

## Thoughts for the Journey – May/2013

*A Time for Remembrance* .....Now that we have turned the calendar to a new month, the month of May we set our sights on summer time activities. That is especially true around Memorial Day weekend. Many people in the United States use Memorial Day weekend as a kick-off to the summer with the end of the school year, summer vacations, family reunions and many other such events. Unfortunately, the original purpose for this day has been lost to so many. So, let us reflect on some of the lessons we can learn from this special day.

First is the cost of freedom. Many a man and woman have gone off to protect this country never to return home again. Families have experienced the sorrow of burying a loved one. Men and women have gone into battle knowing their chance of survival was minimal at best. We owe a great deal to those who have made such a costly sacrifice for all of us. On such a thought, when one thinks of great sacrifices we think of Jesus' death on the cross. Jesus' blood was shed for the remission of our sins, so reads, *Matthew 26:26-28*. Just as we can never repay the soldiers of earlier generations, so we can never repay Jesus for his love and devotion.

Second is brevity of life. Life is compared to a flower and a vapor of smoke in the Bible, *1 Peter 1:24* and *James 4:14*. We measure time in seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, years, decades and centuries. Time is one thing we spend no matter what we do. To a child, tomorrow is a long time away. To a teenager, next year is forever. As we grow older we realize the brevity of life. The years go by, loved ones grow up and get older and some die. Change is a constant in our lives due to our mortal nature.

Third is the fragile nature of life. Young people think they are invincible. Accidents happen to young people as well as older people. This what Solomon was referring to when he wrote, "the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor the riches to men of understanding, nor favor to the men of skill; but time and chance happen to them all" (Ecclesiastes 9:11).

Fourth there is a time to look backward and a time to look forward. As the Apostle Paul wrote, "Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press on toward the goal, for the prize the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Beloved, we need to remember the past but to always look forward to our future. One day we will leave this world for eternity, Jesus will return and we will be with him in glory. Let us prepare to face him and hear, "well done my good and faithful servants." Let us enjoy the celebrations we may experience this May but let us also remember the sacrifices of those who gave so much for our liberties.

Blessings for Journey,

Rev. Chuck

North Eaton Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
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Permit No. 8

DATE— MAY 2013

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

**Believe it or not** — Summer is almost here. Our choir gets the summer off starting in June. We would love to use your musical talent (vocal or instrumental-solo, duet, group) during the summer months. Please see MIKI, our music director, if you are willing to help us. Miki will be glad to accompany you in any way she can to make you feel more at ease about performing. See her after worship, call her—330-858-6683, or email mikisaito333@gmail.com

# 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)

**May Birthdays & Anniversaries...**

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



**Serving at the Lord's Table**

**8:00 Ed Carter, Chris Hensley**  
**9:30 Royce Klein, Holly & Chris Chapman, Amy Stafford, Theresa McDonough, Tyler Bokman, Paige Bokman, Maggie Carpenter**  
**ELDERS — Melissa Folk, Stu Hicks**

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Did you know that Earth Day was April 22nd? We thank our congregation for all they do here at the church to conserve energy by turning off lights and lowering the thermostat when you leave and for making recycling a priority by donating your aluminum cans, newspapers, cancelled stamps and soup labels.

**Reduce-Reuse-Recycle  
CHEERS TO SAVING THE EARTH!**

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 \*  
 \* **Mark your calendar — you don't want to miss this!** \*  
 \* **Mother Daughter Banquet—Saturday, May 11th @ 1:00 p.m.** \*  
 \*  
 \* **JOIN US — “Down Memory Lane” and a special story for young ladies.** \*  
 \*  
 \* **TICKETS — \$5.00 for adults \$2.00 for girls 3-6 years old (2 & under free)** \*  
 \*  
 \* **Call the church office if you would like to buy tickets — 440-748-2230** \*  
 \* **or Pat Ables 440-748-2610.** \*  
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**FAIR GRANTS**

It's that time again! Fair grant forms are out. Fair grant can be submitted by anyone in the church or any group affiliated with the church such as scouts. In the past fair grants have been approved for camp scholarships, mission trips, Breakfast with Santa, Bethlehem @ Eaton, Alpha Course, Jerry Lucas, Pathways, Boy Scout activities and many more.

