



BEACON NEWSLETTER

Worship
E.30th and Euclid Ave.
Business Offices
9411 Euclid Ave.
Cleveland, OH
44106-2044
216-791-5200
eacc@eacc-ucc.org
www.eacc-ucc.org

A Multi-racial, Multi-cultural, Open and Affirming Congregation **November 2011**

Pastor

Rev. Courtney
Clayton Jenkins

Minister of Music

Alcee Chriss

**Director of
Gospel Choir**

Joan Bacon

Church Secretary

Diana Reid

Financial Manager

Jim Rutledge

Custodian

Brian Littles

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

Beloved



Fall is my favorite season of the year! I love to see the changing of the leaf colors, feel the chill in the air, make my fresh applesauce in the Crockpot, and smell the wonderful fragrances in the air. The fall season normally makes us think of the upcoming holiday season.

As we draw nearer to Thanksgiving, let us be reminded that this holiday serves as a reminder to us that we are to have thankful hearts all the time, not just during Thanksgiving. Having a spirit of thankfulness is such a wonderful blessing.

Gratitude is so important to God. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 states: "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." God wants us to be thankful for everything. Sometimes we can get into a spot where our perspectives are negative and we tend to murmur and complain, but God wants us to have a heart that is swelled with gratitude.

We have so much to be grateful for. We ought to be thankful for the air that we breathe, the food we eat, a place to call home, plenty of water, family, friends, and so much more. God has definitely bestowed blessings all around us and if we will simply open our heart and eyes to see we will be eternally grateful.

God freely gives us love and salvation. In turn we ought to be grateful and bestow that kind of love upon others. As this season of Thanksgiving approaches, let us be reminded to be thankful for everything and look for ways that we can be active disciples of Jesus Christ. Look at those around you and see how you can be a blessing to them.



This Thanksgiving and all throughout the holiday season count your blessings and be a blessing unto others. Invite friends and family over for dinner, take the kids to the soup kitchen, make a visit to a nursing home, buy some groceries and bless a family in need or sit with some of our new members during fellowship.

You can also make a gratitude list to serve as a reminder of all the things that you are grateful for. Post it in a place that you can see every day so you can be reminded of what a great life you have! Being grateful can bring you peace and joy.

This Thanksgiving, no matter what you are going through, give thanks to God. Even if you are going through a tough time, thank God for the times that God has helped you through other difficult times and for all of the good things in your life. Keeping your eyes on God and off of your own circumstances will allow your heart to open and be enlarged.

Remember: it is always easier to count our blessings than it is to count our burdens!

With gratitude for you,

Rev. Courtney Clayton Jenkins

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

The four Sundays of November Pastor Courtney Clayton Jenkins will be preaching in our 3000 Euclid sanctuary.

On Sunday, November 13, Khalilah Worley of Greater Cleveland Congregations will present a Mission Moment during worship describing this organization and how our congregation might become further involved.

Food and money donations for Thanksgiving baskets will be collected on Sunday, November 20. Following worship we will have a question and answer session with Sara Tavarez, Coordinator of Services for InterAct Cleveland, of which EACC has been a member for many years.

On Thursday, November 24, Thanksgiving Day, we are invited to join the members of Shiloh Baptist Church, the congregation of Pastor Jenkins' husband, the Rev. Cory Jenkins, at 5500 Scovill (across from East Tech) at 10AM for their "Jazzy Thanksgiving" service. The Thanksgiving baskets that we have collected will be distributed there.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

The Adult Bible Study group that meets every Sunday before worship under the leadership of Al Parks will be reading and discussing the following Scripture lessons and topics in November:



- November 6 – Forgiving as God's People
Matthew 5:17-26 Psalm 32:1-5
- November 13 – Loving as God's People
Matthew 5:43-48 Matthew 22:34-40
- November 20 – Praying as God's People
Matthew 6:5-15 Isaiah 12
- November 27 – Facing Life Without Worry
Matthew 6:25-34 Psalm 37:1-8



**SAVE THE DATE
– DECEMBER 3RD**

Please reserve Saturday December 3rd for welcoming the Advent Season at our annual Hanging of the Greens event.

PLEASE NOTE AND REMEMBER...

