

REACHING
THE COMMUNITY
FOR JESUS!



Fairgreen Leaves



Volume IV Issue 3

March 2006 Newsletter

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Dear Family and Friends at Fairgreen,

Several years ago I found a wonderful new resource called "Breathing New Life into Lent" written by John R. Pritchard, Jr., Anne McKinstry, and Janet E. Powers. This lectionary-based, spirit-filled collection of worship resources has not only changed my personal journey into Lent, it has changed the way I look at and lead a congregation through the Lenten journey. Even the preface offers an invitation to each reader and to all of us to think about Lent not as a time to give something up but as a time to enter into the spiritual disciplines of prayer, worship, Bible Study and reflection as a way of growing into our relationship with God. The preface begins:

"In many churches the most identifiable and defined seasons of the church year are Lent and Advent, and of these two, Lent offers the clearest focus on our spiritual lives and transformation. Grounded in the ancient practice of final preparation for Christian baptism, Lent is the season when people of faith tend to be more than usually open to reflection on their spiritual lives, leading toward deeper commitment and transformation. Though often trivialized as 'giving something up,' the Lenten spiritual journey is meant to be one of identifying in ourselves what stands in the way of the growth God desires for us, what blocks the wholeness and holiness that God works in us, what must die in us in order for the fullness of God's life to blossom. Thus, Lent is something of a journey of discovery, wherein we face ourselves and God's dream for us, acknowledge the distance between who we are and whom God calls us to become, and wait for the creative movement of God to usher us into a life larger, fuller, deeper, and more spirit-inspired. In essence, during Lent we journey with Jesus through death to the incredible wonder of resurrection life.

The Lenten meaning embraces our brokenness or contrition, but it is much larger than that. Lent is grounded in God's vision of who we are and can be – the invitation to grow in ways more holy, loving, faithful – and in the promise of the new life God has in store for us. The tone of Lent is set by this vision and promise, by the wholeness toward which God woos, lures, and prods. This is especially true of the Sundays during Lent, which traditionally have been 'in but not of Lent. They are meant to be glimpses of Easter that carry us through the season by anticipating the new life towards which we are moving."

As we journey through our first Lenten season together let us be intentional about opening ourselves up to God as God woos, lures and prods us to grow in more holy, loving and faithful ways. No matter where you or I are in our personal faith journey God is always inviting us to take another step, another turn, another risk. And as I am sure you are getting used to me saying by now, that is not only true of our personal journey, it is true of our corporate faith journey. We as the Body of Christ living out our call to ministry here at Fairgreen are also being wooed and lured and prodded to grow in ways that are more holy, loving and faithful.

Continued on the next page

Fairgreen Publication Deadlines:

Bulletin—Tuesday's by the end of the day.

Newsletter—The 3rd Sunday of each month for next month's newsletter.

Continued from previous page.

As we journey into Lent we would like to invite you to take advantage of some of opportunities that the session and its various committees have put together for our journey. Not only will we have Sunday worship but we will have our mid-week Lenten suppers and worship, corporate church prayer times and a Lectionary Bible Study all of which are listed at the end of this epistle. You will see that both the texts and the themes for Sunday are listed so that you can read ahead and prepare yourselves for worship. The theme for the mid-week services is "The Hands of Lent." Each week we will gather after a simple soup supper for a time of prayer, scripture and guided mediation. Let us be intentional as we open ourselves up and see just where God will take us during this Lenten journey.

