

## Thoughts For the Journey — June 2014

### “A Grand-Parent”

In *Proverbs 16:31*, are found words of divine wisdom our world desperately needs to affirm. Those words are, “*Gray hair is a crown of splendor; it is attained by a righteous life.*” So we find that God does not view older people or gray haired folks the way many do in our culture. Beloved this bit of divine wisdom reminds us that God’s thoughts very often never match the thoughts of our culture. What we find is that God often esteems what humanity tends to avoid. No matter how culture at large views gray hair, the church of the living God must affirm the worth and value of all people, especially older people. Beloved, we must not diminish the important role older people or our “senior saints of the faith” play in our families and in God’s family.

We have a word we use that describes a gray haired person, whose children now have children, that word is “*Grand*” parent. Beloved reflect upon that word. A grandparent has the opportunity to be a “*grand*” parent. Grandparents for the most part have already been around the parenting track more than a few times. Most grandparents learned through experience where the potholes and slick spots are located on this race track called life. A few grandparents among us even learned many things NOT to do as a parent. In more cases than not, grandparents have invaluable insights and contributions to give the younger generation struggling with the enormous challenge of trying to be – “good parents.” We would do well to listen to the counsel and advice of our “*grand-parents.*”

The prolific writer, Erma Bombeck, hit the nail on the head with the following statement, “A grandmother will put the sweater on you when she is cold, feed you when she is hungry, and put you to bed when she is tired.” Another writer David Barry once said, “You feel completely comfortable entrusting your baby to grandparents for long periods of time, which is why most grandparents flee to Florida at the earliest opportunity.” The following acrostic poem is from an unknown author but the points it makes are very poignant. Beloved seriously, grandparents have a grand opportunity continuing to enrich and help their families. What can they do? G-they can set a *godly* example for young people living in an ungodly age. R-they can be *reliable* in a world where many cannot be trusted to be honest. A-they can give sound *advice* in a place of the world’s junk-thinking. N-they can *nurture* their grandchildren when others are too busy to do so. D-they can give *direction* in a confused world that says any which way will do. Grandparents – we salute you and thank God for you, for you are truly “grand.”

Blessings for the Journey,

Rev. Chuck

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### DATE— JUNE 2014

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

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*“Working together to make the difference that matters.”*

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Visit us at: [www.neccdisciples.com](http://www.neccdisciples.com)

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Erma Yost  
Juliet & Lacey Hammond
- 3 Bob & Sarah Browne
- 5 Jim & Linda Ickes
- 6 Adam Wilson  
Barry & Melissa Daniels  
Ronda & Vic Susak
- 9 Gabriella Laney
- 10 Genene Slusher  
Karen Konko
- 11 Jim Johnson
- 12 Sharon & Mike Kiesel  
Damion & Jordan Workman
- 14 Linda Spitzer  
Jeff Hensley  
Mike & Denise Mott
- 15 Angie Carter  
Wil & Linda Morrison
- 16 Abigail Browne
- 17 Stu & Bonnie Hicks
- 18 Mike Gross  
Betty Hawke  
Dianne Nicholas  
Bob & Janet Lynch
- 19 Matthew Thompson  
April & Chris Hickman
- 21 Barb Koerner
- 23 Ruth Haupt  
Ralph & Becky Thompson
- 24 Chris Chapman
- 25 Ed Carter  
Cindy & Glen Thompson
- 26 Madison Stevanus
- 27 Dale Botson
- 29 Karen & John Klinect
- 30 Mike Mott  
George Butcher  
Jim & Joyce Johnson



## Serving at the Lord's Table: JUNE

- 8:00** Mary Scott, Bob Weber
  - 9:30** Leslie Klein, Holly & Chris Chapman, Tammy Hammond, Amy Stafford, John Klinect, Theresa McDonough, Bill Chapman, Tyler Bokman
- ELDERS** Glenn Swartz, Melissa Folk

## Mother's Day

The Christian Education Dept. and Membership presented each mother in worship with a \$5.00 Dairy Queen gift card on Mother's Day. Carol Busche was on hand to take pictures of all the smiling faces. They are displayed on our bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

**Tables and Chairs ...**The church has a *limited number of old tables and chairs* that are available for our congregation to use but you **MUST** schedule their use through the CHURCH OFFICE. With the arrival of summer they get used a lot for garage sales, graduation parties, picnics, family reunions, etc. Don't wait until the last minute, **plan ahead.**

## JOIN US FOR "Vacation Bible School"

"Big and Loud For Jesus"

June 23—June 26 9:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.

