

THE CHIMES

Traveling to Learn, Traveling to Worship

Pastor's Word

I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." - Psalm 122.1

In the Middle Ages, there were three great Christian pilgrimage destinations: to Jerusalem, to Rome, and to Santiago de Compostela in Spain. In the days before Christ, Jews would regularly - if they could - make pilgrimages to Jerusalem, the holy city. Pilgrims would sing the "Songs of Ascent" (Psalms 120-134) as they "ascended" the hills of Judea to reach the Holy City.

Traveling with a religious purpose - a pilgrimage - is a practice of the faithful of most of the world's religions, including Buddhists, Muslims and Hindus, as well. To go on a pilgrimage is rarely ever considered mandatory by any religious faith. But nearly always, visits to holy places are thought of as helpful for the person who wants to enhance their spiritual life. And travel anywhere is always an educational experience.

I've been to Santiago de Compostela. To have walked the same route for the better part of a month as countless saints over the centuries have done was a humbling experience for me. I've been to the shrine of Thomas Beckett in Canterbury. When I was there I prayed for a friend who was fighting her own battle with cancer. I've been to Jerusalem and the Holy Land a number of times. My Bible reading and study has been enriched ever since beyond measure.

As I mentioned before, to make a pilgrimage anywhere has never been required. Loving God and loving one's neighbor - the summary of discipleship can be done anywhere. Indeed, sometimes the

making of a pilgrimage can lead to unspiritual consequences. (St Augustine in the fifth century complained that some pilgrims to Jerusalem were just evading their responsibilities of work and family.) Still, there are benefits to traveling with a holy purpose that are hard to get any other way.

I am planning a trip to the Holy Land next year, March 7-18, 2012. *And I'd like to go with some of my church members and their friends.* I've taken church folks there before. It is often described by them as the trip of a lifetime. I have engaged the services of a travel company that specializes in Christian tours.



Unlike the difficult travel arrangements of pilgrims in the Middle Ages, we'll have comfortable tour buses and stay in deluxe hotels.

Going to the Holy Land is like reading your Bible in 3-D and in color. When you stand on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, you will easily imagine Jesus preaching the Sermon on the Mount. When you first see the Jordan River, you'll marvel that so much history has been made on the banks of such a small stream - maybe you'll even feel the water of that river fall upon your head as a recollection of your own baptism.

If you've been thinking about going to the Holy Land "someday," maybe next year is your someday. It's a fascinating and lively part of the modern world to visit, quite apart from the Biblical and historical connections. But for the Christian, it's a chance to go on a true pilgrimage, to make the land and the geography of the Bible come alive and your spiritual life to be revived. If you have any questions, see me soon. I'd love to be there with you.

- KDS

CONGREGATIONAL CARE COMMITTEE

The Parish Visitors met on June 5th after church. (“Parish Visitors” is the name selected by the Congregational Care Committee for those individuals who have volunteered to visit regularly one or more shut-ins or homebound members - whom we refer to as “visitation members” - of the congregation.) Rev. Karl led the group in prayer and commended everyone for their participation in this most worthy effort. Some of those in attendance spoke about their visits with their new friends. Matters of joy were shared and a few matters of concern were discussed.

Rev. Hostetler has developed cards that the Parish Visitors may choose to sign and leave as a reminder to the visitation member and the family of their visit. The cards include a short note of greeting, a picture of the church and the church’s phone number. CDs and DVDs of the worship services to take to the visitation members are available upon request from the church office (330) 823-7136. A CD player is available to loan, if needed.

