

BEACON NEWSLETTER

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

MARCH 2009

KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE PRIZE

*Keep your eyes on the prize./ Hold on, hold on./
Keep your eyes n the prize./ Hold on, hold on.*

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

My dog, Dylan, is a ball addict. Yes, you read that correctly, a ball addict. We take two walks a day, one early morning, one late afternoon, but never without a ball. Now, you might think, "A dog doesn't want to play ball in the rain." Think again. Or "what dog wants to play ball in the snow?" Mine does.

It is so humorous I have invented names for daily ball walks: "snow ball" for play ball in the snow, "ice ball", you guessed it, "misery ball" for snow and ice and clouds all together, "fast ball" for Canadian highs, "mud ball" for March weather, "slime ball" for wet, soggy days, etc. Part of the fun of the ball walk is inventing the names.

No matter. What really impresses me though is Dylan's TOTAL concentration on the ball, a concentration he maintains every step of the walk--unless, of course, he finds some aromatic garbage, a half-eaten burger a litter-happy person left on the lawn, some sticky candy a child dropped or other (unmentionable) delights...

Except for garbage, he keeps his eye always on the ball.

What a wonderful image for us as we enter the Lenten season. What would it be like for you if, on a daily basis, you kept your eyes on Jesus, on his teaching, on his will and word for you, on HIM, the same way my dog Dylan keeps his eye on the ball? What if your total focus every day, sun, wind, mud, rain, snow, ice, no matter what the weather, inside or out, you kept your eyes on him, yes Him, capitalized. (I'm still old school.)

What if you could begin to see your wanderings from his will and work for you as very much the same as my dog's forays into the garbage, all the junk on the road, all the things that are not good for you and will probably (excuse me) make you vomit later? What if you could take his dedication and love and passion and near crazed ball behavior as

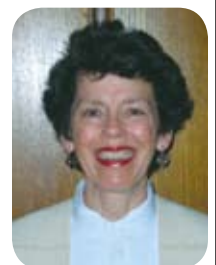
a model for your own love and dedication and passion and total devotion to...following Jesus all the way to Jerusalem?

What difference would it make for your Lenten experience? Instead of "ho-hum, I'll muddle through and show up at Easter", what if you really kept your eyes on Jesus, on his teachings from the Lectionary readings during Lent concerning the meaning of Life and Death, about the kind of work he calls this church to do, about the real internal reflection you need to be doing if you are still eating "street garbage", about your current lukewarm dedication to Him and His purposes?

There's plenty of opportunity to hunker down and get focused. Three Bible study offerings are open to you during Lent, two on Wednesdays: one following the Healing and Prayer service, one in the evening; and one on Sundays (see articles inside this Beacon). Marcia Molmen will be teaching Wednesdays at noon; I'll be teaching Wednesday evenings. Al Parks will continue his faithful Sunday class. Join us.

Lent is often described as a journey--in Dylan's world, a long ball walk. A journey involves risk-taking, surprise and opportunities you did not know existed. And we will never know, unless we take the first step. Worship with us every Sunday, join a Bible Study class, pray that God will open the eyes of this congregation to discover a new mission and purpose, but most of all, keep your eyes on the prize, Jesus Christ. That's an addiction you need to develop!

Yours in God's great
humor and affection,
Pastor Terri



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

MARCH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**SUNDAY, MARCH 1
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**

Preacher: Rev. Terri Young
Scripture Readings:

Gen 9: 8-17
Ps 25: 1-10
1 Peter 3: 18-22
Mark 1: 9-15

Worship Theme: God's Loving Paths

**SUNDAY, MARCH 8
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**

Preacher: Rev. Al Phillips
Scripture Readings:

Gen 17: 1-7, 15-16
Ps 22: 23-31
Rom 4: 13-25

Mark 8: 31-38 or Mark 9: 2-9

Worship Theme: Always Close
Amistad Sunday

**SUNDAY, MARCH 15
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**

Preacher: Rev. Terri Young
Scripture Readings:

Ex 20: 1-17
Ps 20
1 Cor 1: 18-25
John 2: 13-22

Worship Theme: Beautiful Law

**SUNDAY, MARCH 22
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

Preacher: Rev. Terri Young
Scripture Readings:

Num 21: 4-9
Ps 107: 1-3, 17-22
Eph 2: 1-10
John 3: 14-21

Worship Theme: No Matter What
One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

**SUNDAY, MARCH 29
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

Preacher: Rev. Terri Young
Scripture Readings:

Jer 31: 31-34
Ps 51: 1-12 or Ps 119: 9-16
Heb 5: 5-10
John 12: 20-33

Worship Theme: Deep in our Hearts

HEALING SERVICES

Our Healing Services, held at noon every Wednesday and open to the Cleveland Clinic community as well as our own members, will be continuing through Lent. These services are a blessing of peace and restoration in the middle of a busy week.

