

August  
2006

# NEW LIFE NEWS

The  
Monthly News  
Magazine of  
New Life  
United  
Methodist  
Church



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"Here there are no strangers;  
only friends we have not met before."  
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## From the Associate Pastor

Dear Friends,

As I was preparing to write this letter, the conversation between Mordecai and Queen Esther entered my mind. When the Jewish race was being threatened, Mordecai asked Queen Esther to speak to the king and save their people. At first, she was reluctant. However, he encouraged her by saying "maybe you were made queen for just such a time as this" (Esther 4:14b, *The Message Bible*). Before Esther was crowned queen, she was prescribed twelve months of beauty treatments not even knowing if the king would find favor with her. She was being prepared for God's use.

I joined the New Life staff while I was a student at the Methodist Theological School in Ohio. My year of preparation began part-time. As the ministries grew, I was asked to stay full time for two years. Those two years have turned into six and a half wonderful years of serving your children, youth and their families. You've nurtured me through my first years and have watched me grow in ministry. I have been prepared for just such a time as this; the time to take what I have learned at New Life and share my gifts with children and families elsewhere.

I have now been appointed to serve as Minister of Children and Families at Church of the Messiah United Methodist in Westerville effective August 22. I am saddened knowing that August 20 will be my last Sunday with you. I am excited. However, about the new possibilities for ministry at Church of the Messiah. I leave New Life knowing that you have a great commitment to the children and youth. I trust that God will continue the great work through you; and that God is preparing another person for just such a time as this to join you in ministry.

Thank you for the six wonderful years.

For every thing there is a season. May your season of transition be full of possibility, purpose, and passion.

**Rev. Brooke M. Hubbs**

# Young Disciples Vacation Bible School

Join the Fiesta!

August 14-18

9am to 12noon

First through Sixth Grade

Free Lunch-Transportation Provided

Are you ready to join the Fiesta? August 14-18 New Life will host the greatest Fiesta, where kids in first through sixth grade will learn to get fired up about Jesus. Disciples of all ages will not want to miss out on this week of bible stories, crafts, singing, games and great fun.

**Now is the time to get signed up for this great event!**

## Young Disciples Registration

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Last Grade Completed \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Allergies \_\_\_\_\_ Transportation Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

My child has permission to attend Vacation Bible School at New Life United Methodist Church and has permission to ride in the church van.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be a part of the Fiesta team? Look over the opportunities below and sign up today to serve on the Fiesta leadership crew. For more information please contact Pastor Brooke at 294-0134 or Ydminister@hotmail.com.

## Fiesta Volunteer Team

_____ Crew Leader	_____ Craft Leader
_____ Song Leader	_____ Game Leader
_____ Lunch preparation	_____ Storyteller
_____ Set up and decoration	_____ Craft Preparations
_____ Van driver	_____ Provide fruit, veggies and cookies,

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_ Times available \_\_\_\_\_

## From Student Pastor Cathy

I was searching on line recently when I got an e-mail from **Pastor Jennifer**. Included in this e-mail was the address for the new web site for the church. Of course, I began to click on it and was very excited to see pictures and words from all who make New Life what it is. Each link had descriptions of our ministries and images of people who are involved and make these ministries thrive.

What fascinated me was the different images that somehow made the page complete. There are pictures of our young disciples (see if you can find the one of **Zyler**) next to pictures of our volunteers from other churches. There are images of our neighbors next to pictures of our adult disciples. Each of these images captures different times and places.

I also enjoy taking pictures myself. Whether it be something as simple as a freshly opened flower or a picture of our young disciple **Daisha** working on an art project, each image captures something special. Each picture is something unique.

These pictures are as unique as we are. Each of us is very different. We all have different gifts and graces. We all have different things that we like to do at work, at play and even at church. Like the pictures on the web page that completed each other, when we all gather as believers we are completing the whole picture.

