

# The VOICE

*“Working together to make the difference that matters.”*

**TO WIN TO COMMIT TO GROW TO UNITE**

## **Paul’s Place—February 2008** **FROM WELCOMING TO INVITING**

At the center of Brunswick there is a sign that contains information about community events. It’s very high tech and changes every few seconds. “Brunswick High school senior choir is having a concert in the PA on March the \_\_\_\_\_. The public is welcome.” I know I’m welcome, but what’s a PA and where’s the High School? “The American Legion is having its annual fish fry. Everyone is welcome.” I know I am welcome, but where is the American Legion?

I drive by churches all the time and see the signs that say, “Everyone is welcome.” I have yet to feel the urge to go to the church because its sign says I am welcome.

NECC’s past experience has proven that those events that are most highly attended and successful are those events where people personally invite others to come to the event. There is just something about a personal invitation that helps people to know that they are truly welcome. “People like to be invited.” We have learned this within our membership for those internal events. Dinners, bible studies, exercise classes, picnics, game nights, youth events, all do better when people have been personally invited by a friend.

**The Strategic Plan pushes us to not just be a “welcoming church” to people who may drop by some Sunday mornings. We are encouraged to invite people to worship as well as all the other events in the church. The choir has often been an entry point for people to become a part of the church family. The choir isn’t just for members. We can invite our friends and neighbors who like to sing to come and join the choir. The church picnic, the dinners out, the youth groups, bible studies, the morning worship services and classes are not just for members.**

*Please take some time and think about family members, friends, and neighbors whom you might invite to church. The number one reason people claim to be in church is that someone invited them. The number one reason people give for not being in church is that no one invited them.*



**ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE...February 6, 2008 7:30 p.m.**

We will be joining with 5 other Disciple churches and choirs to worship at LAKEWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH (17153 Detroit Rd.) Rev. Brenda Webster will be the speaker for the evening.

North Eaton Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
35895 Royalton Rd.  
Grafton, Ohio 44044  
**Address Service Requested**

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Grafton, OH 44044  
Permit No. 8

**Minister: Dr. Paul H. Durbin**

Licensed Minister: Judy Ponting

Christian Ed. And Youth Director: Polly Tallos

Secretary: Londa Blaine

Pathways Counseling and Growth Center: Dr. Ralph Thompson

Choir Director: Kyle Vander Schrier

Pianist: Carla McElhaney

[www.neccdisciples.com](http://www.neccdisciples.com)

## Maundy Thursday Worship Service—

Please join us for a special worship service on Maundy Thursday, March 21st, which will be modeled after the Traditional Seder Supper. We will gather at 6:00 P.M. in the fellowship hall where dinner will be served. A voluntary offering will be accepted.

The actual Seder meal takes 6 hours! Our version of the Seder is meant to educate us on a meal that Jesus experienced immediately before his Passion. This was something important to Him, so it's important to us.

This experience will be filled with symbolism. Each part of the meal (soup, salad, chicken, etc.) is meant to remind the participant of some part of the Exodus story. (Please bring your children as they are an important part of the Seder experience.)

Selected readings and singing will add to the spiritual experience of the meal.

## Mom's Group.....

**Happy New Year! Now that the busy holidays are over and the bitter cold days have kept us in the house, it's time to get together and have some play time and adult talk time. Anyone with young children (grandparents, dads, caregivers, moms) are invited to join us.**

**MONDAY, February 4th, 10:30 Midway Mall Food Court entrance**  
**We will have our strollers ready to roll a few laps around the Mall, then we will stop in the "play area" for fun. Bring your lunch or buy in the food court.**



**WEDNESDAY, February 13th, 6:00-7:30 P.m. Meet at church in the Nursery**  
**Bring a "sweet treat" to share or take it home for later, or just come for the play time.**

*Don't forget the Kid's Resale @ Midview East Elementary, February 2nd, 9:00-1:00*  
*Complete kid's resale events are on the Youth bulletin board in the fellowship hall.*

**We hope you will give us the opportunity to get to know you. This is a great way for our children to interact and we get to talk in complete sentences. We will be planning more fun time .....bumper bowling, duck pond, Memphis Kiddie Park, zoo, parks and playgrounds. Share your ideas with us so we can plan our schedule for the year.**

**Any questions call: Jen Hayward, 365-1846, Rachel Trimble 647-4796,  
Kelly Rose, 365-9584**



## DIACONATE serving in FEBRUARY 2008

**8:00** Maureen Cromling, Wade Colvin

**9:30** Paula & Mike Krasnevich, Jerry Mullins, Mark Carpenter,  
Marlene Black, Leslie Klein, Melissa Folk (TL), Jackie Haumschild,  
Diana & George Butcher, J J Haumschild



**ELDERS** Glenn Swartz, Jeff Hensley

## WEEK OF COMPASSION

*“Sharing Resources—Changing Lives”*

For decades, WEEK OF COMPASSION has shared many resources and engaged in ministries that transform both *giver and receiver*. We continue the call of Jesus today, as we respond to the ongoing, urgent humanitarian crisis in the Sudan. We are working alongside farmers in Nicaragua to install wells and cisterns to gain access to an adequate, clean water supply. In southern India, we are providing fishing boats and nets to hundreds of fishermen and women who lost their livelihoods in the tsunami. We are contributing to the long-term economic and social development of an entire community in the poorest region of Bosnia. In Zimbabwe, we are distributing vegetable seeds to families who are now able to grow their own food. Along the Gulf South, we are actively working to help rebuild communities as part of the Disciples Hurricane Recovery Initiative.