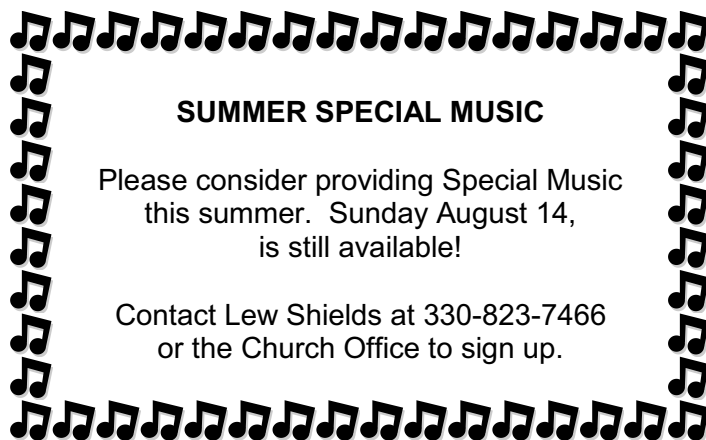
Six couples and twelve individuals currently serve as Parish Visitors. At this time, the church has thirty members on the list for visitation and each is paired up with a Parish Visitor. Interested in being a part of this group? Please call the church office.

The next meeting of the Parish Visitors will be **in the chapel on Sunday, September 11, immediately following the 10:45 worship service.**

Sue Burden, Paul Cope, Jane Helwig,
Rev. David and Mildred Hostetler,
Larry and Connie Pyers and
Peg Williams, Chairperson

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Beginning July 3 we will move to a combined service at 10:00 AM. Sunday School will start at 9:00. The summer schedule will continue through September 4.



SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC

Please consider providing Special Music this summer. Sunday August 14, is still available!

Contact Lew Shields at 330-823-7466 or the Church Office to sign up.

CARNATION DAYS IN THE PARK

“I need one with the works!!!” That’s right, it’s that time of year again, when Christ United Methodist Church, will be selling their famous 1/3# Sirloin Burgers, at Carnation Days in the Park. So, this year we are seeking volunteers, to come out and have a great time of fellowship, by either: working the counter, working the money desk, flipping burgers, stacking mushrooms, onions and cheese, wrapping or the job of separating the cheese. All of these jobs are important and are not possible without your help! CDitP, will be held on Wednesday August 17 – Friday August 19, from 4 – 9 and on Saturday August 20 from 1 – 10. Please sign up, in the lounge or in your Sunday School Room, as to when you will be at the booth. Thanks for your support of this important project!!

WELCOME CENTER GREETERS

JULY	AUGUST
3 Cynthia Carlin & Charles Manypenny	7 Bill Sol & Peg Williams
10 Silver Park	14 Lou & Bob Clayton
17 Betty Thorpe & Peg Rodefer	21 Dick Diser & Peg Williams
24 Helen Brown & Peg Williams	28 Connie & Larry Pyers
31 Rev. David & Mildred Hostetler	

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH FOOD PANTRY

We recognize a need in our community by collecting funds, food, personal and household items to help the Salvation Army in its outreach. The Christian Outreach Committee reminds you that there is always a shopping cart in the Lounge for donations, and that the third Sunday of each month is designated as Food Pantry Sunday. **July 17th** will be the next date for donations of non-perishable food items, paper and cleaning products, and cash donations to be counted for delivery to the Salvation Army. In June, 107 items and \$31.73 were collected. Your response for this much needed community program is appreciated. Thank You!

CHRISTIAN ED CORNER

A LITTLE FUNNY

In the Old Testament Book of Proverbs we read, "A joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit dries up the bones." So have a little dose of medicine, laugh a little at what follows because it is a little funny.

THE TALKING CENTIPEDE

A single guy decided life would be more fun if he had a pet. So he went to the pet store and told the owner he wanted to buy an unusual pet. After some discussion, he finally bought a talking centipede (100-legged bug), which came in a little white box to use as his house.

He took the box back home, found a good spot for the box, and decided he would start off by taking his new pet to church with him. So he asked the centipede in the box, "Would you like to go to church with me today? We will have a good time." But there was no answer from his new pet. This bothered him a bit, but he waited a few minutes and then asked him again, "How about going to church with me and receive some of the Lord's blessings?"

