

May
2007

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 PASTOR

It was a pretty typical day at Breakfast one Sunday. The usual 150 neighbors were sitting at tables enjoying the hot breakfast of scrambled eggs, potatoes and toast when Gina* approached me. Gina is currently homeless, and there had been some really cold nights recently. She was miserable with a cold -- it was clear that wrapping herself in a warm blanket and sleeping in a real bed would have brought great comfort, and a quicker recovery. We could provide the blanket... but not a warm, safe place to sleep. But what Gina was asking for was some cold medication -- just the over the counter kind -- and I didn't have any to give. I also didn't know if Gina's illness was something more than a simple cold. How I wished I could do something more to care for her medical needs.

Kara* came one Tuesday morning for our Hospitality Breakfast that coincides with our Clothing Room hours. She too is homeless, and over the years, has come for our various ministries, and is now a regular volunteer. Kara and I have become good friends. It was clear that she was burdened by something, so when I asked, she told me that her doctor had found a mass in one of her lungs. Even to say the word, "cancer" is a scary thing. So, we immediately sat down on the steps and prayed together, asking Christ to carry her, to help her to hold onto hope, and to give her the strength she would need. And, we prayed for healing, if it was God's will. I assured her that there were many people at New Life who would surround her with love and support, and just knowing that brought her great comfort.

It is people like Gina and Kara that motivated our Health Ministry Team, made up of members from 5 partner churches, to expand our outreach ministries to include a holistic health ministry. Our vision is help people become healthy and whole physically, mentally, relationally and spiritually. To begin, a physician will be available on Sunday mornings to offer basic medical care to our neighbors who have come for breakfast. As one doctor said, "It's amazing what you can do with a stethoscope, common over the counter medications, and simply being attentive to the person who is hurting or sick." After the doctor tends to the person with medical needs, someone will be available to pray with them — as much as, if not more, important than the medical care they will receive.

If you are a doctor, nurse, nurse practitioner, or other medical professional and are interested using your gifts in this way, OR you feel called to be part of the prayer ministry component, please let me know. The Health Ministry Team and I have great confidence that this is just the beginning of the many ways we can be vessels of God's healing power.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Jennifer

* Names have been changed

Alex Smetzer chooses New Life as Senior Capstone Project

Trinity United Methodist Church member, **Alex Smetzer**, a senior at Upper Arlington H.S. is one of 100 students chosen to participate in the inaugural Senior Capstone Project. This program is designed to be the culmination of each student's academic experience and to merge the student's interests, passions and curiosities with that experience.

Being a regular volunteer in the clothing room at New Life United Methodist Church, **Alex** became sensitized to the material needs of the homeless and those who live in poverty as well as recognizing them as fellow human beings who are to be treated with dignity and worth.

Alex's passion was to learn through detailed research the dynamics of the homeless and the disenfranchised. From the practical point of view, **Alex** organized a contest among the children's Sunday School classes at Trinity U.M.C. to collect socks and underwear. All youth and adult classes shared in this project as well.

The generous support of Trinity children, youth and adults who donated socks to this project is greatly appreciated. **Alex** delivered 800 pairs of socks and underwear to the New Life Church clothing room.

Alex's sense of mission to help those who are less fortunate is to be commended. Trinity and New Life applaud him for his care and his action!

Will YOU spend A Sunday with our Young Disciples this Summer?

With **Pastor Cathy** graduating and returning to Michigan at the end of May, there is a need for persons to teach our two Young Disciples Sunday School Classes each week.

Robin Chenoweth teaches the elementary age class every other week and the older class has been taught by **Pastor Cathy (Mike** also helped teach as needed –and always was!).

Our hope is to have some kind of rotation so that we are not asking any one person to teach every week. Even a commitment of one or two Sundays during the summer months would be wonderful.

Sunday School meets from 9:30am to 10:15am and the material for each lesson is very "teacher friendly."

Providing consistency for the Young Disciples in this time of transition is very important. We never want there to be an interruption in our teaching them about Jesus and the stories of our faith.

Would YOU be willing to be a messenger of the Good News of Jesus and His Love to our Young Disciples this Summer?

Please contact **Pastor Jennifer**, if you would!!



From Student Pastor Cathy

I've been thinking a lot about my experiences the last 2 years at New Life. Over our time together, we have grown in our understanding of how God is working in each of our lives. We experienced anxiety over transitions and concerns over money problems. We shared in the joys of birthdays and marriages. Through it all, the love of Christ has reigned.

As our time together is coming to a close, I want to thank you for many things. First and foremost, thank you for welcoming Mike and I into this ever growing church family. You have embraced us as friends and colleagues in ministry. We will take what you have given us and move forward in our ministry together. Second, thank you to each of our young disciples. Our time together has not been easy. We have learned a lot from each other. I pray you will continue to grow in your studies and faith knowing that you have many people who love you and want to see you succeed.

Just as you celebrated with us in our marriage, we invite you to come and be with us once again. I will graduate from the Methodist Theological School in Delaware on Saturday May 19. Graduation will take place on campus at 11am. I hope that you will come and celebrate this great accomplishment with Mike and I as well as our family and friends.

