

## Thoughts for Our Journey: October 2012 Apples in Autumn

Autumn has arrived. Now, technically autumn came on September 22, 2012 and the signs of a new seasonal change are all around us. In preparation for writing this article, I came across a "Peanuts" cartoon strip. Charlie Brown and Lucy are standing and observing a tree and one of its leaves fell to the ground. Lucy asks Charlie Brown if he knew the significance of the event they just witnessed. Lucy, explaining, through her highly opinionated way, that it is better to be a tree and not a leaf. It appears what Lucy meant, is that the tree continues to grow and live, all the while the leaf drops off and is gone. Now that was Lucy's opinion, maybe you can draw a separate conclusion.

God through the beauty of nature always puts on a phenomenal display of beauty and color at this time of year. In some areas, we can see variable shades of red, gold and brown. This is also the time of year that many people enjoy planting bulbs, in anticipation of springtime blooms. We'll also be preparing soon to "fall back" an hour on November 4, 2012. By then the days will be getting darker and shorter. Many elementary schools will be planning field trips to pumpkin patches and fruit orchards. The fall brings back fond memories of high school football games, pep rallies with bonfires, hayrides, harvest festivals, corn mazes, apple bobbing and Halloween parties.

When the weather gets to the autumn season there is a "nip" in the air and the days turn cooler and our thoughts turn to bundling up and putting on layers of clothing, trying to stay warm. Out come the coats and jackets, warm socks, boots, flannel pajamas and sweaters. This is also the time of year when we may change or add more bedding - blankets, quilts, flannel sheets and comforters, in an effort to keep warm and cozy in bed. In the fall it's nice to enjoy a hot cup of coffee, hot chocolate, chai tea, herbal tea and hot spiced cider. It's the time of year when we want to snuggle up to the one we love and be warmed by the fire in the fireplace. Reflecting upon all the fall beverages makes me naturally think of all the fall foods: a pot of chili, soup, stew, turkey, mashed potatoes, popcorn, and baskets of fruit, gingerbread, pumpkin pies, pecan pies, cinnamon, nutmeg and allspice. This time of year apples of all varieties are abundant with so many choices: Red and Gold Delicious, Gala, Pink Lady, Braeburn, Rome Beauty, Fuji, Granny Smith, McIntosh and York. The apple can be enjoyed in a plethora of ways: eaten plain, in apple pie, apple crisp, applesauce, caramel apples and glazed. The main thing that autumn brings to mind is that it is the season for giving thanks, recognizing our abundance and rejoicing in the good gifts of God. Beloved, let's not allow a "scarecrow" to get us down. Beloved, we are blessed in so many ways and we have much to be thankful for, our autumn abundance..... PSALM 100 "Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is he, who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."

**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](http://www.neccdisciples.com)**

**Music Ministry Appreciation Sunday — Oct. 21st**

**8:00 AND 9:30 Worship Services**

We will have additional special music to fill the sanctuary, which will surely lift your heart closer to God, as we praise him through music and song. We will continue our celebration with refreshments after each service.

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

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ELYRIA, OH 44035  
Permit No. 8

**DATE— OCTOBER 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**

- OCT. Birthdays & Anniversaries....**
- 2 Steve & Debbie Cihla
  - Bryan Garvin
  - 3 Vic Susak
  - 5 Gerry & Tony Piscola
  - Lee & Pam Daniels
  - 7 Mark Carpenter
  - 10 Melissa & Dennis Folk
  - 11 Stephen Tyler
  - Cassandra Gamble
  - 12 Jim Ickes
  - 14 Paul Hayward
  - Lonna Blackburn
  - 15 Kris & Andy Teper
  - 17 Janet Lynch
  - 18 Sandra Gruendler
  - 20 Jennifer Hayward
  - Helen Cramer
  - 21 Mark & Kathy Carpenter
  - Terry & Sherry Stone
  - 24 Karl Tallos
  - 25 Lee Ann Martin
  - 27 Eric Tallos
  - Helen & Rich Walkden
  - 28 Michaelene Durbin
  - 29 Chuck Slusher
  - 31 Nancy Yost

**BLOOD DRIVE .....**What an awesome gift to give and it only takes a few minutes of your time at the Bazaar on Nov. 10th (9:00-1:00).  
*Please eat before you give.*

