

# BEACON NEWSLETTER

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A Multi-racial, Multi-cultural, Open and Affirming Congregation

FEBRUARY 2009

## SOUP, SALAD, SANDWICH, SCRIPTURE

### Interim Minister

Rev. Terri Young

### Director of Music

Timothy Robson

### Director of Gospel Choir

Joan Bacon

### Christian Education Director

Marcy Molmen

### Financial Manager

John Peterson

### Church Secretary

Diana Reid

### Custodian

Ernie Clark

### Director, Saturday Fun

Cheryl Wacasey

### Beacon Editors

Kathy Baker

Mary Sherry

### Design Editor

Cyndi Henderson

### Photographer

Kathie Buckner

### Sunday Schedule

8:45 a.m.

Adult Bible Study

10:00 a.m.

Celebrative Worship  
Service &  
Church School

Following worship  
Fellowship and  
Refreshments

Bus transportation  
available to/from church

What a lot of opportunities to grow in our faith life together lie before us during Epiphany and the rapidly approaching season of Lent!

Epiphany, which simply means "to show" forth God's intention for humanity in Jesus Christ, is meant to be a time when the light not only grows around us (hurry up, spring!) but also within us. During Epiphany, our community of faith has as many opportunities to grow as you can imagine. Let me name 2 in particular:

---on **February 15th**, we plan an hour of orientation of the new officers of the church (who will be installed on **February 8th**) immediately following worship. We'll meet downstairs in Fellowship Hall to come together with our ministries and engage in some initial organizing and planning for the year.

---on **February 21st from 9:00-11:30 AM**, we will have another Saturday morning with the Rev. Charlotte Still Noble to discuss the kind of pastoral leadership we need for the future. Rev. Noble will engage us with exercises and activities that help us discern what kind of leadership EACC needs at this time, for example, what kinds of pastoral styles work/don't work at EACC? What has worked well in your past relationships with pastors and what hasn't?

This gathering is a must for all lay leaders and for the newly appointed Search Committee.

Then comes Lent, ah, Lent!

---on **February 25th at noon**, we begin Lent with our **Ash Wednesday** worship service and the imposition of ashes.

---on **March 11th**, we'll begin a Lenten program called **Soup, Salad, Sandwich and Scripture**. Come at 6:00 PM for a bite to eat and then stay for a Bible Study on what has been described by Evelyn Underhill, 20th century scholar and mystic, as "the most perfect of all prayers," **the Lord's Prayer**. 6:45, we'll begin the Bible Study and finish promptly at 8:00pm. That's **March 11th, 18th, 25th and April 1st and April 8th**.

Just to whet your appetite for the Bible Study on the **Lord's Prayer**, let me offer this anonymous commentary:

*I cannot pray "our" ---if my faith has no room for others in their need.*

*I cannot pray "Father" ("Mother") ---if I do not demonstrate this relationship to God in my daily living.*

*I cannot pray "who is in heaven" ---if all my interests are only on earthly things.*

*I cannot pray "May your name be held sacred (Hallowed) ---if I am not striving, with God's help, to be holy.*

*I cannot pray "your kingdom come" ---if I am unwilling to accept God's rule, control in my life.*

*I cannot pray "on earth as in heaven" ---unless I am ready to give myself to God's service here and now.*

*I cannot pray "give us this day our daily bread"---without expending honest effort for it or if I withhold from my neighbor the bread I have.*

*I cannot pray "forgive us our debts and we forgive our debtors" ---if I continue to hold a grudge or harbor resentment against another.*

*I cannot pray "lead us not into temptation" ---if I deliberately remain in a situation where I am likely to be tempted.*

*I cannot pray "deliver us from evil" ---if I am not prepared to fight evil with my life and power.*

*I cannot pray "yours is the kingdom" ---if I am not willing to obey the "king" (God).*

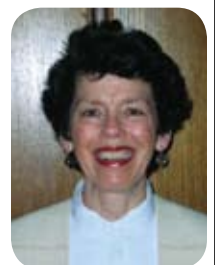
*I cannot pray "yours is the power and the glory" ---if I seek power and glory for myself first.*

*I cannot pray "forever and ever" ---if I am too anxious about each day's events.*

*I cannot pray "amen!" ---unless I can honestly say, cost what it may, this is my prayer!*

Now is the time and this is the season for change and growth. Beside you in faith, humming Hymn # 433, In the Bulb There Is a Flower...