But again there was no answer from his new friend and pet. So he waited a few minutes more, thinking about the situation. The guy decided to invite the centipede one last time. This time he put his face up against the centipede's house and shouted, "Hey, in there! Would you like to go to church with me and learn about God?" This time a little voice came out of the box, "I heard you the first time! I'm still putting my shoes on!"

A DIVINE ANTIDOTE

Two young boys were forever getting into trouble, disrupting classes at school, teasing other children, taking things that did not belong to them and so on. One day their mother asked the pastor if he could come over to see if he could talk some sense into the boys. So rather than threaten or reprimand them, he started out with a very gentle approach. His plan was to convince the two brothers that God is everywhere, always aware of everything and isn't pleased when they misbehave. But the pastor wanted them to come to this conclusion on their own.

"Young men," he said after asking the boys to sit down, "I have a question for you. Where is God?" The two boys stared at each other, unsure of how to answer and said nothing. "Where IS God?" the preacher said the next time with a little more emphasis. "Surely you know the answer to a simple question like that." The boys remained silent becoming more frightened to speak and still did not answer.

The pastor said firmly, "I'll ask you one more time: WHERE IS GOD?" At that last question, the one boy jumped up, grabbed his brother by the arm and said, "Come on! We better get out of here. God is missing and they think we did it!"

Peace,
Dr. J.

TELLER SCHEDULE FOR JULY AND AUGUST

JULY TELLERS

3	Marilyn Ruff and Bruce Helsel
10	Diane Thomas and Bill Messenheimer
17	Nancy Sandifer and Mildred Hostetler
24	Julie Greiner and Jan Essick
31	Jim Greiner and Larry Pyers

AUGUST TELLERS

7	Pat Helsel and Marilyn Ruff
14	Jill Greiner and Donna Essick
21	Tyler Kinser and Bruce Helsel
28	Diane Thomas and Bill Messenheimer

The Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday July 12th @ 6:30 PM

SCOUT NEWS

Scouts and Scout leaders from both Troop 50 and Pack 50 marched in the Memorial Day Parade. We attended the placing of the wreath at Freedom Square by the Alliance Veterans Council and then traveled the parade route from Linden and Main to the City Cemetery.

Cub Scout meetings will begin again in the fall. The Boy Scout meetings continue and Troop 50 Scouts will be attending Summer Camp at Seven Ranges Scout Reservation near Kensington from July 3 through 9. Eight Scouts from Troop 50 will join approximately 350 other Scouts that week and nearly 2,500 Scouts will camp during the seven camping periods (weeks) this summer. Many of these Scouts will travel from other Scouting areas, and even from out of state to spend their week at Seven Ranges.

This year's contingent from Troop 50 includes Benjamin Kelley, Donnie Greenamyer, Joshua Shields, Tyler Skivolocki, Dalton Snyder, and first year campers, McKade Hall, Jacob Shields, and Austin Minear.

Thanks to Christ UMC for its **81 years** of sponsorship of the Boy Scouts of America through Troop 50. The facilities, cooperation and support provided by the congregation are second to none when it comes to the needs of the Scouts.



Did you know.....

- that the 2nd Annual Community Carnival, will be held on Saturday July 9th, in our parking lot?
- that VBS, will be held July 18 - 22, at Vine Street United Methodist?
- Carnation Days in the Park is scheduled for August 17 - 20?
- Rally Day will be held on Sunday September 11?

Dear Christ UMC Congregation,

You may be aware that Diane Thomas has elected to resign from her position as Church Financial Secretary, effective July 31, 2011.

Diane has been Financial Secretary for nearly fifteen years. During that time we have come to rely on her to maintain the confidentiality of our finances and to assure that the Church is kept in good standing with the taxing, banking and reporting agencies that require so much information these days.

Approximately a year ago, Diane accepted a new position in the marketing department of Coastal Pet Products. A couple of promotions later, along with increased responsibilities and time commitments, she regrets that she must give up her position at the Church. We are sad to see her go, and yet happy for her success and we wish Diane well.

The Staff Parish and the Finance committees are planning to recognize Diane's service at a reception on July 17, 2011, at 11:00 a.m. (after the Sunday morning worship service).

