

Thoughts For the Journey — October 2014

“The Mayonnaise Jar and the 2 Cups of Coffee”

Beloved, when things in life seem almost too much to handle, when 24 hours in a day doesn't seem to be enough we know we can turn to God. Matthew 6:33-34 reads, “But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.” However, you can also remember as well the mayonnaise jar and the 2 cups of coffee. I found the following story relates to the topic of setting priorities in our lives.

A professor stood before his philosophy class with some items in front of him. Without saying a word, he picked up a very large, empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was. He then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them in. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was. The professor picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous “yes.”

The professor then produced two cups of coffee from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed. “Now,” said the professor as the laughter subsided, “I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things – God, your family, your children, your health, your friends and your favorite passions – and if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter: like your job, your house and your car. The sand is everything else – the small stuff.”

“If you put the sand into the jar first,” the professor continued, “there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your spouse out to dinner. Play another round of 18. There will always be time to clean the house and fix the garbage disposal. Take care of the golf balls first – the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand.”

One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the coffee represented. The professor smiled, “I'm glad you asked. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple cups of coffee with a friend.” So beloved, let me encourage us to find time to have a couple cups of coffee with a friend soon.

Blessings for the Journey,

Rev. Chuck



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OCT. BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

2	Steve & Debbie Cihla Bryan Garvin
3	Vic Susak
5	Gerry & Tony Piscola
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
26	Gabby Ford
27	Eric Tallos Helen & Rich Walkden
28	Michaelene Durbin Rob Marks
29	Chuck Slusher
31	Nancy Yost

CLEVELAND CHRISTIAN HOME—
Wish List copies on the table in the Narthex
or choose a gift from the Christmas Tree.
Help us make the holidays sparkle for the
children and families served by the
CCHOME.



Serving at the Lord's Table:

8:00 Ed Carter, Chris Hensley
Laura Kuhn

9:30 Leslie Klein, Ken & Cindy Hicks
Paula Krasnevich, Jerry Mullins,
Amy Stafford, Marlene Black

ELDERS — Glenn Swartz, Melissa
Folk

CYCLE FOR LIFE EVENT



On Saturday, September 20th, the team Dawn Riders (Ralph Thompson and Carol Bokman) successfully completed the 65 mile bicycle course of the CF

Cycle For Life event. We rode 65 miles on the Towpath Trail to help raise funds for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. The route entailed starting in Peninsula at the Winking Lizard and pedaling all the way to Canal Fulton, which was the turnaround point (or halfway) and then back to Peninsula. The entire ride demanded a lot of stamina and willpower on my part, but whenever I felt like I couldn't pedal any further, I would think about what Dawn has been fighting for her entire life and then somehow, I was able to muster the strength to continue on. Previous to this trip, I had only ridden 35 miles on my bike in one day. The total for this trip was actually 68 miles. I am definitely going to participate next year (God willing that my body cooperates), but I will train a bit more during the summer months prior to this event. Thank you for everyone's prayers and monetary support. Hopefully some other brave souls will join us in 2015.

Carol Bokman

Happy Halloween!

NORTH EATON CHRISTIAN CHURCH will once again be participating in Midview's TRUNK or TREAT (Wed. October 29th) and Columbia's TRICK or TREAT STREET (Sun. Oct. 26th). We prepare small bags of treats with an invitation to our CHRISTMAS VBS for the kids as well as a bag of treats and church information for the parents. We need your help to continue this OUTREACH:

1. Bags of fun-sized candy bars
2. HELP stuffing the bags
3. Table/Trunk Hosts to pass out the treats

See POLLY TALLOS or MELISSA FOLK if you have any questions or would like to VOLUNTEER.



NECC Hosted a Mom's Day/Night Out

REFLECTIONS from the event — "Mind—Body—Soul"



Fran Walker — "Wish I could have participated more. Polly had set up a very relaxing and self indulgent morning....I will definitely make plans to allow more time to be there."

Sarah Browne — It was a lot of fun and very relaxing. As a Mother of two young children I needed it and was pleased that my church made me feel special and appreciated. It was a nice way to worship with other women and enjoy some time "especially" for me.

Paula Krasnevich — Polly worked hard to make it a warm and friendly event for all of us. We enjoyed the massage, food, demonstrations, jewelry, and having fun in a Christian atmosphere. Told friends about the experience at my church and they want to come next time. Thanks NECC for making this all possible and a thank you to Polly for a great job!

