

THOUGHTS FOR THE JOURNEY-August 2013 Love – More!

You can never love too much. You can dote on someone or something too much, you can cuddle too much, stare at a picture too much, and even bake more cookies than are acceptable but you cannot *love* too much. Beloved, St. Paul emphasizes this to the church at Thessalonica in 1 Thessalonians 4:9-10. Paul writes, “*Now about your love for one another we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. And in fact, you do love all of God’s family throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers and sisters to do so more and more*”.

. . . If there is anything that we should be excellent about, it is love. St. Paul made love practical when he wrote the memorable list in 1 Corinthians 13. Love is patient, love is kind. Love is not jealous. Love does not brag, and is not arrogant. Love does not act unbecomingly or seek its own. Love is not provoked. Love does not take into account a wrong suffered. Love does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things and endures all things. Love never fails.

St. Paul is saying, when it comes to showing love: you do some of that, but you can do a lot more of it. So excel still more or “do so more and more.” The storyteller C. Roy Angel once illustrated the beauty of such self-abandoning love. Here is his story in his own words except for a slight modification. A college friend named Paul got a car as a present from his brother before Christmas. On Christmas Eve, Paul found a street urchin walking around his shiny new car, admiring it. “Is this your car, mister?” the boy asked. Paul nodded. “My brother gave it to me for Christmas.” The boy look astounded. “You mean your brother gave it to you, and it didn’t cost you nothing?” Boy, I wish . . .” Paul knew what he was going to wish. He was going to wish he had a brother like that. But instead, the boy said, “I wish I could be a brother like that.” Paul was so impressed he offered the kid a ride in his car. The boy asked if they could drive in front of his house. Paul thought he wanted to show his neighbors his “sweet ride.” But Paul was wrong again. They stopped in front of the boy’s house, and he ran inside. He came out carrying his little polio-crippled brother. The older boy sat him down on the bottom step squeezed up against him, pointing to the car. “There it is,” the older brother said. “His brother gave it to him for Christmas, and it didn’t cost him a cent. Someday I’m going to give you one just like it, so you can see for yourself all the things in the Christmas windows I’ve been telling you about.” Paul lifted the little boy into the front seat of his car. The older brother got in next to him, his eyes shining, and the three of them took a trip to see the Christmas windows. Paul learned that night what Jesus meant when he said, “There is more happiness in giving than in receiving.”

Beloved, what would life be like if there were more of this kind of love demonstrated in the world? What would happen to others around us? What would be the difference in each of us? You can understand why the apostle Paul never tired of saying, “Keep on loving; do it even more!”

Blessings for the Journey,
Rev. Chuck

North Eaton Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
35895 Royalton Rd. Grafton, Ohio 44044
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Permit No. 8

DATE— AUGUST 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

LORAIN COUNTY FAIR— NECC Food Booth (Under the grandstand)

AUGUST 19th-25thWe need EVERYONES help to make this another successful year. There are 3 shifts, with people needed in the kitchen and on the counter. Schedules are posted in the fellowship hall. SEE WHERE YOU ARE NEEDED AND CAN WORK. Any questions, see CINDY THOMPSON or POLLY TALLOS or call the church office, 748-2230.

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

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
- Laura & Dave Carpenter
- 7 Mel & Marie Ternes
- 9 Linda Rodak
- Mel Ternes
- Marlene Black
- Mike & Becky Moran
- Liz & Luis Rooney
- 12 Zoe Knorr
- 13 Cathy & Don Dusky
- Jessica Castro
- Bob Bricker
- Robin & Bob Bricker
- 14 Paul & Michaelene Durbín
- 15 Stacy & Nick Zawoyski

Serving at the Lord's Table — AUGUST

8:00 Jim & Linda Ickes

9:30 Royce Klein, Holly & Chris Chapman,
Amy Stafford, Theresa McDonough,
Paige Bokman, Tyler Bokman,
Maggie Carpenter



ELDERS — Melissa Folk, Jeff Hensley

- 17 Nathan Klein
- 18 Sarah Mullins
- 20 Ralph Wearstler
- 22 Taylor Teper
- Cameron Castro
- Claire & Bob Kauf
- 23 Brad & Heather Stevanus
- 25 Dave Carpenter
- Lauren Martin
- 27 Ronda Susak
- Ray Konko
- 29 Janice Brunger
- 30 Bob Kauf
- Diana & Tim Tyler
- 31 Londa Blaine
- Barb & Tom Mott

Lending a helping hand The REBEKAH CIRCLE has started a fund to help Linda Rodak with medical expenses. If anyone would like to donate to this fund, CHECKS are to be made out to REBEKAH CIRCLE, memo line to read—Linda Rodak. Mail them to the church (35895 Royalton Rd. Grafton, Oh. 44044) or place in the offering plate. (DO NOT give or send to Linda please.) If you have any questions, call the church office, 440-748-2230 or Laura Kuhn, 440-309-5864. We will be collecting for this fund thru the month of AUGUST ONLY.

NECC “WELCOME BACK” CHURCH PICNIC

On **Sunday, September 8th**, the family and friends of the North Eaton Christian Church are invited to attend the “Welcome Back” Church Picnic in the field behind the parking lot. This will celebrate starting up the new Sunday School year as summer comes to a close.