*Blessings,
Rev. Pat*



Our Journey into Lent – March 2006

Wednesday, March 1st ~ Ash Wednesday

Simple Supper ~ 6:00 PM

Worship, Communion and distribution of Ashes ~ 6:30 PM

Theme: The Hands of Lent – Dirty Hands

Sunday, March 5th ~ First Sunday of Lent

Services at 9:15 AM and 11:30 AM ~ Communion celebrated at both services

Texts: Genesis 9: 8-17; I Peter 3: 18-22; Psalm 25: 1-10; Mark 1: 9-15

Theme: Exploring the Wilderness

Thursday, March 9th ~ The Hands of Lent – Seeking Hands

Simple Supper ~ 6:00 PM; Worship ~ 6:30 PM

Sunday, March 12th ~ Second Sunday of Lent

Services at 9:15 AM and 11:30 AM ~ Communion celebrated at second service

Texts: Genesis 17: 1-7, Psalm 22: 23-81; Romans 4: 13-25; Mark 8: 31-38

Theme: Taking Up Our Cross

Thursday, March 16th ~ The Hands of Lent – Hurting Hands

Simple Supper ~ 6:00 PM; Worship ~ 6:30 PM

Sunday, March 19th ~ Third Sunday of Lent

Services at 9:15 AM and 11:30 AM ~ Communion celebrated at second service

Special Music at both services ~ Tammy Bogle

Texts: Exodus 20: 1-17; John 2: 13-22; I Corinthians 1: 18-25; Psalm 19

Theme: The Foolishness of God

Great Banquet Gathering ~ 6 PM

Thursday, March 23rd ~ The Hands of Lent – Nervous Hands

Simple Supper ~ 6:00 PM; Worship ~ 6:30 PM

Sunday, March 26th ~ Fourth Sunday of Lent

Services at 9:15 AM and 11:30 AM ~ Communion celebrated at second service

Texts: Numbers 21: 4-9; Psalm 107: 1-3, 17-21; Ephesians 2: 1-10; John 3: 14-21

Theme: Whining and Wrestling

Youth Group ~ reflections of the 30-Hour Famine

Thursday, March 30th ~ The Hands of Lent – Angry Hands

Simple Supper ~ 6:00 PM; Worship ~ 6:30 PM

A PRAYING CHURCH By Rev. Pat Shafer

When your session gathered for its Annual Retreat in January they identified this church as a “praying church.” For those of you that were able to be with us for worship on the 5th of February you heard me lift up that during the service itself. We are indeed a church that prays with and for one another in so many ways. We do that not only during the Prayers of the People on Sunday morning, we do it through our very active prayer chain, at the beginning of our numerous meetings, and, of course, when we gather to share a meal together. I remember telling the DPNC that one of the things that impressed me was that there are so many people who are willing to pray here – it is not always and only the pastor who is expected or even asked to pray. I celebrate that and give God thanks for this “praying congregation” as well.

Having said all of that I now, on behalf of your session, would like to offer up to all of you yet another

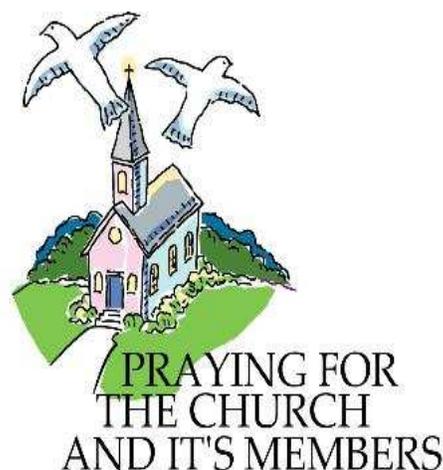
prayer opportunity. Your session has thought that it is very important that we be in prayer for our church and all of its members during this 40th Anniversary Year as we entered into yet another time of intentional transition.

Therefore, you all are invited to join us in the sanctuary at 7am on the first and third Tuesday of each month for 30 minutes of prayer. If that time is not good for you, join us for Walleyes on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month for 30 minutes of prayer. During this time of quiet reflection and corporate prayer participants will be invited to pray for particular people and/or ministries as well as our church and the larger church. Why not join us as we become more intentional about listening to God and praying to God for one another. If you are not able to be with us physically but would like to set aside a half hour each week to be in prayer, speak to Rev. Pat and she will provide you with the

prayers for each week for you to use.

The dates then for March are:
 Tuesday, March 7th at 7 AM
 Thursday, March 9th at 1 PM
 Tuesday, March 21st at 7 AM
 Thursday, March 23 at 1 PM

Questions, speak to any session member or Rev. Pat!



THE EPISODES OF EVY GREEN By Deanne Smale



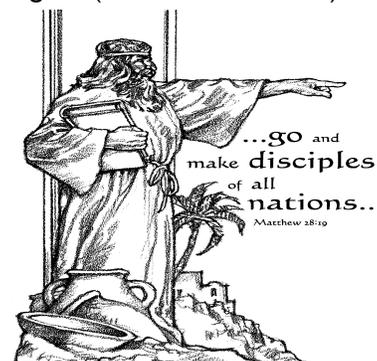
At Christmastime I received a beautiful fair green sweater with a big E monogrammed on it. You probably think the E is for Evy, but I like to think it stands for **E v a n g e l i s m**, because evangelism is an important part of who I am. What comes to mind when you hear that E word? For me, evangelism is all about reaching out to those outside “my family” with the Good News of Jesus Christ. It’s all about bringing people to Christian faith and living. That’s exciting, and it’s exciting for the church, because that’s the work of the church—to bring people to Jesus

Christ.