*Through the sharing of our resources, we are truly making a difference in this suffering world. Please give with open hands and hearts to WEEK OF COMPASSION, knowing that through your sharing, many lives (including yours) are changed!*

*Use the special envelope attached to this newsletter, extra envelopes on the table in the Narthex, or add your gift to your regular offering.*

*Michaelene Durbin—World Outreach*

### Swim Night for the whole family....

The Christian Education Team is planning an all church Swim Night at the Strongsville Recreation Center, on Wednesday, March 26, (over Easter vacation) The kiddie pool is 0 entry- like walking in off the beach- with a Pirate Ship water play area including three slides and a tunnel.

There is also a separate large slide for older kids and a water basketball area. The cost will be \$5 plus anything you want to spend in the vending machines.

Mark your calendar—  
more info to follow in  
VOICE & Sunday  
bulletin.



### Easter Egg Hunt Sunday, March 16th

2:00 P.M.

*The field in back of  
the church.....*

*For ages 3 thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade*

*The Christian Education  
Team will be hosting an  
Easter Egg Hunt on  
Sunday, March 16 at 2:00 P.M.*



***Donations needed:*** wrapped Easter Candy, small and large prizes. ***We do not need any eggs at this time.***

*If you have any questions please see:*

*Polly Tallos, Melissa Folk or Robin Galvin.*

### New Classroom arrangements:

When you walk through the Educational Wing of the church building you will notice some changes. The Christian Education Committee is looking to the future. Part of our vision is to grow more Adult Bible Studies on Sunday morning and during the week. We have rearranged the childrens Sunday School classes to better use the space we have.

We were able to provide a more comfortable room for the new adult class, 9 Steps to Financial Freedom, lead by Mary Barnes. They outgrew their first room!!!

If you have any questions please contact Polly Tallos, Melissa Folk or Robin Galvin.

## **FEBRUARY birthdays & anniversaries**

- 2 Loretta St.Andre
- 5 Eleanor Smith  
Cody Knorr
- 6 Fran Walker  
Linda Ickes
- 7 Beth Wilson
- 8 Marie Ternes  
Marty Blaine
- 9 Linda Johnson  
Susie Naylor
- 11 Sierra New
- 12 Alan Munn  
John Haupt
- 13 Becky Marks
- 14 Bonnie Hicks  
Tim Tyler  
Mary Bengough
- 15 Kristen Hicks  
Jacob Zawoyski
- 17 Glenn Swartz
- 18 Amanda Klein  
Kelly Rose
- 19 Gene Yost
- 20 Stu Hicks Sr.  
Adam Quest
- 21 Royce Klein
- 22 Madeline Blaine
- 23 Breanna Bokar
- 24 Jill & Tom Hartness
- 25 Jim Bokar  
Laura Carpenter
- 26 Jeff & Chris Hensley
- 27 Cindy Kaufman
- 29 Edna Carpenter



## **You are invited.....**

If you want to join some others in our church in reading and then talking about challenging, inspiring and exciting books of the faith, I (**Becky Thompson**) invite you to join our new **BOOK STUDY and DISCUSSION** group that will begin in early May.

Books that we are looking at to read include: **Set Free To Be**, Manfred Brauch; **Mere Christianity**, C.S. Lewis; **The New Being**, Paul Tillich; **On Being A Real Person**, Harry Emerson Fosdick; and **An Interpretation of Christian Ethics**, Reinhold Neibuhr. These books can guide us in learning about and deepening our commitment to Jesus Christ, in integrating our faith with daily life, and in critically reflecting on issues of living our faith in today's world. If you want to study, learn, share, have some fun, and grow in this way, please join us.

I will provide more information in THE VOICE as the time for our group approaches. See me at church or call me at home if you have any questions or thoughts about the group. I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you soon.  
**Becky Thompson (323-5009)**

## **New telephone number for STU & BONNIE HICKS...440-353-3410**

### **Young Adults Game Night for February.... (19-30 yrs. Single & Couples w/no children)**

This month we will meet at the home of Polly and Pete Tallos, 34365 Brokaw Rd. Columbia Station on Saturday, February 23, @ 5:00 p.m. Bring an appetizer to share. Got a new game? We're willing to learn.

