

July
2008

NEW LIFE NEWS

The
Monthly News
Magazine of
New Life
United
Methodist
Church



"Here there are no strangers;
only friends we have not met before."

From The Pastor

At Annual Conference, we were blessed to learn about, and then to receive a copy of **Bishop Rueben Job's** recent book, Three Simple Rules: A Wesleyan Way of Living. And they truly are simple: **Do No Harm. Do Good. Stay in love with God.** But **Bishop Job** contends, and I agree that they have the power to change the world — mostly because they have the power to change the lives of those who choose to practice them. And that has a ripple effect.

Choosing to **do no harm** requires great self-control, a spirit of humility and being intentional in refraining from words and actions that have the potential to hurt the individual, the relationship, or even the wider community — including our global community. We need only watch the news to know that. I don't think any of us want to do harm. So, it helps to remember to "tame our tongues" as the letter of James says, and to think about the potential consequences of our actions in order to live by this "simple rule."

The forefather of the United Methodist Church, **John Wesley** was very thorough in teaching what it means to be a follower of Christ. And one of the important rules for him was **doing good**. In fact, in his *Rules of Conduct* he said,

*"Do all the good you can
in all the ways you can
in all the places you can
at all the times you can
to all the people you can
as long as ever you can"*

That is a challenging standard, but one that is worth aspiring to. It is the way we live consistently to the teachings and example of Christ, and the way we can represent him authentically in the world.

But we need to remember that the last rule is actually the most important one: **Stay in love with God**. Lead a God centered life. Find peace in spending time with the Lord every day. Make worship a priority each week. Seek direction, comfort, and sustenance for our faith in Scripture. And perhaps it helps to pray a simple prayer like this one I found at just the right time in my life: "Lord, Help me to not be so busy serving you that I neglect to love you."

Grace and Peace,

From the Minister of Youth and Families,
Laura Young-Moats (laurayoungmoats@yahoo.com)

Have you seen rats play basketball? The Young Disciples, mentors, and I witnessed rats playing basketball last month at COSI (Center of Science and Industry). Each month we do something fun together on a Saturday. We were amazed by the rats' ability to learn how to put a rolling deodorant ball into tiny baskets and then get rewarded with a Cheerio. It made me think, if we were rewarded each time we followed Jesus, would we be more motivated to follow Jesus? Do we need rewards to love God and our neighbor or do we just feel like it's too hard or a thankless task? Jesus warned his followers they would often pay a price for living God's way instead of the world's way. I regularly tell the children that when we "turn the other cheek" and choose love over hate, we are choosing to live a life faithful to God. The more opportunities we take to practice the teachings of Jesus, the more love we give and receive. Like the rats who practice what they've been taught each time they put the ball in the little hoop, the more Cheerios (love) we'll all give and receive! Loving as Jesus loves can only result in love; that is our reward. Every time the Young Disciples are together we practice living in Christian community. There are lots of Cheerios (love) piling up! We're feeling the power of God's love! Come join us any time!

All the children of God in our neighborhood and beyond are invited to feel the power at Vacation Bible School this summer. This year New Life will offer VBS in the evening to enable our kids who attend year-round school to attend, and to allow folks who work during the day to offer their gifts to help make VBS great. This year's VBS teaches biblical stories using an exciting science theme: "Power Lab: Discovering Jesus' Miraculous Power!" Kids in grades K-5 will meet new friends, make fun crafts, wacky snacks, learn exciting Bible adventures, play games, and sing and dance to incredible music! If you're able to volunteer, please contact me right away. There's a place for you! If you're willing to help invite your community to VBS, please let me know. VBS is a great opportunity to reach children and families who don't attend church or who just need a fun and free activity. Statistics show that children in poor and low-income families lose much more proficiency than middle class kids in reading and math over the summer because they aren't afforded the opportunities for camps and tutoring and travel and special programming that some kids have. Vacation Bible School is a way to help increase learning in a Christian context and perhaps help bridge the gap in learning that widens over the summer for many children.

You're always invited to come Sundays for breakfast, Sunday school, and worship, Tuesdays for Plugged In tutoring and mentoring, the fourth Friday for "Friday Night Live" for fun, games, and music (except July; it will be Aug. 1) and the first Saturday for our "Fun First Saturday," and VBS in August. Nursery care is now available most Sundays with **Miss Belinda Boggus**. Fall will bring our new children's choir and Bible study on Thursday evenings. We're putting lots of balls in the hoops and giving and receiving lots of Cheerios as we love God and each other at New Life UMC!

