher
 Jim Aten
 Steve Haven
 Jay Edmondson
 Alex Hill
 Brian Hill
 Wayne Hathaway
 Larry Portner
 Roger Smith

Scripture Readers

1	William Boyer, Kelly Daniels and Alex Hill
8	Barbara Roland
15	Bob Mansperger
22	Daphne Driskill
29	Amanda Hill

If you would like to be a part of the worship service by reading scripture, contact Jane Eshelman.

Altar Flowers

1	Evelyn & Jim Rafeld family
8	Marjorie Smith's family Joan & Jim Scott
15	Val Fabich
22	Carolyn & Del Leidy
29	deSilva family Pat & Joe Denbow

To add to the beauty of the service by donating flowers in memory or in honor of someone or an event, see the sign-up sheet located outside the church office.

The flowers are pre-ordered & delivered at a cost of \$18.00.

Please send payment to the church either by mail or put it in the offering with your envelope

Acolytes

1	Lexi Portner	Mackenzie Snow
8	Adrian deSilva	Lindsey Crone
15	Austin deSilva	Hannah Boyer
22	Jonah Moretz	Zach Portner
29	Lindsey Crone	Mackenzie Snow

Julia Fabich coordinates the list of acolytes each month.

Hospitality Ministers

Hospitality Ministers are persons who extend the hand of welcome and enthusiasm for Christ Church. These persons make a very brief home visit to first-time visitors. They deliver a welcome packet of materials about our church along with our hope that they return to Christ Church soon. Sonja Bringman coordinates this outreach ministry

Our Hospitality Ministers for the month are:

1	George Boyer
8	Brooke & Dean DaHinden
15	Vicki & Ron Johnson
22	Anne Oberholtzer
29	Patsy & Vince Barr

Counters

Jim Aten
 Wilma Jean McConnell
 Michael Barr
 Jon Yeater





Heartfelt Thanks

♥ Jared,
 Thank you to you and the young ladies for washing all my windows for me. I really appreciate it.
 Thank you
Mary Lou & Peggy Spicer

♥ Dear Christian Friends
 Thank you for the many kindnesses you showed to us during Jan's recent testing, surgery and recovery. We are blessed that she is cancer free at this time. While we know God's healing touch was working, we also know your prayers, thoughts, cards, visits and gifts played a large part in helping Jan heal. Words do not seem adequate to let you know how much your caring concern meant to our family.

Thank You,
Jan, Bill & Susan Achberger

♥ With the arrival of Spring & Summer, it becomes necessary to care for the outside grounds of our church. A big thank you to Loretha Kline who cares for the flowers at the Glass entrance canopy, Vicki & Ron Johnson who care for the prayer garden, the Gloriosa Garden Club members who take care of the flower beds along Claremont and to the weekly volunteer lawn mowers. Your willingness to contribute to the outside beauty of Christ Church is much appreciated.

Annual Farmer's Market to Begin

July 12th through October 11th, Saturday mornings, 9:00 am to 11:00 am, rain or shine. Local farmers and crafters gather in our parking lot to sell their homemade goods. There is no set-up table fee for vendors. Only 10% of their proceeds are donated to our Cross Talk Sunday School Class to aid their mission program. If you would like more information about this summer program, contact Marybelle Landrum at 419-281-3932.



FINANCE NEWS

Our congregation will soon be approaching the Stewardship season. We must consider our budgets and expenses and plan for the future.

Soon our budget expenses will be dominated by energy costs for natural gas and electricity. Our Trustee Committee members are considering several options to reduce our energy needs, most will require capital spending. Your conservation ideas are welcome.

Let us pray for our continued success in extending our faith and love in Christ to our community and the World.

Faithfully yours,
Bruce E. North
 Finance Chairperson

Stewardship Update	
April Receipts	\$ 19,967.38
May Receipts	20,700.44
Needed each Week	7,098.71
Monthly Need	30,761.07
Income YTD:	\$ 88,714.44

Flood Buckets to be Collected at Annual Conference:

The Mission Awareness Committee of the East Ohio Conference is asking each member to have their church or other individuals supply one flood bucket or 5 health kits per charge for the Midwest Mission Distribution Center, our disaster center of the North Central Jurisdiction of the UM church. The recent floods which have covered a large section of the central US have depleted the supplies of these materials. The need is urgent and your help is necessary to those affected by these disasters.