**RSVP**—Polly Tallos, 748-2246 by February 17th

### **Pathways Counseling & Growth Center**

*"Helping people to heal and grow in body, mind and spirit"*

*Pathways provided 2,732 hours of counseling in 2007, and a goal of 3,000 hours for 2008. With over 38,000 residents in Lorain County without health insurance of any kind, we are seeing more of them coming to us for help. Our goal for 2008 is to help provide counseling for every uninsured person that comes to us. The generous financial and spiritual support of North Eaton Christian Church and our other covenant churches is a blessing. We are the largest provider of faith-based mental health counseling services in Lorain County. Our services include family, individual, couples and group counseling in many areas.*

*PATHWAYS is located at 312 Third Street, downtown Elyria. Tel # 323-5707*

*FLYERS with more information are in the church office and on the table in the Narthex.*

### **Welcome new member.....**

We are pleased to welcome **BOB BROWNE** into our church family. Bob has been active in worship and the men's group ever since he married Sarah Purdy and join her family here at North Eaton. Bob and Sarah live in Lakewood. We welcome Bob as an official member of North Eaton Christian Church.

## JR. WORSHIP @ the 9:30 worship service . . . . .

It's been a while since we explained why the young children bring their offering forward with prayer, before going to Jr. Worship. Jr. Worship is for children 3-6 years of age who worship in a Sunday School room while their parents worship in the sanctuary. We feel it is important to give them experience sitting in the sanctuary with their family in a worshipful atmosphere. The congregation also gets to see all the children in our church family. We want them to understand that tithing is as much a part of worship as prayer. Having the older children lead the prayer gives them a chance to become comfortable being in front of the congregation and the opportunity to have a leadership role in worship.

## 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

IT'S TIME ONCE AGAIN TO START GETTING YOUR CHILI APPETITE READY FOR ANOTHER FRIENDLY COMPETITION BETWEEN CHURCHES. THIS YEAR THE CHILI COOK-OFF WILL AGAIN TAKE PLACE AT THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN BRUNSWICK, 3611 Center Road, Brunswick.

THE DAY, OF COURSE, WILL BE 'FAT TUESDAY', FEBRUARY 5<sup>TH</sup> FROM 6:30 UNTIL 9:00. OTHER AREA CHURCHES HAVE BEEN INVITED AS WELL.

EACH CHURCH SHOULD TRY TO PROVIDE AT LEAST ONE POT OF CHILI PER 8 PEOPLE ATTENDING. DIG OUT YOUR FAVORITE RECIPE AND ENTER IT IN THE COMPETITION. A SIGN-UP SHEET IS IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL. PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO THE WINNERS IN SEVERAL CATEGORIES. IF YOU DON'T WANT TO ENTER THE COMPETITION PLEASE COME FOR THE FOOD, FUN, AND ENTERTAINMENT.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE OLMSTED FALLS HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND. THEY ARE QUITE A TREAT TO LISTEN TO. WE HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE THERE!

THE BRUNSWICK CHURCH CURRENTLY HOLDS THE COVETED 'CHAMPION CHILI FOR CHRIST' TROPHY, BUT HOPEFULLY NECC CAN HAVE THE HONORS THIS YEAR. IF YOU WOULD LIKE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT JACKIE HAUMSCHILD; [JHAUM@COX.NET](mailto:JHAUM@COX.NET)



### Scrap Booking

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of February, and March  
Two times to choose from: 10 AM or 5:30 PM

Calling all Scrap Book enthusiasts! Do you have projects that need to be worked on? Silly question!! Bring your projects to the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, February 20, and March 19. Join your scrap booking friends as we all catch up on our Christmas Scrap books and more!! You can come in the morning at 10 AM or in the evening at 5:30 PM. Heck, come to both! (Ideally this is a time for just the girls. If a babysitter is needed please let Polly Tallos know.) There is no cost and you do not have to be a member of the church. Bring a snack to share.

Creative Memories Consultant Yvonne LoPresto will be joining us in February and March to share ideas and offer scrap booking products for sale. There is no cost for the time you spend scrap booking. Don't Scrap? That's OK. Bring your Stamping Up, knitting, crochet, or whatever and join us for the fellowship.

If you have any questions please contact Polly Tallos at 440-748-2246 or [pollypetallos@yahoo.com](mailto:pollypetallos@yahoo.com)

### Youth Sunday—February 3, 2008

The Youth will be leading worship on Sunday, February 3, 2008. The message will include the High School Youth (CYF) sharing some of their experiences from their July 2007 Mission Trip to Walpole Island, Ontario. Aaron Durbin will also be sharing about his time in China. Tyler Bokman will be sharing his musical talent with us again. Other youth will be participating in the service as well.

If you have any questions please contact Polly Tallos at 440-748-2246 or [pollypetallos@yahoo.com](mailto:pollypetallos@yahoo.com)