

Writings From The Rev - September 2010

At our last Staff meeting it was pointed out that since I was asking all the youth who attended Camp Christian and the Mission Trip this Summer to write about their experiences for the Church Newsletter, I should do the same. So, being the practical person that I am, or as a few might see it, my laziness, I decided to write about my Mission Trip experience in this article. (Two birds, one stone...)

It all began when I received an E-mail from Polly Tallos, our Youth Director, with a request from the organization hosting the "Week of Hope" mission work camp that our Youth were attending in Bay City, Michigan. They needed someone to be a part of their Hospitality Team during the week our youth would be there. Keep in mind that this is a nationwide program with mission sites all over the United States. So, I thought it over, not really sure what would be required of me, but figuring that my 26 years as an Assistant Director at Hiram Conference, might be of help. I wrote and told them that I would be happy to help in any way I could.

To be honest, I thought that there would be many people responding, and that they would say, "Thank you very much but we already have someone." (No doubt someone younger and full of more energy than I.) But that's not what they said. They said, "Oh thank you so much, you are the only one who responded." So, I packed up and made my way to Bay City, Michigan, July 25-30.

I ended up doing way more than I had expected, but that was because they were so short handed with Staff. I helped with meal preparations, supervised cleaning of the facility, ran the camp store, took pictures at many of the mission work sites, did program setup, and bedtime check-in. I was up at 6a.m. and not in bed until after Mid-Night. A couple of times I thought it would be nice to just be one of the site workers. But looking back on it now, I'm glad I was there. The day I was leaving I found out that if I hadn't come, the only other Hospitality Staff member, "Turnpike", who was older than me by several years, would have been doing all the preparation by himself.

I was also glad I was there because I got to see firsthand 105 youth from Alabama, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Canada, and Ohio come together and share their time, energy, and skills to help meet the needs of so many people in one area. I think it was over two thousand work hours given. A multitude of opportunities to share their faith beyond just words. I was blessed to be a part of this hope giving adventure. I was proud of our Youth in the ways that they were living out their faith, and at the same time learning about Christian Service. Everyone there was a living expression of what James, the brother of Jesus, was writing about in his letter to some early Christians.

In Eugene Peterson's scripture translation of James 2:14-16, we find these powerful words:

Dear friends, do you think you'll get anywhere in this (faithfulness) if you learn all the right words but never do anything? Does merely talking about faith indicate that a person really has it? For instance, you come upon an old friend dressed in rags and half-starved and say, "Good morning, friend! Be clothed in Christ! Be filled with the Holy Spirit!" and walk off without providing so much as a coat or a cup of soup—where does that get you? Isn't it obvious that God-talk without God-acts is outrageous nonsense?

I can already hear one of you agreeing by saying, "Sounds good. You take care of the faith department, I'll handle the works department."

Not so fast. You can no more show me your works apart from your faith than I can show you my faith apart from my works. Faith and works, works and faith, fit together hand in glove.

It is my prayer that all of us can learn to live sharing our faith and works together.

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

CELEBRATE WITH US!

We're celebrating our 168th Anniversary Sunday, October 10th Rev. Steve Bentley, Associate Regional Minister, will bring us the message at 8:00 & 9:30. As Director of Adventure Camp he has been able to enjoy his love of hiking and the outdoors, so some of our members know him already.

(On a personal note: his daughter is married to Stu Hicks Jr.)

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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Permit No. 8

Sunday School for Adults presents...

The PRAYER OF JABEZ

#1 New York Times Best Seller by Bruce Wilkinson

"The petition (of this prayer) has radically changed what I expect from God and what I experience every day by his Power. In fact, thousands of believers who are applying its truths are seeing miracles happen on a regular basis. Will you join me for a personal exploration of Jabez?" ~ Bruce H. Wilkinson

Please join us for this 8 to 10 week DVD series, beginning September 12th, 10:45 to 11:45 off the fellowship hall. Feel free to bring a family member, neighbor, or friend. Looking forward to growing together, in our faith!
ROBIN GALVIN

9:00 A.M. Sunday School Class to begin on Sept. 12th

"To Busy Not to Pray" By Bill Nybels

Most of us have trouble finding time to pray and then the crisis hits! What next? This book includes a helpful guide for personal and group prayer. This is YOUR invitation to join us. This is not the first time this class has been offered and it has received very positive reactions from those who have attended. Join us after the first service on Sunday, Sept. 12th and see what it is all about. **Fran Walker**

MOMS IN TOUCH INTERNATIONAL is a group of moms who meet here at North Eaton church Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. starting SEPT. 1st. Moms, grandmothers, aunts, come together to pray for our schools and our children. If you are interested please contact, FRAN WALKER at 371-1740.