**Serving at the Lord's Table in OCTOBER .....**

- 8:00** Jim Galvin, Harry Hinkel
- 9:30** Heather Stevanus, Ken Hicks, Cindy Hicks, Carol Bokman, Marlene Black, Carol Swartz, John Klinect, Bill Chapman, Diana Tyler
- ELDERS—** Bill & Maureen Cromling



**New NECC COOKBOOKS ....**

The new cookbooks have arrived! They are available after worship, in the fellowship hall, each Sunday until Nov. 11th and at our Bazaar on Nov. 10th. After that you can purchase them by contacting LAURA KUHN, 440-309-5864 or stop by the church office during the week (8-1:00).  
**The cost is only \$10.00 and make your check to: REBEKAH CIRCLE.**  
**CD's are also available for \$5.00.**

These make great inexpensive gifts for family, friends, co-workers and secret sisters.

**Breakfast With Santa..... Saturday, December 1st (9:30-11:00)**

Included with breakfast will be the Christmas Story, a craft for the children, and an opportunity to take pictures with Santa. Bring a gift for baby Jesus (donations will be given to Cornerstone Pregnancy Center). **Tickets are \$6.00 per person and MUST be purchased in advance.** Children two years and under free. Tickets will be available for purchase starting NOV. 4th thru NOV. 25th after worship. Reservations a must!



**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS ....**Rev. Chuck will be leading

another Sunday School class using the book FORGIVENESS by Adam Hamilton. This book explores forgiveness in our relationship with God, with our spouses or romantic interests, with our parents and siblings, and with others in our lives. This is a 4 week study and will start on Sunday, OCTOBER 21st. Please let Melissa Folk know if you would like Christian Ed to order you a book for the class.



**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** was held on Sept. 16th between services. The following people and positions were approved for 2013: **Clerk-Paula Krasnevlch, Deacons/Jr. Deacons-Ed Carter, Amy Stafford, Tyler Bokman, Brad Stevanus, Floyd Chapman, Mary Bengough, Pat Ables, Paula Krasnevlch, Mike Krasnevlch, Dave Carpenter, Paige Bokman, SS Supt-Melissa Folk, SS Sec-Cindy Hicks, Treasurer-Mary Scott, Financial Sec-Ronda Susak, Elders-Jeff Hensley, Robin Galvin, Melissa Folk.**  
THANK YOU to all who have served in 2012 and who will serve or continue to serve in 2013. **The next COUNCIL MEETING is October 7th at Noon.** Please mark this date on your calendar and make it a priority to attend.

## “170th” Anniversary of NECC— October 14, 2012

This year is a very special year in the life, ministry and service of our church here at North Eaton Christian Church. On October 14<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate together, our church’s 170<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Lorain County. This is an incredible milestone in the history of our beloved congregation. Please mark this date on your calendar and join us for worship (8:00 or 9:30) and “POTLUCK” lunch at 12:00 (noon). (With some of the best cooks in the county here at NECC, our potlucks are worth coming for!)

Our special guest speaker on this day will be, Rev. Dr. Houston Bowers. Rev. Bowers has served churches in the Disciples of Christ denomination faithfully since his ordination in 1960. His last settled church ministry was at Euclid Avenue Christian Church. Rev. Bowers was installed with that congregation in 1977 and retired from there in 2005. He and his wife Mary have four children and four grandchildren. The Bowers reside in Hiram, Ohio.

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

**Operation Christmas Child** — October, hard candies

**Salvation Army**—October, Conditioner

**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).

## **Cornerstone Among Women**—A Northcoast Pregnancy Help Center

*“Many thanks to the 79 churches and schools who sponsored our 2012 Winter and Spring Baby Bottle Blessings Campaigns. Year to date, \$34,981 has been raised to keep our center open!”*

**CORNERSTONE OFFERS MANY FREE & CONFIDENTIAL SERVICES to MOMS & DADS:**

*Pregnancy screening test & verification*      *Limited ultrasound*

*Decision-making for pregnancy, parenting and adoption*

*Prenatal education & support*

*Material assistance incentive programs*

*Mobile Ultrasound Outreach*

*Early childhood development*

*Community outreach programs*

*Postpartum depression screening and support*

*Perspectives on menopause*

*Teen MOPS (mothers of preschoolers)*

**Among Other Things Resale Shop** — 364 Griswold Rd. Elyria, Ohio (440-324-5333) They are always looking for volunteers to help, donations, as well as shoppers.

