

Thoughts for Our Journey: AUGUST 2012

“No Pain, No Gain”

There is a common expression among those who exercise regularly, “No pain, no gain.” The expression basically means that if you are not willing to work hard and suffer a little for the efforts, then we are not going to accomplish very much. Just doing the easy and simple exercises that don’t challenge one’s body won’t lead to lasting results. This principle applies to life’s experiences as well. In order for one to be productive in business, for example, one must be willing to make sacrifices of time and money. It applies to our personal relationships as well; the more we put into a relationship the better it is going to be.

Should it cause us to wonder, when we come to the spiritual life, if we don’t make an effort serving the Lord that we’re not going to get anything out of our relationship with God? The same principle is true as well. “No pain, no gain.” Sometimes I think that people expect church to be some kind of spiritual playground where we can just relax and have fun in the glow of God’s goodness; it doesn’t quite work like a playground. Our worship and Christian service requires some effort, both mentally and physically. The more effort we put into our worship and service, the greater our relationship with God will become.

Our efforts must start with our church attendance. If we don’t attend services or if our attendance is sporadic, then we’re not going to get very much out of it. Attendance to the worship of our Lord (*Hebrews 10:25*). This is as important as families having dinner together on a regular basis. We continue our efforts with how we worship. We must engage our minds to worship God (*John 4:24, Matthew 22:37*). We need to sing with all of our heart to the Lord. That means we need to listen attentively to the prayers and the sermon (*1 Corinthians 14:15*). We need to remember the death of Jesus as we partake of the Lord’s Supper (*Luke 22:19*). How many times do we catch ourselves thinking about where to go for lunch or what we’re going to do later in the day instead of our focus on worship? We are cheating ourselves out of a relationship with God when we don’t engage our minds fully in worship.

Upon leaving the church our efforts must continue. If we simply leave what we’ve done in the building behind, then we’re going to limit our relationship with God. However, if we take what we’ve learned and tell others about it, we will not only help others but ourselves as well. This may mean doing good to those who are in need (*Galatians 6:10*). It may mean being a good example to our children (*Ephesians 6:4*); it may mean setting an example of model behavior for our co-workers (*Ephesians 6:6*). What will happen if we engage ourselves in the work of God? We will grow as individuals. The church will also grow; others will see the wonderful things working in our lives and they will want to be a part of it. “No pain, no gain” means that if we want more out of our relationship with God we need to work harder at it. Let us, beloved, all resolve to renew our efforts to serve God in all things.

Blessings for the Journey,

Rev. Chuck

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

NECC ALL CHURCH PICNIC—August 12th (Noon)

JOIN US on Sunday, August 12th, for our ANNUAL church family picnic. We will set-up immediately following the 9:30 service and eat at approximately noon. The church will provide the table service, meat and beverages, **please bring a dish to share. If you know what you are bringing right now**, put it on the signup sheet in the fellowship hall. We will have some games set-up for your entertainment. Please contact Stephanie Tyler-Garvin at stephanietyler@gmail.com or Carol Bokman at bokmans@att.net if you have any questions or have an outdoor game that you would like to share.

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

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Permit No. 8

DATE— AUGUST 2012

Minister: Rev. Charles Butcher
Christian Ed. & Youth Director: Polly Tallos
Secretary: Londa Blaine
Music Director: Miki Saito
Pathways Counseling and Growth Center: Dr. Ralph Thompson

AUGUST Birthdays & Anniversaries.....

- 1 Abby Workman
- 2 Ralph & Terri Wearstler
- 3 Sally Botson
- 4 Sarah Browne, Jim Galvin
- 5 Kim Klein, Nicole Teper
- 6 Tim Tripphahn
- 7 Laura & Dave Carpenter
- 8 Mel & Marie Temes
- 9 Linda Rodak
- 10 Mel Temes, Marlene Black
- 11 Mike & Becky Moran
- 12 Liz & Luis Rooney
- 13 Zoe Knorr
- 14 Cathy & Don Dusky
- 15 Jessica Castro, Bob Bricker
- 16 Robin & Bob Bricker
- 17 Paul & Michaelene Durbin
- 18 Stacy & Nick Zawoycki
- 19 Marge Borchert, Nathan Klein
- 20 Sarah Mullins
- 21 Ralph Wearstler
- 22 Taylor Teper, Cameron Castro
- 23 Claire & Bob Kauf
- 24 Brad & Heather Stevanus
- 25 Dave Carpenter, Lauren Martin
- 26 Ronda Susak, Ray Konko
- 27 Janice Brunger
- 28 Bob Kauf
- 29 Diana & Tim Tyler
- 30 Londa Blaine
- 31 Barb & Tom Mott

