

The VOICE

“Working together to make the difference that matters.”

TO WIN TO COMMIT TO GROW TO UNITE

(440)748-2230

Visit us at: www.neccdisciples.com

Paul's Place SEPTEMBER 2008 IT'S NOT EVANGELISM AND IT'S WRONG!

Last month, a member of another church stopped by the office with publicity materials for an event at her church. Londa explained that we were already offering the same event. The woman then made an attempt to recruit Londa to come to her church because they have a wonderful program. She wanted to give Londa a brochure of her church so she could decide for herself if it might be a good place to attend.

Attempting to recruit active members of one church to change churches is wrong. At North Eaton Church, we welcome visitors from other churches, but we do not recruit them. If they decide that NECC is a place where they can grow and serve Jesus Christ, we will do everything we can to welcome them. If they decide that NECC provides a better place to grow and serve the Lord, we will welcome them. We do not recruit people away from one church to ours.

In a post Christian era, the goal of evangelism is to reach the un-churched, the disillusioned one time churched, and those who have no understanding of Jesus Christ and the message of salvation. The behavior of the person trying to recruit Londa will do nothing to proclaim the salvation message of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Sadly, there are some churches and individuals who think they are the ones with the true unblemished message of Jesus. That becomes their justification in such unethical behavior. It is not evangelism and it is wrong!

The strategic plan we have adopted calls each member to be an evangelist. We want NECC to grow, but we must never lose sight of the ultimate goal. We are to bring people to Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. That is more important than filling the pews on Sunday morning.

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

NON PROFIT ORG
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

"Christmas In the Country Bazaar"

Saturday, November 8th

9:00-3:00



To "kick-off" the plans for the bazaar, there will be a meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 10th at 6:30 p.m. at the church. If YOU would like to help or want to see what it is all about, we welcome you to join us. The bazaar has been a successful community gathering of fun and fellowship for years but we are always open to new ideas.

My thanks to the ladies who have volunteered to head up the different areas of the bazaar. They will need many VOLUNTEERS to help them. If you would like to help please contact the chairperson or Laura Kuhn, 327-5219.

Bakery	Rebekah Circle-Marge Houston (440) 748-2583
Kid's Rm.	Jennifer Hayward (440)365-1846
Trash & Treasurer	Londa Blaine (440)748-2686
Youth Table	Polly Tallos (440)748-2246
Lunch Counter	Marie Ternes (440)365-3632
Craft Tables	Marge Houston (440)748-2583
Drawing ticket sales	Fran Early & Laura Kuhn



DRAWING — Roberta Balogh has donated another QUILT but we would love to have other donations for our drawing: Afghans, gas/gift cards, gift baskets etc.

NECC CRAFT TABLE — If you are talented in the "craft area" and would be willing to donate an item to our table please contact Laura Kuhn.

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE — 9:00-1:00 Come and have lunch, check out what's for sale and then donate blood. It's an easy yet life-saving way to give back to the community.

Can't make the meeting? Call Laura if you need information or want to share ideas.

God's Green Earth: PAPER RECYCLING IS HERE! PAPER RECYCLING IS HERE!

There is a new GREEN and YELLOW bin near the church dumpster for PAPER RECYCLING. Part of our commitment to following Christ is taking care of all God's creations, including the earth. We can care for the earth through paper recycling because we will save 17 trees for each ton of paper we collect, 2 barrels of oil per ton, decrease air pollution, and also earn money in the process.

The GREEN and YELLOW bin CAN take:

- Newspapers
- Magazines & Catalogs (NOT phone books)
- General Office Paper, church bulletins
- Junk Mail, Envelopes (including envelopes with plastic windows)
- Sticky notes
- Computer Paper
- Posters & Folders
- Notebooks (without metal spirals or plastic covers)
- Shredded paper contained in plastic bags (NO loose shreds)

**NO phone
books or
cardboard!**

A complete list of items the bin CAN take and CANNOT take will be made available to those who would like a copy. Please contact Nanci Ickes if you would like more information (440-235-8956) or Nanci.Ickes@gmail.com) or check out PaperRetriever.com for more information about Abitibi Bowater.

This initiative is sponsored by the "NECC ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE."