During normal business hours, if you need to reach the pastor please contact the church office. If the pastor is unavailable our church secretary, Diana Reid, can assist in making sure that Rev. Jenkins returns your call. In the event there is a pastoral emergency after regular business hours, such as death, hospitalization or incarceration, please call 216-916-7747. The pastor will return your voicemail message within 24 hours.

REACHING AHEAD WORKSHOPS

In order to continue reaching up (through worship), in (through discipleship), out (through mission), across (through diversity) and beyond (through imagination), a series of planning and discussion meetings have been planned in order to work on the following:

- laying a focused foundation for the 2012 planning year.
- refining our mission and vision statements.
- establishing a written set of Core Values.
- exploring our unique needs for a future facility.
- exploring a second worship service.

All are welcome – encouraged – to attend all of the Reaching Ahead workshops. In fact, each session will build off of the previous session, so please save these dates and plan to attend all four discussions:

- Saturday, November 5 – 9:30AM- 12:30PM**
- Sunday, November 6 – 12:30 – 2:30PM (after fellowship)**
- Saturday, December 3 – 9AM – 12noon**
- Sunday, December 4 – 12:30-2:30PM (after fellowship)**

THANKSGIVING BASKETS

As we did last year, in November we are collecting nonperishable foods and donations of money in order to provide as many Thanksgiving baskets as possible for people experiencing hunger in our community. Members are asked to bring food items, cash or checks (the baskets will cost approximately \$25 each; make checks payable to the church with "Thanksgiving baskets" on the memo line) to church with you on Sunday, November 20. Then come to the church office at 9411 Euclid at 10:30 on Tuesday, November 22 to help assemble the baskets. They will be distributed on Thanksgiving Day at Shiloh Baptist Church.



Suggested items for the baskets:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| condiments | peanut butter |
| salad dressing | jello |
| pudding mixes | corn muffin mix |
| turkey stuffing mix | jelly |
| cranberry sauce | pumpkin (canned) |
| spaghetti | flour |
| macaroni dinners | instant mashed potatoes |
| sugar | green beans (canned) |
| other nonperishable Thanksgiving goodies | |

SATURDAY FUN

- Saturday Fun, an enrichment program for children of all ages, had a wonderful time at Patterson Fruit Farm in October. Their plans for November include:
- November 12 – the Science Center - \$5 fee
- November 26 – crafts
- Please call Cheryl Wacasey or the church office to reserve your spot. Meet at the church at 3000 Euclid at 10AM. Refreshments are served at every event.

D.I.V.E. SESSIONS

Our D(evotion) I(magination) V(ision) E(xpectation) conversations will continue on the Wednesdays of November, with one adjustment:

November 2 – no D.I.V.E. session (*Pastor Jenkins will be on vacation*)

November 9 – we are invited to join the members of Aldersgate United Methodist Church at 4069 Eastwood Lane in Warrensville where Pastor Jenkins will be preaching. Call 216-921-4075 for more information.

November 16 – 12 noon at 9411 Euclid and 7 PM at 3000 Euclid – *Part II of the discussion around the possibility of EACC having 2 worship services*

November 30 – 12 noon at 9411 Euclid and 7 PM at 3000 Euclid – *what a Traditional Worship Service would look like.*

THE REPORT FROM THE NEW BEGINNINGS COMMITTEE

One group from the committee has explored 10 existing buildings, including closed schools, churches, and commercial buildings. We will need expert assistance in locating a good option, and so far the apparent risks involved have outweighed the possibilities. Another group has explored 5 vacant land sites on which to build. One limiting factor is the amount of land available for parking and for future program growth. We are also looking for a location that is accessible to a residential neighborhood and easy access for older members of the church traveling into or across the city, evening safety and security.

We have learned that we need more professional assistance. Thus, we have invited four architectural firms for an interview, advising them that we have not yet chosen a site or determined whether we will build or renovate.

A priority for the next phase of our work will be developing the program plan for the church. What do we need/want for worship services? What administrative space do we need? What fellowship space do we want? What education space? What do we envision for future program growth? We welcome your suggestions. For a complete report, see one of the members of the committee:

Rev. Courtney Clayton Jenkins	Eleanore Dees
Charlene Higginbotham	Catherinlu Russell
Jim Rutledge	Dean Sieck
Kathleen Stoll	Charles Williams

THE REPORT FROM OUR PASTOR

Rev. Jenkins "state of the church" report has gone out to all members of the congregation; if you did not receive one, please contact the church office. Pastor Jenkins would only like to emphasize here the two major changes/additions that she is suggesting: the hiring of a part time youth pastor, and the addition of a second worship service, once a month. Both would require additional resources, so she asks that you consider this when making your pledge for 2012.