Please try to attend this Celebration Reception to visit with Diane and wish her well in her new challenges and opportunities.

Dick Diser
Church Treasurer

SUMMER MUSIC SCHEDULE

July 3	Judith Hookway, Vocal Solo
July 10	Worship in the Park with Alliance Area United Methodist Churches
July 17	Paul Whipple, Vocal Solo
July 24	Vacation Bible School presentation
July 31	Lew Shields, Alto Saxophone Solo
August 7	Sarah Buckel, Vocal Solo
August 14	Open
August 21	Susan Haddox
August 28	Will Kinser
September 4	Susan Haddox & Victor Lee, Vocal Duet

Jim Williams Honored by Searchers Class June 26

On Sunday, June 26, the Searchers Sunday School Class honored teacher Jim Williams and his wife Peg with a thank you luncheon given at the Alliance Country Club. Arnie and Corrine Hirvela with Larry and Connie Pyers served on the luncheon planning committee.

Jim will end his full-time Sunday school teaching career in July. Pastor Chris Martin has agreed to lead the class beginning in September with Jim filling in when required.

Joining the former Voyager and Crusader Class members were Dr. Craig George and his wife Shirley from Canandaigua, N.Y. Dr. George was special guest speaker.

Jim, who was the first teacher of the Friendship II class, taught there for a short time in the late 1970's. He then co-taught, with Dr. George, Ernie Sheetz and others, the Voyagers, a young couples class when formed in 1958, following the death of their original teacher, Dick Oglive, in 1995. When the Georges moved to Canandaigua in 1996, Jim assumed the bulk of the teaching duties for the Voyagers.

"It is with grateful hearts the Searchers Class thanks you for being our loyal, dedicated and most knowledgeable Sunday school teacher," said Class President Betty Thorpe. "We appreciate the many innumerable hours you have spent in preparing lessons to make us better students of the Bible and hopefully better Christians."

Jim told those in attendance that when teaching at this level the teacher learns vastly more than anyone else in the class due to the preparation required. "It's a great way to develop an interest in religion and the Bible

Interfaith Center Requesting Auction Items

The Stuckey Family Interfaith Child Development Center is in need of items to auction at its annual fundraising event September 24 at the Alliance Country Club. The event will take place from 7 to 11 p.m. The purpose of the auction is to raise funds to provide scholarships for students who "sometimes fall through the funding cracks". Laurie Porter, director, has requested that you contact her directly if you can provide unique items or certificates for unique services that you believe will raise money for the center. Her phone number is 330 821-1377 or email her at interfaith10@att.net.



Happy Birthday

JULY BIRTHDAYS

2 Aaron Cade	12 Donna Essick
3 Vivien Reid	14 Jennifer Knoll
4 Arden Tuttle	16 Jeff Hunter
5 Kristen Freeman	16 Rachel Thomas
6 Ruth Allison	17 Denise Aeling
9 Ben Springer	17 Wil' Rogers
9 Betty-Jo Sutherin	17 Chris Denman
9 Barb Hamlin	19 Jean Webster
9 Jason Reese	19 Robin Jones
9 Jan Essick	20 Tony Sutcliffe
11 Randy Ruff	23 Pearl Beatty
12 Durlan Dumm	25 Zachary Kinser
12 Richard Post	31 Larry Pyers
12 Betty Thorpe	31 Betty Poole

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 Haven Ackley	13 Amy Kirk
4 Nicole Strong	14 Susan Kahle
5 Bill Messenheimer	16 Karl Stonebraker
5 Linda Krepps	18 Norma Wasson
7 Emmerson Frank	20 David Hostetler
9 Carl Orwick	20 Kenneth Bibbee
10 Hunter Frank	27 Susan Burden
10 Jack Morris	31 Alice Dumm
11 Denny McCammon	31 Paul Cope

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN UNIT MEETING

Looking Ahead:

There will be no Unit Meetings, in July and August 2011!!

