

Thoughts for Our Journey: July 2012

The Joys of Grandchildren and Church Camp

I can't believe, as I write this article, that almost a month has gone by since Gabby came to visit. She has always been such a delight to have with us. Gabby is still at that age when her soft heart and effervescent joy for life is infectious. Gabby's had an exciting couple of weeks back in Grafton. She had some quality time with Jeanne Ketic, playing softball. Thank you, Coach Jeanne, for the personal instruction. We took Gabby, a couple of weeks ago to the Cleveland MetroParks Zoo and to a Lake Erie Crushers game. There have been incredible changes in Gabby from a year ago. The most observable change is her stature—she has grown so tall. The other change is in her learning skills. A year ago, when Gabby was last with us, she was still forming letters and recognizing a few words. Now, how impressive are her skills, such as reading sight words, writing sentences and reading books. Why are these simple skills incredible to Carol and me? It's because we haven't seen Gabby in a year. We see advancement in learning and maturity from where she was a year ago.

Gabby is always so excited for what she calls "church day." Those are her words. She said she couldn't wait to go to church. Oh, if we could all have that same delight to meet God at worship in church. The eyes of a child opened to faith and God can be so enlightening. This is an example of what Jesus teaches we must all have, "the faith as of a child." Gabby has also enjoyed reconnecting with all her friends at NECC. What a difference a year makes. Thank you, each one of you from the NECC family, for welcoming Gabby so warmly into the life of our congregation.

Later this month, I will serve as a counselor at Portahoga Chi Rho camp. Camp is such an exciting time for the young teens and the adult counselors and staff. This is the time in their life when they begin asking the questions which can help them discover a level of faith they had not known before. The joy of the Christian camp experience allows the campers to explore various areas of faith and discovery in a special trusting environment. There may not be for some of these children another trusting and safe environment to go home to. Therefore, every year they look forward to this one week where they can explore and discover relationships with peers and adults who deeply care for them. That is fulfilling the ministry Jesus calls us to. We are to go to those who are the least seen and who are on the edges of life. I look forward to the worship services at camp as well. It is thrilling watching the teens step into leadership roles. The worship experiences at camp are enriching and deeply moving. The most meaningful aspect of the camp experience for me is the joy and delight I experience through the genuineness of the campers' faith and worship. How can we bring a similar genuineness into our worship and devotions on a daily and weekly basis?

Blessings for the Journey,

Rev. Chuck



The VOICE

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NECC ALL CHURCH PICNIC—August 12

On Sunday, August 12, family and friends of the North Eaton Christian Church are invited to attend the All Church Picnic in the field behind the parking lot. We will set up immediately following the 9:30 service and eat at approximately noon. The church will provide meat and beverages; please bring a dish to share. There will be a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall. We will have some games set up for your entertainment. Please contact Stephanie Tyler Garvin (stephanietyler@gmail.com) or Carol Bokman (bokmans@att.net) if you have any questions or you have an outdoor game that you would like to share.

North Eaton Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
35895 Royalton Rd. Grafton, Ohio 44044
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JULY, 2012

Minister: Rev. Charles Butcher

Director of Christian Education and Youth: Polly Tallos

Secretary: Londa Blaine

Music Director: Miki Saito

Director, Pathways Counseling and Growth Center: bDr. Ralph Thompson

JULY Birthdays & Anniv.

- 1 Jeff Jckes, Trina Karban
- 3 Sandy Hales, Tyler Bokman
- 9 Sandy Nowak
- 11 Blake Kyle
- Ruth & John Haupt
- Carol & Chuck Butcher
- 12 Josh Meldrum
- Mike & Sandy Gross
- 17 Dede Prunty, Hope Humphrey
- 18 Robin Bricker
- Fred & Renee Carpenter
- 20 Barb Mott,
- Wil Morrison
- 21 Nancy & Gene Yost
- Shari & Brian Insley
- 22. Jennifer Hicks
- 23 Maureen Cromling
- 24 CJ Mott
- Stu Hicks IV
- 25 Bob & Ruby Burdick
- 27 Paul Durbin
- Skylar Baughman
- 28 Samantha Galvin
- 29 John Vilevac
- Heather Stevanus
- Carol Butcher
- 30 Larry Weber, Shari Insley
- Fred Carpenter



Serving at the Lord's Table in

JULY

- 8:00** Randy Kuhn, Chris Hensley
- 9:30** Heather Stevanus, Kevin Wilson, Ken & Cindy Hicks, Carol Bokman, Carol Swartz, John Klinec, Bill Chapman, Diana Tyler, Marlene Black (kitchen)
- ELDERS** — Ralph Thompson
- Stu Hicks

Youth Membership Class TOUR of LIFE A Baptism and Confirmation Journey

Have you been thinking about your faith and what it means to be a Christ follower? Are you ready to take the next step in your faith journey? The Christian Education Team is offering a Youth Membership Class for youth in the 5th grade and older, if you or your child is interested in exploring this opportunity.