Then on the fourth Sunday of the month, a healing liturgy is a part of our Sunday worship service. Worshipers are invited to come forward for individual prayers and blessings. The fourth Sunday in March is March 22.

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

Three times a week during Lent you will have a chance to read, study and meditate Scripture with your EACC family.

Sunday mornings: Al Parks' ongoing Adult Bible Study group that meets in the Conference Room every Sunday before worship at 8:45 AM.

Wednesday afternoons : Our Christian Education Director Marcy Molmen will be leading a series on the healing story in Mark 5: 1-20 and its present day implications. This informal class, "Restoring Us to Community through Healing," will meet every Wednesday of Lent right after the Healing Service at 12:45 and end at approximately 1:30. Call Marcy at church for more information or email her at Marcia.eacc@sbcglobal.net.

Wednesday evenings: Starting March 11, "Soup, Salad, Sandwich and Scripture" will meet at 6PM for a light supper and then a study of the Lord's Prayer led by Pastor Terri. Those who want to skip the supper can come at 6:45 for the program, which will end by 8:00.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Since 1949, a number of Christian denominations and Church World Service have worked together through One Great Hour of Sharing to help provide clean water and food, education and health care, micro-credit loans, emergency relief, and advocacy and resettlement for refugees, all over the world. Our gifts to One Great Hour will be offered on Sunday, March 22. Special envelopes will be provided.

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SATURDAY FUN

• In February, the Saturday Fun kids and four adults spent one Saturday at the Great Lakes Science Center where they made robots at a special exhibit. Lunch and all-day snacking added to their enjoyment of the Center. Then on another Saturday, visitors from Personalized Catering gave a "Manners Matter" class to reinforce peer pressure, manners, good grooming, and the golden rule. Tea was served.

• The following is the Saturday Fun schedule for March.
• Call Cheryl Wacasey (216-513-8006) or Cecilia Pritchett (216-990-5575) by Wednesday to reserve your spot. Refreshments are served at all events.

• March 14 – 10:00AM – skating, \$5 fee
• March 28 – 10:00AM – Historical Society Museum, \$5 fee

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EASTER LILIES



Lilies will decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday and then will be made available at the close of our Easter service for distribution to shut-ins or to be brought home. If you would like to order a lily in memory of a loved one or special friend, make a check payable to the church, write "lilies" on the memo line, indicate on the envelope in which you put the check in whose memory you are giving your lily, and place the envelope in the collection plate no later than Sunday, March 22. EACC does not set a price for the plants. When you make your donation, we ask that you consider fair market value.

NEW MEMBER CLASSES

The second in a series of new member classes will be held on March 29. New members will be received on Easter Sunday, April 12. There will also be baptisms that day. See Pastor Terri if you are interested in either one.

PERMANENT PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

At a special meeting of the congregation on February 1, the following slate was elected to serve as our Permanent Pastor Search Committee:

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Adrienne Brockway | Calvin Humphrey | Dean Sieck |
| Mary Jane Cariens | John Merritt | Nikolas Southgate |
| Eleanore Dees | Noreen Roderick | Charles Williams |

MINISTRY CO-CHAIRS

At an orientation and training of our five Ministries in February, co-chairs for each were chosen. They are:

Christian Education: Al Parks and Cheryl Wacasey

Church in the World: Eleanore Dees and Ann Drysdale

Fellowship and Community Life: Annie Buck and Charles Williams

Stewardship: Ruby Brooks and Kathie Buckner

Worship and Arts: Juanita LeFloria

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY January & February, 2009

- Gift from estate of Paul Jerabek received as designated for endowment (main fund) and deposited as instructed.
- Gift from estate of Ruth Sears received as undesignated. Portion of gift will be used to defer the cost of purchase & installation of carpet tiles in narthex, parking lot and 96th St. entrances.
- Because of unstable economic market, it was suggested that we revisit the 2009 budget after 1st quarter to make needed adjustments, if necessary.
- Windows on second floor landings to be replaced as soon as feasible.
- List of repairs being compiled for submission to Cleveland Clinic as agreed upon prior to construction of Heart Institute. Video tape to be reviewed.
- Furnace recirculation pump installed.
- Due to leaking pipe in first floor ladies room ceiling (which fell), authorization was given for dropped ceiling to be installed in this area as well as new floor tiles, where needed.

