

## Writings From The Rev - July 2010

Anyone who has known me for any length of time will know how important Camp Christian has been in my life, my faith, and my ministry. I can easily say that Camp Christian is a major part of why I am in ministry today.

And when I say Camp Christian, I don't mean the place as a physical location, although it is beautiful. It is truly the people and the experiences associated with this place that have shaped and molded my understanding of the Christian Faith, my personal relationship with God, Christ, and Holy Spirit, and many of the values that define my character and who I am.

I have lost count of the number of times I have been to this very special place. It began with my first year at Chi Rho camp back in the summer of 1963, Camp Portage. And except for an error in judgment my freshmen year of high school, one which prevented me from attending my first year of Conference (a decision I still regret to this day), for the next 10 years I attended Wilmington Conference (3) and Advance Conference (7), even while serving in the Air Force. Then there was a five-year gap while being out of state in Indiana and Florida. From 1983 to the present, I have been a part of Hiram Conference. As you read this I will be attending Hiram Conference for the 28<sup>th</sup> year, serving as an Assistant Director for 26 of those years. That's a total of 40 years of Camp and Conference.

Yet, these were not the only times I came to Camp Christian. There were minister retreats, youth councils, counselor training, family camps, workdays, and overnight stays for other meetings in Columbus.

This place is where I first met my wife, Terri. She was on Camp Staff and I was just out of the Air Force, attending Hiram College in the Fall, and coming down for another year of Advance Conference. In fact, we spent part of our Honeymoon at Camp Christian. Our first month of marriage was Honeymoon, a week of Chi Rho and a week of Conference as Counselors, and then a week of Advance Conference when I served as Conference President.

All of my children attended the Camp and Conference programs. Emily served as a State Officer, Trevor was a Hiram Conference Officer, and Amber spent a whole summer of college filming and producing the current Camp and Conference Promotional Videos. As you can see, a good part of my life is connected to this awesome place.

But again, it's not the place, it's the people who have made this place what it is. It was people, counselors and other campers, who help me put the pieces of my faith together, helping me reach the point of making my confession of faith. It was people at this place who helped me begin to hear my call to ministry. It's this place where people are still helping me, encouraging me, and supporting me in my ministry. This place is where I have experienced the Spirit of God alive and working through many people, touching lives, touching me.

So, the next time someone asks you, or your children, or grandchildren to go down to Camp Christian, for whatever reason, make it a point to go. That's my prayer for you.



# The VOICE

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

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**Visit us at: [www.neccdisciples.com](http://www.neccdisciples.com)**

**Lorain County Fair — NECC Food Booth — Aug. 23-29th**

Our church has had the largest food booth under the grandstand at the Fair for over 45 years. This means we have had generations of families working in the food booth with many stories to tell. Daily work schedules will be posted in the fellowship hall in August. We have three different work times—**Early morning, afternoon and evening.** Schedule a vacation day, a day off, or arrange for a sitter or a “grandparents day” for your children. It is work but it is fun! Any questions call the church: 748-2230. **See you at the fair!**

