



# THE VISITOR

*August 2009*

## **VBS 2009!! Highlights**



*Game Time*



*Bible Story Time*



*Craft Time*



*Snack Time*

## **Rally Day & Outdoor Worship! August 23<sup>rd</sup>**

*Don't Miss It!*

As of this printing outdoor worship is scheduled for August 23 (repair work on the educational building could cause a last minute change). The Worship Committee is planning this event.

For the outdoor service, you may want to bring your own lawn chairs. The service is on the lawn area on

the west side of the building, under a huge tent. Service will be at the regular time and the picnic lunch will follow the service. We will serve the

lunch in Fellowship Hall to avoid the bees and flies! The Worship Committee will

provide all the food which includes, Bratwurst, Hot Dogs, Macaroni Salad, Lettuce Salad, Baked Beans, Fresh Fruit Salad, Corn-on-the-cob, Ice Cream, and cold beverages.



## August Worship

### August 2

Sacrament of Communion  
Preaching: Rev. Jim Nelson

### August 9

Preaching: Rev. Jerry Baker

### August 16

Preaching: Rev. Jerry Baker

### August 23

Rally Day & Outdoor Worship  
Preaching: Rev. Gehres

### August 30

Preaching: Rev. Gehres

## Memorial Gifts

*In Memory of Carole Landis*  
Harlan & Carolyn Ellis  
Jean Lyon  
Joann Rehm

The 2009 Relay For Life "Ringing For A Cure" team wishes to extend a big "Thank You" to our church family for helping us achieve our goal this year. Our team once again won the award for "Most Enthusiastic" team at the relay, and we also won the midnight snack contest. We were quite the sight during the team lap, as you can see from the photo. If anyone is interested in joining our team, please let any of our team members know. Our hope is that in our lifetime there will no longer be a need for Relays because both a cure and prevention will have been discovered. Again, thank you.



## Christian Education News

### **RALLY DAY – Bible Olympics! August 23<sup>rd</sup>**

The Christian Education committee is planning to kick off our new year with fun activities during the Sunday school hour on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Come try your skill at some unusual games, enjoy snacks, get reacquainted with old friends and make new ones!

### **SUMMER SPIRIT - Reminder to Kids!**

Keep working on the activities in your Summer Spirit booklet. Bring it with you to Rally Day to receive a fabulous prize!

### **FALL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Sunday School – classes will be available for all ages.

**The preschool class** will meet in the Nursery classroom and use the "LIVE BIG" materials.

**The elementary class** will meet in the rotation classrooms and use "Seasons of the Spirit" led by a group of workshop leaders.

**The middle schoolers** will meet in the Lower Room and use the "Seasons of the Spirit" lectionary-based curriculum that connects education, mission, and worship.

**The high school class** will meet in the youth room and use a variety of materials to prompt discussion on living our faith in our daily life.

**The New Testament Adult Class** will meet in the Conference room to continue their verse-by-verse study of the New Testament.

**The Seekers** will meet upstairs in their classroom and study the Bible using "Seasons of the Spirit."

**The Christian Fellowship Class** will meet in the Parlor and study the Bible using "The Present Word."

Topical studies will be offered periodically by Pastor Gehres. Watch for details in bulletins, newsletters and The Chat (email).

### **FALL CAMP at TEMPLED HILLS - October 23-25**

More details to come. Mark your calendar now!

## Financial Report

	Month of	YTD	Budget
CURRENT FUND	June '09		
Income	\$18,036	\$122,060	\$148,824
Expenses	<u>\$21,101</u>	<u>\$136,855</u>	<u>\$154,007</u>
Net Surplus(Deficit)	\$ (3,065)	\$ (14,795)	\$ (5,183)
Benevolent Fund	\$ 2,414	\$ 20,159	\$ 32,838
Strengthen the Church	\$ 275	\$ 375	

Sunday offerings through June 30th are \$1,511 less than last year. Expenses through June 30th are \$2,142 more than last year.