In the morning we had pancakes, with lots of topping, meats, OJ and coffee. After the moms ate they were invited to visit with the Mary Kay rep. To receive a makeover before moving on to bracelet making, perusing the Thirty-One (purses and bags) table then heading off to a chair massage. In the evening we were treated to Tastefully Simple dips, desserts and drinks, along with ice cream with all the toppings. Again bracelet making, Thirty-One table, and chair massages were available to all. We had a Beauty Control representative offering instant manicures and an essential oil demonstration. *Many Moms and Grandmas enjoyed the time being pampered and spending time together. We hope we get some special time again soon.*

ELECTION DAY BAKE SALE — Our Youth ask for your support by baking for their ELECTION DAY

BAKE SALE, Nov. 4th. The community looks forward to purchasing delicious homemade food items when they come to vote at NECC. **Let Polly know if you can BAKE or help with the event on November 4th.**

Congratulations, Jack! You're On Your Way!

Jack Susak had an awesome summer skateboarding in California. He trained hard with his coach and entered three competitions. In June, Jack won "Best Trick" at skate camp and 3rd place in Street skating at Venice Beach. In July, Jack won 1st place in Street, 2nd place in Mini Ramp and 3rd place in Bowl skating in Encino. Jack beat out the locals! His coach made a skateboard video of him showcasing what he can do. This was sent to skateboard sponsors and a skateboard clothing company contacted him in August. Jack was asked to join their skateboard team and skate for them in competitions in California. Way to go, Jack!!! We're so proud of you!!



Love, Mom, Dad and Hanna

MONTH OF MISSION —Collecting the following items for **OCTOBER**:

Cornerstone Among Women — Pocket change on the small table display.

Food Pantry — Boxed foods (rice, potatoes, stuffing, noodles mixes)

Salvation Army—Winter gloves, hats, scarves

Coupon/Entertainment Books for 2015

We are trying a new **BOOK** that is popular with local families. It is called "Save Around." They are \$20.00 and are available after worship on Sunday or in the church office during the week.

OHIO REGIONAL ASSEMBLY "Called to GO" If you've ever wanted to go to a Regional Assembly NOW is the time. It is in **COLUMBUS on October 16-18th. Go for one day or all three.** Rev. Chuck will be attending. If you have any questions about the weekend, please see him for more information.

This will be a time of sharing and celebrating the transforming work God is doing in the mission and ministry of our congregations and in our lives as people of faith.

NECC BAZAAR

Saturday, November 8th, 9:00-3:00

Table rentals for the bazaar are only \$15.00 (table provided). If you or a friend would like a contract sent to you, please contact the *church office, 748-2230* or *MARGE HOUSTON, 748-2583.* Bargain hunters also love our **rummage sale** and the fellowship hall is a great place to **Christmas shop**, have **lunch** and pick up some great **baked goods** for the family. Our **"Kids Only" room** is a favorite place for the kids (12 yrs. and under) to shop for Christmas with lots of new/like new items at a small price. We even gift wrap! (As always we ask your help with providing the items and the gift bags/wrap etc items). Any questions see Laura Kuhn.

VOLUNTEER HELP is always needed: setup on Friday night, working the NECC craft table, selling raffle tickets, keeping the food tables clean, serving in the kitchen, working in Kid's room, cleanup Sat. at 3:00. Donations of COKE & PEPSI products would help defray the cost in the lunch counter or money donations to help with lunch supplies (give to Laura Kuhn, Londa Blaine, or Pat Ables).

SANTA has marked his calendar and will stop by for a visit around 11:30.
MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND TELL YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

A beautiful quilt has arrived from ROBERTA BALOGH for our raffle. Tickets can be purchased after worship or in the church office during the week.

PROCEEDS from the bazaar will go to our ROOF FUND and a local charity.

NECC YOUTH GROUPS BEGIN!

We started out with a bowling outing at Brunswick Lanes. Thank You to Bob Vernadakis for the free bowling passes! We may not have scored as high as Bob but we sure had a lot of fun trying. Thank goodness for BUMPERS! 6 Chi Rho & CYF and 3 JYF made a fun-hearted attempt to keep the ball on the alley. *Hanna Susak had a unique bumper to bumper style that served her well as she had the highest score for both games.* Paige introduced us to her friend, Helena, who is a foreign exchange student from Belgium.



If you know a youth in 3rd — 12th grades (neighbor, friend, grandchild) please let them know they are welcome to join our group here at NECC. They do not have to be a member. Let Polly know and she will make contact.