**North Eaton Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**

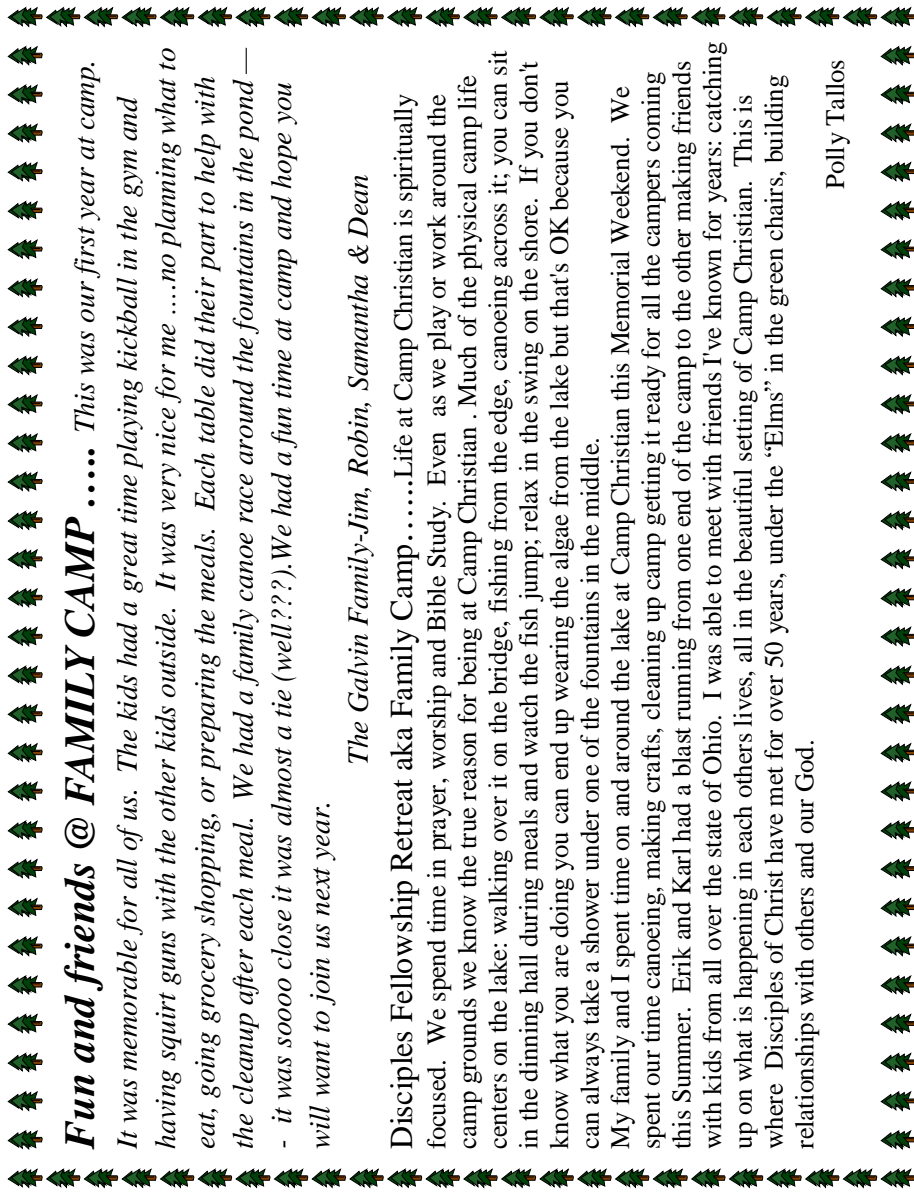
**35895 Royalton Rd.  
Grafton, Ohio 44044  
440-748-2230**

**Address Service Requested**

**Interim Minister: Rev. Ralph S. Wearstler  
Christian Ed. And Youth Director: Polly Tallos  
Secretary: Londa Blaine**

**Pianist: Kim Speiran-Wells  
Interim Worship & Music Directors: Diana Tyler & Lanson Wells  
Pathways Counseling and Growth Center: Dr. Ralph Thompson**

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### **Fun and friends @ FAMILY CAMP .....** *This was our first year at camp.*

*It was memorable for all of us. The kids had a great time playing kickball in the gym and having squirt guns with the other kids outside. It was very nice for me ....no planning what to eat, going grocery shopping, or preparing the meals. Each table did their part to help with the cleanup after each meal. We had a family canoe race around the fountains in the pond — - it was sooooo close it was almost a tie (well??). We had a fun time at camp and hope you will want to join us next year.*

*The Galvin Family-Jim, Robin, Samantha & Dean*

Disciples Fellowship Retreat aka Family Camp.....Life at Camp Christian is spiritually focused. We spend time in prayer, worship and Bible Study. Even as we play or work around the camp grounds we know the true reason for being at Camp Christian . Much of the physical camp life centers on the lake: walking over it on the bridge, fishing from the edge, canoeing across it; you can sit in the dining hall during meals and watch the fish jump; relax in the swing on the shore. If you don't know what you are doing you can end up wearing the algae from the lake but that's OK because you can always take a shower under one of the fountains in the middle.

My family and I spent time on and around the lake at Camp Christian this Memorial Weekend. We spent our time canoeing, making crafts, cleaning up camp getting it ready for all the campers coming this Summer. Erik and Karl had a blast running from one end of the camp to the other making friends with kids from all over the state of Ohio. I was able to meet with friends I've known for years: catching up on what is happening in each others lives, all in the beautiful setting of Camp Christian. This is where Disciples of Christ have met for over 50 years, under the "Elms" in the green chairs, building relationships with others and our God.