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## *Intergenerational Mission Trip Report*

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Fifteen people participated in our trip to the Morgan Scott Project in Deer Lodge, Tennessee. We stayed in dorm-style housing at the project center. We prepared our own breakfasts and packed lunches daily, and took turns making our evening meals. Projects included some work at the Morgan Scott Project itself: tearing out a chain-link fence and replacing it with a wooden fence, reseating a leaking toilet, painting two large porches, picnic tables, benches and flower boxes, cleaning the kitchen and our living spaces, and making phone calls to help in the office. Community projects included the demolition and rebuilding of a porch, finishing a wheelchair ramp that was started by the group before us, painting at two different homes, and clearing weeds and brush from a lawn. Our group worked and played together in an attitude of cooperation and fun. We celebrated Isaac's 19<sup>th</sup> birthday...you'll have to ask him about the details. We were invited two different evenings to enjoy meals with former congregants of Randy's churches. The one evening included a float building session for the Congregational Church's entry in the Deer Lodge 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fourth of July Parade. They have a reputation of winning the trophy, so it's serious business, but also great fun. We enjoyed seeing the churches and meeting the people who knew Randy and Grace "back when..." It's obvious that they were (and still are) highly thought of by the people in Tennessee! We concluded our week with a Friday evening dinner at a local restaurant. Photos of the event are on a bulletin board in the educational building, and we'll make plans to share our stories with the congregation sometime later this summer

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## *Consistory Highlights (July meeting)*

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Consistory met on July 13, with Julie Yates presiding. Sharon Nelson began the meeting with a recap of her experiences at General Synod in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

An update on the renovation and roof repair project was given by Joe Hranko. Plans for a capital campaign are in the works for these projects.

Judy Browne reported that Christian Education was gearing up for Vacation Bible School.

Worship Committee is working on outdoor worship with a meal scheduled for August 23.

Youth Ministries Council has scheduled the youth auction for the last Sunday in September. There will be one silent item for bid before the auction, with details in the August newsletter.

Narcotics Anonymous has requested use of the church building for meetings.

Plans for the repair and painting of the youth room as an Eagle Scout project were presented by Kenny Biddle.

## *Volunteers Needed*

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Anyone who would like to have your name added to the list for ushers, greeters, liturgists or acolytes, please contact:

Joanne Burkey (683-2666  
Burkeygj@zoominternet.net) or  
Ruth Harrington (698-4802  
rahar22@sssnet.com).

Volunteers are greatly appreciated!

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## *Care Ministries Cabinet Meeting*

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Quarterly Care Ministries Cabinet meeting is coming up Monday, August 3, at 1:00 p.m. in the Conference Room for ICU team captains, Merry Cooks coordinator and Parish Nurse representative. Any ideas for workshop subject matter?? We should plan one for this fall.

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## *Mission Committee*

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The Mission Committee will have a meeting on Thursday, Aug. 20, at 6:00 p.m. in the parlor. We welcome anyone interested!! Please join us and help up plan for the coming year. Questions? See Suzanne Jelinek.

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## *Thank You*

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My family and I wish to thank Shirley Weyrauch for making arrangements for our 2009 Intergenerational Mission Trip. The trip was a wonderful experience and we look forward to the next one! Thanks again for your hard work, attention to detail, and willingness to organize these mission trips.

The Jelineks

Your thoughtfulness is appreciated. Thank you for the great dinner, it was very good.

Amy, Tim, Hadyn, &  
Jensen Hostetler

## Youth Corner

August 2 6 PM YF - John Robart is providing food. Bring instruments for rehearsal.

August 8 TBA Youth helping Kenny with his Eagle Scout project

August 9 TBA

August 15 Back-To-School Bash at Matt's

August 16 NO YF

August 23 Youth ensemble playing at outdoor worship; 6 PM YF

August 30 6 PM YF

August 31 6 PM Youth Council

### **\*\*Special Silent Youth Auction\*\***

**2 Football Tickets – OSU v. USC Saturday, September 12, 8 PM.**

Seat location not yet determined, but probably similar to previous years.

This will be a silent auction. Auction flyer is on the bulletin board near the office. Bidding closes at noon (using the hall clock by the office) on Sunday, August 23 following outdoor worship. Questions? Contact Sharon at 330-683-0715 or youth.cucc@zoominternet.net

## General Synod Review

It was a delight to be one of 60 representatives of the Ohio Conference at General Synod the last 4 years. This past June we gathered in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

We celebrated the ministry of John Thomas as his tenure comes to a close and welcomed Geoffrey Black as the new General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ.