IN CASE YOU MISSED THE OCTOBER 2 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

THE NEWLY ELECTED NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Linda Brewer	Millie Copez
Kenneth Crawford	Barbara Edwards
Mary Guen	Shkenya James
Manuel Roderick	Judy Sieck
Sandra Thomas	Madge Potts-Williams

THE REPORT FROM THE CLEVELAND CLINIC NEGOTIATION TEAM

Several conversations with Cleveland Clinic regarding the sale of our 9606 Euclid property have been conducted by members of the committee and by our attorney, Frederick Taft. Mr. Taft and the Clinic's attorney advise strict confidentiality on offers made. When a fair price has been agreed upon, this offer will be brought before the congregation for approval.

Rev. Courtney Clayton Jenkins	Al Parks
Dean Sieck	Charles Williams

NATIONAL YOUTH EVENT

The National Youth Event (NYE) of the United Church of Christ is the largest gathering of UCC Youth from around the country with 3,000 participants. This mega-event is held every 4 years and is scheduled for next summer, July 10-13. NYE2012 will be held at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. The youth (ages 13-18) of Euclid Avenue Congregational Church of the United Church of Christ are invited to help us Imagine—our 2012 theme based on the scripture Isaiah 43:19. Share in four days of faith and leadership formation and engage peer-to-peer mentorship. We will have enormous fun, celebrate our faith and return home inspired to change lives. Learn more about National Youth Event 2012 at www.ucc.org/nye. Contact Waltrina Middleton, your National Minister for Youth Advocacy and Leadership Formation at middletonw@ucc.org or call 216-736-3871.

We want Euclid Avenue UCC's presence felt at NYE2012!

STILLSPEAKING
YOUTH
The future is now!



STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

We learned that our members' giving for the first nine months was 11% ahead of the total for the same period last year. Hooray! We also approved the hiring of Alcee Chriss III to be our Minister of Music, effective October 16, 2011. We also approved extending Brian Littles' hours to cover cleaning of the office at 9411 Euclid Avenue two days a week, in addition to his responsibilities at 3000 Euclid Avenue, making him our regular custodian. Congratulations, Brian.

—John Baker, secretary

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY

Many thanks go out to those who helped make Youth Sunday, October 16, such a success:

- 30-40 kids who spoke, danced, ushered, acolyted, served at fellowship hour, etc.
- the entire Christian Education Ministry
- the Praise Dancers and their leaders, Yolanda and JoAnn
- Pastor Jenkins, Shkenya, Cloggie, Cheryl, Al, John M.
- Saturday Fun
- Robin and Mike Nordstrom for the signs they made
- Bettie Baker for providing EACC backpacks and school supplies for all the participating youth!

Here is the Vow of Commitment that the youth made during the service, one the Pastor asked them to keep and re-read through the upcoming months and years:

"We, the children and youth of Euclid Avenue Congregational Church, stand before God and the church to recommit our lives to be like Jesus. We want to walk in the light, the beautiful light of Jesus so that we can let our lights shine. Our light is the light of the Lord in us. We pledge to let our light shine daily as we do our best at home, school, church, at work and at play. We will respect others and ourselves. We will practice obedience and discipline in our relationships and our activities, in study and in play. With the Lord as our helper, we will study the Bible and use it as our guide. We thank God for our talents and gifts, for the ability to create, read, think, learn, dream dreams and have visions of greatness. Hallelujah for the goodness, joy and blessings of light. We want to be all that God created us to be. God's free gift of grace helps us and guides us in our worship and work, and helps us to trust and obey as we serve our Lord. We can make a difference. We pledge to share the Lord with others and bring the light of Jesus to dark places. This is our pledge, from our hearts, to the God we love!"

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Over the next few months EACC will begin the process of writing policies and procedures to be implemented during the 2012 program year. This is an attempt to improve communication across the board. If you are interested in assisting the pastor with this important work, please speak with her.