Dear God,

My dad had a favorite saying, "You can't get there from here." I never understood that until the all the road construction began in Eaton Township.

First the bridge in front of our house was closed and the county workers started to remove it. My main route of travel is out of our driveway and head north. That's the way to the hospital, nursing homes and shopping. No more. Now I can only go south to Rt. 82, then work my way to Rt. 83 or Rt. 57.

Last week when I went to the Ternes home, the detour took a 1.4 mile trip and made it 7.5 miles. Every time I go calling I need to travel extra miles. Then add the cost of gas we waste as we wait for the one lane to open and trucks to move.

The state also decided to repave Rt. 57 North of Grafton as well as resurface Rt. 82. Everywhere I go there are barrels, traffic directors, gravel, tar and detours. "You can't get there from here." The electric company now has a tree service trimming the trees that interfere with the power lines. That closes the "one lane" that WAS open.?!@#%?!&?! Frustration!

It will be at least 6 more weeks before the bridge is repaired. I am frustrated, however, the mail people, garbage pickup, school buses and so many others have more inconvenience.

I need to remember that the people working on the bridge and roads have to endure heat, dirt, and frustrated people like me. Bless them all Lord, and keep them safe.

I keep telling my self, when everything is done we will have beautiful new roads to travel. I continue to tell my self !!!! I am still telling myself !!! Daddy was right, "You can't get there from here."

Isaiah 33:8; " The highways are deserted, travelers have quit the road."

Love, Judy

Remember the STRATEGIC PLAN???

Early in 2008, after many months of prayerful consideration by over 100 members of the NECC family, the Future Story and Strategic Plan was presented to the congregation. Since that time, the Strategic Plan Steering Committee was established by the Elders. This committee is made up of the Elders and 5 lay people from the congregation who are COMMITTED to moving the plans forward. Thanks to the members of the Steering Committee and others that are helping, we are making progress.

A Communication Task Force, another important part of the Strategic Plan, is now getting underway to keep you informed about our progress and the new activities that are in the plans.

One of the important strategies of the Plan is to develop more "small groups" throughout the church. Please take time to complete the QUESTIONNAIRE that is a part of this month's Voice. **Please keep in mind that the questionnaire asks what YOU would like to be a part of in the church and not what you think should be part of the church's program.**



To encourage you to fill out the questionnaire, we are having a drawing for two \$25.00 gas cards. All questionnaires must be submitted by SEPT. 15th.

We will be celebrating our Strategic Plans achievements during our **NECC 166th Anniversary Luncheon on October 12th**. YOU are an important part of the plan. Please plan to attend.

Bill Cromling II
Chairman

Mom's Group for September...
Saturday, Sept. 20th, 10:30 a.m.
WILLOW PARK - (Grafton, Rt. 57)
Bring a bag lunch and then we'll
make ice cream cones.

LOOKING AHEAD IN October:
Friday, October 24th 6:00 p.m.
2nd annual Pumpkin Fest at the
Blaine's, 9700 Island Rd. We will
carve pumpkins (provided), roast hot
dogs & marshmallows over the fire.
Bring a simple dish/dessert to share.
Come dressed for a hayride! Bring
the whole family. Any questions call
Jen, 440-365-1846.

Fair Grant Allocations

Each year the congregation is given the opportunity to ask for some of the Fair profits. A Fair Grant application is filled out and given to the Fair Grant Committee. They will evaluate the Grants and recommend to the Council how the funds should be distributed.

2008 FAIR GRANT forms are available:
SEE: Chris Hensley, Polly Tallos or check the
church office for the FORMS.

Let's celebrate our Sunday
School Teachers! *We are asking any and everyone who has ever attended a Bible Study or Sunday School class to express their appreciation for the time that leader gave in helping you learn more about the word of God. Show your appreciation in writing on the "roll around" bulletin board in the fellowship hall. The teacher can be living or dead. It is never to late to express thanks.*
Melissa Folk

Dining Out For Adults...Monday, Sept. 29th 6:30 p.m.

Couples, singles, join us for dinner and get to know each other. Our summer activities are coming to an end and it's time to get back indoors. We will be going to AROMA'S, 33481 Lake Road, Avon Lake.

SIGNUP in the fellowship hall after worship or call the church office, 748-2230 .