If you are a committee chair with the need to supplement your budget for special missions, if you are a member and would like to start a new mission or if you are a group affiliated with our church, you are able to fill out a grant form.

Grant forms have changed this year. It is our hope to streamline the process. Forms can be obtained in the church office or by e-mail (chensley@midviewk12.org). Please return them by MAY 20<sup>th</sup> if you are e-mailing them, MAY 15<sup>th</sup> if you are dropping off a hard copy in the church office. Completed forms can be turned in to Londa in the church office, Diana Tyler or Jeff or Chris Hensley. Chris will compile all the requests and present them to the Church Council to decide as a committee at large.

Grant forms are on the counter in the church office. Any questions see CHRIS HENSLEY.

# Thank You

*Jim and I would like to extend our deep appreciation to our church family of NECC. We are so thankful for the many prayers, cards and phone calls we have received. A special thanks to Pastor Chuck for being there for our family; offering prayers and comforting us during our stay at St. John Westshore hospital. Jim is still on the road to recovery. He is recuperating at home but each day is an improvement. We sincerely appreciate and are very thankful for all the kindnesses extended to us.*

*With God's Blessings—Jim and Sandy Hales*

**What a nice surprise on my birthday to have beautiful flowers from my church family. Thank you for making me feel so special.**

**Carol Busche**

*Our thanks to Rebekah Circle for their donations of non-perishable food items to our food pantry. They made a special effort to each bring items to their meeting in April.*

*NECC YOUTH would like to thank everyone who supported the Chinese Auction. The youth made over \$200.00 selling refreshments. The proceeds from the auction will be used to help cover the cost of their Mission Trip and youth activities.*

**Youth News ....** We have been practicing for YOUTH SUNDAY, May 5th.

The youth will lead us in worship using skits, special music and more. We have been busy over the winter and look forward to CAMP and summer activities. We participated in:

Tobogganing with Washington Avenue Christian Church  
State Youth Convention at Hiram College  
Constructing a Prayer Tomb for the congregation to use during Holy Week  
Winter Jam Concert in Cleveland and overnigher with Westlake Christian Church  
Easter Egg Hunt Setup Regular meetings on Sunday evenings for Chi Rho/ CYF  
Thursday evenings for JYF

SEE POLLY if you are interested in going to CHURCH CAMP or the MISSION TRIP.

**Camp is for ALL AGES.....** Camp registrations are available on line at <http://www.ccinoh.com/camp-christian/summer-programs.aspx> or from **Polly Tallos**, our **Youth Director**. NECC paid half of the Early Bird registration fee for each camper. A portion will also be paid for later registration fees.

Christian Church in Ohio offers camp for all ages, yes ALL ages. Children, even small babies, can attend Disciples Fellowship Retreat with their parents on Memorial or Labor Day weekends. Then as children get older new options are available.

**Grandparents Camp-** children completing the 1st and 2nd grades can attend with a Grandparent or other special adult

**Jr Camp-** Children completing the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades are invited to spend the week in family groups with other children, an adult and a CIT

**Chi Rho Camp-** youth completing the 6th, 7th and 8th grades participate in Chi Rho Camp, where they are a little more independent forming new friendships with cabin mates, classmates and table groups.

**CYF Conference-** youth completing 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades meet together for a week of learning and leading, as Youth are encouraged to take part in planning evening worship, Friday night consecration service, banquet and more.

**Advance Conference-** for young adults who are 18 to 29. They plan and lead their whole week, lots of worship, study and play

**Adult Conference-**for anyone 30 and over. A time to come together for worship and learning, play and fellowship too.

**Adventure Camp-**for High School and older. Weekend of outdoor camping, worship and hiking.

## Combined Vacation Bible School ... June 24-27

We are trying something new this year. We will be joining the Columbia Ministerial Associations "Vacation Bible School: Growing In God's Garden." Seven churches will share in the hosting duties. The VBS will be held at New Life Wesleyan Church on West River Rd. Columbia Station, JUNE 24-27, from 9:00-12:00. Volunteers will be needed to help in various areas. See Polly Tallos, Melissa Folk or Pastor Chuck if you have any questions or would like to help.