WOMEN'S RE-ENTRY NETWORK

WREN, an organization that serves both women who are in jail and those who have been released, is in need of the following new items for the holidays: deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, lotion and large-sized underwear. Also needed: new or gently-used adult hats, gloves, scarves, socks and large size comfortable clothing; spiral notebooks, 2-pocket folders without metal clamps, pocket calendars for 2012, 3-ring notebook paper, stamped envelopes; gift cards to Dave's, Save-a-Lot, Rite Aid and Walgreen's. Please give your donations to Kathy Baker and she will deliver them.

WORSHIP AND ARTS MINISTRY

Worship and Arts met Oct. 9th, 2011. We discussed Communion practices and distribution. We hope to have a handbook for preparers and servers by the new year.

Charlene Higginbotham resigned as chair of Arts in Ministry. Since the fire her efforts have been difficult. We all appreciate her many artistic talents which she has demonstrated these past years and hope she will continue to use them in other endeavors.

W.& A. has decided to table AIM in 2012 since we are in transition. Instead, we will focus on diversity in worship and adding a monthly contemporary Praise Service.

We are very happy to welcome Alcee Chriss as our new Minister of Music and wish him well in his new adventure at EACC.

We will soon have poinsettia order envelopes available. We will need information for dedications and memorials.

Please see Marguerite Bibb if you would like to be an acolyte. If you want be a liturgist or dedicate flowers please see Noreen Roderick. See Claude Brewer if you would like to assist in Communion. These are ways we can share our gifts!

CHURCH IN THE WORLD MINISTRY

During the month of November members of the congregation will be able to take part in round table discussions concerning Greater Cleveland Congregations and Interact Cleveland.

On November 13th, Khalilah Worley, Organizer for Greater Cleveland Congregations, will present a Mission Moment describing the organization's goals and mission. Following worship service members will have an opportunity to ask questions and evaluate at what level our church could be involved.

On November 20th, Sara Tavarez, Coordinator of Services for Interact Cleveland will take part in a discussion and answer session following worship service. Our congregation has taken part in the Fifth Monday Meal project for many years. We are planning a service day at Calvary Presbyterian Church to help clean the pantry area. We will also provide containers to hold flatware, napkins and plates. The date for the service day will be in November or early December. Stay tuned for more details!

Whatever happened to Dolphin Depot? The Early Childhood Development Center and the Dolphin Depot store have moved to a campus with four other schools. Sommer Edwards is the principal of ECDC which is just one of the schools there. Ann Drysdale will be working with Ms. Edwards to develop ways in which Euclid Avenue Church can continue to provide services to the children, teachers and parents of ECDC. We look forward to Ann's report of the meeting.

The New Beginnings Committee is continue to interview architects and the call on those churches that have worked with them. —Eleanore Dees, Co-Chair



WIDENING THE WELCOME

Isn't our welcome wide enough? Who else do we need to welcome? (Matthew 10:40) "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me."

The national UCC's Second "Widening the Welcome--Inclusion for All" was held in late September in Columbus, OH. John Merritt and Ann Drysdale represented our church at the conference. More than 100 people from 24 states and Canada gathered to be educated about mental illness/brain disorders and other disabilities. Through plenary lectures, workshops and Core Group sessions we learned how to develop Mental Health Ministries and A2A (Accessible to All) Covenants in our congregations. We shared best practices by telling stories, learning from each other, and networking. We offered spiritual support group experiences and worshiped together. The Ohio Conference and the National Office of the UCC were well represented. Barbara Baylor from the National Office, did a morning service. Bob Molsberry, the Ohio UCC Conference Minister, who is paraplegic from a bicycle accident, did the Overview of the Conference, the "My Journal", and lead several CORE Groups. It was a real pleasure getting to know Bob.

Ann was privileged to attend two workshops given by Craig Rennebohm who has spent the last twenty years pastoring to the homeless in Portland OR. His workshops centered on creating caring congregations.

John was struck by the dedication of all of the members of the conference, many with their own mental challenges, and some even in wheelchairs, but all blinded by the faith that God is with them during their challenges. He said that he is now more resolved than ever to be part of that faith community and the United Church of Christ.