Your friend  
and Interim Pastor Terri



**FEBRUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1**

Preacher: Rev. Terri Young

Scripture Readings:

Deut 18: 15-20

Ps 111

1 Cor 8: 1-13

Mark 1: 21-28

Worship Theme: Power to Do

UCC Women's Week, Feb. 1-7

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

Preacher: Rev. Terri Young

Scripture Readings:

Isa 40: 21-31

Ps 147: 1-11, 20c

1 Cor 9: 16-23

Mark 1: 29-39

Worship Theme: Source of Strength

Racial Justice Sunday

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15**

Preacher: Rev. Terri Young

Scripture Readings:

2 Kings 5: 1-14

Ps 30

1 Cor 9: 24-27

Mark 1: 40-45

Worship Theme: Compassionate Community

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

Preacher: Rev. Terri Young

Scripture Readings:

2 Kings 2: 1-12

Ps 50: 1-6

2 Cor 4: 3-6

Mark 9: 2-9

Worship Theme: Sense of the Sacred

Seminary Sunday; Church Vocations Sunday

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 12:00NOON**

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**



**HEALING SERVICES**

Our weekly Healing and Prayer Services will continue in February. Come to our sanctuary at noon every Wednesday for a half hour of prayer, meditation, music, and healing. Please plan to attend these wonderful worship opportunities to pray for the Spirit of God to move upon our church, community, and world.

**SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FEBRUARY 1**

A congregational meeting will be held immediately after worship on Sunday, February 1. The purpose of the meeting is to vote on the Council of Ministries' slate of candidates for the Called Pastor Search Committee. The meeting will be brief and all regularly scheduled meetings will still take place.

**LENTEN BIBLE STUDY SERIES**

**– March 11, 18, 25, April 1 and 8**

"Soup, Salad, Sandwich and Scripture" will begin at 6PM Wednesday nights of Lent. We'll enjoy a light supper together, and then Pastor Terri will lead us in a study of the Lord's Prayer. Come by 6:45 and the soup may be all gone, but you'll still be in time for the program, which will end at 8. Please plan to join us.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

Join the group that meets every Sunday before worship in the meeting room off the parlor to read and study the Bible. In February they will be discussing:



- February 1 – A Shunammite Woman Helps..... 2 Kings 4: 8-17
- February 8 – Nathan Challenges David ..... 2 Samuel 12: 1-7
- February 15 – Esther Risks her Life ..... Ester 4: 1-3, 9-17
- February 22 – Isaiah Answers God's Call ..... Isaiah 6: 1-8



**SOUL FOOD SAMPLER FEBRUARY 22**

Come down to the dining room after worship on Sunday, February 22, for a Black History Month taste experience. Bring some soul food to share: greens, black-eyed peas, fried chicken, corn bread, banana pudding, and other favorites. Your idea of soul food might be perogies or spaghetti and meatballs or sauerbraten; all dishes from all traditions are welcome! Be sure to join us.

**SATURDAY FUN**

In January the Saturday Fun kids had a wonderful time sledding on Cain Park Hill one Saturday, and made the key rings you see in the photo on another Saturday.



Saturday Fun meets twice a month for craft projects, field trips, and enrichment experiences. It is open to children ages 6-16, and of course adult helpers are always welcome! Contact Cheryl

- Wacasey (216-513-8006) or Cecelia Pritchett (216-990-5575) for more information; call the church office (216-791-5200) by Wednesday to reserve your spot. Refreshments will be served at all events. Here's the February schedule:
- February 14, 10:00 AM – Science Center, \$5 fee
- February 28 – "Manners Matter."

## **NEW OFFICERS**

At the Annual Meeting of the Congregation on January 25, the following officers were elected for the coming year (Those ministry members with unexpired terms are listed in parentheses):

**Moderator** – Dean Sieck

**Church Clerk** – Timothy Robson

**Archivist** – Ann Drysdale

**Christian Education Ministry** – Tony Stevenson, Al Parks and Nikolas Southgate (Cheryl Wacasey, Madge Potts-Williams, Julia Haynes, Dean Sieck)

**Church in the World Ministry** – Eleanore Dees, Judy Sieck (Adrienne Brockway, Ann Drysdale, Helen Humphrey, Calvin Humphrey, David Buckle)

**Fellowship and Community Life Ministry** – Phyllis Graham, Charles Williams (Annie Buck, Mary Guen, Mildred Copez, Victoria Mitchell, Vivian Taylor)

**Stewardship Ministry** – John Baker, Kathie Buckner (John Merritt, Catherinlu Russell, Manuel Roderick, Nancy Nigosian, Ruby Brooks)

**Worship and Arts Ministry** – Telisha LeFloria, Mary Sherry (Marguerite Bibb, Kim Stevenson, Carolyn Smith, Sandra Thomas, Juanita LeFloria)

**InterAct Cleveland Representatives** – Kathy Baker, Barbara Edwards

**Western Reserve Association Representatives** – Nathaniel Martin, Alma Mozley

**Ohio Conference Representative** – Joan Southgate

These officers will be installed during worship on Sunday, February 8. Officer orientation will be Saturday, February 15.