May our last few Sundays together be full of many more stories and memories. One thing I've learned from all of you is that there are no "goodbyes." There are only "see ya later!" It is so wonderful to hear one of our neighbors when they say, "see ya Pastor Cathy" or when our young disciples say, "see you on Sunday." We acknowledge that our time together is important when it comes time for us to gather again, we will be there for each other. (Even if it is giving Mike a hard time, Eva!)

With much love and many thanks,

Pastor Cathy and Mike

You are invited to attend
A Good Bye Reception for
Pastor Cathy
After Worship on May 27th (11:30am)
We are hoping that many people from the
Partner Churches, who have worked with
Cathy over the last two years will join us
for this time of remembrance and
"thank yous."

Bluegrass Festival: A Great Time Was Had By All!

What a night we had! On Saturday, April 14th more than 300 people came from many partner churches, New Life and the community to enjoy the music of four bluegrass bands. Each one was different, each one was awesome! While the music kept going, people also enjoyed the food provided by Powell United Methodist Church and browsed at the silent auction.

Three exciting results of this wonderful evening were:

- We raised over \$3500 for New Life ministries
- People who had never heard of New Life attended the event. They had heard it announced on the radio or read about it on one of the many websites it was posted on. While here, they could watch the slide show about our ministry and enjoy the atmosphere of our beautiful sanctuary.
- AND plans are already in the works for next year's Festival.

Special Thanks go to: **Marty Leedy** and **Roy Fish**, who dreamed up the idea and did much of the work to make the event happen; Tradin' Up, Alum Creek Singers, Delmar's Toad, and Death by Bango, who performed free charge at the Festival; **Steve Frank & Bill Casto** who helped with "behind the scenes" tasks; **Miss Lisa Bryant**, DJ on 95.5 The Hawk, who got us some airtime to advertise the event, and concert tickets; **Powell UMC** for providing, preparing and serving all of the food; **Tyler Ashcroft** for donating the sound equipment; **Tom Finney**, the owner of Sugardaddy's for providing cookies, all who made donations to the silent auction, and all the volunteers who made the event a HUGE SUCCESS!

A FORM OF RECONCILIATION NEEDED

We are committed to being good stewards of the money which we are given by members, friends and partner churches. Our treasurer, **Steve Waldron**, and Financial Secretary, **Rebecca Naas** (member of King Ave. UMC) are responsible servants tending to our finances. Part of being responsible is separation of roles. It is very important that the monthly bank statements be reconciled by a third person. We are in need of some one to provide this service for us.

Do you have some basic accounting skills? Do you have 2-3 hours to give each month (maybe a couple more the first month to bring us up to date)? We need YOU!!

One of the blessings of our ministry is the extensive network of partner churches, and the people how have a variety of gifts which they share in every aspect of our ministry. Our hope is that someone will serve in this capacity, so that we have complete and accurate financial records. Contact **Pastor Jennifer** if you are interested in more information about this opportunity to serve.

Calendar of Events

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

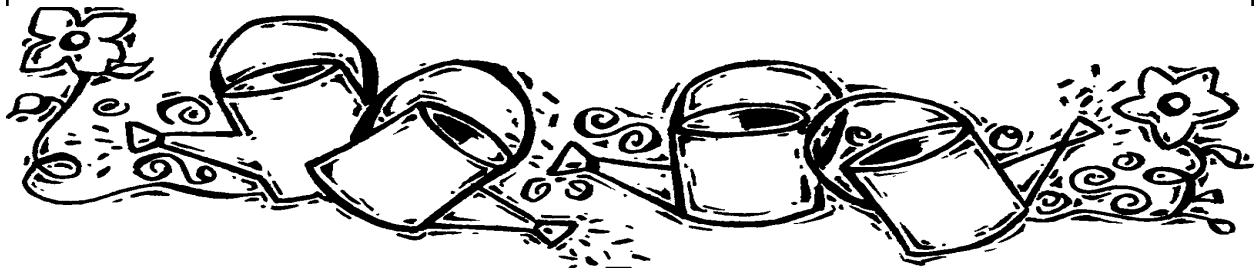
- Sundays: Breakfast Ministry, Clothing Room, Church School, Worship,
Young Disciples Church, Drummers Alcoholic Anonymous
(1:30PM & 7:30PM), Narcotics Anonymous (7PM)
- Monday:s Drummers Alcoholic Anonymous (8PM)
- Tuesdays: Clothing Room*, Hospitality Breakfast, Plugged In (6-8PM),
Drummers Alcoholic Anonymous (8:30PM)
- Wednesdays: Clothing Room*, 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:

May Calendar

2	7PM	Bible Study
3	7PM	Trustees
6		Sacrament of Holy Communion
9	7PM	Bible Study
13		Happy Mother's Day
16	7PM	Bible Study
19	11AM	Pastor Cathy's Graduation on Methesco Campus
19-20		Pastor Jennifer away
20		Laity Sunday
23	7PM	Bible Study
27		PENTECOST!
	11:30AM	Reception for Pastor Cathy
	3PM	Sunday Family Dinner
28		Memorial Day
30	7PM	Bible Study



BODY WORK NEEDED

One of our vans is in need of some extensive body work. There is major rust damage on both rear wheel panels. The van cannot pass state inspection without correcting this damage. This van transports about 60 people from the shelters to breakfast every Sunday morning and we very much need to get this problem solved.

