

August
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

For those who haven't worshipped at New Life, a significant part of the service is our sharing joys and concerns. Absolutely anything could be spoken at that time — from the most benign request, to the most significant concerns and celebrations in people's lives. For example, there's **Belinda Boggus'** story.

Belinda is a young mother who has been coming for Sunday School and worship with 3 of her 4 kids (all preschool and younger) for most of this year. **Belinda** has been homeless, staying at the YWCA Family Center for homeless families for what seems to be an eternity to her. She has invited us into her life by giving us updates on the progress of moving from homelessness into a home of her own. While it would be easy to grow discouraged, especially when there seemed to be delay after delay, each time **Belinda** shared a prayer request, it would be one of hope or celebration. She NEVER lost hope, never complained, never lost her beautiful smile. And, as Paul says, "hope does not disappoint..." because last Sunday, **Belinda** shared with us that she and her family had just moved into their new home on North 5th Street (not far from the church)! Now THAT was something to celebrate! To see her joy, and to hear her thank God for God's faithfulness, and the blessing of a home for her family filled my spirit — and I dare say, everyone in worship — with great joy, as well.

Belinda has an important role in our ministry as Sunday School teacher for children in preschool through first grade, and as the new staff person in our Nursery during worship. After the Young Disciples Message, **Belinda** and the youngest children go to their own classroom where they can continue worshipping and learning about Jesus in age-appropriate ways. We hope that having a consistent caregiver in the nursery will attract and encourage young families to worship with us, and become a part of our church family, and we are grateful to **Belinda** for committing herself to this role.

We are so grateful that **Belinda** and her beautiful children have found their way to New Life; and give thanks to God for blessing them with a new life as they settle into their new home.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Jennifer

From the Minister of Youth and Families

When is the last time you hugged a child who was acting out? When kids are behaving badly, our instinct isn't always to hug them; and, often, we're not as kind or loving as they need us to be. Sometimes, we only want to love the "good" children. But, God loves all of God's children; and, Jesus commands us to do the same.

I write this article from Clinton, Tennessee, where I just spent a week (on full scholarship from CDF especially for New Life UMC) at the Children's Defense Fund's Proctor Institute for Children's Advocacy Ministries. CDF-founder Marian Wright Edelman has been a tireless advocate for children for 35 years. CDF was birthed by The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "Poor People's Campaign." Since this year marks the 40th anniversary of Dr. King's death, this year's Proctor Institute relentlessly asked its participants the question: "When will we hear Dr. King's call to justice and peace?"

We hardly can comprehend the statistics: 13 million children live in poverty in our country -- two million more children than when Dr. King worked to reduce child poverty. More than nine million children lack healthcare in this richest nation in the world, including children in our congregation and our neighborhood. African-American boys born in 2001 have a 1-in-3 chance of imprisonment; for Latino boys it's 1-in-6; for Caucasian boys, 1-in-17. Too many kids in our neighborhood and our country are going to prison when they should be in school. CDF calls this the "Cradle to Prison Pipeline."

Reading levels are an indicator of whether kids will be imprisoned or not. That's not why we continue to focus on reading or why we have a friendly reading competition going on this summer in our "Plugged In" tutoring/mentoring program, but it's a great reason to build it up. Come read with a kid on Tuesday nights from 6-8; you'll be investing in our children's futures. It takes us all to combat these statistics. We all must stand up for children. Because what we do to children, we do to God (Matt. 25:31-46).

The Children's Defense Fund's Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a "Healthy Start," a "Head Start," a "Fair Start," a "Safe Start," and a "Moral Start" in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. This is a well-organized movement the church must fully embrace as a partner in ministry. If you're interested in working for children in our neighborhood, let me know if you need my help!

There are plenty of things to get involved in the life of children at New Life UMC in August:

- Sundays: breakfast, Sunday school, and worship (6:30-11:30 a.m.)
- Tuesdays: "Plugged In" tutoring and mentoring (6-8 p.m.)
- Thursdays (TBA): Youth Choir and Bible Study (6-8 p.m.)
- "Fun First Saturdays:" Aug. 3, Children's Concert at St. Luke's UMC, 9:30 a.m.
- "Friday Night Live!" Aug. 1 & 22: games, music/dancing, food, fun (6-8 p.m.)