## **CHURCH IN THE WORLD MINISTRY**

CITW will be sponsoring, along with EACC, the first mile of Joan Southgate's fundraiser walk this year from Canada back to the Cozad-Bates House. Adrienne Brockway made a mile chart to track Joan's progress. The kick off was January 31st. Adrienne figured out the cost and said it came to about 25 cents a step. CITW will have cut-outs of footprints to mark the first mile so members can donate to the walk.

We also pledged a donation to the Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial Foundation. This organization was created to commemorate the life and work of Dr. King by leading a collaborative funding, design and construction process in the creation of a memorial to honor his national and international contributions to world peace through nonviolent social change.

I want to thank CITW Ministry Members Ann Drysdale, Co-Chair; David Buckle; Adrienne Brockway; Brenda Bagby; and Calvin and Helen Humphrey. Without their help, faith and support our many projects would not have been successful. I would also like to say thanks to the members of the congregation, of the other ministries, the church staff and Pastor Terri. Everyone was gracious and always willing.

Kathie Buckner



## **STUDENTS LINKING FAITH WITH LIFE**

As most of you know, a group of area churches serves a meal every Monday for those in need. EACC provides the wherewithal on every fifth Monday of a month. Cloggie Crowder has been organizing this outreach for many months.

December 29 was the most recent fifth Monday. Amber Green, LaVera Hampton, and Christian and Michael Sanders, each of them a Christian Education student, accompanied Cloggie to Calvary Church and helped serve the meal. Cloggie said, "I really enjoy them helping me. They can only do it during breaks from school."

The fifth Mondays in 2009 fall in March, June, August, and November. Contact Cloggie if you'd like to help.

During February, which is Black History Month, the Christian Education classes will be learning about the Scriptural foundations of speeches and other work of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Beginning with a Scriptural reference from one of Dr. King's major speeches, we'll ask several questions. How does the situation that existed during Biblical times compare with the situation Dr. King faced? How did his speeches and actions embody the spirit of the passage he quoted? Has our society changed as a result? Finally, if we look at our church/school/neighborhood/country/world through the lens of the passage chosen by Dr. King, do we see work that needs to be done now?

Many people have hailed Martin Luther King as a prophet. The Episcopal Church has canonized him and honors St. Martin every year on April 4, the anniversary on his death. Many of us have lived through these times, but our students haven't. I ask members of the congregation to search your memories for experiences that would help our students better understand the changes in race relations that have occurred over the last sixty years and connect with this man who had such a major influence on our country. Then, please contact me so we can arrange the best way for you to share these memories with the CE classes.



Marcy Molmen, CE Director

## **COMPARING PASTORS' LEADERSHIP STYLES**

### **– FEBRUARY 21**

Rev. Charlotte Still Noble will return on Saturday, February 21, to do a morning session with us on the different pastoral styles we have had in our remembered past. How does Randy Hyvonen's style, for instance, compare with Roger Knight's? What sort of leadership does our church need now? Please join us at 9 AM in the parlor on Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> to further discuss our past and our future.

## **HEALTHY CONNECTORS**



February 6, 2009 is National Wear Red Day. Show your support for Go Red for Women by wearing something red that Friday (men and women) and consider a donation to the American Heart Association in support of vital research and education efforts.

Heart disease is the No. 1 killer of women.

Charlene Higginbotham

**STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY REPORT**

The building and maintenance oversight of our church is ongoing and sometimes seems never-ending. Several projects underway and hopefully nearing completion within the next month are: 1) flooring/carpet tiles for the parking lot, East 96th Street entrances and narthex, 2) second floor bathroom, 3) replacement of two landing windows, 4) installation of a furnace recirculation pump, 5) HAVC engineers doing an evaluation of our heating system, and 6) lighting of the stained glass windows on Euclid Avenue.

One of the major responsibilities of the Stewardship Ministry is oversight of the finances of the church. In preparation for the Annual Congregational Meeting, a majority of the January Stewardship Ministry meeting was devoted to reviewing, in detail, the year end financial report as well as the endowment report. Both of these documents appear in the 2008 Annual Report for your review.



We wish to express our deep appreciation to Al Parks and Charles Williams for their leadership, faithful service and invaluable assistance to the Stewardship Ministry as they complete their terms on this ministry. Thanks for a job well done.