One of the ways we offer the Good News is by telling our faith stories. When we share what is happening in our lives, we encourage others to tell how God is working in their lives. Being able to share our faith story is fundamental in helping others to grow in faith. It’s not as hard as it may sound. For instance, what is the story God has given you to benefit the Church as a whole? Think about it. God has always been working in your life, even when you didn’t recognize it. In the near future, you will be given opportunity to answer this question in a small group. Do you know how you will respond?

Jesus commissioned the disciples (and us) to make more disciples; to baptize and teach new disciples to

obey Christ. It is not an option but a command that Jesus gave. “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey every thing I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28: 19, 20)



FORTY YEARS OF SERVING By Kathy Riley & Jan Anderson

In honor of our 40th Anniversary and continuing 40 years of serving, the deacons are collecting these 40 items starting at the beginning of Lent and all through the 40 days of Lent. Here is a list of 40 items that we are asking you to bring in each day: Toilet paper, dish soap, bar soap, laundry soap, scouring pads, shampoo, Kleenex, toothpaste, toothbrushes, canned beef stew, spam, Hot dogs, package of lunchmeat, cheese slices, frozen

orange juice, frozen apple juice, pancake mix, syrup, spaghetti o's, saltine crackers, graham crackers, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, canned peaches, canned baked beans, chicken noodle soup, tomato soup, chicken stars soup, box of jello, 4pk. pudding, fruit roll ups, cheese chunk, cookies, oatmeal, cheese crackers, instant mashed potatoes, canned gravy, plastic wrap, foil. All of this will enable us to help fill the food baskets for

Easter.

After Lent and to continue with the celebration of our 40th, we will feature one food item a month and continue with this till the end of the year. This will help supply the needs of our food pantry. How exciting! So keep watching the future Leaves for the item of the month. Bookmarks with items listed will be available on March 5th.



THE HOLY ALPHABET Submitted by Kay Monroe



- A**lthough things are not perfect
- B**ecause of trial or pain
- C**ontinue in thanksgiving
- D**o not begin to blame
- E**ven when the times are hard
- F**ierce winds are bound to blow
- G**od is forever able
- H**old on to what you know
- I**magine life without His love
- J**oy would cease to be
- K**eep thanking Him for all the things
- L**ove imparts to thee
- M**ove out of "Camp Complaining"
- N**o weapon that is known
- O**n earth can yield the power
- P**raise can do alone
- Q**uit looking at the future
- R**edeem the time at hand
- S**tart every day with worship
- T**o "thank" is a command
- U**ntil we see Him coming
- V**ictorious in the sky
- W**e'll run the race with gratitude
- X**alting God most high

Yes, there'll be good times and yes some will be bad, but...

Zion waits in glory...where none are ever sad!

"I AM Too blessed to be stressed!" The shortest distance between a problem and a solution is the distance between your knees and the floor. The one who kneels to the Lord can stand up to anything. Love and peace be with you forever, Amen.

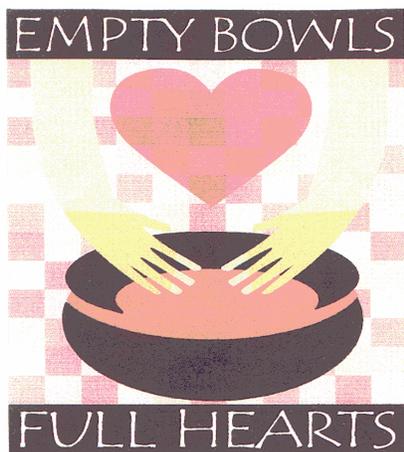
GOD'S TIME SCHEME By Carol Yeager

In WWI, Rosewood Presbyterian Church was in financial trouble. George and Anna Cole (members) mortgaged their home to save Rosewood. They were the parents of Wendell Cole. Wendell and Carlina Cole had three sons. One became a minister in California; one a missionary in India and one a pillar of Rosewood-Fairgreen Church. Web Cole married Woody and they had four children—one son is a minister and a daughter, Cindy, who is a teacher.