Water was the theme - a river running through the city, flowing waters as the centerpiece of the stage, a renewal of baptism vows. We were told to "immerse yourself". We heard about fluid faith - leave the boat and be willing to go where Jesus is standing. Are we willing to take the risk?

A complete review of General Synod can be found at [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org). Look under "Big Things" at the top of the page.

Christ Church exchanged prayer cloths with St. John UCC in Aurora, IL. There is a prayer on the reverse side. The cloth is on display in the Gathering Area and may be used by any group of the church.

Interested in being a General Synod delegate in 2011 in Tampa Bay? Contact the Eastern Ohio Association office or talk to Randy. He's on the nominating committee.

**Sharon Nelson**

## Philadelphia Impressions

Philadelphia is an exciting city. You have the old historic district, new condos being built in old warehouses near center city and then just blocks from the bustling downtown area you have pockets of poverty and depression. I asked the youth who traveled to Philly for their impressions. – Sharon

Going into this trip I had no clue what to expect. Before leaving I had been told that the people we would be helping would be so glad to have us there, but I kept thinking to myself, “Times have changed since the last time our church went. What if we aren’t welcome?” I have to say I was pleasantly surprised when we arrived at each work site. Everyone was so open and happy that we were there. I’m glad I was able to go and help. – Kaylene

Philly was an amazing experience. It was my first mission trip. We couldn’t have picked a better place. Working in the missions and gardens really opened my eyes. We got to work with people that were poor and homeless. Going to Philly really helped me get more in touch with my faith and also helped me understand where people were coming from. This is an experience I will remember for the rest of my life. – Kurtis

My experience in Philadelphia was truly eye-opening. I met and dealt with people who have seen and experienced things I cannot even imagine. The challenges that some of those people have faced seem to be more than overwhelming and I was glad I could be a part of the process to make things right again, and not so overwhelming. Though we all worked hard, I had a lot of fun and I would do it again in a heartbeat. – Kenny

I had a lot of great experiences in Philly. I didn’t know what to expect at WhoSoEverGospel. The people were really nice and funny which made my work easier. At Norris Square Gardens the weeding wasn’t as hard as I thought it would be. There was a lot of work. I liked seeing all of the different plants and vegetables. At St. Mary’s I had a great time meeting and talking to new people. Everyone had a story to tell. I knew each and every one appreciated what we were doing. I loved Philadelphia. – Matt

No matter how bad we may say we have it, it is not as bad as some people do have it. I found out some people are willing to put their lives at risk to save what they love and care for. – Kyle

I had a great time in Philly. The group worked at WhoSoEverGospel Mission sorting clothes. We had fun trying on things. We also worked at the Norris Street Neighborhood Project gardens. They are beautiful! We did a lot of weeding and painting there. We toured the historical buildings and went to Ocean City, New Jersey. – Garrett

I thought it was going to be fun and then we were robbed so I had a bad feeling about Philly right off the bat. But it got better as the week went on and I got to talk and work around people that live there. By the time we left I had a better feeling about the city and the people that live there. – Donny

I had fun experiences in Philadelphia. They include being schooled in checkers, meeting lots of new people and working at fun places. Oh, and we were robbed. But that wasn’t important. This trip taught me what other people’s lives are like. I also learned I really enjoy helping people and listening to their stories. I look forward to the next trip. – Richelle

My first impression of Philly was the beautiful skyline. The second was that it was crowded and dirty. At Norris Square Gardens we experienced the energy and spirit of which Thomasita spoke. I loved the exotic plants and vibrant colors. We sorted clothes and toys at WhoSoEverGospel. As we left Philly I still noticed it was dirty and crowded, but I realized all the little things people are trying to do to make it a place for God’s children to flourish. I saw the rose of God pushing through the thorns of a troubled neighborhood. – Sarah

My experience in Philly started out a little bumpy. While many of us, away from home and without some of our personal belongings, complained and worried, people were looking for a place to sleep or their next meal. I learned to meet the eyes of the often intimidating homeless. I learned to look deeper to see people as they are, to learn about them. Not to judge them or to look the other way, but to talk to them. Listen to them. Care for them. I learned to love them no matter who they are, no matter what they have done or left undone. – Karen