Next Newsletter Deadline

Articles for the **August** issue of the *Link* are due in the church office by **July 14, 2008**.
 Questions? Call the office 419-289-0507 x 100. Email is helpful ~ braudebaugh@zoominternet.net.

GOD'S CREATION

SCAVENGER HUNT

You can easily spot God's beautiful creation not just in majestic mountains and vast oceans but also in the smallest bits of nature. Try this fun activity at a park, in your backyard or on a hike.



What you need:

- Paper
- Pencils, pens or crayons
- Plastic cups or bowls

What you do:

1. Write out the same list of items for each player. One person can do this ahead of time, or the group can determine what to hunt for. Items must be small enough to fit in the container provided. Suggestions include: flower, grain of sand or dirt, seed, blade of grass, feather, small stick, pebble, insect (preferably alive), leaf; thorn, berry and so on.
2. Give a list and a cup (or bowl) to each player.
3. Designate a place to search for items, as well as a time limit (for example, look in the backyard for 15 minutes).
4. During the scavenger hunt, enjoy seeing the beauty of God's creation in the tiniest things. Players should cross off items when found.
5. When time is up, compare items. Point out similarities and differences. Discuss why these items are so amazing. Share Bible verses or stories about some items (for example, Isaiah 40:8 talks about grass and flowers, 1 Corinthians 10:4 talks about Jesus' being our rock, etc.).



Boy Scout Troop 586 is collecting "Our Family" labels. They will

receive \$.05 for each one. At this time only Buehler's is carrying "Our Family" brands. Please help the Scout troop with this fundraiser by collecting "Our Family" labels and dropping them off in the Scout Room in the box on the table. Thank you!

BOY SCOUT TROOP 586 EARNS AWARD

At the April 28th semi-annual Court of Honor, members of Boy Scout Troop 586 learned they had earned the "BSA Ready & Prepared Gold Award". Forty-three youth and adult members worked over a year to earn this new award. The unit is the second unit in the Heart of Ohio Council to earn the award.

Among the qualifiers to earn the award, the unit had to perform a public safety promotion event which was a Bicycle Safety Awareness and checked bicycles for community members. 50% of the current youth roster had to earn the "Traffic Safety" and "First Aid" merit badges. They also had to do a safety check of their meeting place and appoint a "Health and Safety Officer". Other qualifiers included all adult members certified in "Youth Protection", adult members trained in "Safe Swim Defense" and "First Aid and CPR", youth trained in "A Time to Tell" youth protection and "Personal Safety Awareness", all adult drivers had to complete a "Driver's Pledge" and "Vehicle Inspection Form", the Scoutmaster has to be familiar with and have a copy of "Guide to Safe Scouting", members had to read and have a discussion on Chapter 6 in the *BSA Field Handbook*, "Managing Risks" and had to file a tour permit for every campout as required by the council.

Also at Court of Honor, youth members who had earned merit badges and rank advancements since the October Court of Honor were recognized. Twelve Scouts advanced a rank and Ross Reed was recognized for earning his Eagle Scout Award. Seven Scouts earned 17 merit badges and John McQuate, who earned his Eagle Scout Award in 2005, earned his Silver Palm for earning 15 merit badges after becoming an Eagle Scout for a total of 36 and before reaching the age of 18.

In May the troop camped at Alum Creek State Park and visited the Olen tangy Caverns and the Ohio Statehouse providing opportunities for the Scouts to work on Citizenship in the Nation, Indian Lore and American Cultures merit badges; June will find the troop at Van Buren State Park with opportunities to work on Nature merit badge with a shopping trip to Cabela's in Dundee, MI.; and July will find us at Camp Falling Rock in Newark for summer camp.