As you receive this newsletter, children will be gathering at New Life to learn about the power of Jesus in our annual Vacation Bible School (Aug. 4-8, 6-8 p.m.), which uses a science-themed curriculum. I'll report the 'data' next month! Please keep our neighborhood children in your prayers.

The children need us to prepare and protect them from the broken world. It is our duty as followers of Christ to lead this worshipful work. Please embrace a child today!

Love and prayers from *Pastor Laura*

(laurayoungmoats@yahoo.com)

Sixth Annual Season Kick-Off Tailgate Party



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

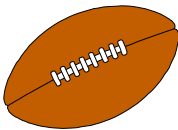
Thursday, August 28, 2008, 5-8PM
(Thursday night before the season opener with Youngstown State)

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
And Matt, the Balloon Guy

Tailgate Food and Beverage buffet
A HUGE Buckeye Themed Silent Auction
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



For Information and Tickets: Call 614-294-0134 or
email nwlifeumc1@att.net

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
Mike-sell's
Spinelli's Deli
Salcon

Clothing Room News

Our monthly count is growing and as a result we have a dire need in the clothing room for:
men's jeans, dockers or work pants
men's athletic shoes & work boots, sizes 9-13
Tee-shirts, especially sizes xlarge, 1x 2x 3x 4x
Women's plus sizes
Men's underwear, sizes 30-40
Women's underwear sizes 5-9

Any of these items, except new socks and underwear, may be found at a thrift store.

Please mark bags of donations clearly so we can locate any needed item.

Thanks for your concern and help.

-Vickie Moseley, Clothing Room Steward

Weekly Texts for Bible Study and Worship Now Posted on Website

The Lectionary texts which are studied in Bible Studies on Wednesday nights and Sunday Morning, and which are the basis for Sunday Morning Worship –including the sermon are now listed on the church website, on the WORSHIP page, at

http://www.newlifeunitedmethodist.org/join_worship.asp .

You are encouraged to read and study them as we work together to serve God, our neighbors and the world.

See you in Bible Study at 7pm each Wednesday, 9:30am each Sunday and in our Worship Celebration each Sunday at 10:30am.

BE GENEROUS

Give a smile to everyone you meet (smile with your eyes) –and you'll smile and receive smiles.

Give a kind word (with kindly thought behind the word) -you will be kind and receive kind words.

Give appreciation (warmth from the heart) -you will appreciate and be appreciated.

Give honor, credit and applause (the victor's wreath) -you will be honorable and receive credit and applause.

Give hope (the magic ingredient for success) -you will have hope and be made hopeful.

Give happiness (the most treasured state of mind) -you will be happy and be made happy.

Give encouragement (the incentive to action) -you will have courage and be encouraged.

Give cheer (the verbal sunshine) -you will be cheerful and be cheered.

Give pleasant response (the neutralizer of irritants) -you will be pleasant and receive pleasant responses.

Give good thoughts (nature's character builder) -the world will have good thoughts for you.

Give prayer (the instrument of miracles) for the godless and the godly –you will receive blessings more than you deserve!

Be Generous! Give!

"...for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. A good person out of the good treasure of the heart brings forth good things: and an evil person out of evil treasure brings forth evil things."

-Matt 12:34b-35

Testimony on Gay Pride Parade

It has been my joy to have been involved with New Life Church for over 1 1/2 years. I have been so blessed by all my spiritual experiences within the walls of this great church. I have made so many dear friends that the list is too long to mention here. In April of this year I joined New Life Church. Since then my life as a Christian man has really taken off. I asked **Pastor Jennifer** what could I do to really get to know this church and it's members and friends. Knowing me so well, she knew right away the job for me. I was offered the lay position, Minister of Caring and Encouragement. Recently, I accepted the job as Coordinator for the Tuesday Morning Breakfast. Both jobs have been the fulfillment of my life. God has truly blessed me with this work and letting me get to know all of you. I love being a part of this church. I really didn't know how it could get any better for me at New Life, but one day it did !

