

Thoughts for Our Journey: May 2012

Every Mother is a Working Mother

Every May I can't help being drawn to write about Mothers. I write these reflections in part, to honor my own mother, Kitty Butcher, and my mother-in-law, Hazel Fitzsimmons. I also want to honor all mothers here at NECC. It is always inspiring to see mothers at work with their children and their families. It is to you I give the humblest of credit for the many ways God gives you strength for such a blessed task and calling.

Every mother is a working mother. When we were small mother worked hard to help keep us fed, clean and dry. When we began to talk, mother taught us what to say, how to pray and never to lie. When we began to walk, mother worked to keep us out of trouble. When we were old enough to start school, a mother's work doubled. When we reached the teen years and we wanted our independence, our mothers prayed, walked with Jesus, and with God's ways she learned to be content. Every expression of love shows she cares like no other; because every mother is a working mother. My mother and my mother-in-law are no longer with Carol and me but their memory and legacy live on in us.

In searching for thoughts to help frame my reflections I found these quotes from other famous people and their thoughts about mothers. "Being a full-time mother is one of the highest salaried jobs, since the payment is pure LOVE" – Mildred Vermont. "All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother" – Abraham Lincoln. "A mother's love is the fuel that enables a normal human being to do the impossible" – Marion C. Garretty. "Mom, if I had a single flower for every time I think about you, I could walk forever in my garden" – Claudia Ghandi. May the Lord bless all NECC mothers and may his face shine upon you not just today but everyday as you walk in the blessed calling as a devoted mother.

Blessings for the Journey,

Rev. Chuck

The VOICE

"Working together to make the difference that matters."

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NEW "NECC Cookbook"REBEKAH CIRCLE has taken on the project of a new church cookbook. Over the years our church cookbooks have been treasured and handed down from generation to generation. We are asking for your family's favorite recipes to add to our book. Cooks of all ages and sex, help us to make this another great book. They will be available on CD or hardcopy. Submit as many recipes as you want. Recipe forms will be available or you can enter them directly into the computer database (See LAURA KUHN for more information on how to do this.) More info will be coming soon.



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DATE— MAY 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

MAY Birthdays & Anniv.

- 1 Sue Webb
- 2 Cody Wilson (18th)
- 3 Chuck & Genene Slusher
- 4 Carol & Buz Bokman
- 5 Bob & Tammy Hammond
- 6 Stacy Zawoycki
- 7 Shari Kyle
- 8 Dennis Baughman
- 9 Roger Driver
- 10 Dan Hicks
- 11 Sharon Kiesel
- 12 Theresa & Mac McDonough
- 13 Harry Hinkel
- 14 Brett Nash
- 15 Aaron Durbin
- 16 Tom Mott
- 17 Ann Marie Haehn
- 18 Lois Brasse
- 19 Jeff Joslin
- 20 Chris Hickman
- 21 Jeannie Sizemore
- 22 Maggie Carpenter
- 23 Vern Black
- 24 Ray & Karen Konko
- 25 Tammy & Mel Gamble
- 26 Nanci Ickes
- 27 Steve Cihla
- 28 Sally Belfi
- 29 George & Diana Butcher
- 30 Julie Haumschild

Serving at the Lord's Table in

MAY

- 8:00 Randy Kuhn & Chris Hensley
- 9:30 Melissa Folk (TL), Brad Stevanus
 Carol Butcher, Micah Butcher,
 Jerry Mullins, Mark Carpenter,
 Mike Mott, Chrissy Baughman,
 Polly Tallos
- ELDERS — Maureen & Bill Cromling

THANK YOU — THANK YOU!

Our thanks to all who have donated to the JUDY PONTING MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

We are amazed by your generosity and your love for Judy. You may donate to this fund at **any time**. Checks need to be made out to NECC and we will then send the money to CCIO. A second check will be sent this month for \$5,070. This brings our total to **\$11,770.00!!**

Any questions contact Paul Durbin or the church office.

COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE ...At the April 15th meeting, Jim Galvin was transferred to the 8:00 Deacon schedule, adding Leslie Klein for the 9:30 service, and accepting the resignation of Laura Kuhn as both deacon and financial secretary. An idea was suggested to have a baby shower as a fundraiser to add new toys and supplies for the Nursery. More details will be coming. **NEXT COUNCIL MEETING is JUNE 10th.** You do not have to be a voting member to come to Council Meeting. Your attendance and support is greatly needed and appreciated. Mark it on your calendar to join us.

Respectfully, Melissa Folk, Council President

Sunday, May 27th at 11:46 —

Join us at our monthly family potluck. We will have a hymn-sing before eating and then enjoy some great home cooking. Don't forget your May birthday money—a penny for each year, which is given to CORNERSTONE AMONG WOMEN. Any questions see Pat Ables.