In the neighborhood of Rosewood Presbyterian Church, a Junior High student looked for answers. She found them in Rosewood Church and also found 'unconditional love' there. Her brother and sister joined also, the sister was Dee Smale. The other sister had found Christ but made many poor choices and ended up a 'single mom' with three children and living just for survival. She met Dan Yeager and they married and raised five children in Fairgreen Church.

Joyce Davis formed a nursery school and used Fairgreen to house it. It became one of the top schools

in Toledo. Joyce always encouraged and taught the children to be aware of those less fortunate; bringing in food and gifts for the needy. On a visit out of town Joyce discovered a



program "Empty Bowls" formed by young students to feed the poor. She brought the paper work back to Fairgreen and gave it to a Carol Yeager, who was serving as a Deacon. Carol tried for six years to get a class involved in this project for the Toledo area. Just when she was about to 'toss out' the papers, Cindy Cole-Bandfield called and wanted to

try this program with her second graders. She and her fellow teachers bought books on hunger and read them with their students. They made pottery soup bowls and brought in the ingredients necessary to make vegetable soup. The music teacher taught them a song "We'll make a Difference" and they all sang it joyously this year at the second annual "Empty Bowls" program.

Now! When the dreary days of winter seem so long; think of the years in God's scheme (see Matthew 25: 37-40). From the beginning of time (sixth century B.C.) when faith stories were handed down from generation to generation—to the times when scriptures were recorded—to current times, God charged us to do these things in our lifetimes. Think of the connections in these circumstances! For this one tiny project! What an imagination God has!!

Now! Imagine what each new stranger that joins us at Fairgreen may accomplish in the 'twinkle of God's eye' or in over 2,000 years for our eyes! Amen.

TOUCHED BY GOD'S LOVE THROUGH YOU By Pat Gibson

Dear Fairgreen congregation,

Some of you will remember him! He was a Presbyterian minister who visited our home each week-day afternoon by way of television. He wore a cardigan sweater and sneakers and welcomed children and grown-ups, alike, to his neighborhood. His name, you've got it!, was Mr. Rogers!

One of the gifts I received for my retirement was a book entitled Life's Journeys According to Mister Rogers: Things to Remember Along the Way. It was written by Fred Rogers and contains lines to ponder, such as this one from The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupery, which

became a major theme of Roger's work: "*L'essentiel est invisible pour les yeux.*" What is essential is invisible to the eyes.

What might be essential about *you* that is invisible to the eye or what are some of the things about you that allow you to look to the years ahead with confidence?

My involvement at Fairgreen would not have happened if I had not been accepted, encouraged, pushed, corrected, forgiven, challenged, prayed for and loved through the years. These are things not seen by the eye but they have been essential to me becoming confident in who I am and whose I

am which definitely affected the work I was called to do as Youth and Child Discipling Coordinator.

I thank you for the invisible gifts as well as the visible presents and cards received through the years and at my retirement party. My heart and home are filled with God's love delivered through you!

Blessings,
Pat Gibson



SOWING ON THE MOUNTAINTOP By Mike Roadruck

With Banquets #25 and #26 offered this June, Fairgreen begins the seventh year of its Great Banquet ministry. While a long way from forty years Fairgreen is celebrating, it is a significant period of time. In our 24 seasons the Master has sent us out to sow much seed. We've learned that when you go out with Christ to work in the fields, you never know what row you will be assigned or what crops you will be asked to cultivate. Just as in Matthew 13: 3-9, some seed we've sown has fallen on along the path and the birds have quickly devoured it. The Banquet experience seems to have been in vain for some guests. They never return to the Great Banquet community and have shown no growth within or even abandoned their own church. Other seed has fallen on rocky soil and sprouted quickly but withered under the heat of the sun. Guests have declared their intentions for the Lord with bold and impassioned words only to quickly disappear as they enter the unchanged world outside this sanctuary. Other seed fell among thorns and their environment choked them before they could mature. But some seed has fallen on fertile soil and some guests have born abundant fruit both within their own church and in the Great

Banquet community. With 24 banquets under our belt, many lives have been touched, many souls have been rescued. There has been growth and there has been death. What makes it worthwhile, what assures us that God is in this ministry, is that though not all the seed which was sown has yet taken root, some indeed has. An amazing number of seeds have been planted on good soil and their fruit continues to be harvested. We thank God for you who are the healthy, growing plants and give Him the glory for your fruitfulness.