Polly Tallos



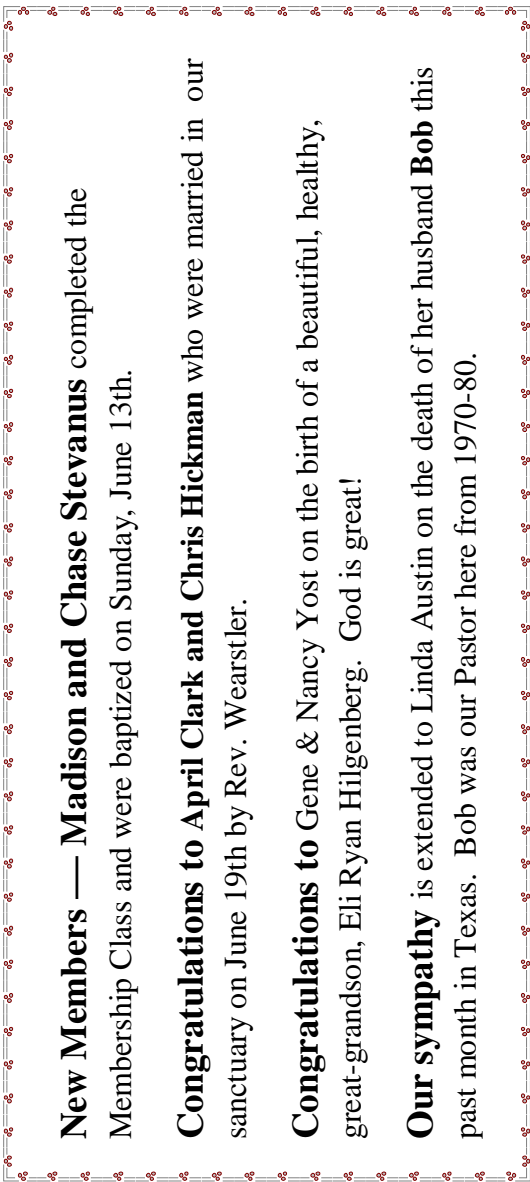
### **New Members — Madison and Chase Stevanus** completed the

Membership Class and were baptized on Sunday, June 13th.

**Congratulations to April Clark and Chris Hickman** who were married in our sanctuary on June 19th by Rev. Wearstler.

**Congratulations to Gene & Nancy Yost** on the birth of a beautiful, healthy, great-grandson, Eli Ryan Hilgenberg. God is great!

**Our sympathy** is extended to Linda Austin on the death of her husband **Bob** this past month in Texas. Bob was our Pastor here from 1970-80.



### **Outreach Offerings:**

Christian Outreach is the program by which we share our gifts, our time, and our lives with others to spread the gospel. To accomplish this goal, each month, a portion of our tithes and offerings is sent to the Ohio Disciples Outreach Program which then distributes our gifts to the various mission causes of our denomination and our region. These causes include the Disciples Mission Fund, the Ohio Disciples Operating Fund, in addition to special funds for new church starts, Camp Christian programs, Ecumenical conferences, Inner City programs, Seminary support, and Ministerial Relief.

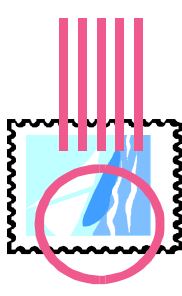
The largest distribution is sent to Disciples Mission Fund which is the church wide system of Outreach giving that supports local, regional, general and worldwide ministries. This fund is the way that we, as Disciples of Christ, share the love of the Lord, tell of the good news, and give hope and help to those in need, in our country and around the world.

More information will be in coming next month on the goals and activities of these ministries of our church.