The troop thanks the church for supporting the May 10th carwash as all that money goes to the Scouts for summer camp and the May 18th brunch at which we cleared enough to purchase another tent. Look for us under the pavilion on July 4th during the fireworks as we use the money from the fundraiser to purchase replacement equipment for the unit.

Troop 586 boasts a youth membership of 31 and an adult membership of 42, several of which are Scouts who earned their Eagle Scout Award with Troop 586. The troop meets on Monday evenings, in the Fellowship Hall, from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. The troop has a website at www.troop586bsa.org, to keep family members informed. New members are always welcome.

"We ask you, O Lord, to give us the strength and courage, each of us, to live up to the Scout Oath, the Scout Law and the high ideals of the World Brotherhood of Scouting" A prayer for Scouts.

Article submitted by
Debbie & Bill Sickmiller



SOMETHING NEW
Homebound Member of the Week

So we as a congregation can be mindful of those members not able to be in worship with us, we will be listing a *Homebound Member of the Week*. We use the term “homebound” loosely as some persons may be able to venture out occasionally but finds their body or mind causes pain or embarrassment. While we encourage them to attend church and/or social functions as much as possible, we are sensitive to their situation and want them to know we care. An address will be listed so a card can be sent or a visit made. If you know someone who qualifies, but might be overlooked, please contact the church office, Pastor Jim, or Doris Hintz.

<u>June 1</u>	<u>June 8</u>	<u>June 16</u>	<u>June 22</u>	<u>June 29</u>
Mary Ellen Budd	Jeremy Burr	Anna Chaney	Gerry DusSault	William & Marilyn
Belmont Tower, rm 221	Brethren Care, rm 402	Kingston, rm 111	Belmont Tower, rm 522	Farquharson
2140 Center St	2000 Center St	20 Amberwood Pkwy	2140 Center St,	1238 Columbus Circle N
Ashland	Ashland	Ashland	Ashland	Ashland

<u>July 6</u>	<u>July 13</u>	<u>July 20</u>	<u>July 27</u>
Ethel Fulk	Gus & Donna Giet	Pauline Gortner	Fran Heiffner
Belmont Tower, rm 425	216 Freer Court	870 Avalon Drive	Brookwood Place, rm 315
2140 Center St	Ashland	Ashland	1998 Center St
Ashland			Ashland

What is “Shared Ministry”?

On our giving envelopes is the line entitled Shared Ministry.

This is the new terminology for apportionments. It represents our share of the mission which United Methodist support in common. It includes world benevolences as well as the administrative expenses.

You may have seen the occasional commercial on TV for the United Methodist Church. This is one of the expenses we share in common. It is our outreach to the world.

UPPER ROOM Devotionals Available

Due to a price increase, the cost of the Upper Room devotional is now \$2.00 for a small copy and \$3.00 for the large print copy. They are located in the Foyer and on a table outside the office.

Where in the world is

Waldo’s.....wheelchair??

Everyone likes to look for Waldo and our Trustees are hoping you might look around to see if you can help them locate any of the donated healthcare equipment the church has for people to use if needed. None of the items need to be returned right now if being used, but if you or someone you know is using a wheelchair, walker, etc., please let a trustee or the church office know so they can keep track of where they are.



Wedding Blessings

Congratulations to Tracy Rush and Bo Emminger who were married at Christ UMC on Saturday, May 17th, 2008. Tracy is the granddaughter of Sandy & Ron Baker. May God bless their new life together. ♥

JULY 2008

Being rooted in love, may you grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.
Ephesians 3:17-18