Ruby Brooks and Nancy Nigosian, Co-Chairs

**PASTORAL CARE TEAM**

A new ministry has been started in our church, the Pastoral Care Team. Our pastoral care team has been working with Pastor Terri and Ruth Garwood (and also with Pastor Felix, prior to his leaving)



to prepare for visits to members of our congregation. These visits are to offer support to individuals and families whether ill, grieving, or facing difficulties that they would like to talk about or perhaps have prayer or communion. We would like to welcome your calls to request visits. If you do not want these services for yourself or a member of your family but want to advise us of someone who may need or want a visit, you can also share that information with us. We may then call to see if a visit would be appreciated.

It would be appropriate to request visits for a single visit or for ongoing visits if that is needed. Please call Diana Reid in the church office (216-791-5200) and she will direct your call to us. We will then call and make an appointment that fits your schedule for our visit. If you want to speak directly with Pastor Terri, please ask for her to call you back.



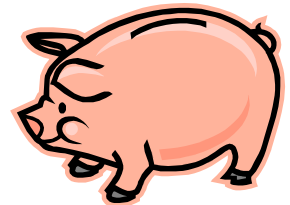
We hope this will be helpful to our members, and we are looking forward to meeting this need in our congregation.

Judy Sieck

JANUARY - DECEMBER 2008 FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY				2008 OUTREACH SUMMARY	
Expenses Compared to Budget					
	January - December 2008				
	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Annual Budget		
<b>INCOME</b>					
CONTRIBUTIONS	116,435	123,918	123,918	OCWM	17,500
ENDOWMENT INCOME USED	192,360	225,324	225,324	Interact	3,500
OTHER INCOME	24,209	15,600	15,600	Hunger Offerings	1,977
Total RECEIPTS	<b>333,004</b>	<b>364,842</b>	<b>364,842</b>	Great Hour of Sharing	670
<b>EXPENSES</b>				Strengthening the Church	290
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES</b>				Other Special Offerings	1,104
Total PERSONNEL	198,910	210,518	210,518	Christmas Offering	490
Total BUILDING MAINTENANCE	90,129	74,210	74,210	Neighbors in Need	416
Total OFFICE	10,271	10,200	10,200		<b>25,947</b>
Total OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	10,815	17,564	17,564		
Total ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	<b>310,124</b>	<b>312,492</b>	<b>312,492</b>		
<b>PROGRAM &amp; MINISTRIES EXPENSES</b>					
Total CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY	9,950	12,050	12,050		
Total FELLOWSHIP & COMMUNITY LIFE MINISTRY	3,765	7,800	7,800		
Total CHURCH IN THE WORLD MINISTRY	24,959	26,650	26,650		
Total WORSHIP & ARTS MINISTRY	3,232	5,850	5,850		
Total PROGRAM & MINISTRIES EXPENSES	41,906	52,350	52,350		
<b>Total EXPENSE</b>	<b>352,030</b>	<b>364,842</b>	<b>364,842</b>		
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b>(19,026)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		

2008 GIVING SUMMARY	
ANTICIPATED MONTHLY OFFERINGS	123,918
ACTUAL OFFERINGS - CURRENT YEAR	116,435
DIFFERENCE - OVER (UNDER)	(7,483)



## **RESTORE CLEVELAND HOPE'S "IN THEIR PATH 2009!"**

Dear Family and Friends,

In 2002 the ancestors whispered, and I began a 519-mile walk from southern Ohio to St. Catharines, Canada, to honor all of the Underground Railroad freedom seekers, conductors and enslaved. All along the way my life was blessed by your presence. I thank you.

Shortly after the walk, I founded Restore Cleveland Hope with the help of six women friends, and RCH grew into a grass roots coalition that worked passionately to save Cozad-Bates, the last pre-civil war home still standing in University Circle. Now, as a non-profit corporation we have begun our first major capital campaign, called IN THEIR PATH 2009!

On May 1, 2009, I will begin a 250-mile walk from Salem Chapel in St. Catharines Canada, back to Cozad-Bates in Cleveland. And our goal is \$250,000, seeking pledges of \$1,000 a mile to help restore the Cozad-Bates 1850 setting with period furnishings and help purchase technical equipment for Restore Cleveland Hope, Inc. programming.