I think that there are two other categories of seed in this parable. Some seed, though having been sown on fertile soil, still has not germinated because the proper environmental conditions have not yet been met. God is still at work and will in His time bring forth your growth. In the meantime, stay on the rich soil, continue to be fed from His Word and warmed in His light, and continue to be nurtured in your Share Group. If you are a member of the Great Banquet community but have fallen away, please come home, come back to the life giving soil on which you were planted. Your family loves you and misses you. Seeds may not have a choice where they fall, but you do.

Some seed remains in the sower's hand. I do not mean to suggest that a

(Matt. 13: 3-9)

Great Banquet experience is the only way to be planted on God's fertile soil. Just as there are many books in the Bible and an infinite number of prayers to be prayed, so too the Banquet Weekend is another avenue to spiritual growth. If you, for whatever reason, have not partaken in this Great Banquet experience and would like to learn more about it please do contact me or any of the many members of the Toledo Mountaintop Great Banquet community of Fairgreen. Join us at the monthly Gatherings which are open to all. Come check us out the third Sunday of each month at 6pm. These services of worship and praise are generally held here at Fairgreen and are followed by a potluck and fellowship. Childcare is provided and transportation can be arranged. The soil has been prepared and awaits you. You can contact Mike Roadruck, Lay Director of the Toledo Mountaintop Great Banquet Community at 419-536-1231 or email at mroadruck@accesstoledo.com.



KAY'S ANGELS MS WALK TOLEDO By Barb Roadruck



What if everyday you woke up not knowing if you'd be able to get out of bed or hold your child? For many people with multiple sclerosis, this is their reality.

Multiple sclerosis (MS) usually strikes adults in the prime of life—between the ages of 20 and 50. It is a chronic disease of the central nervous system affecting the brain and spinal cord. One new case of MS is diagnosed every hour. It

comes and goes unpredictably, leaving people to wonder, "Will I become paralyzed, blind or have trouble walking? Will I be able to raise my family and continue my career?"

We are joining in the fight against this devastating disease. On April 2, 2006, we will be meeting at the University of Toledo Health Education Building to participate in the MS Walk in Toledo. We have a goal of raising (\$600) to support the National MS Society. We are asking

for your help in making our goal. You can participate in many ways, such as: Sponsor us or join our team and walk with us on April 2 or join our team and collect donations but can be AWOL. Every dollar means that we are a step closer to a cure. Please help us! Sign up and join our team by signing up on line at www.nationalmssociety.org/OHO/home or contact Kay Monroe at 419-726-3776 or KmKayle@aol.com Barb Roadruck 419-536-1231 or broadruck@buckeye-access.com

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY By Patricia Robinson

Our Junior and Senior High have had a very busy Souper Bowl Sunday weekend. They started Friday night making 14 pans of lasagna and couldn't even eat a bit of it! Saturday they went by way of the church van driven by Tim Eichenauer (thanks Tim!) to The Good Samaritan Outreach Center. The youth served the lasagna,

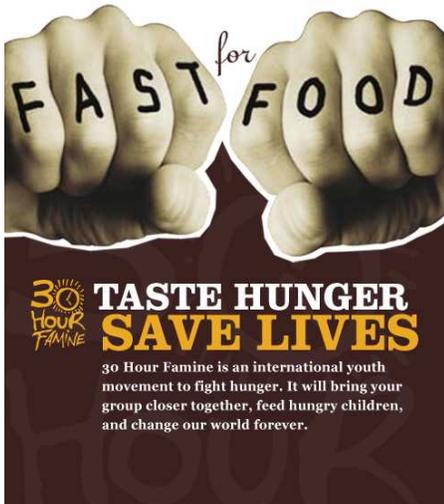
salad, bread and brownies from 2:30-3:30pm and cleaned up until 4:00pm. Next we had to get ready for Souper Bowl Sunday. I am happy to report we as a congregation raised \$166 for the Caring Cupboard as well as collecting can goods. What do we have planned next, you may ask? Why the 30 Hour Famine, of course!

Souper Bowl Outreach Weekend



Fantastic Results!

ACT FAST!!! By Patricia Robinson



It is once again time to get our hearts, minds, prayers and stomachs prepared for the 30 Hour Famine. Our youth group (Jr. & Sr. High) will raise money through donors and sponsors to help millions of starving and hurting children in some of the worlds poorest countries. Offering them a hope they could not otherwise have. The group will then go 30 Hours without food so they can have a real taste of what hunger is like. During this time our youth will engage in a variety of activities as well as a community service project. Afterwards the funds raised are sent to World Vision where they are put to work saving lives in areas like Kenya, Sudan and

right here in the United States. Last year our youth raised over \$2,000.00!