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
NOTE: Our mission team is providing dinner for 'All God's Children' in Mansfield on July 8th. We will be leaving our church parking lot at 4:15pm		1 10 Prayers, lounge	2	3	4 Independence Day Church Office Closed 5PM Scouts	5
6 9:30 Worship 7:15 Bible study	7	8 9 Gloriosa Gardeners, Rm 15 10 Prayers, lounge 6 Mission Outreach at Mans.	9 12 Quilt Guild, Rm 15	10	11	12
JOSHUA Trip						
13 9:30 Worship	14 6:30 Souts 5:30 Stephen Ministry, potluck picnic at home of P & J Denbow 7-8:30 Chrysalis Bd - rm 108	15 10 Prayers, lounge 1:30 UMW Exec, Library	16	17 7 Study Discovery - Library 7 SPRC - lounge	18	19
20 9:30 Worship 2 Brethren Care 2-5 Yth Softball game & cookout	21 6:30 Scouts - rm 6	22 10 Prayers, lounge 7 Quilt Guild, FH	23	24	25	26
27 9:30 Worship 11:30am Yth go to Cleve Indians game	28 6:30 Scouts - rm 6	29 9 UMW Workday 10 Prayers - lounge 6:30 Stewardship Cmt w/picnic at home of J & G Ruggles	30	31		

WILLING SERVANTS OF THE CHURCH FOR JULY

Greeters

6	Connie Workman	Pat & Bob Mansperger
13	Pat & Joe Denbow	Bea Holm and Janet Stouffer
20	Lela & Bill Whipple	Carol & Kevin Oberholtzer
27	Sandy & Jim Pifer	Lee Marr

Greeters are asked to arrive no later than 9:00, wear your red name tag, and stand at the front entrance (Claremont) or in the Foyer area at the Glass entrance (Broad St).

Please consider contributing to this ministry of hospitality. Patsy Barr is our greeter coordinator. If you are interested in helping she can be contacted at 419-289-0411.

Ushers

Bill Aten - Head usher
 Todd Brinkman
 Bill Peach
 Ron Baker
 Steve Crone
 Wayne Hathaway
 Al Kieft
 Glen Stewart
 Bob Quackenbush

Scripture Readers

6	Wilma Jean McConnell
13	Carolyn Brown
20	Justina Fabich
27	Julia Fabich

If you would like to be a part of the worship service by reading scripture, contact Jane Eshelman.

Acolytes

6	Adrian deSilva	Austin deSilva
13	Hannah Boyer	Lexi Portner
20	Jonah Moretz	Zach Portner
27	Mackenzie Snow	Austin deSilva

Julia Fabich coordinates the list of acolytes each month.

Hospitality Ministers

Hospitality Ministers are persons who extend the hand of welcome and enthusiasm for Christ Church. These persons make a very brief home visit to first-time visitors. They deliver a welcome packet of materials about our church along with our hope that they return to Christ Church soon. Sonja Bringman coordinates this outreach ministry

Our Hospitality Ministers for the month are:

6	Myra Rafeld
13	Bea & Bruce North
20	Connie Workman
27	George Boyer

Altar Flowers

6	Helen Lent
13	Bringman family
20	Marilyn & Freeman Harper
27	Mary & Tom McNaull

To add to the beauty of the service by donating flowers in memory or in honor of someone or an event, see the sign-up sheet located outside the church office.

The flowers are pre-ordered & delivered at a cost of \$18.00.

Please send payment to the church either by mail or put it in the offering with your envelope marked "Altar Flowers".

Counters

Steve Hill
 Brooke DaHinden
 Freeman Harper
 Ken Brown





YOUth Time at Christ UMC

JUNE/JULY 2008

DATES OF INTEREST

June 13th-15th-YAC
June 27th-29th-Niagara Falls
Trip
July 6th-11th-J.O.S.H.U.A.
July 20th-Softball game vs.
FUMC
July 27th-Indians game

Youth Annual Conference

JUNE 13TH – 15TH

We will be leaving on the 13th @
9:30a and heading to Cedar Point
for UM day. We will be returning
on the 15th in the afternoon. For
those of you who cannot make it
to Y.A.C. you can still go to Cedar
Point on the 13th.

Cost is \$30.

(Cedar Point only)

June 27th-29th

End of the year trip to Niagara Falls!!
We are meeting up with Emmanuel
UMC, Lockport, NY for a weekend of
fun.

Cost-\$50

Itineraries and permission slips will
be handed out in YF

We will be leaving on the 27th at
5:30p and returning on the 29th at
8:30p.