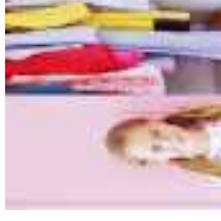
Meetings will begin in the fall but Mentors and Candidates will be introduced to each other at the beginning of the summer so they have time to get to know each other.

If you have any questions please contact Polly Tallos, Melissa Folk or Pastor Chuck.

Kids' Resale at NECC

Mark your calendar—September 8

We had such a great response from our first kids' resale in the Spring that we are planning another one. Get this date on your calendar—Saturday, September 8. If you would like to reserve a table, contact Pat Ables (748-2610) for a contract (\$20.00 for a space with an 8-ft. table; you can reserve more than one space).



Let your friends with children know about our resale event. Tables are on a first-come basis.

EVE CIRCLE July meeting — 12:00 Bring a lunch; dessert provided

1:00 Eve Circle meeting

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to: MarJean Brown on the death of her husband Keith a few weeks ago.

Alta Mitchell and family on the death of her daughter,
Carol McCort.

Kathy Hyle and family on the death of her son.

May God's peace comfort all who mourn and celebrate the lives of their Loved ones.

Welcome into our church family:

DORIS WALKER, who was baptized on April 30 by Rev. Chuck.
She was invited to worship by her sister-in-law, Dede Prunty.

Operation Christmas Child... Shoebox full of items will be distributed to needy children in the USA and around the world.

ITEMS FOR JULY— Kids socks, t-shirts, shorts, hats, gloves, underwear. (Box on the fireplace hearth in fellowship hall.)

Maybe you would rather fill your own shoebox? That would be great!

Pat Ables will have the boxes on September 30,

or you can use your own shoebox.

AUGUST — School Supplies

(complete lists on the table in the Narthex)

SALVATION ARMY JULY— TOOTHPASTE

AUGUST — TOOTHBRUSHES

NEW NECC Church Cookbook

Rebekah Circle is collecting favorite recipes from our church family and friends to be published in a spiral bound cookbook. If you have family and friends with some great recipes, give them a recipe form so we can get it in our book. RECIPE and ORDER FORMS are on the fireplace in the fellowship hall. Keep forgetting to pick one up??? Call the church office and I will mail it to you. Be sure to put a TITLE on your recipe, YOUR NAME and only ONE recipe per form. If a recipe is too long for one form, continue it on another form and staple it together.

RETURN the RECIPE forms and the ORDER forms to Laura Kuhn or leave in the box on the fireplace, OR email to randykuhn@hotmail.com BY JULY 8.

ORDER AHEAD FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS——Since they'll have your own recipes in it, your friends and family will especially enjoy itit'll be a treasured keepsake for years to come. They also make great gifts. \$10.00 per cookbook or \$5.00 for a CD.

ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERSinterested in placing an **ad** in the new cookbook??? Forms with sizes and cost are in the church office, on the table in the Narthex or contact Laura Kuhn, 440-309-5864, randykuhn@hotmail.com

News and "Thank You"s

Dear Friends, Thank you so much for the cards and thoughtful contacts as I have been recovering from my recent biking accident. The Lord was with me and I could sense the support of your prayers. I am getting better each day. Also, special thanks to CMIA who came to our aid and helped with some landscaping around our home in Elyria. I couldn't lift the heavy bags right now. All your support means so much!
Ralph Thompson

Thank you to all the folks from NECC, my family and friends, who have been so caring and kind since my two hospital stays, one in March, and another in May when I finally was able to have my surgery. It's been a rough year, but your thoughts and prayers, visits, phone calls, tons of beautiful cards, flowers, support, etc. have been a continuous reminder to me of what good people you all are. Pastor Chuck and Carol's visits, calls, and the receiving of communion when I was in the hospital were a great comfort.

Also, the words, "Thank you" don't seem nearly sufficient for all my Mom has done for me, too. She has been my rock, caregiver, nurse, provider, taxi driver to my many doctor appointments, and my strength through all of this. God has provided me with everything and everyone I needed to get this far, and I am so grateful for all the blessings He continues to provide. Thank you all.
Love, Linda Rodak

CONGRATULATIONS to Holly Hill on her hard work at LCCC and making the Dean's List and the Honors Program.

CONGRATULATIONS to: Rachel Trimble and Dave Oravec on the birth of their son, Kyle David Oravec, on June 6, weighing 8 lb. 1 oz. The proud grandparents are Paul and Michaelene Durbin.

CONGRATULATIONS to: Sarah and Bob Browne on the birth of their daughter, Abigail Marie, on June 16, 6 lbs. 14 Oz. The proud grandparents are Paula and Mike Krasnevich.

CONGRATULATIONS to: Jonathan Moran and Laura Shafer who were married in our sanctuary on June 26, 2012.

RECUPERATING: Chuck Slusher, Ralph Thompson, Mary Schofield, Dawn Schieferle