

THE CHIMES

How Did You Get in Here?

But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, "Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?" And he was speechless. - Matt. 22.12

The parables of Jesus are always illustrations of what the Kingdom of Heaven is like. Most of us are acquainted with how things are done in the world, what it takes to be successful, and what things are important. But with God, those important things are often different. In the Kingdom the last will be first, little things are big things in disguise, and the material treasures of the whole world all put together aren't worth the value of one person's soul. So Jesus told a lot of parables to help us figure it out.

There are benefits to living in the Kingdom. The beatitudes (in Matthew 5) are a long list of blessings for those whose life is devoted to God. Even our death is redeemed with the promise of eternal life with God.

But there are also expectations to living in the Kingdom. Citizens of the Kingdom of God are required to care about the things God cares about. They are obligated to love everyone, even their enemies. They have to treat others with patience and kindness and gentleness. They have to be just and honest in all their dealings. In such ways, they give honor to the Ruler of the Kingdom.

In Matthew 22, Jesus told a story about a king who hosted a wedding for his son. He invited all the "right people" to the wedding. But one by one, all those "right people" gave excuses why they couldn't be there. So the king told his servants to go out to the city square and invite everyone to the wedding. The tables were set, the food was prepared. The celebration was not going to go to waste.

His servants went out and found enough people to fill the seats. But when the king made his appearance to the banquet hall, he noticed a man dressed rather slovenly. "How did you get in here?" he asked. The next minute the man was on his ear back out in the streets. The lesson was clear: If you're going to come to the wedding banquet of the king's son - you don't have to, you know - you'd better not take the invitation lightly. Go put your good clothes on. It's a matter of respect for the one who invited you.



The Kingdom is like that wedding invitation, Jesus said. Anyone can come. Indeed, everyone is invited. The King is truly a generous man. His treasures he wants to share. But when you get there, you'd better act like you want to be there and not like you're there only for the free food. There is still the honor of the King and of his Son that matters.

Are there occasions when we take advantage of our position as invited guests in God's kingdom? We do when we receive forgiveness for our own shortcomings but harbor grudges against those who injure us. Or when we receive blessings from God for our own comfort and then fail to comfort the poor in our midst. We treat lightly the honor of God when we worship him on Sundays but fail to honor him in our language and our work all the other days of the week.

Life with God is something like a banquet, a feast for those who are willing to give honor to the Host, Jesus said. You don't have to be there, but if you show up, you better act like you belong.

~ KDS

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

The Council met on September 13, 2011 and heard exciting reports of progress on several of our Spiritual/Strategic Plan's goals for this year. Notably, as should be reported elsewhere in this issue, significant activity is ongoing in the areas of Newcomers/Inactive Members, Marketing, and Facility Improvement. The Council's budget request for 2012 was prepared for forwarding to the Finance Committee. Also, the pastor's salary was approved, based on the recommendation of the Staff Parish Relations Committee. The Council's congratulations were extended to Mark Locke for his enthusiastic and successful leadership of our Apostle Build project for Habitat for Humanity and appreciation was expressed to Jim Greiner for his assumption of leadership of our Staff Parish Relations Committee at an extremely busy time of the year for that Committee. The Council's next regular meeting will be on **Tuesday, November 8, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.** Remember, every member of the Church is welcome to attend to hear its business being conducted.

Jim Williams, Chairperson

CARNATION DAYS IN THE PARK

As reported in the September issue of *The Chimes*, we sold a total of 3,284 1/3# Sirloin Burgers and 725 hot dogs. After all the bills were paid, we were able to give **\$6,412.76**, to the Christ United Methodist General Fund!!! Thanks again to everyone who helped and supported this great fund raiser!

Tyler and Mike, Co-Chairmen

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. **October 16th** 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 September, 50 items and \$64.00 were collected. Your response for this much needed community program is appreciated. Thank You!

FROM CONGREGATIONAL CARE

The Parish Visitors recently held their quarterly meeting with Pastor Karl. Our Visitors currently call on 32 visitation persons who are homebound members of our congregation. Our Visitors report positively on their own experiences with these calls and say that they are received with warmth and gratitude for the sharing of their time. The Congregational Care Committee is most appreciative of our Visitors. There is a need for a few more Visitors, and if you can help or would like more information, please call the Church office.

Peg Williams, Chairperson

HOLY LAND TOUR MARCH 7-18, 2012

It's still possible to sign up for the 12-day Holy Land Tour with Rev. Stonebraker next March 7-18. But the time is drawing short for deposits and payments. See Rev. Stonebraker if you have any questions or want to see a brochure. For many people, a trip to the Holy Land is the trip of a lifetime. Is this your chance to walk where Jesus walked?