Love and prayers from,
Pastor Laura



Monday, August 4 – Friday, August 8
6 - 8pm

Annual Conference Report

The 39th session of the West Ohio Conference, with **Bishop Bruce Ough** presiding, was held at Lakeside June 8-12, 2008. The theme of this year's conference was "Love First." Attending from New Life were **Pastors Jennifer and Laura, and Marlene Haught** as lay representative. Highlight of the conference was the commissioning of our own **Pastor Laura** at the Credentialing Service on Wednesday evening. Also, the Miracle Offering for "Nothing But Nets" and Southeast Asian ministries totaled more than \$434,000!! Below are some of the recommendations of interest passed by the conference.

- 1) The West Ohio Conference is asked to explore and take action as individuals, local churches, and district and conference offices to seek ways to better care for the earth as part of our Christian discipleship. A Creation Care Task Force will offer encouragement and training in how to contact elected officials regarding climate change, encouraging them to support various kind of energy reform legislation.
- 2) Members of local churches are encouraged to contact the Governor and their state representatives requesting that gambling/gaming not be used as a source of revenue for the state. Also, members are asked to contact Governor Strickland to oppose the expansion of the Ohio lottery to include KENO and potentially other video devices on the future.
- 3) The West Ohio Conference will contribute \$200,000 from earnings on its 2007 pension reserve to the Central Conference Pension Initiative. This conference is located outside the U.S., where over 2,000 retired pastors do not have any government-funded pension and struggle to survive.
- 4) The West Ohio Annual Conference, its pastors, congregations, staff, and members are asked to refrain from judgment regarding homosexual persons and practices as the Spirit continues to move among us; to welcome, know, forgive, and love one another as Christ as accepted us; and, to study with open hearts and open minds the 1992 General Conference Report of the Committee to Study Homosexuality.
- 5) Due to the large number of immigrants from Somalia, China, Latin America and Africa in West Ohio, the Annual Conference calls upon the President, the Congress and all relevant departments of the federal government to work for a just, humane and comprehensive reform of immigration laws, and urges Governor Strickland and the state legislators to refrain from creating legislation that would cause further disruption within immigrant populations that have occurred as a result of raids, indefinite detention and deportation of undocumented immigrants.

A full report of this year's conference will be available on-line and in the church office soon.

Two of the best preachers in the country, **Bishop William Willimon** and **Rev. Rudy Rasmus**, preached at annual conference this year. Copies of their sermons are available on CD. See **Pastor Jennifer** if you are interested in listening to them. You will surely be inspired in your faith and challenged in your discipleship by doing so.

TRINITY CARPENTERS ADD MYSTERY STORAGE SPACE

Anyone who has brought donations to New Life clothing room over the last few months could not miss the huge mountain of donations in the “sorting room” waiting to be sorted. In fact the suit men hardly had room to help men find a suit, shirt and ties. The hard working sorters were diligent in trying to conquer Mount Blessing, but the mountain just kept growing. And then...

Unbeknown to many, a door from the sorting room leads to an unused stairway to the women’s restroom near the kitchen. The landing cleared of unwanted items left wasted space. And so...

Given approval by New Life Trustees, and with the repair of the light and removal of the door by Trustee Chairman **Gary Sansbury**, the Trinity Carpenters, under the leadership of **Bob Bowers** moved in with lumber and tools to transform this “secret” space into additional storage for donations. What a wonderful blessing!

Many, many thanks to New Life Trustees **Gary Sansbury, Ed Phillips, Ken Brooks, Jeff Jump, Doris Hashman, and Chris Nichols** and a huge round of applause for Trinity Members **Bob Bowers, Bill Coombs, Bill Forder and Bob Parsons** for a superb job and a long lasting gift of love.

Welcome to New Members!