Congratulations to PAULA KRASNEVICH!

She graduated on July 18th from Remington College with an Associate's Degree in Medical Assisting with a 3.87 grade average. She is currently working for New Life Hospice.

CONFERENCE AND CAMP REFLECTIONS!!!

This August, I once again had the pleasure of attending Wilmington Conference at Camp Christian. This has always been one of my favorite weeks out of the year, and Wilmington 2010 was no exception. Attendance was considerably down this year, but that didn't stop me from making many new friends, as well as reconnecting with old ones. Everyone who attends camp is always so friendly and non-judgmental. It creates an amazing environment that I absolutely love. In addition to the endless fun and friendship found at camp, it is also the perfect place to grow in your faith and become closer to God. Between the informative classes, vespers services, and the powerful consecration service, it is easy to feel the presence of God while at camp. I am very sad that this was my last year attending Wilmington, but I am hopeful that more incredible experiences await me at Advance Conference.

TYLER BOKMAN

This was my 2nd year at Chi Rho camp and I had a blast! A different activity every night, good food (I promise you'll gain a few pounds by the end of the week), and the people are all very helpful. But it's not all fun and games. We have the vespers service every night, where you can learn more about the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. Our quest groups are fun to be in with a different lesson on our God every day! There is no better place to become closer to our God while having the time of your life! I will be going next year without a doubt!

PAIGE BOKMAN

Serving Schedule — SEPTEMBER 2010

8:00

Jim & Linda Ickes

9:30

Phyllis & Floyd Chapman (TL), Royce Klein,

Mary Bengough, Dave Carpenter, Paul & Mike Krasnevich,

James Purdy, Robin Galvin, Amy Stafford

ELDERS

Linda Rodak, Jeff Hensley

“Photo Safari” Adventure Camp

I decided to attend Adventure Camp this summer because I had such a great camp experience last summer. I was hoping to be a bit more physically active, however, my brain was challenged to think about shooting the “perfect photograph” instead.

This year our camp took place at Camp Christian in Magnetic Springs, OH. That served as our home base and each day we traveled to a different location in and surrounding the Columbus area. Each evening we all shared our very best photos of the day. It was amazing to see the beauty in nature that our cameras were able to capture.

We were joined on our first day by a professional photographer who is a member of a Disciples church in Youngstown. He shared many informative tips about photographing people and nature. The second day was spent in Columbus where we visited a topiary garden, a scenic spot along the river in the city during the daytime, in German Village (where we had a delicious meal), and back along the river during the dusk and evening hours.

Our second day took us to the Dawes Arboretum where we saw many trees, plants, and birds. Our visit here ended with a trip to the top of a very unstable observation tower (this was a bit scary).

On the next day we traveled to the Columbus Zoo and Zoombeesie Bay Waterpark. We were met with a brief rainstorm at the zoo which allowed some action shots of people running for cover. Some camp attendees captured amazing shots of polar bears and tigers.

Our final day was in the Hocking Hills State Park. This place was amazing with caves and waterfalls brimming with beauty. I wish we had more time to spend there.

The week’s experience was great exercise for my stomach (as we laughed LOTS), but also full of good fellowship and friendships (both new and old). I hope we can get more North Eaton members to join us for next year’s adventure which is still to be determined, but guaranteed to be a good time!

CAROL BOKMAN



September 12th Worship and Picnic (Bring “Yourself” To Worship)

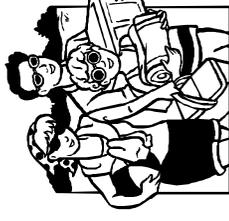
Things will be interesting, special, and different on Sunday, **September 12th** this year. This will be a Sunday of new beginnings, as we start up again after our Summer break. First of all, our Adult and Children Bible Study classes begin at their regular times (see the article about Sunday School activities). Second, our Music Ministry will have the Choir and Worship Band once again sharing in our worship experience. Third, Rev. Ralph has challenged everyone in the congregation to bring **“Yourself”** to Worship on that Sunday.