Please keep in mind this is so much more than a fun time lock-in weekend for the youth group. What they are doing is extremely important to children all around the world. **Over 29,000 children die every day** from hunger and hunger related causes. That is more than 10 million children each year. Just think, for only \$1.00 per day or \$30 per month you could care for and feed a child for an entire month!

for all to sign up). Sunday school class and Share groups can offer prayers and ideas throughout the month of March as well as getting the word out to others. Parents and adults, you can support your children by taking a flyer to work or providing your children with a list of friends, family and if appropriate, co-workers they can ask for donations. Remember, these young people are doing this to save lives and need everyone's support.

The actual lock-in will be from 7:00pm Friday, March 17, through Saturday, March 18, 2006 at 7:00pm. However, the youth will begin the actual fast at 1:00pm on Friday. The fast will be followed by a "Breakfast" at which time pizza will be served.

Remember! Make checks payable to World Vision and donations are tax deductible! For further information about the 30 Hour Famine through World Vision, you may visit their website at 30hourfamine.org or 1-800-7FAMINE.



World Hunger 30 Hour Famine

How can you help to support your youth? Donate and sponsoring them is a start. Purchase baked goods for yourself, friends, neighbors and family on March 12, 2006 in the commons from 10:30am to 11:25am. Volunteers will be needed to supervise during the famine. We will especially need your prayers (A Volunteer sign-up sheet and Prayer chart will be located in the commons



INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK OF METRO TOLEDO By Marilyn McAfee

February has been a very exciting month for Interfaith Hospitality Network. We had two families in the Network, a mom, dad and four boys and a mom who delivered a little baby boy named James on February 5th at 10:07pm in the evening. He weighed in at 7lbs. 13oz., and is 21 inches long! Mom and baby are doing just fine. Fairgreen will host the families the week of February 26th through March 5th.

On Wednesday, February 15 Highland Elementary School sponsored the second "Empty Bowls-Full Hearts" fund-raiser benefiting the Agape Soup Kitchen housed in Salem

Lutheran Church and IHN. The 2nd grade kids made beautiful clay bowls purchased by parents and others. Carol Yeager made gallons of vegetable soup, and Panera's donated the bread! Clay artists donated artwork for the silent auction. What a wonderful opportunity for teachers and parents to communicate the needs of those in poverty to children. It was truly a beautiful day. Thanks go to Carol Yeager and Cindy Bandfield for spearheading this benefit two years in a row.

February 26 from 2:00-4:00pm at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, near the corner of Douglas

and Sylvania Avenue, is a coffee for volunteers to meet IHN's new director, Elizabeth Tore and to ask questions. It is a casual afternoon and I hope many will stop by and meet her.

Mark your calendars for Friday, May 19—5th annual Golf Marathon at Whiteford Valley Golf Club. We are changing the format so stay tuned for further announcements. It is important that we raise \$40,000. We can all help!



UPCLOSE AND PERSONAL By Anna Jones

Christ Ott was born in **Bellefontaine, Ohio.**

Education: Bachelor of Science in Applied Microbiology MT (ASCP)

Occupation: Medical Technologist in Microbiology at St. Charles Hospital

Family: Husband Tim, sons Zachary and Lucas

First job: Doughnut Shop

Three words that describe me best: happy, funny and blessed

My proudest achievement: my sons Zachary and Lucas

What motivates me to do what I do: being a Christian motivates me to be a better wife, mother, daughter, sister and friend.

The most important thing my parents taught me: to get my work done, but also enjoy life and hobbies

In my spare time: I work out at the gym

Pet peeve: selfish drivers that risk not only their safety but also the safety of others

Secret vice: playing blackjack once or twice a year at a casino

What I would like to get around to doing one of these days: putting all our photographs into albums

Best vacation place: Eastern Caribbean

Favorite hymn: In the Garden

I am currently reading: Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (with Zachary)

Person I admire most: my husband Tim

What I see myself doing in ten years: being sad and scared about Zachary being a senior and Lucas being a freshman in high school.

If I could change one thing about myself it would be: to not be so sensitive or defensive

It may surprise people to know: that I raise hundreds of gladiolas in the summer and take them to shows all over Ohio.