It was a true and wonderful UCC experience!
-Ann Drysdale/John Merritt

ATTENTION ALL WOMEN! Church Women United will celebrate *World Community Day* on Friday, November 4, 10:30 AM at University Circle United Methodist Church, 1919 E. 107 and Chester Avenue. Refreshments will be served. The Theme is 'Living Our Faith'. Plan to attend.

INTERACT NEWS

Tickets Now on Sale for InterAct's Annual Fundraiser – Sacred Bread: Let's Raise the Dough!

Saturday November 5, 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM
Old Stone Church, Public Square, Cleveland, OH
For more information and to purchase tickets:
<http://www.interactcleveland.org/sacredbread/>

The Arts of Thanksgiving – an Interreligious Celebration

Monday, November 21, 2011, 6-8:30PM
B'nai Jeshurun Congregation
27501 Fairmount Blvd.

Featuring comedy music and dance
from diverse religious traditions.

RSVP: staveras@interactcleveland.org
Or call 216-831-6555

Join Me in Supporting EACC!

by Kim St. John-Stevenson

My fellow EACC members: On Monday, Dec. 5, 2011, an event called "PHILANTHROPIA" returns to Landerhaven. PHILANTHROPIA is a unique luncheon event that allows local charitable organizations like EACC the opportunity to generate additional revenue without incurring any expense. What do nonprofits get? A wonderful lunch that you can invite friends and family members to—at no expense to EACC! The event will be held at Landerhaven on Dec. 5 at 11:00 am, with the luncheon and program beginning at noon. The cost per ticket is \$75—or a table of 10 is \$750. Checks should be made out to Euclid Avenue Congregational Church, and will be mailed to Landerhaven from the EACC office with the necessary paperwork. Landerhaven will then mail checks back to EACC. In other words, 100% of your donation directly benefits our church!!! I have committed to writing a check; will you join me for some good food and fellowship!? Have questions? Feel free to contact me at 216-375-3006 or Pastor Courtney at the church office.

THANKS FROM THE CLEVELAND FOODBANK

Dear Rev. Jenkins,

...We were delighted to receive the church's gift of \$1,240.00 to the Cleveland Foodbank. This is a wonderful gift, and we truly appreciate your confidence in our work...It is with the continued support of community partners like the Euclid Avenue Congregational Church that we are able to do more each year to fight hunger in our community. Your partnership makes all the difference to us and to the quarter of a million men, women and children who rely upon one of our 620 member programs for food each year.

Sincerely,
Anne Goodman, President and CEO



INTRODUCING ALCEE CHRISS

If you have attended an EACC worship service during the last Sundays of October, you have probably already met Alcee Chriss, our new Minister of Music, who joined us officially on October 16.

Alcee is currently a fulltime student at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music in Oberlin, where he is pursuing a Bachelor of Music in organ performance, a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy and a Master of Music in conducting. When asked how he can manage also to serve as Minister of Music to a congregation a 40-minute drive away, he answers that he's been doing that sort of thing almost all his life, back in Ft. Worth and Dallas, Texas, where he was born and raised.

He began studying the piano, both classical and jazz, when he was 7 or 8, and while his parents did have to make him practice sometimes, he knew from the start that he would make music his life's work. His mother, now deceased, was a musician as well as an assistant dean at a community college and his "producer and manager." His father is the pastor of a nondenominational congregational church, where Alcee and his younger brother, a drummer, were the church band for 6 years.

Alcee has also served as musician in various capacities at a number of other churches, however, and has learned to both assist and lead in almost every worship style, from traditional to contemporary. His favorite composers are Ravel, Stravinsky, and Bach (not Wagner, he adds firmly) but he also appreciates Herbie Hancock, John Coltrane,



James Blake and Billy Preston. Because he's been directing choirs since he was 12, he is accustomed to working with people who are older than he is. Almost everyone has always been older than he is!

He has adjusted well to living in Ohio, even though he finds the culture – as well as the weather – to be "different." If he had any spare time, he would like to spend it reading and arguing about religion, philosophy and politics. He hopes to grow EACC's music department, to increase our community involvement, and to enlarge our canon of music. With his characteristic wide smile he adds, "Be prepared for new and great things!"



MEET KAROL AND DERRYL HARRIS

Karol and Derryl Harris came to us from the Shaker Heights

Community Church where Rev. Jenkins was formerly pastor. Karol came alone at first, but in a few months, Derryl followed.