The challenge is based on a statistic which states that on any given Sunday over 1/3 of a congregation’s membership are not in Worship. Granted, there are a variety of reasons for this that go anywhere from illness, to vacation, to work, to sleeping in.

Often the challenge made is to “Bring Someone Else to Worship.” However, the real challenge is to get everyone to attend Worship on the same day. Can you begin to imagine what that would be like? The best part about this challenge is that you are only responsible for yourself (okay, except for families with small children). So mark your calendar and make every effort to join us in Worship on Sept. 12th.

Since you are making the effort to come and Worship with us, why not also join us for our **Annual All Church Picnic**. The special part about this year’s picnic is that it will be held right here on the Church grounds, or inside the Fellowship Hall if it rains. We will begin at Noon with Fellowship, Fun, and Food. We will need to know what you would like, because the Church is providing either Brats or Chicken Breast and beverages. You can fill out a Picnic Card that has been put in the bulletins each week or call the Church Office (440-748-2230). There is also a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall to let us know what side dish or dessert you will bring to share. This will be a **Dress Down Sunday**, wear your picnic clothes to Church.

So, accept the challenge. Come make this a special time to Worship our God, study the Holy Scriptures, meet old friends and make new ones, enjoy great food, and make this a day for **“Yourself”**, that you will long remember.



Yah! Sunday School Resumes on September 12th— 10:45 a.m.

Our Preschool—High School classes will start up again on Sunday, Sept. 12th at 10:45. We also have some new **ADULT CLASSES** that will be offering some great studies. Robin Galvin will be leading a group studying “The Prayer of Jabez” and the Friendship Older Adult Class led by Harry Hinkel has room for more. At 9:00 a.m. Fran Walker will be leading a study on the book “To Busy Not To Pray” by Bill Nybels. What a great way to start the Fall season by joining a class and then staying for the **ALL CHURCH PICNIC** at Noon.

The CE Team is excited to announce that Roxann Sebastian and Terry Seward have graciously agreed to join our teaching volunteers. We are grateful to **ALL** of our volunteer teachers who help us grow in our faith by teaching and example.

SEPT. Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

NECC BIKING/TRAIN EVENT

On Sunday, September 19th the family and friends of the North Eaton Christian Church are invited to go bike riding and/or train riding in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Everyone will meet at the Winking Lizard (on route 303 in Peninsula) for dinner or refreshments at 4:40 pm. Those riding the train can board at the Canal Visitor Center at 4:10pm to arrive in Peninsula at 4:40pm. The return time will depart at 6:20pm. Those choosing to bike can start at the Canal Visitor Center or in Brecksville and pedal to Peninsula. The mileage from Canal to Peninsula is approximately 11.25 miles. From Brecksville the mileage is 6.75 miles. The cost to ride the train is \$15 for adults and \$10 for ages 3 – 12, and free for under 3 years. It costs \$2 to bike one way and return on the train. You may purchase tickets ahead on-line or the day of the trip.



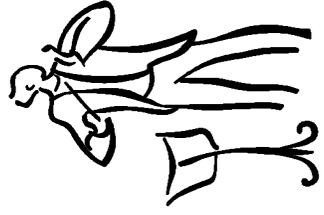
Check-out www.cvsr.com for more details. If you have any questions you can contact me at bokmans@att.net or by calling

Here To Stay!

The Worship Committee is pleased to announce that Lanson Wells, who has served as our Interim Music Director this past year, has been hired as our Music Director, effective August 16th. We celebrated with a coffee hour in his honor following the August 22 worship services.

When NECC hired pianist Kimberley Speiran last year, we knew we'd found ourselves a treasure...but we didn't know then that her husband, Lanson Wells, would also become such an important part of our music ministry.