Get The SCOOP on 'DIG'

Every year, the *CYF Conference campers of Camp Christian* take an offering called **DIG** (which means Dividends In Growth) as well as **SCOOP** (Special Concerns – Ohio Outreach Project). The DIG money is donated through an auction-like activity.

Friends, cabins or single campers can pool their money together and win certain prizes like a night spent sleeping in the dining hall. Last year our four conferences raised a total of \$23,464 through DIG. This money is then divided between different causes. Every year the Youth Council votes on how the money should be divided; this year it will look similar to this: 25% to Hocking Valley Parish, 20% to Regional Youth Fund, 15% to Youth Scholarship, 10% to Cleveland Christian Home, 5% to Week of Compassion, 5% to Shalom Center, Chile, 5% to Hiram Farm, 5% to Camp Christian Capitol, 5% to Global Ministries, 5% to DHM Care Network.



SCOOP is like DIG but is more of an offering than a donation. SCOOP is an offering that's only taken 9 months throughout the year as opposed to DIG, that's taken right from camp. SCOOP money is also divided similarly: 25% to Hocking Valley Parish, 25% to Youth Scholarship, 15% Pastoral Fund, 10% to St. Philip's, 10% to Reconciliation, 10% Pension Fund, 5% to Cleveland Christian Home.

I am trying to save my own money, as well as raise some, to take with me this summer. I feel that as District 2 Secretary, I should be supporting these opportunities and leading my district down the right path. These are great causes that I believe in and the money given really does help to better the charities.

Paige Bokman

2012 Mission Trip

The following youth: Paige Bokman, Alex Carpenter, Samantha Galvin, Taylor Salas, and Erik Tallos along with adults Mark Carpenter and Polly Tallos will be headed off to Centralia, Illinois for a Mission Trip in July, 2012.



We have chosen to participate in a Group Cares Home Repair Workcamp. In six short days, hundreds of kids from youth groups across the country will repair and transform homes while strengthening and transforming their own faith. Part of the faith building comes in the form of the daily challenges. Now we don't mean we're going to ask kids to scale a tree with a chainsaw but we do want to challenge them to do something they may not have done before. For some, that might be painting a house for the first time; for others, they may learn how to use a chop saw or drill. Whatever the case, sometimes getting a little uncomfortable and vulnerable is exactly where God wants us.

Centralia, IL lies an hour east of St. Louis and is steeped in the rich history of the railroad and coal mining era. Like many communities that built their roots in these industries, the changing times and technologies have taken a powerful toll on the lives of residents who relied on these businesses for their livelihood. The residents of Centralia need help restoring their homes and NECC youth are going to do it.

Vacation Bible School

Friday, August 10 – Sunday, August 12

This year North Eaton Christian Church is trying something a little different for Vacation Bible School. **We will be doing a weekend VBS.** We will have two 2 ½ hour sessions and a Sunday Celebration. There will still be lots of crafts, songs, fun and of course, Bible Learning for children of all ages.

The Christian Education team will be out and about asking for volunteers and donations in the months and weeks leading up to our August Vacation Bible School. Please prayerfully consider how you might best help NECC to have a successful Vacation Bible School.

Our first request: The theme is Rocky Point Lighthouse. If you have (or find some cheap at garage sales or Goodwill) any beach, ocean or lighthouse items that you would be willing to loan us to help decorate for VBS we would appreciate it. Suggested items include but not be limited to : Lighthouses (pictures, models), Life preservers (vest or circle), shells, fishing nets, starfish, lobster crate, Ocean sounds CD, fake crabs, lobsters.



CHRISTIAN ED and YOUTH SAY "THANK YOU"

Easter Egg Hunt---On Sunday, April 1 the field behind the church was filled with 100's of colorful eggs and 56+ excited children and their families. The Easter Bunny even made an appearance, doing her best to meet and greet all the children as well as lots of adults. Everyone enjoyed the sunshine and scrambling to get as many eggs as they could. **Thank you** to everyone who helped by donating candy and prizes, filling eggs, setting up tables, putting out eggs and helping to clean up. Everyone had a wonderful day celebrating the coming of Easter.

Chinese Auction---The Youth would like to **thank everyone** who helped with the Chinese Auction this year: those who sold or bought tickets, donated auction items, made phone calls and picked up items, worked the auction, and set up/took down tables and chairs. We raised over \$150 at the refreshment counter which will be used to help sponsor Wondimu Mangesh, a 3rd grader in Ethiopia through World Vision. The Auction itself raised over \$1900 which will be divided between the Youth's Mission Trip and the Membership Team (deposited in maintenance or the church). Special thanks to CAROL BUSCHE, we could not have done it without her!!