Serving at the Lord's Table in

AUGUST

- 8:00** Brian & Shari Insley
9:30 Melissa Folk, Brad Stevanus, Carol Butcher, Micah Butcher, Jerry Mullins, Mark Carpenter, Mike Mott, Polly Tallos, Chrissy Baughman

ELDERS—Linda Rodak, Vern Black

Kid's Resale at NECC

EVE CIRCLE is again sponsoring a "Kid's Resale" on Saturday, Sept. 8th, from 9:00-2:00. Table rentals are \$10.00 (8ft. table). This is on a first come basis. Set-up is Friday, Sept. 7th, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

CONTACT Pat Ales at 440-748-2610 for rental information and contracts.

The church kitchen will be open for purchase of snacks and lunch.



AUGUST EVE CIRCLE MEETING

is August 28th, bring a lunch at Noon and meeting is at 12:45. All LADIES are welcome to our meetings. Help us plan our Fall & Winter ministry events.



Adventure Camp

"A Different Kind of Adventure"

Adventure Camp is an organized camp for junior high aged youth through adults that usually centers around one or more fun, outdoor activities, sponsored by the Christian Church In Ohio. Past camps have included backpacking, canoeing, bicycling, hiking and photography. BUT the adventure is not just in the journey and the activity... it's also the adventure of seeking God in our travels.

This year, four adults (Rev. Bentley, Rev. Wade, my husband Tim, and I) canoed down five rivers in five days, camping each night near the riverbed. We travelled from Loudonville almost to Zanesville. The scenery was beautiful and the weather was wonderful.

But the real story of Adventure Camp is what happens in the interaction between the campers and our relationship with God. Each day includes morning devotions and evening worship, with prayer interspersed throughout each day —prayers of thanks for meals, safe travels, and prayers for gear that may or may not be working correctly, etc.

This year's travel plan included two portages (carrying our gear around and over two dams which are not safe to travel through). Our first portage, on Monday, was over the huge Mohawk Dam, near Warsaw, Ohio. Having canoed approximately 20 miles that day, in 80+ degree weather, we were hot and exhausted by the time we arrived. We still needed to get all the gear & canoes UP that steep slope.

That Monday afternoon, during our trek up the hill to put our gear into the car, we came across another pair of canoeists who were also attempting the same portage. The man explained that they were to have met his brother (with his car) at the dam, and then camped together somewhere downriver for a few days. However, they'd arrived a day early and were now facing this climb up and over the dam on foot. It was Tim's car we'd left behind and, as he's usually a good-hearted soul, Tim agreed to help transport the couple and their gear to the campgrounds at which we would all be staying, on the other

side of the dam. It took a couple of hours to unload and haul three fully-packed canoes, one-by-one, to the top of the hill and get everyone across to the camp. We then went our separate ways. We didn't see the couple on Tuesday morning, but proceeded on our day's journey which would end at Six-Mile Dam, near Coshocton. At the end of Tuesday's route, we pulled in to shore just past a sign which warned that the dam was ahead. After scouting on foot and a bit further via canoe, we could find only one "suitable" portage route — a LONG, poison ivy-lined path. However, across the river, we'd noticed that someone had set up camp. It turned out to be the couple from the previous day. They'd been able to meet up with the man's brother ...who had met and transported them from the previous evening's campground ... in his pickup truck.... which was pulling a trailer wide enough to hold two canoes!!! We'd wasted quite a bit of time trying to find the best route (it was now around 3:00 p.m.) and had to make a decision before we ran out of time to travel the final six miles between Six-Mile Dam and that evening's campsite. We decided that Tim should row across and ask the campers if they'd be gracious enough to now haul US around the dam.

They happily agreed. Not only did they help haul and load, but they drove us directly to that night's campground, saving us several more hours of paddling that day!

I've seen several quotes lately that indicate how you can measure the character of a person by how they treat someone who can do nothing for them. When he agreed to help our canoeing friends, Tim had no idea that we'd need THEIR help the next day. And what a wonderful circle of grace when those people aided us in ways more than we had hoped!