Nancy Nigosian

REPORT FROM CHURCH IN THE WORLD

Church in the World met on Sunday February 15, 2009. Ann Drysdale and Eleanore Dees were elected co-chairs. The ministry will continue to meet on the 4th Sunday of the month.

According to the Constitution of Euclid Avenue Church, this ministry is "...fully committed to outreach and evangelism by members through ministry in our local community, region, and globally." Further "...this ministry will enable the congregation to think and act creatively and forcefully in bringing a just peace within our own community and in the world."

The ongoing projects of the ministry are: installation of the Peace Pole on the front lawn, continuation of the Fifth Monday Meals at Calvary Church, support of the "Steps for Joan" project, Citizen Circle, ongoing relationships with Alcoholics Anonymous, Cocaine Anonymous, Kenpo, and Restore Cleveland Hope. Our outreach includes, Parade the Circle and Circle Fest. Possible new efforts are being discussed. This is a vital ministry, which invites opportunity to serve.

Ann Drysdale and Eleanore Dees, co-chairs

WHAT THE KIDS HAVE BEEN LEARNING

The Christian Education classes for young people celebrated Black History Month by watching tapes of speeches by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and learning the Biblical basis and historical context of his statements.



On February 1, we watched Dr. King's last speech, given the day before he was killed, in which he described his inner peace. He'd "been to the mountain" and "seen the promised land." Then we read Deuteronomy 34 which describes God leading Moses to the mountaintop where Moses saw the promised land and then died there on the mountain without getting to enter the promised land himself. For Martin, faith in God gave him peace about dying prematurely as long as he knew that his people would get to the promised land.

On February 8, we watched a speech in which Dr. King told of the death threats he had received—not only threats against his own life, but against the lives of his wife and children. We heard his witness that the only solution was to pray.

On February 15, John Merritt talked with the teen class about his experiences relating to the civil rights movement.

To conclude our celebration, we were privileged to have Calvin Humphrey speak with the students about the way Martin Luther King fit into the longer struggle for equal rights for black people. Calvin shared some things students couldn't learn from history books, that Martin, for example, was a very informal man who wasn't concerned about titles. Professor Humphrey urged the students more than once to take advantage of their right to vote and their chance to get an education because "people died to win that right for you."

During Lent we will prepare to find meaning in the events of Holy Week and Easter. Part of the student's celebration of the Resurrection will be to join the rest of the congregation for the entire worship service.

Beginning with a meeting of families and teachers after church on March 1, we will make decisions about summer camp: what camp, how to raise money, etc. We'll need plenty of family participation to make this possible for our students.

Marcy Molmen
Christian Education Director



A MESSAGE FROM THE MODERATOR

As I reflect on the coming church year, I think of one of my favorite poems. Robert Frost's "Two Tramps in Mudtime" relates the joy of working at a task one loves, in his case splitting wood. While the poet is enjoying his task on a spring day, two professional loggers approach him and want to do his work for pay. The resulting conflict the poet experiences causes him to reflect on the competing claims of love, his claim, and need, their claim, to a task. The poet concludes with these remarkable lines:

"Nothing on either side was said. They knew they had but to stay their stay./ And all their logic would fill my head: as that I had no right to play / with what was another man's work for gain. My right might be love, but theirs / was need, and where the two exist is twain, theirs was the better right - agreed.

But yeild who will to their separation, my object is living is to unite my avocation / and my vocation, as my two eyes make one in sight. Only where love and need / are one, and the work is play for mortal stakes, is the deed ever really done / For Heaven and the future's sakes.

For Heaven and the future's sakes."

The word "vocation" is often used as a synonym for "job" or "occupation." But its roots are theological: it means "calling," as in what we are called by God to do. It is why any of us

contributes our time to the church or to others through our church, why we sing in choirs or teach children or prepare food to share or feed the hungry or go to meetings. These activities are our response to God's call, but since they represent choices, they are also our pleasure—our vocation and our avocation.

Yet our commitments can cause us to narrow our perspectives and turn our avocation into toil—if we lose sight of the crucial dimension of play. Play consumes and challenges us, but for the purpose of pleasure. Play may even pit us against one another, but its end is release from the burdens of living, not increasing them. Jesus said, "Unless you turn and become like little children, you cannot enter the Kingdom."

John Baker announced on Sunday that a gap persists between what our estimates of giving supply—and what our budget choices require. Our search committee soon will begin its work to select our next settled pastor. Our aging building continues to present challenges. In short, "mortal stakes" abound as we face our future together at EACC. But let us engage these stakes as children of God, at play in the fields of the Lord.