**Tuesday September 6 at 6:00 P.M.
Salad/Dessert Supper**

UMW members should bring a salad or dessert to share, table setting and a friend.

Hostesses will be the
The Membership Committee

**All Women of the church are invited
and welcomed to attend!!!**

**There will be a UMW Executive Board Meeting
on Tuesday, August 30, 2011, at 7PM in the
Dussell Room.**

October 4, 2011, the unit meeting is a shared book read, at Copeland Oaks. We will meet with the Union Avenue UMW unit. We will be discussing the book: **"12 Steps to a Compassionate World"** by Karen Armstrong.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

September 2 at Alliance Salem
United Methodist Church
14113 Salem Church Rd NE, Alliance, OH 44601
11:30 A.M. – Board Meeting
1:00 P.M. – General Meeting
**Program – Susan Feller,
Portraying Mary Magdalene**

******There will be no July or August meeting******

LITURGISTS

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

1 Jack and LaVerne Edwards
1 Greg and Marilyn Ruff
3 C. Hubbard and Mary Louise Ford
8 Kim and Jason Handy
10 Donald and Patti Shaffer
12 Mike and Jamie Greiner
15 Elvin and Jean Madison
15 Kenneth and Dianne Young
25 Dan and Lucinda Feess
25 Susan Haddox and Victor Lee

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

1 Joe and Jennifer Knoll
3 Karl and Pam Stonebraker
4 David and Leslie Austin
4 Jeffrey and Michelle Dillon
7 John and Dian Christian
8 Charles and Cindy Winner
10 David and Ruth Williams
11 Bruce and Patricia Helsel
14 Donald and Ruth Rankin
25 William and Marion Barnes
27 Jim and Peg Williams

JULY

3 Roger Frank
10 Silver Park
17 Bill Sol
24 Don Kingan
31 Ellen Sol

AUGUST

7 Diane Hisey
14 Susan Haddox
21 Keith Noble
28 Peg Rodefer

SANCTUARY GREETERS

JULY GREETERS

3 Dolores Carli
10 At Silver Park
17 Sara Sherer
24 Kim Handy
31 Betty Sheetz

AUGUST GREETERS

7 Amy Starkey
14 Donna Essick
21 Susan Haddox &
Victor Lee
28 Jenni-Jo &
Tyler Kinser

JULY USHERS

Bruce Helsel, Capt. Brad Thomas
Don Kingan Duane Locke
Bill Prueter Mark Locke
Larry Pyers Cheri Rodefer

AUGUST USHERS

Frank Woolf, Capt. Bob Clayton
Dick Diser Jack Edwards
Bill Messenheimer Winston Stoup
Boyd Webster Jim Williams

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

"He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?" - Micah 6:8

It seems that May, June and July have provided many opportunities for us to be the "hands and feet of God" in the Alliance community. We, along with Abiding Savior Lutheran Church, have provided a lunch for the workers on the Alliance Area Mission Project, and we have provided workers as well. Also, we have prepared a lunch for the Apostles Build for Habitat for Humanity, and we have a team of workers, too. Thank you to those of you who have been involved with these projects. Thank you, too, to the thirteen people who helped prepare and serve our May 31 dinner at the Alliance Neighborhood Center. It was a hot day, but the dinner was well-attended. These dinners are providing a time of fellowship for our church members and the others who attend. Our next dinner will be Tuesday, August 30. Come down anytime between 4:00 and 7:00 to help and to eat with us.

On July 9 we will have our second annual Carnival in the Parking Lot, assisted by members of Saint Joseph Catholic Church. The rain date is July 16. Thank you to Jamie Greiner for taking on such a

vital leadership role.

Thank you for generously supporting our fifth Sunday Noisy Can offerings for our African missionary, Beatrice Bganga. The next two will be taken on July 31 and October 30. We appreciate the young people who enthusiastically help take up these offerings!

There is always a need for the Salvation Army to provide emergency help to families in the area. We continue to assist with our third Sunday Food Pantry. Remember, cereal is a needed item; peanut butter and macaroni and cheese are always good staples, too. Thank you!