So, you see, Adventure Camp always IS an adventure. Not only did we see God in the beauty of the sights around us but in the hearts of strangers and the kindnesses shown one another. God did, indeed, watch over us.

NEXT YEAR we're thinking of doing a few weekend canoeing trips instead of a week-long adventure. We hope you'll consider joining us and discovering new, faith filled adventures of your own

In Christ's Love, Diana Tyler



Welcome NEW MEMBERS: *Chris Chapman and Holly Tinskey came forward to transfer their membership on June 24th. Chris is the son of Bill Chapman and grandson of Floyd Chapman. Chris and Holly will be married in our sanctuary on Sept. 29th. (Rev. Chuck did a private reaffirmation baptism for Chris and Holly at their request.)*

Luiz Rooney and Liz Toth came forward to transfer their membership on April 15th. Liz was baptized the afternoon of July 15th in our sanctuary. They have three children: Damion, Jordan and Abby.

We are pleased to have these families as part of our congregation.

News Among the Pews

Recuperating at home: Sylvia Ott, Marge Borchert, Robin Bricker, Dawn Schieferle, Vada Buckdrucker

Our **THANKS to Eve Circle** for the donation of a new Shark vacuum for the kitchen.

THANK YOU for recycling your drink cans — we made \$68.00 in July for "Cans For Cody."

THANK YOU for your gift of **Campbell labels** for education. We have been participating in this program for many years and with all our collected labels have been able to "buy" recreational and educational items for the children we serve here at the **Cleveland Christian Home**. Please know how much we truly appreciate your support of this program. You have touched the lives of children in a special way.

James McCafferty, Interim Chief Executive Officer

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 ■ The CHURCH COUNCIL will meet on Sunday, August 19th @ 12 noon.
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 ■ (Date changed due to other commitments.)
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 ■

Mission projects: We appreciate your continued support of these important projects.

Operation Christmas Child (filling a shoebox)—August—School Supplies

Salvation Army—August-Toothbrushes

Blue Star Mothers—list of items on table in Narthex (or see Sally Botson)

Cans for Cody — **Drink cans ONLY** (tied bags please) bin in parking lot

Cornerstone—Pocket change and Blessing Baby Bottles (fellowship hall)

Cleveland Christian Home — Campbell labels for education (tin in kitchen)

Cancelled Stamp Project — (for veterans & Habitat) Shoebox in Narthex

Recycle newspapers — **Bin in parking lot**

Food Pantry — Nonperishable food items, paper products, toiletries

If you have any questions regarding any of these projects, please call the CHURCH OFFICE, 440-748-2230 (M-F 8:00-1:00).

Rocky Point Lighthouse ———WEEKEND Vacation Bible School **3 yrs. Old — 5th Grade (completed)**

Kids get ready to shine! At Rocky Point Lighthouse VBS you will have team-building games, cool Bible songs, and active Bible adventures. Parents, since everything is hands-on, kids might get a little messy. Be sure to send them in play clothes and safe shoes.) We will also participate in an outreach project called Projects With a Purpose, that lets you, the kids in our community, shine God's love to families here and around the world. We provide a free meal 30 minutes before each session begins.



FRIDAY, AUGUST 10—dinner @ 5:30, VBS 6:00-8:30

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11 —breakfast @ 8:30, VBS 9:00-11:30

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12 — 9:30 a.m. regular worship, **11:00 VBS Celebration** (kids will tell their families & congregation about everything they have learned)

12:00—ALL CHURCH AND VBS FAMILY "POTLUCK" PICNIC in the church yard.

We Love Camp!!

I love camp! It truly is my number one favorite place to be during the summer. Those first few days everyone is catching up and making new friends that will last a life time and after that they grow. On Friday we have consecration. As a third year (meaning I went all three years of Chi Rho camp and now going into 9th grade) you get the privilege of holding the torch and watching all your fiends walk by signing love to you. It is very emotional. This is when it truly hits home. Camp is a place to make new friends and grow closer to God through fun activities, worship and even silly songs.

Sam Galvin

I have been to Otter Camp for two years but I still didn't know what to expect at Chi Rho camp. I mean, my Mom told me the stuff they did at camp but I didn't know the effect that one short week would have on me. One week is all it takes to make friends that I will know for a long time. During free time I would go into the Rec Hall where the Canteen and various games are played. One game is Carpetball. A group of us would stand around the table taking turns playing. Anyone could walk up and take their place at the end of the line. As we waited for our turn, we were taking the time to become friends. (And, if you want to know what carpetball is, you will need to go to camp next year.)