This church has already made the first installment of its pledge; the 15 RCH board members each bought a mile; recently the First Unitarian Church of Shaker Heights took up a collection and raised \$500; Susan Greene, an EACC member and a friend from my book club has formed her team already; a friend of board member, Sally Tatnall, asked to buy specifically the two miles of the Peace Bridge; and I got a phone machine message from Colin, a 9-year-old Holy Rosary Montessori School student, asking "Ms. Southgate, how much more money do you need for the house?" On January 31 a group gathered at EACC to learn more about how they might help.

I will be 80 years old on March 4, 2009, and grew up in the Great Depression. My mother taught me courage, strength and creativity. So I have lived comfortably busy, well below the poverty level all of my retirement years. This 'IN THEIR PATH!' journey has taught me how to listen carefully for the everyday miracles that happen.

The timing to introduce our beloved community as the heart of University Circle is perfect. The beautiful Cozad-Bates house built by an abolitionist family will be occupied to help Restore Cleveland Hope. Last month Barack Obama was inaugurated as President of our beloved country. All I can do is smile in wonder at what a great people we Americans are.

Hope, in action, is a beautiful thing.

Peace & Love,  
Joan Evelyn Southgate, gonnawalk439@hotmail.com

## **MEDITATION THROUGH MUSIC**

Tim Robson, EACC's Director of Music, will be the guest artist at Antioch Baptist Church, 8869 Cedar Avenue, for their Noon Day Meditation on Tuesday, February 3. All are invited to attend.



## **HOMELESS STAND DOWN 2009**

*Homeless Stand Down 2009 is already underway. On January 31 hundreds of homeless Clevelanders were fed, warmed, and provided with needed services at Pilgrim Congregational UCC. Hundreds more will be coming to similar events on February 6 at the Convention Center and February 16 at Trinity Cathedral.*



Several EACC members will be participating at the Trinity Stand Down. Claude Brewer and Noreen Roderick will be welcoming and assisting guests. Judy Sieck, a nurse, will be screening those who want medical attention; Cindy Sicking, the daughter of Carolyn Smith and a hair stylist, will be cutting hair.

Meanwhile, other EACC members have been working behind the scenes. Catherinlu Russell shopped for toothbrushes, combs, deodorant and other hygiene items, and on January 25 the kids and teachers in the church school put together 20 "personal care kits." On Sunday, February 1, church members will stay after worship to assemble 50 bagged lunches. Others have brought in warm socks, coats and gloves, and contributed money. Dean Sieck will be delivering all these items to the Stand Down at the Convention Center.

Barbara Edwards has been printing out and distributing information to keep all of us informed about the Stand Down and the impact it has on the community. We can make a difference!

## **BLACK HISTORY MONTH OPPORTUNITIES**

"Mahalia - A Gospel Musical" is playing at the Cleveland Playhouse through February 22nd. It is a lively tribute to the incredible life of Mahalia Jackson, "a humble, deeply religious woman whose expressive and powerful voice carried her from poverty to appearances before presidents and royalty." If you would be interested in attending as part of a group on Feb. 22 @ 2pm, call Charlene Higginbotham.

Also, "A House with No Walls", is being performed at Karamu through Feb. 15th. The play is a volatile exploration of whether African-Americans should embrace the legacy of slavery as their primary cultural identity or discard this mantle of "victimhood." My Ladies Lunch is considering a theater outing and discussion for this play.

**United Church Press is offering 20% discount on books** and resources developed by African-Americans. A free limited edition poster is included with orders of \$25.00 or more.

**Public libraries all over the city** have selected books, movies and other resources to celebrate Black History Month. A list of events is also available. Check out the bookshelf in the parlor for more information.



Charlene Higginbotham

## **LEON BIBB TO EMCEE "LINCOLN PORTRAIT"**

The Akron Symphony will present "Lincoln Portrait," part of their My Classic Series, at E.J. Thomas Hall in Akron on Thursday, February 12, at 7:30PM with EACC member Leon Bibb as narrator. All EACC members are eligible for a 25% discount on the ticket price. Tickets are \$20-40. Special thanks to Liz Stuart for arranging for the discount. See the Community Bulletin Board for more information.



## Daytime Adult Class Offered During Lent

One of the most interesting healing stories is found in Mark 5:1-20 which describes the way Jesus healed a man possessed by many unclean spirits. The interest comes from the many details Mark provides. We learn that the man had been battling these demons for many years and that the people of his village had responded only by restraining him with chains and shackles and, when that stopped working, by driving him out into the countryside. They safeguarded themselves, but did nothing to ease his torment. Jesus took a different approach. He spoke directly to the unclean spirits and evicted them from the man. When the townsfolk saw the former demoniac in his right mind, they became afraid and asked Jesus to leave. Then comes one of the most surprising details. The newly-healed man asked to come with Jesus – we can understand his desire to leave his village! – but Jesus told him to stay with his “friends.” Evil, whether in the form of sin or illness, always separates us from our community. Part of Jesus’ healing was to restore people to fellowship with their neighbors.