Another way we can continue to help the Alliance Area is through our Good Samaritan Fund offerings. We have not had one for quite a while. The next one is planned for September 11. It's hard to believe we will already be anticipating the arrival of cold weather then!

As fall approaches, please consider volunteering to sponsor a Fellowship Luncheon for Red Bird Mission. It works well for two groups to work together to provide a lunch. We have increased our pledge to \$1200 this year.

Thank you so much for the love and generosity you show in supporting our church's mission work!
Susie Buckel, chairman

JULY VISITATION MEMBERS

- 3 Dorothy Bailey, 800 S 15th St., Apt. 7327, Sebring , OH 44672
- 10 Dorothy Taylor, 114 Catherine Lane, Alliance, OH 44601
- 17 Harold Wasson, 800 S 15th St., #9-241, Sebring , OH 44672
- 24 Everette Coldwell, 800 S 15th St., Apt. 1035, Sebring , OH 44672
- 31 Helen Hunter, 800 S 15th St., #9-202, Sebring , OH 44672

AUGUST VISITATION MEMBERS

- 7 Merle Andregg, 800 S 15th St., Unit 1804, Sebring , OH 44672
- 14 Ruth Allison, 1277 Sawburg Ave., Apt. 121, Alliance, OH 44601
- 21 June and Chuck Luca, 2531 Pleasant Place, Alliance, OH 44601
- 28 Dick Post, 2452 South Linden Avenue, Alliance, OH 44601

**DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2011
CHIMES WILL BE MONDAY AUGUST 15TH, 2011.
ANY ARTICLES RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE, MIGHT NOT BE PUBLISHED.
ARTICLES CAN BE SENT BY E-MAIL TO: cumcalliance@gmail.com, OR
THEY CAN BE PLACED IN THE MAILBOX, OUTSIDE THE OFFICE.**



2nd Annual

Community Carnival

*Sponsored by: Christ United Methodist Church (CUMC) &
St. Joseph's Catholic Church of Alliance*



**FREE Food, Games & Prizes,
Music, Fun, and Fellowship**



**WHERE: CUMC Parking Lot
470 East Broadway St., Alliance, OH 44601**

**WHEN: July 9, 2011 – 12pm-3pm
(Rain Date July 16, 2011 from 12pm-3pm)**

Report on Annual Conference, 2011

It was my pleasure to fill-in for Jennie Jo Kinser and attend the East Ohio Conference at the Lakeside the week of June 12. Lakeside is always a chance for the conference delegates to reconnect through people, missions, worship and policy. Our theme this year was "If We Are the Body..." a line from the chorus of a popular Christian song that speaks to our need to be the body of Jesus Christ to the world.

The work of the conference happens in two arenas: reports and business and worship and recognition.

The first, reports and business, encompasses reports from committees like Pastoral Care, Trustees, Leadership, Mission Awareness, General Board of Pensions and so on. The highlight is generally Jessica Vargo's State of the Conference presentation. This year she reported that 2010 was a "pleasant surprise." Despite an increase in apportionments to local churches through pensions and health care benefits, there was also a slight increase in shared ministries giving. 65% of the churches paid 100% of their apportionments. And, for the fifth year in a row, the conference met its apportionment obligations. Even better news was that there will be no increase in apportionments in 2012.

Resolutions are also presented and acted upon during the week. This year we passed five resolutions.

1. A call to advocate for the enforcement of human trafficking laws in Ohio.
2. A call to support the Ohio food banks.
3. A call to observe Martin Luther King Day.
4. A call to advocate for the continued participation and support of collective bargaining in Ohio.
5. A call to ensure youth a place on church committees and councils.

Our main job in business for conference this year, however, was the election of 7 clergy and 7 lay delegates each to both General and Jurisdictional Conferences. Because a majority is necessary for election, it took many, many ballots to accomplish this.