USHERS FOR OCTOBER:

Bruce Helsel - Captain	Mark Locke
Hubbard Ford	Bill Prueter
Don Kingan	Larry Pyers
Duane Locke	Brad Thomas

SUNDAY NIGHTS WITH OLD BOOKS

The last two Sunday evenings of October and the first two of November, 5 to 7 pm, are when Rev. Stonebraker will be leading a discussion of Thomas Kelly's well-loved book, *A Testament of Devotion*. Kelly was one of the most influential devotional writers of the twentieth century. A Quaker with Ohio roots, he wrote deeply of the "simplification of life" so as to be more devoted to Christ. Supper together will be part of the evenings' activities. To sign up for the class, stop by the church office. *Maximum of twelve*. Questions, see Rev. Stonebraker.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

October 7 at First Church of God
505 North Lincoln Ave., Alliance, OH 44601
11:30 A.M. – Board Meeting
1:00 P.M. – General Meeting
Program – "On Well-being Leading to Wholeness",
By: Dorsey Ney

Bridges Out of Poverty Workshop

When it comes to food, what's most important for you: that it be enough, that it taste good, or that it was presented well? How about money; do you spend it, manage it, or invest it? What do you think about education? Nice but not necessary? Crucial to make money and get ahead in life? Important for the "connections" you make?

How you answer questions like those are general indicators where you are in the economic levels – poverty, middle-class, wealth – of American society, so says the research behind *Bridges Out of Poverty*, a workshop held at Christ Church on Saturday, September 17. Taught by Rev. Dr. Ken Price of Akron, the course looked at the "hidden rules of class" and helped attendees understand how and why people of poverty, middle-class, and wealth often fail to understand each other.

The workshop was attended by church members, representatives from the University of Mt. Union, local politicians, and community social workers. For those who are looking to work more effectively with the poor, *Bridges Out of Poverty* was an eye-opening day of learning and reflection.

Hidden Rules Among Classes Samples

Poverty	Middle Class	Wealth
Possessions	People	Things
Money	To be used, spent	To be managed
		One –of-a-kind objects, legacies, pedigrees To be conserved, invested

Source: Bridges out of Poverty Strategies for Professionals and Communities

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

2	Brian and Joan Skidmore
3	Karl and Pam Stonebraker
3	Doug and Amy Kirk
6	Colin and Jessica Richmond
7	George and Mamie Custer **62 Years
11	William and Phyllis Messenheimer **58 Years
21	Larry and Connie Pyers **53 Years
24	Richard and Dolores Lapp
26	Lee and Paula Springer

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

3	Mary Aufrance	20	Willie Gray
7	Joseph Richmond	21	Erin Stone
7	Jamie Greiner	22	Robert Schafer
8	Dorothy Rogers	22	Janet Fisher
9	Bill Prueter	25	Janice Stoll
9	DeAnne Herald	28	Carolyn Couchie
10	Susan Haddox	28	Nancy Prueter
13	Pam Stonebraker	29	Nancy Sandifer
16	Jeremy Fisher	29	Eric Shields
18	Lynn Goldrick	30	Martha Andregg
19	Robert Tolerton	31	Boyd Webster
19	Rachael Collins		

Did you know.....

- there will be a coffee hour after the 10:45 worship service on October 2?
- the UMW Basement Sale is Oct. 14 & 15?
- that Laity & 50 year member Sunday will be held on October 16?
- there will be a noisy can offering, on Sunday October 30?
- we set our clocks back an hour on November 6th @ 2:00 AM?

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

Laity Sunday and 50 Year Members Sunday, October 16, 2011 - hosted by Christian Outreach and Christian Education Committees. The menu will consist of: chicken wings, hot dogs, coney dogs, pretzels, pasta salad, cupcakes, jello and drinks. For dessert, there will be cake in honor of our 50 Year Members to be shared by all.

Administrative Council Approves Church Chamber Membership

In September the Marketing Committee proposed membership of the church in the Alliance Area Chamber of Commerce and the Administrative Council agreed.

President of the Chamber Mark Locke and Marketing Committee Coordinator Cynthia Carlin, who has served as chamber chair, both advocated for joining the chamber. We are the only church other than the Salvation Army that are currently members.

“The sole purpose in joining is to have our church receive the recognition as a long-contributing member of the downtown Alliance area,” says Carlin. “We’ve been hiding our light under a basket for too many years. It’s time to let the public know what great services we offer, what a loving community of Christians we are, and what a beautiful facility we have.”