*Parenting education & support*

*Grief support for pregnancy loss*

*Sexual integrity/fertility awareness*

*Counseling services*

Our representative at North Eaton for this outreach mission project is Marie Ternes.

## **Ladies Christmas Brunch**

**Saturday, Dec. 15th**

The “Anderson Trio,” a gospel singing group, will provide the program this year. You won’t want to miss hearing them. More information will be coming in next month’s Voice and the Sunday worship bulletin.

## **ATTENTION ladies of EVE ...**

Join us for a special meeting on Tuesday, October 16th at NOON.

**A N D**

Our regularly scheduled meeting on Oct. 23rd at Noon for lunch, 12:30 meeting and 1:00 setup for our “packing party” that begins at 7:00 in the fellowship hall.



## News Among the Pews

**Recuperating at Home**—Dianne Nicholas, Liz Toth, Kim Bowen, John Beres, Marge Borchert, Nelta Tripphahn, Juanita Mitchell, Bob Burdick, Floyd Chapman, Janet Lynch

**Surprise Visitor** — I had a surprise visitor in the office a few weeks ago—Dolly (Sophie) Dixon!! She was in from West Virginia and stopped by to tell all her friends here at North Eaton "HELLO". She looks great, still playing cards, and misses us but is very happy where she is. She looks forward to the VOICE each month and placed an order for two cookbooks. Not that she cooks much, but will enjoy reading the recipes and recognizing the names of friends who have submitted the recipes.

**Our Sympathy Is Extended To** — Susie Naylor and her family on the death of her husband, Ernie, on Wednesday, October 3rd. Rev. Chuck officiated at his memorial service. Please keep the Naylor family in your prayers as they deal with the loss of their loved one.

**It's Baking Season here at NECC** . . . . Check your pantries for baking supplies, warm up your ovens and again prepare to make those delicious baked goods as we have several bake sales coming up in the next few months...

ELECTION DAY Youth Bake Sale	Tuesday, November 6th
NECC BAZAAR Bake Sale	Saturday, November 10th
Youth CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE	Saturday, December 1st

**Commissioning of newly elected positions....On October 21st, as part of our morning worship, the newly elected members will be commissioned.** All ministry is a gift from Jesus Christ who is the chief minister of the entire people of God, Through the action of the Holy Spirit, Christ's ministry of reconciling, healing, teaching, and serving is the basis of all ministries. Within the church all ministry is a rich interweaving of word and worship, work and witness.

## "The Church With the Big Heart"

Looking back . . . . April 2008

Dear God,

I am often astounded at the love and support of our church members. No matter what the task, someone is always there to support, love and give guidance.

At a recent funeral, a cup of coffee was waiting for me when I came in the door. (It is the same every Sunday morning.) Several people were in the kitchen, working together, laughing and making sure anyone who entered was made to feel welcome. Someone helped set up the sanctuary for the service. Flowers arranged just right, the paraments straightened and lights on and pews cleaned. I had difficulty with a key, and there was someone to help. No matter what the need, it was provided. And when it was time for the people to leave, the doors were locked, lights turned off, kitchen clean and all was in perfect order for Sunday morning worship. I can't thank this church enough for their love and care of the church building and of me. I am so blessed. I know that everyone who attended the funeral saw the fellowship and love glowing from the people. This happens all the time. It is the norm.

If there is a need of support: money, care, food, compassion, the people of North Eaton Christian Church are there. Their love for others shows in every thing they do. People notice this. Comments were made about how welcoming the church was to them. God's overflowing love showed through.

I am humbled and very grateful for each and every person in our church. I am surrounded by love. May everything I do return the love to them.

**ROMANS 5:5b...** "because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us."

Love, Judy

**CLEVELAND CHRISTIAN HOME** — Christmas Wishes 2012 (COPIES

ON TABLE IN THE NARTHEX)

*Help us make the holidays sparkle for the children and families served by the Cleveland Christian Home. CHOOSE WHAT WORKS BEST FOR YOU:*

*Put your effort where it is most needed by using our Top 10 List.*

*Make an online donation at [www.cchome.org](http://www.cchome.org) and let us do the shopping.*

*"Sponsor A Child" for Christmas: Purchase all the gifts for one child (About \$200).*

*Ask for a list of larger items needed for programs or families.*

*Volunteer to shop, wrap gifts or receive and inventory donations.*