If you do body work, or no some one who does, and would be willing to help us get this work done at a reduced price, please let **Bill Casto** know at billcasto@worldnet.att.net or call the church and leave Bill a message.

Thanks for your help with this important link in our ministry.

Laity Sunday - May 20, 2007

Theme: "I Love to Tell the Story!"

You are invited to:

- Read a favorite scripture passage, and tell us why it's important to you.
- Lead the congregation in prayer.
- Share a young disciples message.
- Give a testimony to your faith, or how God is working in your life.
- Serve as liturgist.

There will be an insert in the bulletin this month where you can express your interest in participating. Laity Sundays are always a blessing because we hear expressions of faith in new ways from one another.

Please prayerfully consider being part of this special worship service.

Fifth Annual Season Kick-Off Tailgate Party

The date has been set for the 2007 Buckeye Hall of Fame Tailgate Party—**Thursday August 30 from 5-8PM** is the date and time. The first OSU football game of the 2007 season is the following Saturday against Youngstown State in the "Shoe."

Save this date for a fun evening of food and cheering for the team, with several hundred other fans, as they begin another season. This has become an annual get together of many of the supporters of our ministries from all of our partner churches.

Again this year tickets will be \$20 per adult, \$10 per child (5-17) and free for children under 5 years old. One half of the price of each ticket sold will go to support the ministries of New Life.

The ticket price will include a gigantic Tailgate Buffet, OSU football style entertainment, and the opportunity to participate a HUGE silent auction.

Save the date and plan to join us for a really fun time!!!!

FINANCIAL



NEWS

Receipts in March 2007 and Year

Total Plate	\$4,978.12	\$13,315.81
Friends	5,350.00	8,140.00
Partner Churches	2,571.32	14,268.47
Breakfast Ministry	1,561.25	3,712.95
Youth Ministry	510.00	3,886.00
Clothing Room	1,025.00	1,125.00
Parsonage Rent	1,075.00	3,435.00
Easter Flowers	13.50	13.50
Memorial Gifts	00.00	846.00
Computers	00.00	1,050.00
Group Meeting Income	510.00	950.00
Chiller Fundraiser	405.00	2,555.12

Total Receipts \$17,999.19 \$53,297.85

Report of the Treasurer

March 2007

Checking Account

Beginning Balance*	\$16,920.43
Deposits	17,999.19
Withdrawals	11,581.78

Balance \$23,337.84

—**Steve Waldron**, Treasurer

* Adjusted by interest for 1st qtr

-**Rebecca Naas**, Financial Secretary

Balance Sheet March, 2007

Assets

National City Checking Acct.	\$23,337.84
Savings & Investments	<u>106,525.08</u>
Total Assets	\$129,862.92

Liabilities & Fund Balances

General Fund	52,592.40
Youth Ministry Fund	31,146.65
Misc. Ministry Fund	(11,045.61)
Memorial Fund	19,152.00
Breakfast Ministry Fund	18,258.86
Clothing Room Fund	8,881.58
Pass Through Fund (flowers, etc)	(2,124.01)
Congreg. Benev (UMCOR, etc)	728.07
Lillian Skeelee Fund	11,723.88

Liabilities 549.10

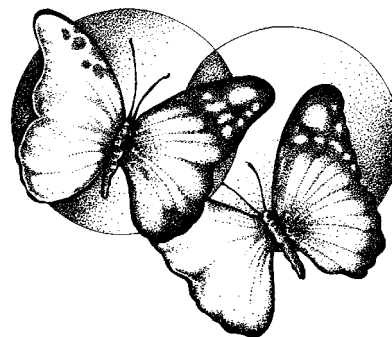
Total Liabilities & Fund Bal. \$129,862.92

Clothing Room Report March, 2007

Hours of Operation:

Sunday	7-9:30 am
Tues. & Wed.	9-11:30 am

Weekday Guests	1235
Sunday Guests	<u>455</u>
Total	1690



New Life News

New Life
United Methodist
Church
25 West Fifth Avenue
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MISSION STATEMENT

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

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New Life United Methodist Church
25 West Fifth Avenue
Columbus, OH 43201
614-294-0134
nwlifeumc1@juno.com
www.newlifeunitedmethodist.org



Editor-
Addresses-
Collating-
Pastor-
Student Associate Pastor-
Musician-
Custodian-

Marlene Haught
Chuck Belding
Ken and Alice Brooks
The Rev. Jennifer Kimball Casto
Cathy Christman
Jenni Kristoff
Dwight Richardson