Lanson soon began joining Kim at both worship services each Sunday, playing viola or violin. Later, with the addition of drums and guitar at our 9:30 service, Lanson added bass guitar to the mix. Before long, he expressed interest in working with the choir, and was hired as our Interim Music Director, responsible for leading the worship band, choir and children's choir. Lanson comes to NECC as a performer, teacher, composer, and conductor. He has performed as a member of the Ohio Valley Symphony, the Ashland Symphony, the Tuscarawas Philharmonic, the Firelands Symphony, the Ohio Light Opera, and the Cleveland Opera Circle. He is a former member of the Muncie Symphony, and has performed in pit orchestras for numerous musical theater productions. He and Kimberley (whose primary instrument is actually flute!) perform chamber music as Duo Galant. Lanson's undergraduate studies were at the Baldwin Wallace Conservatory of Music, with additional studies at CSU.



Lanson will continue his fine work with our choir, 9:30 service worship band and children's choir. He'll also provide additional musical leadership, including selecting our worship music and will be responsible for related administrative tasks such as music and equipment inventory, sanctuary instrument care, etc. Lanson will work closely with the Pastor and Worship Committee.

If you have been hesitant about becoming a part of NECC's worship choir, children's choir or worship band, we can think of no better welcome for Lanson than your presence at Tuesday night rehearsals. The band meets at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary; the choir meets at 7:00 p.m.

Diana Tyler—Worship Chairman

Cleveland Christian Home Homecoming and Alumni Day

Saturday, September 25th

ALL "Disciples of Christ" congregations are invited to attend this special day at the Cleveland Christian Home as they dedicate the renovation of the lobby at the main campus. The day's activities are free and begin at 10:00 a.m. followed by a luncheon at NOON. Reservations are requested and information is available from Donna Ryant at 216-476-0333. Tours of all the facilities at the home will be available. The Home is located at 11401 Lorain Ave. Cleveland, Ohio.

Your "Outreach Giving" at Work....As of June 10, 2010, North Eaton

Christian Church has given \$10, 238.83 to OHIO DISCIPLES OUTREACH.

These funds are dispersed throughout many agencies of the Christian Church (DOC) to support local, regional, and international ministries. Half of the total amount was given to Disciples Mission Fund, with the remaining amount divided between agencies that include New Church Development, Camp Christian, Ohio Council of Churches, Disciples Seminary and Ministerial Relief Fund, and the Cleveland Christian Home.

YOUR generosity has supported these and other Outreach

Ministries of your church that exist beyond our local

Congregation and testify to the teachings of our Lord

"to go into the world and preach the gospel."

Thank you for your support of our **Cancelled Stamp Project**, which supports our Veterans through the VA Hospital and Habitat for Humanity. The stamps are sold to collectors and the monies used for projects benefiting these agencies.

Grace and Peace, Marlene Black



Vacation Bible School was an awesome experience!

Brad and I had a great time working with everyone at VBS this year. We loved seeing all the kids having such a good time and learning about Joseph and his travels. I was definitely nervous about what everyone would think of our presentation, but I heard many compliments and words of encouragement that kept me going. Brad had so much fun, as he does with anything, and is looking forward to next time. My thanks and appreciation to EVERYONE who had a part in VBS and I hope you will join us again next year.

Heather Stevanus

Congratulations to grandma, Sherry Wilson and great grandma, Marge Houston on the birth of a new granddaughter, Honey Wilson. Please keep Stephanie in your prayers as she is dealing with some health problems after the birth.

New member: Our newest member is now our oldest member. Pauline Rider came forward to transfer her membership and make her confession of faith on her "106th" birthday, August 1, 2010. She comes to worship with her daughter, Jan Brooks and attends the Friendship Sunday School Class. Thanks to Bob Lynch and Laura Kuhn for seeing that Pauline got a nice bio and picture in the Chronicle Telegram newspaper.

THANK YOU *"Thank you to my church family for your many prayers, cards and concerns during my recent hospital stay and recuperation. Thanks to Rev. Ralph for checking on me. I am glad to be home."*

Claire Kauf

OHIO REGIONAL ASSEMBLY 2010—October 15 & 16

Dublin, Ohio — Online registration — See Rev. Ralph if you are interested in attending and would like more information.

Fair Fact: This year at the Fair we sold 5,640 bottles of pop!