J.O.S.H.U.A. '08

This year's mission trip to Steuben-
ville, OH is from July 6th-11th. Cost
is \$175

Summer Bash '08

Instead of regular YF on Sunday nights throughout July and August we are going to
be enjoying the summer together for 6 weeks of fun in the sun. The first two events
are as follows:

July 20th-Softball game vs. FUMC and cookout (2p-5p) – bring snack
July 27th-Indians baseball game (11:30a-until game ends) Cost is \$10 plus money for
food at the stadium

Other summer Youth events will be listed in the August Link.

Worship, Sermon and Music schedule for June thru July

Third Sunday After Pentecost

June 1, [Green]

Theme: Jesus teaches us to build our house (life) upon the rock.

Celebration: Baccalaureate: we will be recognizing our graduates. The celebration of Holy Communion will be moved to June 8.

Scriptures: Genesis 6:11-22; 7:24; 8:14-19; Psalm 46
Romans 1:16-17; 3:22b-28 (29-31)
Matthew 7:21-29

Music: A Bell Benediction "God Be With You"
Celebration Bells

Sermon: "Built On the Rock"

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

June 8, [Green]

Theme: Through God's grace & Power ordinary people become extraordinary blessings.

Celebration: Holy Communion will be celebrated.

Scriptures: Genesis 12:1-9; Psalm 33
Romans 4:13-25; Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

Music: "Breathe On Us Again" Larson
Chancel Choir

Sermon: "Called to Be a Blessing"

Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

June 15, [Green]

Theme: When it comes to discipleship, God announces a BOGO process: Be One; Grow One.

Celebration: Fathers in all circumstances will be lifted up in our prayers in recognition of Father's Day.

Scriptures: Genesis 18:1-15; Psalm 116
Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-23)

Music: "Who Will Go for Me?" Larson
Chancel Choir

Sermon: "Good News for Laborers"

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

June 22, [Green]

Theme: In the scope of eternity, whom or what should we really fear?

Scriptures: Genesis 21:8-21; Psalm 17
Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39

Sermon: "Whom to Fear"

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

June 29, [Green]

Theme: Escaping a life of sin; living a life of grace.

Scriptures: Genesis 22:1-14; Psalm 13
Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42

Sermon: "Overcoming Sin"

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

July 6, 2008 [Green]

Theme: Fulfilling the mission of Christ.

Celebration: Holy Communion will be celebrated.
We will consecrate our Joshua Mission Team.
We will also remember our nation's birthday in our prayers.

Scriptures: Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67; Psalm 72
Romans 7:15-25a;
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Sermon: "The Yoke's on You"

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

July 13, 2008 [Green]

Theme: We are called to faithfully sow the seeds of God's love.

Scriptures: Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 25
Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Sermon: "Sowing God's Word"
Joshua Team Report

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

July 20, 2008 [Green]

Scriptures: Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139
Romans 8:12-25;
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Sermon: Guest Preacher

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

July 27, 2008 [Green]



PRAYER GROUP

Tuesday Mornings 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

The Prayer Group begins by sharing news and concerns, we pray together for about 30 minutes and then discuss a chapter of a book. We always pray aloud the names of those on our prayer concern list and are particularly available if persons need prayer for healing and would like to extend the invitation for others to join us.

The book is by Marjorie J. Thompson entitled, "Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life." A new book means a new opportunity to come and join the group for a period of time. Marjorie invites us to reflect upon the following topics: the spiritual yearning of our time; the nature and practice of spiritual reading; approaches to prayer; our common worship; rediscovering the fast; self-examination, confession and awareness; the gift of spiritual direction; the spirit of hospitality; and developing a rule of life. We will spend two weeks on each of these topics.

WEBSITE CHANGES

Be sure to check out our church website. Pastor Jim has been making some nice changes to it to share better with others what Christ UMC and it's people are all about. To see the changes, go to <http://www.christumcashland.org>.

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

The Gospel of Matthew

Pastor Jim is leading a 13 week study on the Gospel of Matthew on Sunday evenings from 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. The study will take us through the end of June. We will be using a book by Justo L. González. The cost of the book is \$12.00.

The study will include a daily reading of the gospel and a reading from the study book which will lead the student to **see** what is in the text, **judge** what it means for the student's life and **act** in response to God's word for our life. González writes that "we do not read and study the Bible only to be *informed*, but also and above to be *formed*."