If you have an ENTERTAINMENT BOOK 2008, the menu is are on page B31. You do not have to have an Entertainment book to join us for dinner.



.....
• Our donations for the Salvation Army for August netted us 111 bars of soap •
• and a bonus of 12 toothbrushes....THANK YOU! •

Special Offering

Discretionary Fund==Love Offering

SEPTEMBER is the month set aside to have an offering taken that will enable us to financially help active members of our own church.

Through World Outreach, we are able to help missions, colleges, seminaries, disaster areas, other congregations, and new churches in our country and around the world. This particular offering allows us to help our own church members who find themselves in a financial bind. With the economy the way it is today, there may be some individuals who find that some financial aid will get them through their tight situation.

THANK YOU to all who support this critical fund.

It is greatly appreciated.



CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN OHIO —2008 Regional Assembly
October 17-18, 2008 DUBLIN, OHIO
REGISTRATION FORMS AND INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAMS OFFERED ARE ON THE
TABLE IN THE NARTHEX. Any other questions see Dr. Durbin

Rebekah Circle Rummage Sale —Thursday Sept. 4th, 9:00-3:00

September birthdays and anniversaries!

- 1 Don Nash
Doug Busche
Fran Houston
- 2 Chester Nowak
- 3 Carol Swartz
- 5 Jo Walsh
Grace Hayward
Stephanie & Rob Szuch
- 6 Eddie & Trina Karban
Alicia Petersen
- 7 Sharon Mullins
Jeff & Janice Brunger
- 8 Mary Scott, Briana New
- 9 Dick & Londa Blaine
- 10 Don & Ruth Nash
- 11 Royce & Leslie Klein
- 12 Patty Meldrum
- 14 Allison Mott, Amanda Mott,
Jim & Sue Smith, Josh Blaine
- 15 Brooklyn Daniels
Debra Blackburn
Kim Blaine
- 17 Bob Browne
- 18 Chris Adair
Dick & Shirley Edwards
Chester & Sandy Nowak
- 19 Polly Tallos
Paul & Jennifer Hayward
- 20 J. J. Haumschild
- 22 Jerry Mullins
Samantha Hensley
- 23 Roger & Lisa Woodby
- 24 Lee Daniels
- 26 Claire Kauf, Dennis Folk
- 27 Thelma Hurley
Tyler Marks
Mark & Patty Meldrum
- 28 Dean Galvin
Randy & Laura Kuhn
- 29 Cindy Hicks

Looking ahead @ important dates in the month of OCTOBER.....

- 4 A P E '08**
- 5 COUNCIL MEETING**
- 12 NECC "166th Anniversary"
(Dinner and celebration)**

OCTOBER birthdays & anniversaries you don't want to miss before you get the October VOICE:

- 2 Steve & Debbie Cihla
Bryan Garvin
- 3 Vic Susak
- 4 Pearl Jontz (96)
- 5 Gerry & Tony Piscola
Lee & Pam Daniels
- 7 Mark Carpenter
- 10 Helen Fisher
Melissa & Dennis Folk

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS 2009

The Membership Team, under the direction of CINDY THOMPSON, is selling the books each Sunday morning after the worship services. The cost HAS NOT gone up! They are still \$25.00, which makes them a great bargain.

Tell your friends and family to purchase their books from NECC.

SERVING IN SEPTEMBER during worship.....

8:00 Jim and Linda Ickes

9:30 Ken Hicks, Tammy Gamble, Polly Tallos, Royce Klein, Phyllis & Floyd Chapman, Dan Hicks, Tom Walsh, Nikki Teper, Sally Belfi (Kitchen)

Elders: Linda Rodak and Bill Cromling



“Praise God from whom all blessings flow.....” as the song goes. We do have many blessings to be thankful for. We can also be thankful that we are able to help those who are less fortunate at some point in their life. Each month we will be focusing on a specific item you can donate to CORNERSTONE and/or SALVATION ARMY. *Bring them with you on Sunday morning and place them in the box provided in the fellowship hall. Any questions see MARIE TERNES.*

SEPTEMBER

CORNERSTONE

Disposable WIPES

SALVATION ARMY

TOOTHPASTE (sample size and up)