Following the Wednesday Healing Services, Marcy Molmen, EACC Christian Education Director, will teach an informal class that examines this story and its present day implications. Beginning on Ash Wednesday and continuing through Lent, the class will gather at the close of the service (around 12:30 to 12:45). Attendees are welcome to bring a brown bag lunch. The discussion will last until 1:15 or 1:30 depending on people’s schedules. If you have questions, please call Marcy at church or email her: [Marcia.eacc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Marcia.eacc@sbcglobal.net).

## ANNUAL MEETING



▲ Dean Sieck takes over the Moderator Gavel



▲ Pastor Terri and Adrienne Brockway, getting ready for some good food

**Thanks to the Kitchen Crew for a great dinner!**

**Pictured at right: Ruthann Hampton, Eleanore Dees, Claude Brewer, Vivian Fulton, Jewel Green, Annie Buck and Mary Guen**



▲ MLK DAY EXHIBIT



▲ Kathie Buckner with her "thank-you" posey



\*\*\* KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS \*\*\*

- ◆ Henry Edwards
- ◆ Andrew Greer
- ◆ Helen Humphrey
- ◆ Hallie K. Jones
- ◆ Doris Simmons
- ◆ Barbara Smith Weems
- ◆ Sandra Thomas
- ◆ Beverly Williams (sister and sister-in-law to Bural & Kathie Buckner)
- ◆ Weldon Willis (parking lot attendant)

Please remember these persons in your prayers and notify Eleanore Dees, (216) 295-0872, or the Church Office to identify the names and/or needs of others who would appreciate being remembered in our prayers.

EACC HISTORY REVIEW



▲ Pastor Terri and EACC timeline



▲ Charles, Johnny, John, Dean, Judy, Mary, Mary Jane



▲ Dean, Cloggie, Fannie, Jeanette



▲ Adrienne, Al, Phyllis, Ruby, Eleanore

\*\*\* JOYS \*\*\*

Joan Southgate actually had a seat to sit in at the Inauguration on January 20. She was thrilled at the opportunity to be present at such an event and didn't complain at all about the long lines and the cold. In fact, she reported, she was able to keep quite comfortable with the help of hand and foot warmers.

Calvin and Helen Humphrey were also at the Inauguration. They had tickets for two of the balls. Helen was escorted out onto the dance floor by her son and was whirled about in her wheel chair. Later she was interviewed by a camera crew.

David Ford's photo appeared in the Plain Dealer last month showing him proudly astride his 1924 Cleveland motorcycle. The accompanying article tells about his interest in motorcycles from an early age, and about how the first motorcycles built by the Cleveland Motorcycle Manufacturing Company were designed to be used by dispatch riders during World War I. His Cleveland is a civilian bike, however, not a military one. "By today's standards, the Cleveland is not a very handsome machine," he is quoted as saying, "but it's a very interesting machine. You have to remember that this was a big advance over the horse."

Randy and Karen Hyvonen spent Christmas with their daughter Shelby and new granddaughter Fern. Randy is enjoying working "part time" (he admits that for him this means 40 hours a week instead of 80) as Conference Minister, and is looking forward to retirement in a few years.

Congratulations to Chief Warrant Officer 2 Craig G. Buckner, son of Bural and Kathie Buckner, who married Sarah James on December 27th, 2008 in Trenton, Ohio.



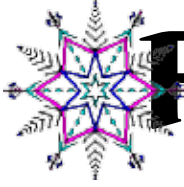
▲ Shelby and Fern (above)



▲ Craig and Sarah with honor guard (left above)

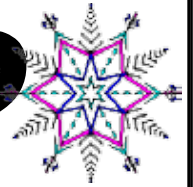


◀ Sarah and Craig (left)



# FEBRUARY 2009

(BIRTHDAYS/WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES NOTED HEREIN)



SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

## Monthly Ministry/Team/Council Meetings

1st Sunday - Transitional Steering Team  
 1st Wednesday - Council of Ministries  
 2nd Sunday - Fellowship..., Worship...  
 3rd Sunday - Christian Education...  
 4th Saturday - Men's Council  
 4th Sunday - Church in the World  
 5th Sunday - Ushers

Your issue of the Beacon is available on-line in color. If you would like to receive your Beacon by way of e-mail, and save us the printing and postage costs, please call the church office or sign up online at: [www.eacc-ucc.org/beacon.htm](http://www.eacc-ucc.org/beacon.htm)

**1**

8:45 - Adult Study  
 10:00 - Worship  
 11:30 - Fellowship  
 Congregation Meeting  
 Transitional Steering Team  
 12:15 PM Confirmation Class  
 Homeless Stand Down lunchmaking

**2**

4:30 (A.I.M.)  
 7:00 PM - C.A.