Very often you will hear the words the “hands and feet of Christ.” We, as believers, are called to be servants. We are called to work together to show and be Christ to all in our midst. Each of us bring our own unique talents and gifts to complete the picture. When we work together, using that which is near and dear to us, we make the image of Christ whole.



For someone who might not know Christ like we do, we paint a picture of wholeness and peace that is found in Christ. We paint a picture of joy and grace that is given to us by God through Christ. Each of us, special with our own talents, completes an image of hope and reconciliation.

Now, each time you look at a picture or greet your neighbor during the passing of the peace, smile because you know that you are greeting your brother or sister in faith. You are being a photographer or an artist and completing a picture of hope and joy. You are a shining example of Christ in this world.

Peace,  
**Pastor Cathy**

## **Ministry Board sets Vision for Ministry**

In last month's edition of the New Life News, there was an article reporting on our recent visioning retreat. The Ministry Board has since met to establish a Vision Statement for the ministry shared among many partnering churches and lived out at New Life. Based on our core values for ministry and what we believe God is calling to be, our Vision is to be a **“vital, diverse, compassionate community rooted in the Grace and Justice of Jesus Christ, transforming the whole person, our neighborhood, and the world.”**

Members of the board are committed and passionate about the ministries that take place at New Life, and to our neighbors who are welcomed and served here. There is great energy and excitement for strengthening current ministries, and creating new ministries within our community which will help us to live into our vision.

The Ministry Board is made up of representatives from King Avenue (**Chris Prespare**), Church of the Messiah (**Troy Salyers**), Riverside (**April Blaine**), Worthington (**Dick Mayhew** -- also serving as liaison with the district), Trinity (**Don Vorce**) and New Life (**Bill Seiber, Bob Ater, Bill Casto and pastoral staff**) United Methodist Churches, and has as its primary task to develop, implement, and find supporting resources for the vision. All of these churches have strong partnerships with New Life, and come together as one body to respond to Christ's call to love and serve all of our neighbors, especially those who are in need.

On June 25th **Rev Grayson Atha** retired as senior minister of King Avenue United Methodist Church after 47 years of ministry, **Beverly Cowan**, along with **John** and **James Findlay** and **Ellen Page** were there as our special representatives for this special occasion. During worship, **Rev. Atha** asked **Beverly** to stand, and talked about the importance of the New Life/King Avenue partnership for their congregation. Here is **Beverly's** report:

“I enjoyed worshipping at King Avenue. The service was great, and the lunch was real nice. I'm glad **Chris (Prespare)** invited me to attend with her. The pastor, who was retiring, ask me to stand up during worship. He asked me to tell everyone at New Life that their congregation has been very blessed by the relationship that has developed between our churches. He said, 'New Life has taught us that to give is to receive, and of the blessing that comes from giving of ourselves to those who live in need. Thank you for all the many ways you have taught us, it has been very meaningful for us and we mean for it to continue.' He's right. . . .It really is a blessing to give to others. When we give to others, we're really giving to Jesus. I'm glad I got to attend worship at King Avenue. It was a very special day.”

—**Beverly Cowan**



## Fourth Annual Buckeye Tailgate Party! Thursday, August 31, 5-9 p.m

The Buckeye Hall of Fame Café (just north of Fifth Ave. on Olentangy) is hosting a Season Kickoff Tailgate Party to benefit the Breakfast Ministry for the fourth year in a row. The event is on **Thursday, August 31st, 5-9pm** before the season opener against Northern Illinois

Tickets are \$20, (kids ages 5-17: \$10) which includes entry, food, soft drinks, and visits from various OSU celebrities. The Tailgate Party menu will include veggie burgers, bratwurst, salad, baked beans, chips, snacks, homemade desserts, soda and coffee. \$10 from each adult ticket and \$5 from every kid ticket goes to the Breakfast Ministry. For tickets (to buy or sell) and information, send an e-mail to [nwlifeumc1@juno.com](mailto:nwlifeumc1@juno.com), visit our web site at [www.newlifeunitedmethodist.com](http://www.newlifeunitedmethodist.com), or see **Bill Casto**.