Both of them were Cleveland born and raised. Karol attended East Tech and John Hay High Schools; Derryl went to John F. Kennedy. Both are now retired, Derryl from the Cleveland Fire Department and Karol from Cleveland Clinic where she was a receptionist in pediatric oncology. Karol has four children, one grandson and one great-grandson, all of whom live in town. Both Karol and Derryl help care for Derryl's 93-year-old father.

Derryl enjoys golfing and gardening, and roots for all the Cleveland teams, but especially the Browns. Karol also likes to garden, and considers herself an all-around handy person, skilled in home decoration and repair. "There's not too much I can't do!" she says.

"We're excited to be here!" says Derryl. We're excited to welcome them.

MEET NATASHA FITCH

Natasha was born into and raised in the Wings of Deliverance Church, but after she attended EACC at neighbor Shkenya James' invitation, she decided to leave the church of her childhood. "I want to learn about my faith in a different way," she says. "Pastor Jenkins preaches in a way that I can understand."

Natasha, a native Clevelander, has four children: Jamal (19), Isaiah(15), O'Shea(12) and Iyanna (4). The three older boys have not attended EACC with their mother yet – although as soon as his school's football season is over, O'Shea plans to – but Iyanna, her daughter, is already one of our Praise Dancers. Iyanna loves to sing and dance.

Since Natasha was laid off recently from a housekeeping position at South Park Mall in Strongsville, she has been looking for another similar position. She truly does enjoy cleaning, she says. She also enjoys cooking and spending time with her children. **Welcome, Natasha!**



Photo BY 'The Dark Room Company'

NOVEMBER 2011*

(*birthdays/wedding anniversaries noted herein)

		Event	Special Day
1	Tue	10 AM - Women's Association	
2	Wed.	6:00 Gospel Choir 8:00 Chancel Choir	
3	Thu.		Barbara Smith-Weems
4	Fri.	10:30 - World Community Day	Ryan Sweeney
5	Sat.	9:30AM- 12:30PM AHEAD WORKSHOP 7:30 - InterAct fundraiser	
6	Sun.	8:45 - Bible Study, 10:00 - Worship 12:30 - 2:30PM (after fellowship) REACHING AHEAD WORKSHOP	Cheryl Wacasey Bural Buckner
7	Mon.		
8	Tues.	10 AM - Women's Association	
9	Wed.	service at Aldersgate Methodist 6:00 Gospel Choir 8:00 Chancel Choir	
10	Thu.		Sonja Graham
11	Fri.		
12	Sat.	10 AM - Saturday Fun	Tony Stevenson
13	Sun.	8:45 - Bible Study, 10:00 - Worship	John Merritt
14	Mon.		
15	Tues.	10 AM - Women's Association	
16	Wed.	12:00 D.I.V.E. 7:00 D.I.V.E. 8:00 Chancel Choir	Yulonda Powell
17	Thu.		Susan Greene
18	Fri.		
19	Sat.		Juanita LeFloria
20	Sun.	8:45 - Bible Study, 10:00 - Worship collect food basket donations	
21	Mon.	6 PM - The Arts of Thanksgiving	Amber Bogard Alma Mozley
22	Tues.	10 AM - Women's Association 10:30 - pack Thanksgiving baskets	Frederick Crawford
23	Wed.	12:00 D.I.V.E. 6:00 Gospel Choir 7:00 D.I.V.E. 8:00 Chancel Choir	Ashley Bogard Cornelius J. Bogard
24	Thu.	10 AM - Jazzy Thanksgiving	Rosalinda Demore John & Kathy Baker
25	Fri.		Jewell Green
26	Sat.	10 AM - Saturday Fun	
27	Sun.	8:45 - Bible Study, 10:00 - Worship	
28	Mon.		
29	Tues.	10 AM - Women's Association	Ruby Brooks
30	Wed.	12:00 D.I.V.E. 6:00 Gospel Choir 7:00 D.I.V.E. 8:00 Chancel Choir	

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

- ◆ Rev. Charles Ackerson
 - ◆ Laden Brooks
 - ◆ LaDoris Dantzler
 - ◆ Christine Fant
 - ◆ Jewell Green and family
 - ◆ Ruthann Hampton & family
 - ◆ Hallie K. Jones
 - ◆ The Kerr Family
 - ◆ Debra Long
 - ◆ Alma Mozley & family
 - ◆ Rose Nardi
 - ◆ Reginald Pullum
 - ◆ Christian Sanders
 - ◆ Doris Simmons
 - ◆ Barbara Smith Weems
- Please call the church office for additions and deletions*

***** JOYS *****

Stephanie Tester and Jesse Paulson (an update) will be getting married on November 26th in a Strongsville church. Pastor Jenkins will officiate. Congratulations!