In the faith, Dean Sieck, Moderator

SAVING THE WORLD, ONE CUP AT A TIME

Charlene Higginbotham and Dean Sieck suggest that instead of using disposable paper cups for our coffee at church, everyone bring his/her own washable mug from home and leave it in the parlor kitchen. Mugs that would be easily identifiable would be preferred, of course. Think of all the trees we'd be saving, all the landfill we wouldn't be providing!



| JANUARY 2009 FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY | | |
|--|----------------|------------------|
| Expenses Compared to Budget | | |
| | January, 2009 | |
| | January Actual | January Expected |
| INCOME | | |
| CONTRIBUTIONS | 8,592 | 10,700 |
| ENDOWMENT INCOME USED | 22,334 | 22,119 |
| OTHER INCOME | 1,000 | 1,008 |
| Total RECEIPTS | 31,926 | 33,827 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES | | |
| Total PERSONNEL | 20,083 | 19,094 |
| Total BUILDING MAINTENANCE | 14,569 | 9,188 |
| Total OFFICE | 634 | 1,000 |
| Total OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES | 1,070 | 1,976 |
| Total ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES | 36,356 | 31,257 |
| PROGRAM & MINISTRIES EXPENSES | | |
| Total CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY | 471 | 783 |
| Total FELLOWSHIP & COMMUNITY LIFE MINISTRY | 215 | 358 |
| Total CHURCH IN THE WORLD MINISTRY | 0 | 246 |
| Total WORSHIP & ARTS MINISTRY | 0 | 446 |
| Total PROGRAM & MINISTRIES EXPENSES | 685 | 1,833 |
| Total EXPENSE | 37,042 | 33,091 |
| Less Spent than Received (More Spent than Received) | (5,116) | 736 |

| YTD OUTREACH SUMMARY | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| OCWM | 0 |
| Interact | 0 |
| Hunger Offerings | 150 |
| Great Hour of Sharing | 0 |
| Strengthening the Church | 0 |
| Other Special Offerings | 58 |
| Christmas Offering | 0 |
| Neighbors in Need | 0 |

HOMELESS STAND DOWN 2009

Our collective thanks are due the many EACC members who helped make the Homeless Stand Down 2009 a success. Noreen Roderick and Claude Brewer volunteered as greeters; Dean Sieck made several deliveries to the Stand Down sites; Carolyn Smith's daughter Cindy Sicking gave at least 25 haircuts; Judy Sieck did medical screenings; Catherinlu Russell shopped for hygiene items; many members donated warm clothing, hygiene items and money; the Sunday School classes assembled personal care kits; a whole team of children, youth and adults packed lunches; Barbara Edwards and Kathy Baker provided encouragement. We are assured by InterAct, one of the sponsoring agencies, that our contributions made a difference in the lives of hundreds of Clevelanders who are homeless.



From Judy Sieck:

"On February 16th, I volunteered to work at the Homeless Stand down and was assigned to work on the medical team with two other nurses, two physicians, and two podiatrists. We were only a small part of the many services available. I was not certain just what to expect in the way of behavior, hygiene, and resources available for these clients but there were no unpleasant or unsolvable surprises and I felt quite comfortable in doing initial screening, evaluation, and triage. I was pleasantly surprised by the courtesy, appreciation and the desire to care for themselves in spite of their circumstances that I observed in this group. I did not check the count, but am sure that we saw at least 150 men, women, and children during the four hours that I worked. We made referrals to agencies in the community who would further serve them and we did not have any emergencies.

This was a very satisfying experience for me and I felt both competent and helpful to this population. I would recommend it to anyone who would like to be more involved in meeting the needs of our community. Although I was medically qualified for the task given me, there were many tasks available that required no special professional skills and all of us worked together smoothly to facilitate comprehensive care for those who needed it. There was also a great spirit of cooperation and it was clear at the end of our shift that 'God is still speaking' and we have only to say 'yes' when asked to help. I will do this again."

THANKS FOR THE DONATIONS

In February we received acknowledgements and thanks for two donations, one to the UCC Central Atlantic Conference for our donation to the Tents of Hope campaign for Darfur, and a second for a contribution to the Cleveland Foodbank. The letter from the Foodbank told us that their food distribution was up 27% over last year as increasing numbers of people are depending on the Foodbank as a major food source. "Your generosity makes a real difference in the lives of others," the letter concluded.