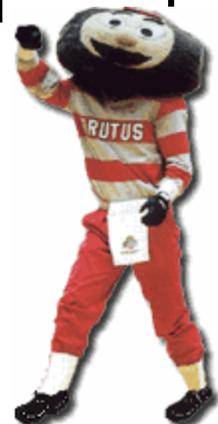
This year the silent auction will be bigger and better than ever! The auction will include footballs with Jim Tressel's autograph, and with Archie Griffin's autograph; Collegiate E-Bikes (see the photo), a women's field hockey stick signed by all the players, and more! Get ready with your bid!



Do you have any OSU knick knacks or other treasures (even a Woody Hayes bobblehead was auctioned off last year!)? Do you own or know of a business that might donate an item? How about something you'd like to "regift?" We want to have as many items as possible, so if you'd be willing to make a contribution to the auction, e-mail the church at [nwlifeumc1@juno.com](mailto:nwlifeumc1@juno.com) or Faith Weller at [faithweller@sbcglobal.net](mailto:faithweller@sbcglobal.net).

The private banquet room, where the event will be held, can handle at least 1,000 people. Last year's event was a great success with over 400 people there and a profit of over \$12,000 for our Breakfast Ministry. Our annual budget for the Breakfast Ministry is \$25,000, so let's all pitch in and sell LOTS of tickets in the next few weeks!

**GO BUCKS!**



# Calendar of Events

**\*\*We gather to Worship God each Sunday morning at 10:30AM\*\***

- Sundays: Breakfast Ministry, Clothing Room, Church School, Worship, Young Disciples Church, Drummers Alcoholic Anonymous (1:30PM & 7:30PM), Narcotics Anonymous (7PM)
- Monday:s Drummers Alcoholic Anonymous (8PM)
- Tuesdays: Clothing Room\*, Hospitality Breakfast, Plugged In (6-8PM), Drummers Alcoholic Anonymous (8:30PM)
- Wednesdays: Clothing Room\*, Reading Club (2-4 PM), Bible Study (7 PM), Drummers Alcoholic Anonymous (8 PM)
- Thursdays: Breakfast Ministry Preparations, Drummers Alcohol Anonymous (8PM)
- Fridays: Cocaine Anonymous (8PM), Drummers Alcoholic Anonymous (10PM)
- Saturdays: Drummers Alcoholic Anonymous (8:30PM)

\*Clothing Room hours are 9:00 AM—11:30 AM

In addition to our weekly scheduled ministries and meetings as listed above, please note these dates:

<u>Calendar</u>				
6	10:30 am		<b>Sacrament of Holy Communion</b>	
	14-18		9 am-noon	<b>VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!!</b>
	15			Newsletter Deadline
	19		9 -11:30 am	Ministry Board meeting
	20		10:30 am	Vacation Bible School presentation in worship
	27			Pulpit exchange with Church of the Messiah (partner church)
			3:00 pm	Sunday Family Dinner
	31	5-9:00 p.m.	<b>BUCKEYE SEASON KICK-OFF TAILGATE PARTY!!</b>	

## The Couch

Mid-summer, humid, 85° everywhere in the Short North: I strike a lean behind the brick pillar serving as cornerpost for the black wrought-iron fence which separates us from the flourishing garden. The pillar serves as my support also since the Short North Special Improvement Commission saw fit to adorn the couch with a pair of large concrete planters, joined by an equally large steel cable and lock; all this just to keep **Edwina** from sleeping here. Were the commission half as zealous in their neighborhood awareness, they would know that **Edwina's** not been around since before these planters were installed. Hopefully, she's back at the Engagement Center receiving treatment. I enjoyed sitting on the spacious couch of an evening to watch the traffic moving along High St., and of an early morning witnessing the sunrise.