**Mary F. Guen**  
**Cynthia Goard**

**3**

10:00 AM - Women's Association  
 12:00noon - Tim Robson at Antioch  
 12:00 - Staff  
 4:30 PM - Kenpo Martial Arts  
**Kenneth Crowder**  
**Shedric Hicks Jr.**

**4**

12noon - Prayer & Healing Service  
 6:00 PM - Gospel Choir  
 7:00 PM - A.A

**Deloris Blackwell**  
**Bettie Baker**

**5**

8:00 PM  
 - Chancel Choir

**6**

InterAct Homeless Stand Down  
 National Wear Red Day

**Raven Baker**

**7****8**

8:45 - Adult Study  
 10:00 - Worship  
 Installation of New Ministry Leaders  
 11:30 - Fellowship  
 12:15 PM Confirmation Class

**9**

6:30 PM - Citizens Circle  
 7:00 PM - C.A

**David Buckle**

**10**

10:00 AM - Women's Association  
 4:00 - Pastoral Care Team  
 4:30 PM - Kenpo Martial Arts

**Barbara Goard**  
**Peg Slater**

**11**

12 noon - Prayer & Healing Service  
 7:00 PM - A.A

**12**

7:30PM - Leon Bibb at E.J. Thomas Hall

8:00 PM  
 - Chancel Choir

**13****14**

10:00 - Saturday Fun

**15**

8:45 - Adult Study  
 10:00 - Worship  
 11:00 - Fellowship  
 Orientation of Officers  
 Confirmation Class

**Barbara Edwards**

**16**

7:00 PM - C.A  
 Homeless Stand Down

**Noreen Roderick**

**17**

10:00 AM - Women's Association  
 12:00 - Staff Meeting  
 4:30 PM - Kenpo Martial Arts  
 4:30 - Investment Committee Meeting

**18**

12 noon - Prayer & Healing Service  
 6:00 PM - Gospel Choir  
 7:00 PM - Restore Cleveland Hope  
 7:00 PM - A.A

**19**

8:00 PM  
 - Chancel Choir

**Preston Howard**

**20**

**March Beacon Deadline: FEB. 20**

**21**

9:00-11:30, for officers and members - second Leadership Workshop, led by Rev. Dr. Charlotte Still Noble

**Loretta Weems**

**22**

8:45 - Adult Study  
 10:00 - Worship  
**Soul Food Sampler**  
 Church in the World

Race Relation Conversations

**23**

7:00 PM - C.A

**Sha'Derrick McCalles**

**24**

10:00 AM - Women's Association  
 4:30 PM - Kenpo Martial Arts

**25**

12 noon - Ash Wednesday Service  
 12:30 Adult Study  
 6:00 PM - Gospel Choir

**26**

8:00 PM  
 - Chancel Choir

**Ronald Thomas**

**27**

**Joy Higginbotham**  
**McGhee**  
**Nik Southgate**

**28**

10:00 - Saturday Fun  
 10 AM - Men's Council

❖ The New York Conference is organizing a group that will travel by bicycle June 12-26, 2009, from Syracuse to Grand Rapids, Mich. Riders will raise money for a new fund established by the Conference to help churches in their "green" efforts. Cyclists will stay with local UCC congregations on this journey through four states and Conferences. A release from the Conference says, "Together can we become a symbol of Christians' love and care for God's creation." The "bicycle challenge" invites others across the church to bike (or walk) to General Synod. Those who can't travel to Grand Rapids by human-powered means are encouraged to choose travel methods that use less fossil fuel and produce fewer greenhouse gases.

The church-wide effort will draw public attention to North America's disproportionate fuel consumption and its negative environmental impact. With less than five percent of the world's population, the U.S. is the world's oil-thirstiest nation, using more than 25 percent of the world's annual oil production.

❖ At its fall meeting, the LCM board voted to allocate \$290,000 in support of 11 new and renewing congregations in nine Conferences. Six new churches include a Marshallese congregation in Tucson, Ariz.; a Hispanic congregation in Phoenix; a multicultural-multiracial congregation in Baton Rouge, La.; and three Euro-American congregations, one each in Owasso, Okla., Flemington, N.J., and Canton, Ohio. The five renewing congregations are a Filipino congregation in Honolulu; an African-American congregation in New Orleans; a multiracial-multicultural congregation in Santa Rosa, Calif.; and two Euro-American congregations, one in Somerville, Mass., and the other in Louisville, Ky.