"WE'RE NOT WHAT WE USED TO BE"

Come to an interfaith worship service, dedicated to peace and justice in our neighborhoods and world, on March 22 at 7PM at the First Unitarian Church at 21600 Shaker Boulevard. Hear reflections and music from many faiths and cultures, including a reading from the words of Martin Luther King Jr. by Joan Southgate, and some selections by our own Robert Plater Gospel Choir.

ENRIQUE'S JOURNEY; A CONVERSATION ABOUT MODERN IMMIGRATION

Sonia Nazario, an award-winning journalist from the Los Angeles Times, will be speaking on Thursday, March 26 at 7PM in Wasmer Auditorium at Lakewood Hospital, 14519 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood. Ms. Nazario will recount the story of a Honduran boy who braves unimaginable hardship to reach his mother in the United States, and open up a dialogue about immigration today. RSVP at 216-321-9220.



In Their Path 2009

Check out the display in the parlortitled "Stepping with Joan" that Adrienne Brockway put up to encourage us to fulfill our pledge of \$1000 towards Restore Cleveland Hope's "In Their Path 2009!" campaign. Starting May 1, Joan will be walking the 250 miles from St. Catherines, Ontario, to Cleveland, in order to raise \$250,000 to help restore the Cozad-Bates House and turn it into an Underground Railroad resource center. Our church has pledged to "buy a mile" and our Church in the World Ministry has already contributed \$800. It's up to the rest of us to come up with the additional \$200 (or more).



Meanwhile, 79-year-old Joan (she will turn 80 on March 4) is working hard to build up muscle and stamina for the walk. Every day she and a friend walk from 5-7AM, approximately 6 miles. Then three days a week she goes to Judson Park to work with a weight trainer on assorted machines: the nu-step, the leg curl, the leg press, and others. By May 1 she will be nothing but muscle, courage, and heart!

HELP WANTED!

Your Enlistment Committee is looking for new ideas for raising money to help balance the EACC 2009 budget – and new committee members to help us make them happen. Maybe it's something as tried and true as a bake sale or a bingo game (we're not seriously suggesting either one). There must be a lot of ideas floating around, and we'd like to hear about them. Give your ideas to any of our committee members: Calvin Humphrey (chair), John Baker, Ruby Brooks, John Merritt, and Mary Sherry. And if you'd like to join the committee, let us know so we can invite you to our next meeting on Tuesday, March 10 at 3:30.

A LETTER FROM BETH KNIGHT

Many of you know Beth, the wife of one of our former pastors, Roger Knight. Here are some excerpts from a letter she sent recently in response to an inquiry about her health:



...A little over a year ago Roger had been to El Salvador for the Eye Care Clinic and I was to drive to Atlanta (4 hours away) to pick him up. Atlanta is a much better city for us to fly from and our daughter [Leanne] lives there so I would be with her for a couple of days before Roger returned. Wednesday evening I stood at our kitchen counter jotting down notes of things I wanted to be sure to take to Leanne in Atlanta. My next memory is that I came to, the pen had dropped from my left hand, (I'm left handed) and I could not move my arm. I didn't panic and I have no memory of being scared or concerned. I stood there for a minute and realized something had happened because momentarily my hand or arm wouldn't work. I've never actually been able to figure out how many minutes the scenario took but I soon was able to move my arm and pick up my pen and write as usual.

...I felt fine all day Thursday and then left on Friday, arriving late afternoon...About 8:00 that evening I had a bit of a dizzy spell and told Leanne about the Wednesday evening happening. She said, "We're going to the Emergency Room," and off we went. I...had scads of tests...I seemed to be okay and was sent home with directions to see my own physician here...[Where] two doctors agreed that I'd had a TIA and I was immediately put on a med called Aggrenox, hopefully to prevent it from happening again....at least....not real soon...

Roger and I both went on the Eye Care Mission to El Salvador [this year], left Jan 29, and returned February 15...There were 55 of us

Americans and Canadians who formed the team. We take everything with us to set up an operating room to do cataract operations, and all other equipment to put the ES folks through several stations to be diagnosed and treated. Some folks receive a false eye to match the eye they have. That is particularly exciting because they are pretty much shunned when they are missing an eye. I was in on the exciting after glow of a young man, about 30 who got a new eye. His two big, burly, older brothers and their father were waiting for him outside the False Eye Clinic, part of our setup. When he came out into the foyer, folks gathered around and the brothers and father were astounded and thrilled and they all began to cry with JOY. They had a camera and they gathered a group of us around them to take photos even tho' we were really not part of the "medical miracle." And, a big part of the mission is to disperse hundreds of pairs of glasses, all of which have been collected in churches and Lions Clubs and many other organizations around neighborhoods across USA. Sun glasses are in big demand. And, women are thrilled to get glasses so they can sew and do stitchery. The constant sun takes its toll on many, particularly farmers...