With membership, the pastor along with a number of church leaders and their spouses will be invited to represent the church at events such as the October 17 Business Alliance Awards luncheon at the University of Mount Union and at other networking affairs such as Business After Hours and Breakfast Before Business. The church will also be able to announce events in the chamber newsletter via flyers and our website will be linked to the chamber site. These benefits and others are listed on the Chamber of Commerce website, www.allianceohiochamber.org

Those church leaders helping to raise awareness of Christ United Methodist in the Alliance community will be: Marketing Committee Coordinator Cynthia Carlin; Administrative Chairperson Jim Williams; SPRC Chairperson Jim Greiner, and Church Treasurer Dick Diser.

CHILDREN’S RIGHTS COUNCIL

We need volunteers! Will you volunteer to act as a monitor so that children are able to visit with their non-custodial parent?

The Children’s Rights Council here at Christ church, has been providing opportunities for children to visit with their non-custodial parents since November 2005.

The children have a two hour court ordered visit with their parent every two weeks, and members of Christ UMC volunteer to act as monitors for these visits.

Currently there are five families and ten children assigned to visit every other Sunday evening in the Fellowship Hall. We have three volunteers, who rotate every six weeks, but the increase in visitations has increased and the need for more volunteer monitors each session.

If you feel you might share your time to help these children, please volunteer. Contact the church office or Dick Diser for more information.



SCOUTS WILL SELL POPCORN

Troop 50 Boy Scouts and Pack 50 Cub Scouts will be selling Trail's End popcorn again this year.

The sale begins October 1st and will continue for the rest of the month. Be on the lookout for a Scout and place your order during the sale. Delivery will be in mid November and payment should be made at the time of delivery.

MEETING CHANGE:

The Christian Outreach Committee will meet in the Chapel Sunday, October 9, 2011 immediately following the 10:45 A.M. Worship Service instead of their regularly scheduled second Monday meeting.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN UNIT MEETING

Tuesday October 4 at 7:00 P.M.

Copeland Oaks, Williamsburg Lounge
Combined meeting with Union Avenue. UMW
Discussion of the book
"God Never Blinks"
50 lessons for life's little detours.
By: Regina Brett

CIRCLES:

October 17, 12:30 P.M. **Dorcas Circle**
Place: Lakeview Terrace, Copeland Oaks

October 17, 7:00 P.M. **M&M Circle**
Place: Jill Greiner, 6166 Union Ave., Alliance

October 18, 7:00 P.M. **May Smyth Circle**
Place: TBD

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Saturday October 1: 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM Tuscarawas
District Fall Meeting
Copeland Oaks (includes lunch)
Program: "Sisters in Faith"
Presented by: Jeanette Kraus

Friday & Saturday October 14 (9 - 4) & 15 (9 - Noon):
Basement Sale
in Fellowship Hall

Friday & Saturday October 28 - 29: East Ohio UMW
Fall Meeting
Churchhill UMC, Youngstown
Program: "All Things Made New"

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

OCTOBER VISITATION MEMBERS



- 2 Louise Hobbs, 2305 Belleflower Drive, Alliance, OH 44601
- 9 Wayne Jenkins, 800 South 15th Street, Apt. 4-218, Sebring, OH 44672
- 16 Midge Mohr, 133 West Columbia Street, Alliance, OH 44601
- 23 Lucile Smith, 800 South 15th Street, Apt. 4-418, Sebring, OH 44672
- 30 George Custer, 2040 McCrea Street, #144-B, Alliance, OH 44601

FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER:

LITURGISTS

WELCOME CENTER GREETERS

8:30 A.M.

10:45 A.M.

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 2 Haven Ackley | Tyler Kinser |
| 9 Steve Diser | Paul Whipple |
| 16 Haven Ackley | Allan Zagray |
| 23 Steve Diser | Jamie Greiner |
| 30 Dolores Lawrence | Roger Frank |

- | |
|------------------------------|
| 2 Bill & Ellen Sol |
| 9 Lou & Bob Clayton |
| 16 Dick Diser & Peg Williams |
| 23 Connie & Larry Pyers |
| 30 Peg & Jim Williams |

OCTOBER TELLERS

NOVEMBER TELLERS

- | |
|---------------------------------------|
| 2 Jill Greiner & Donna Essick |
| 9 Tyler Kinser & Bruce Helsel |
| 16 Diane Thomas & Bill Messenheimer |
| 23 Nancy Sandifer & Mildred Hostetler |
| 30 Nancy Prueter & Jan Essick |