Bake Sales---Thank you to everyone who supported the recent Youth Bakes Sales. A special **Thank you** to the **Eve Circle** for allowing the youth to have a Bake Sale during the Kids' Resale. It is wonderful when the groups in the church can work together for everyone's success. The March 24 & 25 profits will go to Mission Trip. The April 22 profits will go to Hiram Conference with Paige Bokman for a special offering.

Sat, March 24: over \$130 Sun, March 25: over \$130 Sun, April 22: over \$100

Church Potlucks

The NECC family church potlucks have been quite a success. Our 3rd one of 2012 saw the largest group yet, close to 50 people.

The food is always delicious and you can't beat the fellowship. There

is always plenty of food, so even if you forget to bring a dish to share, please join us and you won't go home hungry! We begin with a few minutes of singing, church hymns or camp songs, then collect birthday offerings, and finally we walk to the buffet table to fill our plates with lots of food. The potlucks will take a break during the summer months, but resume again in the fall. Please join us on MAY 27th and then we will see you again in SEPTEMBER.

Carol Bokman



News Among the Pews

CONGRATULATIONS TO Holly Hill on being inducted into Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society (3.8 gpa) last Friday. She would like to thank all those in her church family for their continued support and prayers.

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to Nelta Tripphahn on the death of her husband Mel. He was also Tim Tripphahn's uncle. Our prayers to the family and friends.

Floyd Chapman would like to thank Eve Circle for the flowers they had in memory of Phyllis.

Our thanks to Darrell Wilford for the beautiful tulips he planted in the flower beds again this year for all of us to enjoy. What a beautiful sign of Spring.

*"We want to thank all of you for your prayers and love. God's will is not always the easiest, but it is always the best. In all things we thank Him and praise Him.
The Colvin-Schneider Family*

*"I am pleased to inform you that I am now home. It has been a long, hard struggle for me and my family, but your prayers, cards, visits and thoughtful concerns have given us the strength to not give up. I still have a ways to go but wanted to let you know how much your love and concern has meant to us.
God bless you all, John Beres*

Our thanks to the JYF (Jr. Youth Fellowship) for picking up all the pine branches in the back field after the high winds a few weeks ago.

RECUPERATING: Linda Rodak, Ruby Burdick, Chuck Slusher, John Beres, Don Binnie & Mel Ternes (we continue to pray for good health for our church family).

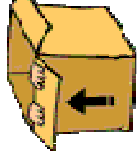
THANK YOU for your continued support of the "pocket change" & baby bottles for CORNERSTONE. We sent a check for \$25.00 for APRIL. Marie Ternes

Dear NECC, We are grateful for your recent gift of \$900.00. Together we are lightening the load and spurring on the mission of Cleveland Christian Home to bring hope and healing to children, youth and families in need. Rev. Jayne Rayn Kuroiwa

Operation Christmas Child.....MAY 6th was our kick-off for Operation Christmas

Child, one of NECC's mission projects sponsored by EVE CIRCLE. We'll be collecting items that will fit into a shoebox until around Christmas. They will then be distributed to needy children in the USA and around the world.

ITEMS FOR MAY— **Boy's and Girl's toys:** yo-yos, cars, airplanes, balls, dolls, jump ropes, play dough, card games or whatever toys that will fit in the shoebox. **DONATION BOX** is on the fireplace in the fellowship hall or leave it in the East Entrance of the church, marked **CHRISTMAS CHILD**.



NECC BASEBALL EVENT



On **Friday, June 8th** the family and friends of the North Eaton Christian Church are invited to go to a Lake Erie Crushers baseball game. This is a minor league team and all of the seats are very close to the playing field. The ticket prices are \$8.00 for a box seat for a group of 20 or more people. Game time is 7:05pm. Friday games are always followed by fireworks, so it should be a lot of fun for the whole family. I need to order tickets in advance, so please get your reservation **AND** payment to me **by May 20th**. If you have any questions you can contact me at bokmans@att.net or by calling 440-891-1819.

Checks should be made payable to NECC.

Sights and Sounds Theater

..... I am trying to coordinate a trip to Lancaster, PA to see the presentation of "Jonah" at the famous Sights and Sounds Theater (check-out the poster hanging on the bulletin board in the Sunday School hallway). Week-end shows are pretty much sold-out for the entire summer so I am looking at a weekday in July. I have tentatively selected July 11th as a possible date. According to Mapquest, travelling time from Grafton to Lancaster would be about 6 or 7 hours. This would be an overnight trip with an afternoon show. My very estimated costs at this time would be about \$200 per person (possibly a little less) if we have enough volunteers to do the driving. This cost would include tickets, gasoline, and one night in a hotel. Your food would be extra. Right now I am trying to determine if we would have enough people offering to drive in order to accommodate the number of people that are interested in this trip. Please contact Carol Bokman by May 20th (891-1819 or bokmans@att.net) if you are interested in this trip and/or if you would be willing to be a driver.