Pastor Jennifer called me into her office and asked me what I would think about our church marching in the upcoming Gay Pride Parade. I was standing up at the time and I had to immediately sit down. As a gay man, I was so overwhelmed with joy and happiness that I could hardly believe what I was hearing. I had to ask **Jennifer** to repeat what she had said. The idea that my wonderful church family and my gay family and friends could come together in celebration was way more that any Christian man could ask for. Of course, I immediately said " Yes, I will take charge of the entire event." My mind just when wild with ideas ! I said, "We have to have a church banner " and "My friend **Steve** has a really cool new blue convertible we can ride in." For me it was a dream come true! I got our car at the parade site so early that we were the first church group in the parade. We even beat out King Ave Church for the best position! It was such a wonderful day for me and for our church. I know all who attended from New Life went away as a changed person. The love that all of us experienced will stay with us forever. We were so well received by everyone along the route. I want to thank the Administrative Council for allowing us to be a part of this celebration of love for everyone! I wish to thank all of you on behalf of all the gay members and friends of New Life Church for giving us this gift of celebration and love.

As **Pastor Rudy Rasmus**, author of the book Touch and guest speaker at this year's Annual Conference at Lakeside says, " I love you all and there is nothing you can do about it ". May God be with us all as we march forward for Christ !

—Jim Trimmer

P.S. One of my other responsibilities is organizer of the Silent Auction at our upcoming Buckeye Tailgate Party on August 28th. We need items for the auction! OSU memorabilia, gift certificates or items from local businesses, knick knacks, art work, etc. would all be appreciated. Here's a chance to "re-gift" all those things you'll never use, but someone else might enjoy. Some current items we have collected: Sweatpants with OSU logo (brand new, of course), a painting of Jack Nicklaus "in action" (worth over \$300), and "Scene It" board game. I am currently collecting donations. And come to the party ready to make a bid on your favorite item!

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:

August Calendar

1	6:00-8:00 PM	Friday Night Live for young disciples
2	9:30 AM	Young Disciples First Sat. @ St. Luke's UMC
1-4		Pastor Jennifer on vacation
3	10:30 AM	Sacrament of Holy Communion
4-8	6:00-8:00 PM	Vacation Bible School
6		NO Bible Study
11-18		Pastor Laura on vacation
13	7:00 PM	Bible Study
15		NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
15-16		Pastor Jennifer attending continuing ed. event
20	1:00 PM	New Life/Trinity Partnership Team Meeting
	7:00 PM	Bible Study
21	7:00 PM	Ad Council meeting
27	7:00 PM	Bible Study
28	5:00-8:00 PM	BUCKEYE TAILGATE PARTY
29	6:00-8:00 PM	Friday Night Live for young disciples
31	3:00 PM	Sunday Family Dinner



FINANCIAL



NEWS

Report of the Treasurer June 2008

Checking Account	
Beginning Balance	\$14,625.15
Deposits	15,681.45
Withdrawals	<u>15,063.66</u>
Balance	\$ 15,242.94

—Steve Waldron, Treasurer

Receipts in	<u>Jun 2008</u>	and <u>Year-</u>
Total Plate	\$ 6,003.45	\$ 33,162.03
Friends	955.00	7,260.00
Partner Churches	0.00	19,517.00
Breakfast Ministry	1,693.00	4,870.11
Youth Ministry	3,025.00	22,506.24
Clothing Room	20.00	1,570.00
Parsonage Rent	575.00	3,450.00
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	0.00	274.00
Group Meeting Income	870.00	2,770.00
Chiller Fundraiser	0.00	508.00
Bluegrass Concert	40.00	4,532.00
Healthcare Ministry	<u>2,500.00</u>	<u>18,056.93</u>
Total	\$15,681.45	\$119,511.31

-Rebecca Naas,
Financial Sec'y

Balance Sheet June 2008

Assets

City National checking acct	\$ 15,242.94
Savings & Investments	<u>171,847.97</u>
Total Assets	\$187,090.91

Liabilities & Fund Balances

Withholdings	\$ 1,532.01
Operations	91,595.57
Youth Ministry Fund	32,269.80
Misc. Ministry Fund	(11,419.24)
Memorial Fund	23,192.00
Health Ministry Fund	10,338.86
Breakfast Ministry Fund	19,577.41
Clothing Room Fund	9,233.77
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.	\$187,090.91

Clothing Room Report June 2008

Hours of Operation:	
Sunday	7-9:30 am
Tues. & Wed.	9-11:30 am
Weekday Guests	1251
Sunday Guests	<u>779</u>
Total	2030

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*

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is the monthly news/magazine of
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