Why are there such mean people as these, depriving us of a place to sit and relax? They don't even know **Edwina's** real name, calling her Big Mama. Or that she suffers from diabetic seizures. Or that she lived a good part of her early life in an institution, only because no one wanted her.

Mean people.

My pout was interrupted by a figure in white advancing from across the street, a waitress from Michel's Goody Boy Diner carrying a white package I recognize to be a take-out box in a white plastic grocery bag.

"Have you eaten today?" she asked.

"Pardon?" I was surprised by her approach and her question.

"Have you eaten today?" She extended the package to me.

"No, I haven't." It wasn't a lie; I hadn't eaten since the night before. My appetite being less than great these days, I often forgot to take the time.

"Well here you go....pork chops. There's mashed potatoes and gravy too," she said, smiling as I accepted what was offered. "Enjoy your dinner, hon." She patted my shoulder tenderly.

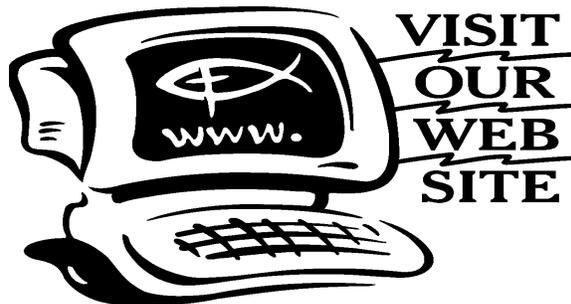
"Thank you." I was stunned. Her hand resting briefly on my shoulder brought on the familiar presence I recognized to be the Holy Spirit, the tingling of my scalp spreading through my being, my eyes heavy with tears, and my soul expanding with Christ's grace. My heart was breaking with gladness. "Thank you so much!" I called to her as she crossed High St., heading back to the diner. I do love pork chops. The weight of the package told me that this was a generous portion. I hoped that I hadn't misrepresented myself by accepting the meal, thereby depriving someone else. Obviously she thought that I was homeless or at least needy. But the gift served to restore my faith in the place where I live, the people of my community. There are kind, loving people who care, here, in the world.

God bless Michel's Goody Boy Diner and it's caring staff. In Christ's name. Amen.

**-Bill Seiber**

### **New Grant Team Established**

Recently, a group of people came together for the sole purpose of writing grants for the financial support we need to sustain and grow in ministry. They are either members, or otherwise associated with our partner church, King Avenue United Methodist. **Patty Conrad, Bob Yano, Jill Geiger, and Lisa Norris** heard of our need to secure funding beyond New Life and even our partner churches, and committed to the task of seeking monies elsewhere. They have a variety of spiritual gifts and experiences which compliment each other in a way that makes the most effective use of their time and energy. They are currently working on grants related to children and youth ministry. If you are aware of any grant opportunities, please let us know. And, please pray for them, that their hard work would bear fruit for our ministry. We are so grateful for their commitment to the future of New Life ministries.



[www.newlifeunitedmethodist.org](http://www.newlifeunitedmethodist.org)

Check out our new web site!!! There is a page for personal stories on the site. We would like to include stories that would motivate people to “check us out.” These would include testimonies about how you came to New Life, and made it your church family; why you are involved in our ministries and how it has impacted your life; how your involvement at New Life helped you through a difficult period in your life (homelessness, feeling alienated from the church, illness, etc.); a meaningful experience. Would you like to tell your story? E-mail it to [nwlifeumc1@juno.com](mailto:nwlifeumc1@juno.com) and we’ll try to include it.

On the opposite page, we have printed the balance sheet for the first 6 months of 2006. There are some details I want to draw to your attention. It is set up differently so that there is not an indication of “equity.” Instead, you can see the balances for all of the outreach ministries, and the operating budget. It is very significant that so far in 2006 the total assets have remained constant, as has the operating fund, which is the closest parallel to “equity” in our current format. This is great news! It means that we have not had to use ANY of our savings thus far this year, which is a dramatic change from the last few years.