## Parish Nurse Information – Beat the Heat! Don't Let Summer Make You Sick

### Signs & Symptoms

#### Heat Exhaustion:

- Severe thirst
- Muscle weakness & cramps
- Nausea, sometimes vomiting
- Fast, shallow breathing
- Irritability
- Headache
- Increased sweating
- Cool, clammy skin

#### Heatstroke:

- Severe throbbing headache
- Weakness, dizziness, or confusion
- Difficulty breathing
- Confusion, loss of consciousness
- Little or no sweating
- Flushed, hot, dry skin
- Elevated temp. of 105 degrees

### Preventing Heat Exhaustion & Heat Stroke

During hot, humid weather, the body's internal temp. can rise and result in heat exhaustion and heatstroke. If not quickly treated, heat exhaustion can progress to heatstroke, which requires immediate emergency medical care and can be fatal.

### What Do I Do?

If someone shows signs of *heatstroke*, seek emergency medical care immediately.

In cases of heat exhaustion:

- Bring the person into the shade immediately
- Undress the person
- Have the person lie down; elevate feet slightly
- If person is alert, place in cool (not cold) bath, sponge bathe the person repeatedly. If outside, spray the person with garden hose
- If the person is alert, give frequent sips of cool, clear fluids (clear juices or sports drinks are best)
- If the person is vomiting, turn his or her body to the side to prevent choking
- Do not leave the person alone

### Be Smart!

- Always drink plenty of fluids in hot weather – even if you aren't thirsty – but...
- Avoid alcohol and caffeine which can dehydrate you
- Wear light-colored loose clothing
- Stay in the shade during the hottest part of the day (10am-4pm)

## Christ Church Recollections

Members of the congregation were asked to share their memories about their early years at Christ Church to help commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the sanctuary. We will be printing their stories in "The Visitor" for you to enjoy.

1. In July 1908, my mother, Treva McAfee Auble, was born to Norman and Lena McAfee. One year later, mom was carried into the "new church." In May 1909, the congregation walked from the old frame church located at East Church Street to the newly constructed church at the corner of Main and Church Streets. Treva was probably the first to be baptized in the new church.
2. Sometime around 1925, Treva and Holly had Saturday "date" night at church where my dad stoked the furnace for Sunday church. The coal cellar was under the foyer and when I was little it was a scary place.
3. I was baptized in our church in 1939 and I think our church was E&R at that time.
4. Sunday school kids met in the basement (now the pole room area), and the classes were separated by movable wooden partitions (some are still around). The adults met upstairs in the rooms behind the back section of the church sanctuary, and used folding chairs. A large folding door separated the sanctuary and classrooms.
5. I was fortunate to participate in Bible School, Junior choir, camp, Christmas plays. I was scared to death of my first speaking part.
6. I think my most beloved pastor was Rev. Otto Gerber, and now of course, is Randy Gehres.

This is a great church.

Tish Auble Moore

## ***Applying Bible Principles*** ©Kenneth L. Williams, *Effective Stewardship*, K LW Enterprises, Swansea, IL

One of the most familiar of all Bible passages is 1 Corinthians 13, which is known by many as the “Love Chapter.” Many people — Christians and non-Christians alike — have committed part or all of these thirteen wonderful verses to memory. But most people probably do not realize that one of the greatest truths concerning giving is taught in this passage.

The Apostle Paul, writing under the direct and divine inspiration of the Holy Spirit, said, “If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.” In other words, according to this verse, our giving is to be motivated by love. If it is not, then it has absolutely no value to us.

The question here is not how much we give, or how frequently we give, or the manner in which we give, but **why** we give. And it is based on the principle taught so clearly in Romans 5:8, “But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners, Christ died for us.” When we were nothing but sinners, Christ died for us. When we had nothing but the refuse of sin in our lives, Christ died for us. When we were “strangers” to God’s promises, Christ died for us. Long before we could ever love Him, He provided convincing evidence of His love for us by dying for us on Calvary. And that’s why “We love because he first loved us” (1 John 4:19).

One of the ways in which we demonstrate our love for God is through giving. If we give out of a sense of obligation or because “the church needs the money” or because we feel we have to give, we miss the point of 1 Corinthians 13:3. We also miss the blessing that comes from giving out of a heart motivated by our love for the Lord. When we give because of that motivation, our giving provides a tangible expression of our love for Him as we give in response to His love and grace.