Todd Yockey
2020 Radnor Ave.
Columbus, OH 43224
614/532-1267

Brian Hannum
3989 Leithart Dr.
Grove City, OH 43125-2840
614/871-4801

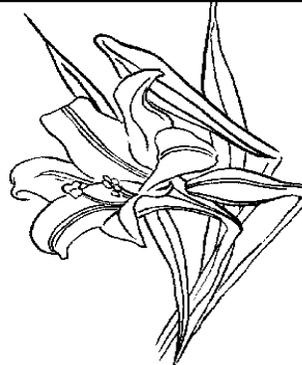
Telephone Correction

Marlene Haught
403-9270

In Memoriam

Norm Lincoln
August 16, 1927—May 27, 2008

*Then the Master will say, “Well done, thou
good and faithful servant. . .
Enter into the joy of my kingdom.”*



Sixth Annual Season Kick-Off Tailgate Party



The Buckeye Hall of Fame Café
(Between King and Fifth Avenues on Olentangy River Road)

Thursday, August 28, 2008 5-8PM
(Thursday night before the season opener with Youngstown State)

**To benefit people who are homeless and poor in Columbus
through the ministries of
New Life United Methodist Church at 25 W. Fifth Ave.**

Featuring a Variety of Ohio State University Football Related Celebrities including:
Brutus Buckeye, OSU Cheerleaders, OSU Pep Band

Tailgate Food and Beverage buffet

And several hundred Buckeye Fans

\$20 per ticket for Adults 18 and over

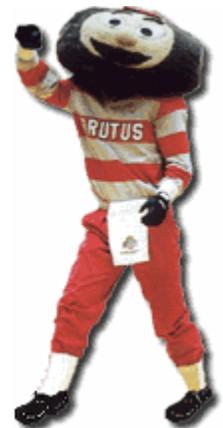
\$10 for Kids 5-17

Free for Kids under 5

BRING YOUR CAMERA

email nwlifeumc1@att.net for Information and Tickets

Tickets are also available in the Gift Shop at The Buckeye Hall of Fame Café
and at a variety of Churches around Central Ohio.



GO Bucks!

Sponsored By
Buckeye Hall of Fame Café
Bob Evans

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:

July Calendar

2	7:00 PM	Bible Study	
4		INDEPENDENCE DAY	
6	10:30 AM	Sacrament of Holy Communion	
9	7:00 PM	Bible Study	
10	7:00 PM	Trustees meeting	
15		Newsletter deadline	
16	7:00 PM	Bible Study	
17	7:00 PM	Ad Council meeting	
14-18		Pastor Laura attending continuing education event	
15		NO Plugged In	
20-26		Pastor Laura at Local Pastor's School	
22		NO Plugged In	
23	7:00 PM	Bible Study	
27	3:00 PM	Sunday Family Dinner	
28-Aug. 4		Pastor Jennifer on vacation	
30	3:00 PM	Christmas in July event for Young Disciples	
30		NO Bible Study	

FINANCIAL



NEWS

Report of the Treasurer May 2008

Checking Account	
Beginning Balance	\$11,127.08
Deposits	21,664.58
Withdrawals	<u>18,166.51</u>
Balance	\$ 14,625.15

—Steve Waldron, Treasurer

Receipts in	<u>May 2008</u>	and <u>Year-</u>
Total Plate	\$ 5,260.44	\$ 27,158.58
Friends	1,060.00	6,305.00
Partner Churches	6,250.00	19,517.00
Breakfast Ministry	693.11	3,177.11
Youth Ministry	2,265.00	19,481.24
Clothing Room	550.00	1,550.00
Parsonage Rent	575.00	2,875.00
Memorial Gifts	0.00	250.00
Flowers	0.00	145.00
Maundy Thurs. Service	0.00	545.00
Easter on Fifth	0.00	95.00
Nothing but Nets	249.00	274.00
Group Meeting Income	20.00	1,900.00
Chiller Fundraiser	0.00	508.00
Bluegrass Concert	195.10	4,492.00
Healthcare Ministry	<u>4,546.93</u>	<u>15,556.93</u>
Total	\$21,664.58	\$103,829.86

-Rebecca Naas,
Financial Sec'y

Balance Sheet May 2008

Assets

City National checking acct	\$ 14,625.15
Savings & Investments	<u>171,516.46</u>
Total Assets	\$186,141.61

Liabilities & Fund Balances

Withholdings	\$ 1,312.73
Operations	93,646.96
Youth Ministry Fund	32,519.69
Misc. Ministry Fund	(11,419.24)
Memorial Fund	23,192.00
Health Ministry Fund	7,890.31
Breakfast Ministry Fund	19,014.66
Clothing Room Fund	9,213.77
Pass Through Fund (flowers, etc)	(2,044.17)
Congreg. Benev (UMCOR, etc)	1,091.02
Lillian Skeelee Fund	<u>11,723.88</u>
Total Liabilities & Fund Bal.	\$186,141.61

Clothing Room Report May 2008

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

Weekday Guests	1419
Sunday Guests	<u>606</u>
Total	2025

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
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