Our kids live in Georgia, New Jersey, California, and Minnesota so we have to work at getting together. Roger and I will celebrate 50 years on August 15th and our offspring are already conference-calling each other to work on plans.

I send my LOVE and BEST WISHES,

Beth, (Box 426, Pleasant Hill, TN 38578



ON THE SOUL FOOD SAMPLER

The Soul Food Sampler was well attended despite the ice and snow on the roads and boulevards.

The samplings of foods were delicious. Fellowship and conversation were present at every table. The occasion was marked by the delightful exchange with Joan Southgate and her grandson Brandon Southgate at the dessert table. Joan told me "Brandon was celebrating. He was able to select three desserts." This he did as Joan was taking him to the vegetable table! I must say he didn't look too happy about going to the vegetable table. But these are the memories that make up so many of our church's fellowship hours.

Representing the senior members of our church family, I hope these occasions become cherished and instructive memories for our youth and much-anticipated events for all church family members and guests. From the opening prayer by Pastor Terri to the wonderful help of Cloggie Crowder, Charlene Higginbotham, Claude Brewer, Annie Buck, Kathie Buckner, Vivian Taylor and Mr. Clark, a good time was had by all.

Eleanore Dees

Soul Food Sampler - 2009

Food, Fellowship, Family and Friends.

When all the other dishes are not on your diet, getting to choose dessert only.

Sampling a myriad of delicious dishes prepared by EACC members.

Colorful tables, African fabric and beautiful ethnic clothing.

Interesting Black History pictures and resources.

A Spirit of Community that lingers long after the last chair is stacked.

Many thanks to Eleanore Dees, to the set-up and clean-up crew, and to all members who prepared a dish to share.

Soul Food Sampler - February 28, 2010

Mark your calendars now

Charlene Higginbotham

SOUL FOOD SAMPLER



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

- ◆ Henry Edwards
- ◆ Amber Green & family
(condolences for loss of Great-grandfather, Willie Frank Horton)
- ◆ Andrew Greer
- ◆ Julia Haynes *(loss of nephew)*
- ◆ Calvin & Helen Humphrey
- ◆ Hallie K. Jones
- ◆ Phyllis Jones, *niece of Ruby Brooks*
- ◆ Dominic Martin
- ◆ Johnni Mitchell
- ◆ Marcy Molmen *(on the passing of her dad, Maurice Molvik)*
- ◆ Alma Mozley *(on the passing of her cousin, George Pierson)*

- ◆ Doris Simmons
- ◆ Sandra Thomas
- ◆ Anna Tucker *(on the passing of her brother, Charles "Tom" Baker)*
- ◆ Beverly Williams *(sister and sister-in-law to Bural & Kathie Buckner)*
- ◆ Barbara Smith Weems
- ◆ 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.

Membership Directory Corrections

Charlene Higginbotham - Telephone number is 216/321-5400; Add apartment No. 438 to all correspondence.

Jean Hogan - Telephone number is 721-0046 not 791-

Alma's Mozley - Remove work number

***** JOYS *****

Henry Edwards wants to thank all his church friends for the many cards of love and good wishes they have sent. "I can feel their love, especially at 10:30," he says. "I hope to be back in a church pew soon." He extends a special thanks to Pastor Terri for her many visits and phone calls.

Robyn Nordstrom, her husband **Mike**, and her parents **Bob** and **Cyndi Henderson** are proud to announce the birth of **Samuel Robert Nordstrom**, born on February 10. He weighed 7 pounds, 4 inches and was 21 inches long. "It was an epic battle between Samuel Robert Nordstrom and his mother," Mike wrote in his email announcement. "He didn't want to give up the house he had occupied for the past 41 weeks, but the eviction orders were carried out. As of 4:38AM he is part of the real world."



Charles Williams retired on January 30 from the AK Steel Corporation. He was an account manager, in sales, and had worked for AK for over 35 years. To celebrate, he and his wife **Madge** are planning to set sail from Venice, Italy in May on a 7-day Mediterranean cruise.

Kenny Crawford has once more sent a giant-sized Valentine to the women of EACC. He wrote on it, "The best years of my life were spent at Euclid Avenue Church of Christ. I miss each and every one of you; you are not just women, you are the women of EACC." The card is signed by Kenny and by Nicholas Walker, his son, and is on display in the church parlor.