An important reason for this change is the faithful, generous investment of so many people and partner churches. We have 4 income sources: members, friends (individuals beyond the local congregation), partner churches, and other (investments, rent, etc.). Of the total receipts to date in 2006, members have given 32%; friends 26 %; partner churches 35%; other income 7%. It is the balance among the first three sources of income, and the necessity of all three remaining strong, which will provide the support we need for the extensive ministries of New Life. It’s wonderful to have the opportunity to share GOOD news about our financial situation! I thank God for the abundance of resources of all kinds that flow through New Life because of the commitment of so many faithful servants.

**-Pastor Jennifer**



## Financial Secretary's Report

### Report of the Treasurer June, 2006

Checking Account	
Beginning Balance	\$7,185.55
Deposits	17,837.27
Withdrawals	<u>17,966.96</u>
Balance	\$7,055.86

—**Steve Waldron**, Treasurer  
—**John Spang**, Sec'y to the Treas.

Receipts in	<u>Jun 2006</u>	and <u>Year</u>
Total Plate	\$5,121.48	\$34,098.54
Friends	2,345.00	13,198.00
Partner Churches	1,783.29	16,313.29
Breakfast Ministry	4,012.50	8,887.67
Youth Ministry	3,239.00	13,023.00
Clothing Room	61.00	2,869.00
Bus Passes	0.00	50.00
Parsonage Rent	670.00	3,845.00
Investment Income	0.00	124.43
Maundy Thurs Service	0.00	561.86
Memorial Gifts	175.00	260.00
One Great Hr of Sharing	0.00	275.00.
Bethel Fundraiser	0.00	620.00
Group Meeting Income	20.00	3,180.00
Holiday Flower Income	0.00	154.50
Student Pastor	0.00	2,080.50
Other Income	<u>410.00</u>	<u>600.00</u>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$17,837.27</b>	<b>\$100,140.79</b>

### Clothing Room Report, June

Hours of Operation:  
Sunday 7-9:30am  
Tues. and Wed. 9-11:30am

Weekday Guests	1473
Sunday Guests	<u>515</u>
Totals	1988

### Changes of address

Rick Bayes and David Cordell  
425 Forest St.  
Columbus, Oh 43206-2221  
445-7889

Ellen Page (Birthday July 21)  
1444 N High St. Apt B  
Columbus, OH 43201-2429

Shannon McLaughlin  
1628 Rhonda  
Columbus, OH 43212

Erin and Darius Williams  
2460 McCoy Road  
Columbus, OH 43220-4356

### Balance Sheet June 30, 2006

#### Assets

City National checking acct	\$ 7,055.86
Savings & Investments	<u>80,841.44</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$87,897.30</b>

#### Liabilities & Fund Balances

Withholdings	\$ 4,877.72
Operations	27,842.05
Youth Ministry Fund	17,247.05
Misc. Ministry Fund	(6,468.34)
Memorial Fund	17,731.00
Breakfast Ministry Fund	8,152.82
Clothing Room Fund	8,184.94
Pass Through Fund (Easter flowers, etc.)	(1,248.04)
Congreg. Benev (UMCOR, etc)	728.07
Lillian Skeelee Fund	10,899.17
2006 Beginning Balance Correction	<u>(49.14)</u>

**Total Liabilities    \$87,897.30**

# New Life News

New Life  
United Methodist  
Church  
25 West Fifth Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43201



## MISSION STATEMENT

*To love, welcome, and serve all people  
in the name of Jesus Christ*

### **New Life News**

is the monthly news/magazine of  
**New Life United Methodist Church**  
25 West Fifth Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43201  
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www.newlifeunitedmethodist.org



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Custodian-

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**Ken and Alice Brooks**

**The Rev. Jennifer Kimball Casto**

**Brooke Hubbs**

**Cathy McKenzie**

**Jenni Kristoff**

**Dwight Richardson**