As the offering plate passes by you next Sunday at church, you might want to pray this prayer of thanksgiving and commitment: “Lord, thank you for loving me before I could love you. Thank you for demonstrating your love by dying on Calvary for me. And thank you for the privilege of giving to you today as I worship you through this expression of my love for you.”

As you consider not only next Sunday’s offering, but equally important, your on-going financial support of the ministry at Christ United Church of Christ, what is your response to God’s love for you?

## ***August Birthdays & Anniversaries***

### ***Birthdays***

8/01 Melissa Gresser Tolan Clark	8/14 Gary Burkey Jodi Cassidy	8/25 Betty Falk	8/05 Tammy & Richard Moser
8/02 Amy Landaw	Karen Donley	8/26 Lisa Arnold	8/08 Amanda & Kevin Tyson
8/03 Mark Abel	Jennifer Georges	8/27 Brian Amstutz Tom Reynolds	8/09 Jan & Fred Miller
Dawn Sprowls	8/15 Helen Brown	8/28 Joan Bumgardner	8/10 Sheila & Robert Bricker Barb & Chester Stoll
John Paul Schantz	Adam Smith	8/29 Joshua Miller	Heidi & Jeff Herr
8/04 Paul Bilderback	8/16 Jill Loera	8/30 Don Dreher	8/12 Judy & Brad Nussbaum
8/05 Oswald Pouly	Craig Hostetler	Todd Musser	8/14 Karen & Ralph Wyss Erin & Tom Baer
Tammy Moser	8/17 Mary Ellen Hanna	Richelle Romanchik	8/16 Cindi & Mark Clark
8/06 Maxine Edwards	Amy Duxbury		8/17 Kathie & Donald Massie
Glenn Imhoff	8/18 Andrew Loera	<b><i>Anniversaries</i></b>	8/20 Deb & Jon Gresser
Gary Bender	Michael Cassidy	8/01 Teresa & Bill Tyson	8/23 Jayne & Jack Wagner
Ann Midura	8/20 Paula Schmid	Terri & Jeff Brest	8/25 Laura & Craig Brownlee
8/07 Jeff Brest	Judy Kropf	Loretta & Brian Wyss	8/26 Grace & Randy Gehres
Jean Lyon	Kerry Pickett	8/02 Tish & Gene Moore	8/27 Bonnie & David Fleming Cindy & David Zimmerman
Brad Weeman	Jeff Musser	Amy & Tim Hostetler	Doug & Cheryl Diehl
8/08 Ron Cross	8/21 Lyn Burkey	8/03 Gigi & Jeff Musser	8/29 Shirley & John Weyrauch
Ben Finney	Jamie O’Quinn	8/04 Norma & Robert Aukerman	
8/09 Pat Saurer	8/22 Joshua LeFever	Betsy & Charles Wagers	
8/11 Chad Findley	8/23 William Arnold		
Sadie-Lynn Snyder	Marian Craft		
8/13 Lester Jay LeFever			

**Sun****Mon****Tue****Wed****Thu****Fri****Sat**

# AUGUST 2009

*1**2*10:15a Worship; Communion  
11:30a Parish Nurses—BP's  
1:00p Home Communion*3*1:00p Care Ministries  
Cabinet*4*12-6p Blood  
Drive*5**6**7**8**9*10:15a Worship  
11:30a Coffee Hour*10*6:30p Spiritual Council  
7:00p Consistory*11**12**13**14**15*GA Reserved  
  
Back-to-School  
Bash (YF)*16*

10:15a Worship

*17**18*7:00p Worship  
Committee*19*6:30p Green  
Team*20*6:00p Mission  
Committee*21*FH Reserved  
  
Newsletter  
Deadline*22*2:00p Wedding  
FH Reserved*23*9:00a Rally Day  
10:15a Outdoor Worship  
11:30a Church Picnic  
11:30a Executive Comm.  
1:30p CROP Steering  
Committee Mtg.*24*

7:00p Healing Service

*25**26**27**28**29**30*9:00a Confirmation  
Organizational Mtg.  
9:00a Sunday School  
10:15a Worship*31*