John Baker and a few of his friends (the Cleveland Orchestra Chorus) sang at Carnegie Hall in New York City on February 7. The hall was packed with music lovers who cheered the chorus noticeably louder than they did the soloists or the conductor.

Leon Bibb narrated the text of Aaron Copland's 'Lincoln Portrait' at a concert of the Akron Symphony Orchestra and Chorus on Lincoln's Birthday. One reviewer, James Meyers, wrote, "The text of Copland's 'Lincoln Portrait' was drawn from the president's own words and narrated with eloquence, passion and dignity by long-time Cleveland television journalist Leon Bibb, superbly integrated with the musical structure. The audience expressed its respect and appreciation with a lengthy ovation."

Pastor Styles Workshop February 21



SOUL FOOD SAMPLER



MARCH 2009

(BIRTHDAYS/WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES NOTED HEREIN)

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| 1 8:45 - Adult Study 10:00 - Worship 11:30 - Fellowship Transitional Steering Team Stewardship Ministry 12:30 - Confirmation Class | 2 7:00 PM - C.A. | 3 10:00 AM - Women's Association 4:30 PM - Kenpo Martial Arts | 4 12 noon - Prayer & Healing Service 12:45 Bible Study 6:00 PM - Gospel Choir 7:00 PM - A.A 7:00 C.O.M Joan Southgate | 5 8:00 PM - Chancel Choir | 6 Malisse Roderick Peter Jerabek | 7 Fannie Cockfield |
| 8 8:45 - Adult Study 10:00 - Worship 11:30 - Fellowship Christian Ed & Faith Formation Community Life Worship & Arts 12:30 - Confirmation Class Virginia Becker Antoinette Goard | 9 7:00 PM - C.A. | 10 10:00 AM - Women's Association 12:00 - Staff 3:30 Enlistment Committee 4:30 PM - Kenpo Martial Arts Samella Carroll | 11 12 noon - Prayer & Healing Service 12:45 Bible Study 6:00 - Lenten Bible Study; 6PM "Soup, Salad, Sandwich and Scripture" 7:00 PM - A.A Henry Edwards | 12 8:00 PM - Chancel Choir | 13 10 AM - Saturday Fun | 14 10AM - Saturday Fun Ben Sweeney Myles Murray |
| 15 8:45 - Adult Study 10:00 - Worship Baptism/ Nordstrom 11:30 - Fellowship 12:30 - Confirmation Class Heather Lavender | 16 7:00 PM - C.A | 17 10:00 AM - Women's Association 4:30 PM - Kenpo Martial Arts | 18 12 noon - Prayer & Healing Service 12:45 - Lenten Bible Study 6PM - "Soup, Salad, Sandwich and Scripture" 6:00 - Gospel Choir 7:00 PM - A.A | 19 8:00 PM - Chancel Choir | 20 <div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> April Beacon Deadline: March 20 </div> | 21 Tim Sieck |
| 22 8:45 - Adult Study 10:00 - Worship 11:30 - Fellowship Church in the World 12:30 - Confirmation Class 7 PM "We're Not What We Used to Be" Eric Goard | 23 7:00 PM - C.A. | 24 10:00 AM - Women's Association 4:30 PM - Kenpo Martial Arts | 25 12 noon - Prayer & Healing Service 12:45 - Lenten Bible Study 6:00 PM - Gospel Choir 6PM - "Soup, Salad, Sandwich and Scripture" 7:00 PM - A.A | 26 7PM - "Enrique's Journey" 8:00 PM - Chancel Choir Mary Jane Cariens Linda Brewer | 27 Phyllis Graham | 28 10:00 - Saturday Fun 10:00 - Men's Council Robyn Nordstrom |
| 29 8:45 - Adult Study 10:00 - Worship 11:30 - Fellowship New Member Class 12:30 - Confirmation Class Linda Buckle | 30 4:00 - Fifth Monday Meal 7:00 PM - C.A Jared Lavender | 31 10:00 AM - Women's Association 12:00 - Staff 4:30 PM - Kenpo Martial Arts | 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 | | | |

❖ President Obama unveiled at a National Prayer Breakfast on Feb. 5 a revamped White House Office of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships but postponed a decision on whether religious groups can discriminate in hiring, an issue that has bedeviled similar government projects.

"The goal of this office will not be to favor one religious group over another -- or even religious groups over secular groups," Obama said. "It will simply be to work on behalf of those organizations that want to work on behalf of our communities, and to do so without blurring the line that our founders wisely drew between church and state."