We will set-up immediately following the 9:30 service and eat at approximately **12:00 noon.** The church will provide the meat and beverages, please bring a dish/dessert to share. There will soon be a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall. We will have some games set-up for your entertainment and participation.

Please contact Stephanie Tyler-Garvin at stephanietyler@gmail.com or Carol Bokman at bokmans@att.net if you have any questions or you have an outdoor game that you would like to share.

NECC BICYCLE OUTING

On Sunday, September 22nd, the family and friends of the North Eaton Christian Church are invited to go for a bicycle ride. We have not figured out all of the logistics about the bike ride yet, but plan to meet at about 2:00pm at a location to be determined. We will eat dinner together following the ride. If you would like to meet for dinner without biking, you are more than welcome to join us. Keep checking the church announcement slides for more information.

If you have any questions you can contact me at bokmans@att.net or by calling 440-891-1819.

Secret Sister “Birthdāy Bash” in the fellowship hall on Sunday, Aug. 18th around 11:30. Bring a salad to share, bread & beverages will be provided. Birthdāy presents (optional).

THANK YOU

AND MORE!

To My Church Family,

Thank you to everyone for their prayers and the phone calls from Rev. Chuck during my health problems in Florida the last winter and spring. Also a BIG—**THANK YOU** for the huge banner for my birthday. It was the best and biggest birthday greeting I have ever received.
God Bless and Thank You All —- Bob Lynch

My thanks to NECC for your help to me whenever I get in a financial bind. Without your help of a gas card, I would not have been able to get to work. Your kindness is appreciated.

Mike is still recovering from his recent surgery. He is still encountering nerve pain which we know will take a while to subside. My thanks to everyone for your prayers. I am serving at Disciples Christian Church in Boardman, Ohio right now and commuting 75 miles each way. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.
Sharon Kiesel

Dear Friends,

Sometimes the words “Thank You” seem so inadequate. When I think of your generosity and how you have helped change the lives of people whom you have never met, I’m truly at a loss to express my gratitude. Please accept this sincere thank you from the Salvation Army of Elyria.
Major Robert Sears

Our thanks to all who continue to make saving aluminum drink cans a priority for our CANS FOR CODY. We just got another \$88.00!!
Dick Blaine

CONGRATULATIONS to great grandpa Jim Ponting on the birthday of a great granddaughter, Marley-Skye Rose Blackburn, born July 11th, 5 lb. 8oz. Mother, Lona Blackburn and daughter are doing great!

CMIA—Canoe Trip We had a wonderful time of fun & fellowship on Saturday. 14 adults and 7 children, 8 adults and 1 child ventured in the rain to canoe the Mohican river. Even in the rain we relaxed and played down the river for two hours. We were bused back to enjoy a wonderful meal and cookout. The most enlightening moment of the day was, even though we had several deacons, an elder and a minister with us, it was 3 yr. Old Bobby Browne that reminded us, half way through the meal, that we forgot to say grace before eating. We stopped eating as Bobby said grace. It was short and sweet and so heartfelt that it drove home the meaning of the entire day. To bless God for such love, bounty, and fellowship. The men of CMIA hope that you will join us next year on our annual trip to worship God in nature.
Mike Krasnevich

GREETINGS FROM CAMP CHRISTIAN

This summer we had eight youth and two adults participate in three different weeks of camp.

Partnership Camp - Emily Adkins

Chi Rho Camp -Dean Galvin, Bradley Sword, Erik Tallos, Polly Tallos

CYF Conference—Paige Bokman, Samantha Galvin, Shaun McBennett, Keyerra Ward, Pastor Chuck

Emily wrote a letter in response to a letter Polly sent asking her about her week at camp. Emily was brave enough to head off to Camp Christian for her first year of camp all by herself.

Hi Polly, It’s Emily. I’m in the Beautiful Blue Belles (Bells). (*Jr. Campers are put into family groups for their week of camp. They spend all week with the same group of boys and girls. Each family group is given a name to identify themselves throughout the week.*) My counselor is Kristen. My CIT (*Counselor In Training*) Erin. I made 10 friends. We went on a night hike. It’s Thursday & no sleeping outside. It’s been a great week. Xoxo Emily

From Keyerra Ward: *My experience that I had at Camp Christian was so rewarding and fun in many ways. I've learned more about myself and about my faith. I have absolutely no regrets about going to Camp Christian. It's a great place where you can and will meet great people.*

Hiram 4Life—everybody love everybody (It's a camp thing.)

This year was my first year at Hiram Conference and my 7th year at camp. Every year I always think, “this place is magical”! Whenever you enter Vespers you can feel the safety and strength and know you don’t need to worry because you are in God’s hands. To see 100+ teens gather in one place at the same time, for the same reason, you gotta think WOW this is unlike anything else. Ask anyone there if they had a good week and you will get nearly the same response from everyone—WE LOVE CAMP! I always leave feeling so strong and loved. This year I met people I had never seen before and built strong friendships. I also built stronger relationships with those I already knew and those who are from my own church. I had a wonderful week, one I will never forget. I am looking forward to returning next year.
Samantha Galvin

On behalf of all the youth and adults who attend the many different camps and have received financial support from this church, we say THANK YOU!