These congregations received the final allocation of 2008 support which totaled \$661,500. In total, the Evangelism Ministry received requests of \$1,274,500 for 24 congregations from 17 conferences at their fall meeting. Total funding requests for 2008 equaled \$2,753,965 from 37 new and renewing congregations. Funds for new and renewing congregation grants come from Our Church's Wider Mission, the New and Renewing Churches Endowment Fund, Strengthen the Church Special Mission Offering and Make a Difference.

"The good news is the increased number of new and renewing congregations in the UCC," said the Rev. David Schoen, minister and team leader for Congregational Vitality and Discipleship. "The difficult news is the lack of funds available to support these congregations." He invites UCC members to continue their contributions to the New and Renewing Churches Endowment Fund, which enables sustained growth in new churches, and dedication for congregational revitalization.

❖ Thirteen UCC and historically UCC related colleges and universities have received U.S. News and World Report's top 100 rankings for 2009. This magazine collects data from more than 1,400 U.S. colleges and universities and is considered one of the most reliable sources of rankings. Each school's rank within its group of peer institutions is based on the same set of measures.

Seventy-five percent of a school's ranking is based on objective measures of academic quality such as graduation rates. The remaining 25 percent is based on a peer assessment survey. Presidents, provosts, and deans of admissions at each school are asked to rate the quality of the academic programs for schools in the same ranking category, including their own.

National Liberal Arts top 100 rankings included:

Carleton College (Minn.), 8; Grinnell College (Iowa), 14; and Beloit College (Wis.), 60.

Regional top 100 rankings are divided between schools offering masters and baccalaureate degrees:

West Masters – Westminster College of Salt Lake City (Utah), 19.

West Baccalaureate – Rocky Mountain College (Mont.), 8.

Midwest Masters – Drury University (Mo.), 10; Elmhurst College (Ill.), 13; and Heidelberg College (Ohio), 37.

Midwest Baccalaureate – Defiance College (Ohio), 43.

South Masters – Elon University (N.C.), 2; and Piedmont College (Ga.), 59.

South Baccalaureate – Catawba College (N.C.), 16.

North Masters – Hood College (Md.), 19.

❖ The leaders of 11 denominations and national faith organizations are among the inaugural signers of Let Justice Roll's letter in support of a \$10 federal minimum wage in 2010. Nearly 400 faith leaders from all 50 states have already endorsed \$10 in 2010 and more are signing on every day.

With over 90 member organizations, the nonpartisan Let Justice Roll Living Wage Campaign is the leading faith, community, labor, business coalition committed to raising the minimum wage to a living wage at the state and federal level. It held Living Wage events the weekend prior to and on the Martin Luther King holiday weekend as part of the "\$10 in 2010" campaign and in support of state and local living wage campaigns.

"Well before the recession, growing numbers of employed men and women sought help at food banks and homeless shelters because they could not live on poverty wages," said Rev. Steve Copley, chair of Let Justice Roll. When the federal minimum wage increased to \$6.55 an hour last July, it still left workers with less buying power than they had in 1997, at the start of the longest period without a raise since the minimum wage was enacted in 1938. It would take about \$10 to match the buying power of the 1968 minimum wage. "It is immoral that the minimum wage is worth less now than it was in 1968, the year Dr. Martin Luther King was killed while fighting for living wages for sanitation workers," said Rev. Copley. "It's also bad for the economy. Minimum wage dollars go right back to local business through spending on food, healthcare and other necessities." Most of the 27 states with minimum wages higher than the federal level have unemployment rates that are lower than the federal level.

In addition to federal work, Let Justice Roll is currently organizing to raise state and local minimum wages in Georgia, Kansas, New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma and Tennessee. Recently, Let Justice Roll helped workers in Kansas City, KS, more than double their pay from the lowest-in-the-US state minimum of \$2.65 an hour.

Most of the ten occupations projected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to have the largest employment growth during 2006-2016, such as retail salespersons, fast food workers, home health aides and janitors, have disproportionate numbers of minimum wage workers.

THE ONE WHO CREATED US IS WAITING FOR OUR RESPONSE TO THE LOVE THAT GAVE US OUR BEING. GOD NOT ONLY SAYS; "YOU ARE MY BELOVED." GOD ALSO ASKS "DO YOU LOVE ME?" AND OFFERS US COUNTLESS CHANCES TO SAY "YES",

~ HENRI NOUWEN

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