Erik Tallos

Hiram Conference 2012—This summer, I had the pleasure of attending Hiram Conference for the first time. Previously, I have gone to three years of Chi Rho camp and enjoyed every minute of it. And though Hiram Conference is completely different from Chi Rho, it was one of the best experiences of my life. I loved the songs, the people, and the evening activities — especially the hoedown. All the campers were friendly, so making new friends was never difficult. Our topics this year were ‘Piecing the Puzzle of Me’ and ‘The Book of Luke’, during which I learned many new things. Between the informative classes, vespers services, and the powerful consecration service, it was easy to feel the presence of God while at camp. I am absolutely planning on going to CYF camp next year and would recommend it to all the upcoming campers.

Paige Bokman

Alive Festival 2012

For the past several years I wanted to attend the Alive Festival but never quite made it there. This summer I was finally able to work out my schedule so that Paige, her friend Lindsay, and I would be able to travel to Mineral City, Ohio for an enjoyable week of camping, worship, fellowship and music, LOTS of music.

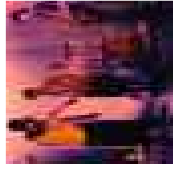
Dennis and Melissa Folk and their friends were gracious enough to allow us to share their campsite for the week. I was totally amazed and impressed with the entire festival. There were thousands of people of all ages throughout the Atwood Lake Campground and I didn't encounter any rudeness or impatience which is often the norm with a crowd of that size. Each attendee has the option to participate in as much or as little as their personal preference desires.

The highlight for me was the concert every evening in the outdoor amphitheater. It was very similar to spending the evening at Blossom Music Center. We would be entertained by 4 or 5 musical groups and enjoy a good inspirational speaker each night. Some of our favorite performers were Casting Crowns, Chris Tomlin, Skillet, Building 429, and Sanctus Real.

Carol Butcher and Gabby came down for a few days and Miki Sajito joined us for Chris Tomlin's performance. During the daytime we did typical camping activities (boating, swimming, eating, playing games, etc.).

Paige and I can't wait to go back again next year! It was even more fun than I had anticipated and such a worshipful experience. Hopefully more people from NECC will join us.

Carol Bokman



NECC BIKING ON THE TOWPATH



On Sunday, September 23rd, the family and friends of the North Eaton Christian Church are invited to go for a bicycle ride on the Towpath Trail. We will start the bicycle ride at the Canal Visitor Center at about 2:30pm (it is about 12 miles from here) or from the Brecksville Station (about 8 miles) and pedal our way to the Winking Lizard restaurant in Peninsula. We will eat dinner together at 4:00 and then ride back to our cars. If you would like to ride the train back to the starting station, you can do so for \$2.00 per person (if you have a bicycle). You can also drive to the Winking Lizard to meet us for dinner. Please let me know if you plan to attend so we can arrange the proper seating at the restaurant. If you have any questions you can contact me at bokmans@att.net or by calling 440-891-1819.

ADULTS Dining Out — Wednesday, Sept. 12th, 6:00 p.m.

Join us at BULLFROG'S SPORTS CAFÉ (Mills Creek Plaza) 33137 Center Ridge Rd. North Ridgeville. (\$10.00 value coupon on Pg. 164, in "Our Town & All Around."

You do not need to have a coupon to join us. Everyone welcome!



Habitat For Humanity in Lorain County*Anyone interested in helping on occasion, please call LINDA ICKES, 440-235-8956. The sites and projects vary, from painting to deconstructing a home. More info and postings to follow.*.....

Operation Christmas Child —donations for August are school supplies. Schooling is provided to children in most third world countries but they cannot attend without supplies. A small box of crayons cost a parent a month's wages, therefore, eliminating the opportunity for an education. Simple things that we take for granted are truly needed and appreciated by these families. SEPTEMBER donations — new small stuffed animals

Keep in mind that all these items must fit in a shoe box. Any questions see Pat Ables.

NEW NECC Church Cookbook

I would like to thank everyone for there help and support. We have received close to 300 recipes --- fantastic!! It has made me very hungry typing the recipes. I had to stop and try making some of them. I should have asked for samples to go with the recipes. Rebekah Circle thanks all of you for your great response to our request for recipes. More details will be coming in the next Voice.

Laura Kuhn