- | |
|--------------------------------|
| 6 Jim Greiner & Larry Pyers |
| 13 Pat Helsel & Marilyn Ruff |
| 20 Jill Greiner & Donna Essick |
| 27 Tyler Kinser & Bruce Helsel |

**DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER 2011 CHIMES WILL BE
SATURDAY OCTOBER 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.**

CHRISTIAN ED CORNER OCTOBER 2011

Please join the Christian Education Commission in welcoming the new Sunday school teachers for the 2011-2012 season. There are three students from the University of Mount Union who have joined us. Lexi Chandler is a freshman and is majoring in Early Childhood Education. She has taught Sunday school and delivered children's sermons at her home church, the Centenary United Methodist Church in Akron, Ohio. She will be assigned to the class for the younger children: 3-4-5 years and Kindergarten.

Evan Story has returned for his third term with us and will be assigned as before to teach the older children in grades second through fifth grade. Evan has experience teaching youth Bible studies, leading youth groups and teaching Sunday school at his home church in Fairview Park, Ohio. John Lockert, also a University of Mount Union student will work with Evan. John has taught Sunday school and led youth groups at his home church, the Granger United Methodist Church in Hinckley, Ohio.

A special addition this season will be our own Kayla Handy who will be the teacher's assistant in the 3-4-5/K class. Kayla has expressed some interest in teaching and particularly in teaching younger children. She was just as willing to join the teaching team as we were to have her. Supervision for that class will be managed by me or a member of the Christian Education Commission as needed.

We are working with a new curriculum set, a series entitled "Lessons in a Box", and we will present seasonal lessons as appropriate. We do welcome your prayers for this teaching ministry and for students and teachers alike. As always your comments, concerns and suggestions are welcome. We have a wonderful opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our children through our Sunday school..

Peace,

Dr. J.

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH COMMISSION

"When we invest in others in Jesus' name, we leave God's mark on the world." from the Upper Room, Oct. 8, 2011

The Christian Outreach Commission is delighted with the support we are receiving from all of you. Thank you!

We have decided to continue the tradition of having our carnival in the parking lot the Saturday after July 4 each year, so that the neighborhood residents get used to it. Thanks Mike, Jamie, and everyone!

We are excited to have had about 130 people from the neighborhood present at our Alliance Neighborhood Center dinner on August 30. We also had fifteen volunteers from our church, and no one left hungry! The next dinner will be November 29, and there is a sign-up sheet right outside the sanctuary for volunteers.

As we continue to support the Salvation Army food pantry, we also have another opportunity to help. This year our bell ringing will be Thursday, December 1, at Giant Eagle, from 10:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. We need someone to pick up the kettle between 9:30 and 10:00. We will have sign-ups in one hour increments. Please consider signing up, as we have had trouble filling all the slots the past several years.

Our support of our missionary, Beatrice B'ganga, in Sierra Leone, has been very generous through our fifth Sunday Noisy Can offerings. The final one for this year will be Sunday, October 30. Thank you, children, for your enthusiasm in taking up the collections!

We will be having a luncheon for Red Bird Mission on October 16, sponsored by the Christian Education and Christian Outreach Commissions. The menu will include chicken wings, hot dogs and coney dogs, pretzels, pasta salad, cupcakes, jello, and drinks. We anticipate a large crowd for Laity Sunday and recognition of our fifty year members. Please generously support our covenant relationship. We are a little behind in our support this year.

Thank you, everyone. May God continue to richly bless our church family and our community.

Susie Buckel, chairman

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Christ United Methodist Church



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Rev. Karl D. Stonebraker
Church: 330-823-7136

"The Church on The Hill"

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

Covenant Relationship Staff: Thom and Chris Denman, The Joy Center
E-Mail: church@cumcalliance.org Web Page: www.cumcalliance.org



THE CHIMES
OCTOBER 2011

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST 50 YEAR MEMBERS!!

LAITY SUNDAY AND 50 YEAR MEMBER SUNDAY

Laity Sunday will be held on Sunday October 16, 2011, during the 10:45 AM worship service. The worship service will be organized by lay leader, Jenni-Jo Kinser. Susan Haddox, will be giving the message and music will be provided by the Cherub/Wesley Choir, as well as the Chancel Vocal Choir. We will also be honoring those who have been a member of Christ United Methodist Church, for 50 years! We will be taking a group picture, during the last hymn, for all new and current 50 year members!! Please join us in the fellowship hall, for a luncheon.