Keayna Thomas, a 7th grader at Noble Academy, has been selected because of her "exemplary scores" on the last round of achievement tests, for the IMP program. This program, an initiative of Harvard College designed to prepare students for top colleges, focuses on academics, athletics, character and career building. Keayna will participate in this program until she graduates from high school.

Cheryl Wacasey, who delivered the children's message on Youth Sunday, hopes that the adults as well as the children were paying attention, because she meant what she said. "The children really do matter," she says. "Please nurture them!"

YOUTH SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2011



Photos BY Kathie Buckner

Looking Ahead:

- December 3 - 9 AM REACHING AHEAD WORKSHOP
- December 3 - Hanging of the Greens
- December 4 - 12:30 (after fellowship) REACHING AHEAD WORKSHOP
- Monday, Dec. 5, 2011, "PHILANTHROPIA"

**SATURDAY FUN
at
Patterson Fruit Farm**



YOUTH SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2011



Photo BY Kathie Buckner



Photo BY Kathie Buckner

**PASTOR JENKINS'
ANNIVERSARY,
OCTOBER 23, 2011**



Photo BY 'The Dark Room Company'



Photo BY 'The Dark Room Company'



Photo BY Kathie Buckner



Photo BY Kathie Buckner



Photo BY 'The Dark Room Company'



Photo BY Kathie Buckner

❖ The UCC's five-person collegiums of Officers issued the following statement about the Occupy Wall Street movement:

The Occupy Wall Street movement that began just over a month ago in New York City is now in every state and 900 cities around the world. Despite protesters' many and varied messages, they are clearly communicating that something is deeply wrong. It is a reminder that thoughtful, faithful, and committed people can make a difference when voices are united for the common good.

The handmade signs tell their stories. They are concerned about the millions of unemployed. They are concerned about a huge gap between the very rich and everyone else. They are concerned about wars in Iraq and Afghanistan., the housing crisis, energy costs, climate change. They worry about basic needs like proper nutrition for our children, access to health care, and safe neighborhoods. They care about student debt and the cost of higher education, injustices in the justice system, inadequate public schools, and broken immigration policies.

Most of all protesters worry that our gridlocked political system seems incapable of adequately addressing these problems. Not knowing what else to do, people are taking to the streets and showing their concern not just for their own well-being but for the common good. By participating with nonviolent steady action, they are exercising the basic principles of the democratic system that we valiantly support and protect.

If you were to join the Occupy Movement in your hometown, it might be hard to know which sign to carry. Maybe a good message would be: "God shares abundantly. We should too." We know that God provides abundantly for all of us. It is good news. But God also needs us to speak and act as a demonstration of our faith. We live in a very rich country in a rich world: however many continue to suffer the consequences of greed on the part of a few. There is enough for all if we share and if we organize our life together in ways that care for each other, that show our love for God and for each other, and for creation.

The call for all of us is to seek the common good as a church and in society through creative vision, faithful action, and prayer. May God bless the United Church of Christ, and all who labor for the common good, and give each of us courage in the struggle for justice and peace.

❖ Mission: 1 plays on the UCC motto "That they may all be 1." Nov. 1-11, 2011 (11-1-11--11-11-11). During these 11 days, the UCC aims to collect more than 1 million food and household items for local food banks and collect \$111,111 in online donations for hunger-related causes, while marshalling its 5,300 congregations to advocate for hunger-related causes worldwide via 11,111 letters to Congress.

Children and youth in UCC churches across the country are participating in Mission 1 in many ways, among which are the following:

At Bethany Children's Home in Pennsylvania, a facility that provides residential services for children and adolescents unable to live with their own or a substitute family, the residents held a car wash, raising \$111 and are painting pumpkins to be auctioned off to benefit a local food bank. They are also writing letters to Congress.