Grace and Peace, Marlene Black

### **The Cancelled Stamp Outreach Program** is still ongoing.

*Thank you for taking the time to save the stamps and bring them in. I will be sending a box to habitat for Humanity and the VA Hospital. Just a reminder: we take all cancelled stamps with a 1/4 inch border cut around them. Your support is greatly appreciated.*



Marlene Black

### **Serving Schedule-July 2010**

**8:00**

Chris Hensley

**9:30**

Beth Wilson (TL), Ken & Cindy Hicks, Carol Bokman,  
Marlene Black, Carol Swartz, John Klinec, Diana Tyler,  
Jen Wilson, Tyler Bokman  
Stu Hicks, Ralph Thompson

**Elder:**

***The North Eaton Christian Church family would like to extend Congratulations to our Graduates of 2010:***

**High School**

Tyler Bokman  
Julie Haumschild  
Jennifer Wilson



**College**

Jeff Ickes  
Kent State University

BS in Political Science

**Masters Program**

Brian Insley  
Shari Insley

Bowling Green State University  
Bowling Green State University

Masters in Curriculum and Teaching  
Masters in Curriculum and Teaching

*Our graduates were recognized in worship on June 13th and treated to breakfast afterwards at Bob Evans.*

**Youth Mission Trip——“Week of Hope”  
Bay City, Michigan July 25-30, 2010**

**NECC Youth:** Paige Bokman, Tyler Bokman, Julie Haumschild, Jen Wilson, Kevin Wilson along with Polly Tallos, Rev. Ralph and Pete Majewski (WACC) will be participating in a Mission Trip to Bay City, MI. Much has changed since the Bay City region was settled more than 170 years ago...many elderly, widowed and disadvantaged residents are unable to make ends meet. Many local agencies struggle to support families through the hard winters and severe spring storms that have taken their toll.

Our group will partner with local churches, service agencies, and homeowners over the four days, to help bolster the efforts of the ongoing work in these communities. We'll learn new skills, serve in important roles, and have loads of fun as we: help people with projects in their home...assist the elderly...tutor struggling kids...conduct a backyard Bible club...serve at a food bank...staff an activities camp for disabled children...spruce up the grounds of a financially strapped social service agency...engage children at a day camp...and improve the community in many important ways.

The youth will be holding various fund raisers to help earn the money needed to take this trip to help others. The cost is \$199 per participant plus traveling costs; i.e. gas, dinner stops, and Walmart runs. The youth are responsible for the \$50 non-refundable registration fee and their incidentals. We try to raise all the money needed for any other costs. **If you have any questions or would like to make a donation toward our trip, please contact Polly Tallos.**

**Lorain County Fair—Monday, Aug. 23—Sunday, Aug. 29th**

**North Eaton Christian Church Summer Campers.....**The following youth and adults will be attending Camp at Camp Christian this summer. Please take a few minutes to send them a note to let them know you are thinking of and praying for them while they are away from home.

Camper's Name, Camp Attending, Camp Christian, Magnetic Springs, OH 43036 (mail by Wed. to get there on time.)

**Otter Partnership Camp—June 20-26**

Dean Galvin  
Taylor Salas  
Erik Tallos  
Julie Haumschild-- Activities Director

**Hiram Conference – June 27-July 3**

Karen Konko—Counselor  
Rev Ralph Wearstler—Asst. Director

**Portahoga Chi Rho Camp – July 11-17**

Paige Bokman  
Maggie Carpenter  
Samantha Galvin  
Selena Ramos  
Theresa Sizemore  
Chase Stevanus  
Maddie Stevanus  
Taylor Teper  
Kevin Wilson  
Shaun McBennett  
Beth Wilson—Counselor  
Polly Tallos—Asst. Director

**Wilmington Conference – August 1-7**

Tyler Bokman  
Julie Haumschild  
Jen Wilson

**Adventure Camp – August 8-14**

Carol Bokman — Counselor  
Diana Tyler – Counselor  
Tim Tyler – Counselor

**School Kits and**

**Non-perishable Food Items**

This August at Vacation Bible School we will be asking participants to bring in School Supplies and Non-perishable Food Items as offering. The School Supplies will be made into School Kits that will be taken to Regional Assembly in October. The Region will then send them on to Church World Services who will in turn send them to children in countries that have experienced a disaster. All Non-perishable food items will be donated to the North Eaton Christian Church Food Pantry. Would you please help us by bringing in school supplies and/or donating \$2 to help cover the cost of shipping the kits.