We are once again taking part in the Columbia Station's Community VBS which includes Clearview Church, Columbia Baptist, Columbia United Methodist, Hosanna Lutheran, New Life Wesleyan, and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. REGISTRATION FORMS are on the table in the Narthex or in the church office. We can also mail it to you. Ages 4 yrs. old — 8th grade. No charge — asking for donation of canned good and toiletries for the Columbia Food Pantry. Any questions see POLLY TALLOS, REV. CHUCK or call the church office (748-2230).

## GRADUATE RECOGNITION — 2014

- ★ **Theresa Sizemore — 2014 Midview High School — Landscape and Greenhouse Management from JVS**
- ★ **Chris Hensley — 2013 Masters of Arts in Teaching and Learning from Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, FL**
- ★ **Cameron Castro — 2014 Defiance College, Master in Business Administration**

**Our Sympathy is extended to:** Ruby Burdick and family on the death of **Bob**. His Memorial Service was June 7th. Bob was a member of NECC since 1956. He faithfully attend our 8:00 a.m. worship service.

The family and friends of **Nelta Kerley Tripphahn**. Her graveside service was May 30th at Butternut Cemetery. Nelta was a member of NECC and Rebekah Circle for many years.

**PENTECOST OFFERING 2014**  
**“Every Church Was New Once”**  
**Our church was new on October 15, 1842!**

*“And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.” Acts 2:47*

This year the Pentecost offering will be taken on June 8<sup>th</sup>. Your funds will be used to found new Disciples churches in areas without access to a Disciples of Christ congregation. Since 2001, Disciples have started 830 new churches, reaching 50,000 individuals in at least 19 different languages. Just imagine what your life would be like if no one answered God’s call to start your church.

Your donation will help to recruit, assess, train, and coach new church planters. Half of the offering collected will stay in our region, the other half will go to the Hope Partnership for Missional Transformation to support their new church ministry work. Please be sure to write “Pentecost Offering on your offering envelope or use the special envelopes in the church pew or on the table in the Narthex. As a member of a Disciples church that was new once, will you consider participating in this offering so other churches can experience new life? More information can be found at <http://www.disciplesmissionfund.org/>

**News Among the Pews**

Congratulations to Justin Mott on being named “Mr. Baseball of Lorain County.” The proud grandparents are Tom and Barb Mott.

Congratulations to Jenny Hicks-Rich on the adoption of Miquan (4 yrs. old) and Amya (1 yr. old) on June 2nd. The proud grandparents are Stu and Bonnie Hicks.

Congratulations to John Hicks and Kelli Johnson who were married in May at the Audubon Center in Columbus, Ohio.

Larry & Eileen Weber announce the birth of their 1st great-grandchild, Marcella Jayne Weber . The proud parents are Jay and Tess Weber along with grandparents, Rev. Mike and Debbie Weber.

Congratulations to Ronda Susak who participated in the Cleveland Rite-Aid Half Marathon on May 18th (13.1 miles)!!

Congratulations to Diane Nickle who participated in the Cleveland Rite-Aid 10K run on May 18th (6.2 miles)!!

Our thanks to Diane Nickle for the wonderful plants that she started and shared with the congregation. We now wait for the “fruits” of her labor and ours.

- .....
- We are still in NEED of LOTS OF OATMEAL and CORNMEAL (round)
  - boxes for Vacation Bible School, June 23-26th. Drop them off at the church.
  - We need them to make drums. Any questions call the church office.
- .....

**Thank You .....**

**CANS FOR CODY** — We collected \$41.00 worth of aluminum drink cans for the month of May. Our thanks to the congregation & the community.

**YOUTH Election Day Bake Sale** — Our thanks to all who bakes, worked at the sale and bought the delicious baked goods — we made over \$100.00 by 1:00.

**All Church Workday** — A big THANK YOU to all who came and got lots of jobs done around the church. Many hands make the job lighter and we had fun working together! Thank you to Carol Busche for taking the pictures and displaying them on the bulletin board.

**Remember our FOOD PANTRY THIS SUMMER** —We are concentrating on the following items for the summer and will “focus” on bringing them in on the SECOND SUNDAY (WHEN WE EAT DONUTS).

**JUNE** — Nonperishable BOXED food items (Cereals, potatoes, rice dishes, stuffing, cake mix, muffins, brownies, pudding, jello)

**JULY** — Cleaning products (dish soap, laundry detergent, fabric softener, Comet, Scrubbers, bath soap, etc.)

**AUGUST** — Paper products & Misc. (toilet paper, paper towels, napkins, garbage bags, foil, sandwich bags, Kleenex, etc.)

**SEPTEMBER** — Toiletries for MEN, WOMEN & CHILDREN