You do not need prior knowledge to participate, just the willingness to hear and to be shaped by the word of God.

PARISH VISITORS

Parish ministry is seeking volunteers to serve communion to Shut Ins for anybody unable to attend church. Volunteers will be encouraged to visit once or twice monthly and serve communion quarterly. Prayerfully consider participating in this ministry and contact Pastor Jim or Doris Hintz if you have a desire to help in this way.

To members of Christ UMC,

It has been a great opportunity personally and professionally to be a part of Christ United Methodist Church. Everyone has been kind and supportive and I have been blessed by all the people I have come in contact with. As I have worked at Christ Church I have been able to minister and be in ministry with some amazing people that I am privileged to call my friends. In every way I feel I have found a home away from home in Christ Church.

I want to thank all the people involved with giving me this opportunity. Thank you to all the Stephen Ministers at our church for their love and kindness to me and making me feel welcome. You have been a huge blessing to me and have been the hands and feet of Jesus to me these last couple of years. I also want to thank Pastor Jim for his leadership and guidance helping me through this professional journey I am on.

In June I will be starting an internship for Chaplaincy certification at Med Central Hospital in Mansfield. I am excited for this opportunity and hoping that I will be able to get into the yearlong residence program to complete the Chaplaincy training. During this time I will also be working on the ordination process for the United Methodist Church. I do not know where God will lead me after that but I am confident that he will lead me to where he wants me to be.

I thank you all for your support and friendship and ask that you keep me in your prayers. Christ United Methodist will be in mine.

In His love,
Jeff Cummings

[Jeff has served on the CUMC staff as Congregational Care minister.]

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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EQUIPPING THE CONGREGATION FOR MINISTRY

The Church phone number is (419)289-0507. Extension numbers are listed following the names.

Pastor	Rev. James J. Cox.	ext 101	jcoxCUMC@zoominternet.net
Volunteer Deacon under Appointment	Rev. Jane Jacques		jjacques@zoominternet.net
Director of Music	Rev. David deSilva	ext 102	ddeSilva@ashland.edu
Administrative Assistant	Barb Raudebaugh	ext 100	braudebaugh@zoominternet.net
Treasurer	Nichole Lang	ext 104	nlangCUMC@zoominternet.net
Financial Secretary, volunteer	Brenda Gardner	ext 301	
Congregational Care Minister	Jeff Cummings	ext 304	jcummingsCUMC@zoominternet.net
Youth Director	Jared Priset	ext 103	jprisetCUMC@zoominternet.net
Christian Education Director	Donna Jean deSilva	ext 105	djdeSilvaCUMC@zoominternet.net
Hand bell and Treble Clef Choir Director	Anne Oberholtzer	ext 108	anneoberholtzer@hotmail.com
Custodian	Carol Lee	ext 302	
Trustees	Kenny Oberholtzer	ext 303	
Kitchen		ext 107	
Administrative Lay Leader	Bill Achberger		wcachberger@yahoo.com
Program Lay Leader	Bea North		beanorth@zoominternet.net
Membership Secretary	Patti Hill		scamphill@zoominternet.net
Congregational Care Associate Lay Leader	Suzanne Salvo		ssalvo@ashland.edu
Education/ Youth Associate Lay Leader	Carol Oberholtzer		oberholtzer3@hughes.net
Worship Associate Lay Leader	Jane Ruggles		gruggles@zoominternet.net
New Member Coordinator	Doris Hintz		
Outreach and Missions Associate Lay Leader	Bertina Schwartz		
Volunteer Office Personnel			
Bulletin Board Volunteer	Velma Pifer		
Greeter Coordinator	Patsy Barr		
Office Volunteers	Portia Abrams, Mary Ellen Budd, Jane Eshelman, Freeman & Marilyn Harper, Ann McMillen, Norma Repp, Norma Underwood, Eileen Withers		
Office and All-Around Volunteer	Mary Lou & Peggy Spicer, Marge Whitcomb		
	George Boyer		