BCH was founded in 1863 as a refuge for children whose parents were killed or seriously wounded in the Civil War. The

church was built on the campus in 1908 as a Sunday School.

Other church youth groups are:

- Sharing their time and talent with the community by pledging to spend 11 minutes a day from Nov. 1-11 doing something for someone else.
- Presenting Mission:1 project plans to the congregation during church service. Weekly updates and lessons are being presented by the youth, who are also online as part of the national effort.
- Beginning Sept. 25 and continuing for 11 weeks, collecting at least 11 canned or packaged food items to donate to local food banks. The in-gathering of these items will be part of the children's time each Sunday. The youth will take up the offering each week, collecting, counting and charting their progress.
- Collecting food items and donating diapers to a local mission that works for a local food pantry. Members are told in advance when the offering will be taken. During the offering, the children use large tin coffee cans in which they collect loose change, paper money and checks. One church gathered around \$100 one Sunday.
- Using their wagons to cover local neighborhoods collecting food pantry items from friends and neighbors.
- Trick-or-treating on the Halloween weekend for food for the local food shelf.

❖ UCC churches nationwide continue to create unique strategies for participation in the upcoming Mission:1 campaign targeting worldwide hunger. For example:

- First Congregational Church in Cedar Rapids, Iowa is piling Mission:1 donations around and on the pastor's altar chair so that he has to sit in a pew during services. Recently 610 items and \$1,193.11 were collected.
- The blended community of spirit of the Lakes and Minnehaha UCCs in Minneapolis is holding Wednesday evening educational programs covering topics such as overeating, local hunger, African famine and food-poverty connections. "In connection with the theme, we will serve only a half cup of rice and some water to each person after church on October 16," said the Rev. James Pennington, pastor of spirit of the Lakes. "No coffee and goodies."
- St. Paul's UCC of Erie, Pa. will be collecting food through Nov. 6 to donate to a local food bank.
- At Harrisburg (Pa.) Colonial Park UCC, congregants comprising 11 church groups – including the choir, Sunday school classes, office personnel, hand bell ringers, church council, young adult group and youth group – will collect at least 11 of one specific item. After 11 days, bags filled with the items will be placed on the altar.
- The goal at Country Club Congregational UCC in Kansas City is to collect donations to provide local families with Thanksgiving dinner. "We will hand out flyers in our neighborhood to let people know about our church and that it was the ancestors of the UCC that organized the first Thanksgiving," said spokesperson Paul Osgood.
- At first Plymouth UCC in Lincoln, Neb., church members will place 11 food barrels in a variety of locations around the church campus starting on Children's Sabbath, Oct. 16.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

(see inside for more details)

- 11/4 – 10:30 AM – World Community Day
- 11/5 – 9:30 AM- 12:30 PM
REACHING AHEAD WORKSHOP
– 7:30 – InterAct fundraiser
- 11/6 – 12:30 – 2:30PM *(after fellowship)*
REACHING AHEAD WORKSHOP
- 11/9 – service at Aldersgate Methodist
- 11/12 – 10 AM – Saturday Fun
- 11/16 – 12 noon and 7 PM – D.I.V.E. sessions
- 11/20 – collect food basket donations
- 11/21 – 6 PM – The Arts of Thanksgiving
- 11/22 – 10:30 – pack Thanksgiving baskets
- 11/24 – 10 AM – Jazzy Thanksgiving
- 11/26 – 10 AM – Saturday Fun
- 11/30 – 12 noon and 7 PM – D.I.V.E. sessions
- 12/3 – Hanging of the Greens
- 12/3 – 9 AM – 12 noon
REACHING AHEAD WORKSHOP
- 12/4 – 12:30 – 2:30 PM (after fellowship)
REACHING AHEAD WORKSHOP
- 12/5 – "PHILANTHROPIA"

IT IS GOOD TO GIVE
THANKS TO THE LORD,
TO SING PRAISES TO THY
NAME, O MOST HIGH; TO
DECLARE THY STEADFAST
LOVE IN THE MORNING,
AND THY FAITHFULNESS
BY NIGHT.

PSALM 92:1-2

**EUCLID AVENUE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
9411 EUCLID AVENUE
CLEVELAND OH 44106 -2044**