One pair of blunt metal scissors (rounded tip)  
Three 70-count spiral notebooks or notebooks totaling 200-210 pages (**no loose-leaf or filler paper**)

One 30-centimeter ruler (12")  
One hand-held pencil sharpener  
One large eraser

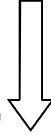
Six new pencils with erasers  
One box of 24 crayons (**only 24**)  
One 12" x 14" to 14" x 17" finished size cotton or lightweight canvas bag with cloth handles.  
**(Please, no reusable shopping bags or backpacks.)**

\$2 to cover shipping cost



## ALL CHURCH Outdoor WORKDAY...

*The Trustees would like to thank all those who came ready to work on Saturday, June 12th. The weather cooperated and we got a lot of work done. (Brian Insley, Jim Ickes, Mike Krasnevich, Jerry Mullins, Glenn Swartz, Floyd Chapman, Royce & Leslie Klein, Paula Krasnevich.) The Men's Group provided lunch which was served by Paula Krasnevich. We will plan another workday before Fall and hope you will be able to join us. Just like at home, we must take good care of the gifts God has provided for our use.*

**FATHER'S DAY .....**All Fathers that were in worship on Father's Day were presented a tape measure with the note that read "Dad, your love is immeasurable!"   
**Our thanks to the Membership Team for their thoughtfulness.**

## NECC JULY FAMILY EVENT

**July 11<sup>th</sup>** the family and friends of NECC are invited to attend the **Cleveland Tall Ships Festival**. We will be able to board the ships for a close-up viewing between the hours of 11:00am and 6:00pm.

### **Ticket prices are:**

Children 5 and under FREE,

Ages 6 – 14 yrs. — \$8.00

Ages 15 and above — \$14.00

Seniors — \$11.00

For more detailed information check out the website at [www.Clevelandtallships.com](http://www.Clevelandtallships.com). Let CAROL BOKMAN know if you are interested in attending and we'll decide transportation logistics and meeting locations as needed.



## Vacation Bible School

**Monday, August 9th — Friday, August 13th**



**5:30 Light Meal (Optional)**

**6:00 Egypt: Joseph's Journey From Prison to Palace**

Each day family members can become a part of history as they see, hear, touch and even taste what it was like to live in Pharaoh's empire! You'll discover more about how God was with Joseph in good times and bad. The Christian Education Team will need your help to make this year's VBS another successful week of fun and learning. We will need volunteers in many areas and donations of supplies and food.

Please see Brad and Heather Stevanus, Polly Tallos or Melissa Folk if you are willing to help or have any questions.

## JULY

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Jeff Ickes, Jessica Brunger  
Trina Karban
- 3 Sandy Hales, Tyler Bokman  
Sandy Nowak
- 11 Blake Kyle  
Ruth & John Haupt (60)
- 12 Josh Meldrum
- 13 Mike & Sandy Cross  
Dick Edwards
- 17 Phyllis Chapman  
Dede Prunty, Hope Humphrey
- 18 Robin Bricker
- 20 Fred & Renee Carpenter  
Barb Mott, Wil Morrison
- 21 Nancy & Gene Yost  
Shari & Brian Insley
- 22. Jennifer Hicks
- 23 Audrey Lyons, Maureen Cromling
- 24 CJ Mott, Stu Hicks IV
- 25 Bob & Ruby Burdick
- 27 Paul Durbin, Skyler Baughman
- 28 Samantha Galvin
- 29 John Vilevac, Heather Stevanus  
Phyllis & Floyd Chapman
- 30 Larry Weber, Shari Insley  
Fred Carpenter

## News Among the Pews:

*Thank you NECC — Cody turned 16 this past May and we decided he needed some "new wheels." With the help of "Cans For Cody" we purchased a golf cart. We also put in a special car seat that allows him to be comfortable and safe while enjoying the ability to go places and see things around the neighborhood. Jim and Sherry Wilson*

*Congratulations to Josh Brunger on his new position as Band Director at Midview High School. He is the son of Janice & Jeff Brunger. Josh graduated from Midview & Kent State. He and his wife Stephanie and son Brayden live in Elyria.*

*"My thanks to the ladies of Eve Circle and the men & women in our church who helped setup, cook, host and cleanup for the Farm Bureau Dinner. It took a lot of time and energy and you all did a great job!"*

*Thank you and God bless, Phyllis Chapman*

*Our sympathy is extended to Jim & Sue Smith on the death of Jim's mother, Edna Smith.*

*"Thank you for the many prayers, phone calls, concerns, cards and the Prayer Chain after my recent eye surgery. I now have 20-20 vision. Ruth Haupt"*