The project is built on former President George W. Bush's Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives, which was created in 2001. Obama's project was created by executive order. It will be supplemented by a new a 25-person advisory council to be lead by Joshua DuBois, a 26-year-old Pentecostal pastor who headed religious outreach for Obama's presidential campaign. "Joshua understands the issues at stake," Obama said in a statement, "knows the people involved, and will be able to bring everyone together -- from both the secular and faith-based communities, from academia and politics -- around our common goals."

Obama said the office's top priority will be "making community groups an integral part of our economic recovery" and relieving poverty. The office will also address teenage pregnancy, abortion reduction, and "support fathers who stand by their families," especially young men. "There is a force for good greater than government," Obama said. "It is an expression of faith, this yearning to give back, this hungering for a purpose greater than our own, that reveals itself not just in places of worship but in senior centers and shelters, schools and hospitals..."

In a shift from the Bush administration, the office will play a role in foreign policy, the White House said, working with the National Security Council to encourage interfaith dialogue.

For the most part, religious leaders across the theological spectrum praised the announcement. The sticking point is whether in an effort to keep religious groups from proselytizing they should be prohibited from hiring only members of their faith. Religious groups say hiring co-religionists is essential to their identity and mission; others argue that federal funds should not be used to discriminate. Joshua DuBois and the Attorney General's office will work out the answer.

❖ Seminary administrators are increasingly finding their institutions financially strapped. Seabury-Western Theological Seminary in Evanston, Ill., a 150 year-old Episcopal seminary, announced in February 2008 that it could no longer continue operations beyond graduating its 2010 class. On Jan. 13, trustees of Disciples-related Lexington (Ky.) Theological Seminary declared the school to be in a state of financial emergency. Even Southern Baptist Seminary of Louisville, Ky., the third largest seminary in the nation has declared a state of financial emergency. Among the efforts to survive are reducing courses and degree programs, firing staff

and professors, eliminating facilities use and changing the emphasis of their offerings.

Among the causes cited are decreasing enrollment of full-time students, overextended endowment funds and an increasingly diversified student body. It is also becoming clear that the current model, a three-year, full-time residential program, no longer accommodates the needs of a majority of today's seminary students. The Association of Theological Schools (ATS), the accrediting body for seminaries, cites a number of trends that are forcing seminaries to rethink their approach to ministry preparation. While the number of students enrolled in seminaries has increased in the past 10 years, the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students has decreased. This trend is explained, in part, by an increase in part-time and non-degree students. These students are more apt to seek a geographically close institution, continue family commitments and employment, and be less likely to make use of campus housing. As a result, more flexibility in scheduling - including evening and weekend courses - is required to accommodate these students' needs.

UCC-related seminaries are no strangers to the economic realities faced by other institutions.

Bangor Theological Seminary in Maine sold its campus in 2005 and relocated students to a rented space at nearby Husson College.

A similar transition is scheduled for Chicago Theological Seminary. Anticipating the need to reduce costs and find appropriate space for their student body, the school will move from its historic Hyde Park home to new facilities nearby on the University of Chicago campus in 2012. Under a multifaceted agreement with the University of Chicago, the university will purchase the existing CTS buildings and construct and furnish new facilities to the seminary's specifications. CTS will hold a 100-year lease on the new building at a rental rate of \$1 annually.

Eden Theological Seminary, facing a financial crisis in 2007, received a grant from the UCC-related Deaconess Foundation in St. Louis that could total more than \$18 million. The money, intended to strengthen the school's long-term financial viability, included \$4.5 million to be disbursed through 2010. It provides additional operating revenue and assists Eden in the repayment of outstanding debt during this term.

Lancaster Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania has joined with other UCC seminaries in rethinking its curriculum. It has taken strides to increase contextual education within a ministry formation curriculum. Lancaster now deploys teams of four students to one congregation. The Rev. Reiss Potterveld, Lancaster's president, says the team approach helps students learn to work cooperatively by developing community improvement and congregational vitality projects.

❖ Millard Fuller, the man who founded Habitat for Humanity and whose name was synonymous with volunteer faith-based efforts to build houses for the poor, died suddenly Tuesday (Feb. 3) after a brief illness.

**JESUS, FULL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
RETURNED FROM THE JORDAN AND WAS
LED BY THE SPIRIT IN THE WILDERNESS,
WHERE FOR FORTY DAYS HE WAS TEMPTED
BY THE DEVIL,**

LUKE 4:1-2a

**NO CHRISTIAN ESCAPES A TASTE OF
THE WILDERNESS ON THE WAY TO THE
PROMISED LAND,**

EVELYN UNDERHILL *"THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT"*

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