The worship area of conference is always my favorite because of the diversity. This year was no exception. The altar area provided a backdrop of a stained glass cross extending itself into the world with hands and feet attached to the arms of the cross. We began with Holy Communion and continued through the week with commemoration of clergy and spouses, ordination of new pastors, recognition of retiring clergy, and commissioning of provisional members.

In addition to these special events, we are treated to a variety of speakers and styles of worship each day.

On Tuesday, worship began with a parade of figures representing the diversity of people in the world. Rev. Jorge Acevedo from Cape Coral, Florida, and pastor of the fastest growing Methodist congregation challenged us to "Greater Things." He used the story of the Good Samaritan saying that we shouldn't let familiarity with the text rob us of the richness of the story. He stressed the need to use that story to establish ourselves as mission outposts that give aid, provide advancement and show continued advocacy.

On Wednesday, Bishop Julius Trimble spoke on taking small steps in the right direction beginning with repentance. He encouraged us to not only include praise in our worship services but also foster an attitude of repentance that reminds us that the way we treat people is not optional. The SonRise praise team provided exciting contemporary music.

Thursday morning our worship took a hometown turn as the Rev. Dr. Gary George, assistant to the bishop, preached on the faces of grace. The faces took on local color with emphasis on mission outreach projects in the conference from Steubenville, Youngstown and Canton Calvary. At the conclusion of the sermon, a group of people entered the stage holding placards printed with statements of need seen in the world every day. The placards were arranged on the floor to dramatically create a picture of the face of Christ.

Scattered throughout worship, reports and balloting there was an important spontaneous sharing of what various congregation are doing locally in mission to be the body of Christ. So, between the challenging messages and the dynamic witnessing, we were motivated to encourage our congregations to complete the open-ended theme of the week "If We Are the Body..." what will we do?

Thank you for the opportunity to attend the East Ohio Annual Conference for Christ United Methodist Church.

Jill Greiner

Many more details of conference and pictures are available at eocumc.com

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JULY 2011/AUGUST 2011
Volume Number 6
Published 10 Months 2011

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALLIANCE, OH 44601
PERMIT NO. 298

Christ United Methodist Church



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Alliance, OH 44601-2698
Rev. Karl D. Stonebraker
Church: 330-823-7136

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***Our Mission is to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ and to
Serve God by Sharing Compassion, Hope and Love***

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THE CHIMES
JULY 2011/AUGUST 2011

PLANTING THE SEEDS OF GOD'S LOVE

. is the theme of a unique, historic event that will take place **at 10:30 a.m., Sunday, July 10, 2011** at Silver Park. There, in that familiar setting that we've so much enjoyed for our own outdoor services for the past several years, the congregations of the eight United Methodist churches in and around Alliance will come together in worship and fellowship. The service will include Holy Communion and the message will be brought by the Rev. Marty CashBurless, Chaplain of the University of Mount Union. Music will be led during the service by Mark Statler and Roger Hoard, who, along with the Union Avenue UMC Praise Band, will perform, after the picnic lunch, in concert at **1:00 P.M.** Mr. Statler, who grew up not far away in Jewett, Ohio, is building a career in country music. More about him can be found in the flyer included in recent Sunday bulletins and elsewhere in this edition of *The Chimes*.

Special activities have been planned for the children and, of course, how could it be an authentic United Methodist gathering without ample, delicious food which will be available following the service? Christ Church's grills will be used for preparing hamburgers and hot dogs and each family is asked to bring a favorite dish for sharing. (Please be sure that whatever food you bring can be kept safely warm or cold, as needed, during the service.)

Parking will be available at the Alliance Middle School across Union Ave. with shuttle service provided. Transportation within the Park, since we'll be using the sound stage to the south of Miller Pavilion for the service and the concert, will be available to those with special needs. Please come, **with your lawn chairs**, and share in the blessings of the strong United Methodist presence in our community.

(In the event of inclement weather, arrangements have been made to use the Mount Union Theater for the service.)

Jim Williams, Task Group
UM Cooperative Ministries