Christy Ott

PRAISING GOD THROUGH MUSIC By Darlene Hughes



Just recently I had asked Gary Herren to share with us his travel schedule so that we could lift him up in prayer as God uses him to touch hearts and lives through his gift of

music. On March 3, he will be playing on the beach at sunset with a praise group from a local church in Venice, Florida. March 5th-Christ United Methodist Church in Venice, Florida playing at their 2nd worship service and a concert in the evening. March 18th-Lighthouse in Findlay, Ohio along with other Christian musicians.

March 24-26-Playing in the pit band of Northwood High School for the production of "State Fair". Megan & Tori Herren are also performing in this play! May 19-21-Featured artist in Franklin, Indiana at the annual Christian Truck Show. Please continue to pray for Gary & his music ministry as he seeks God's will and direction.

STIRRING UP THE GIFT THAT IS IN YOU By Karen Herren

"Stir up the gift of God which is in thee" || Timothy 1:6

Many years ago I had the privilege of being a Lay Director on an Emmaus Women's Walk. This is a week-end similar to our Great Banquets. I choose this scripture as the theme for the week-end to bring to our hearts, minds and understanding that each of us is given a gift from God to use for his glory.

WHAT IS YOUR GIFT?

There is so much more to our giving than just money. God has given us all we need to glorify Him; and he gives us each a different gift to bring His plan into existence in a perfect way. BUT, it cannot happen if we do not recognize or use the gift He has given us.

That is not to say that money is not important, it is.....this House of God cannot exist if we do not pay our bills. Where does that money

come from? You and me.....the buck stops here, so to speak. As we look at our finances you will see that not enough "bucks" stop here.

I once read somewhere that a pastor told his congregation he had good news and bad news regarding the churches finances. The good news is "we have all the money we need; the bad news is you have not taken it out of your pocket yet". Is that us? Maybe.....

Well, back to my "stir up the gift of God" story. When you cook a pot of chili, spaghetti, soup, etc. IF you do not stir the pot from time to

time some of the food sticks to the bottom and becomes useless. The food is thinned down and there is not as much nourishment available. So, is part of your gift "sticking" to the bottom of the pan? Are you reluctant to "stir up" your gift? Is the nourishment you provide to Fairgreen church "thinned" down?

A gift was given to me by the team when I served as Lay Director...it was a large metal blue spoon with white dots; to remind me to "stir up the gift of God which is in me". If I hand you a spoon from time to time, it is to remind you of the scripture || Timothy 1:6. Are you stirring up the gift of God in you?



Stewardship Committee of Session

FINANCIAL SUMMARY By Peg Winslow

YTD Income as of 1/31/06	\$16,638.13
YTD Expense as of 1/31/06	(\$16,863.59)
Operating Loss as of 1/31/06	(\$ 225.46)



\$10,000 was transferred from the Capital Fund to the Operating Fund to help cover January's shortfall and expenses for February.

JANUARY SESSION REPORT By Peg Winslow

ACTIONS:

1. Approved request from IHN to be the host church from 2/26/06 through 3/5/06.
2. Approved request from Trinity Church of the Nazarene to use the Commons on Saturdays, January 14th through February 18th, from 9am to 12pm, for the Upwards Basketball League (excluding Feb. 25th, and Jan. 14th and Feb. 11th are from 12pm to 3pm).
3. Approved charging a fee of \$25 per week for use by Upwards Basketball League, with a letter sent stating the normal fee is \$45.
4. Approved the celebration of Holy Communion at the Officer's Retreat on January 7th, 2006.
5. Approved changing the date of the next Session Meeting from January 31, 2006 to January 24, 2006 at 7pm.
6. Approved February 8, 2006 as a day off for Rev. Shafer as Compensatory Time.
7. Approved Pat Gibson as the Commissioner for the February 21, 2006 Presbytery meeting.
8. Approved the minutes of the Stated Session meeting on December 20, 2005.
9. Approved the minutes of the Officer's Retreat on January 6-7, 2006.
10. Re-elected Tim Eichenauer as church Treasurer and Anna Jones as church Financial Secretary for 2006.
11. Granted Karen Herren and Tim Eichenauer permission to liquidate assets when needed, to cover Operating Fund shortfalls, with subsequent notification to Session at the next Session meeting.
12. Approved the celebration of Holy Communion at various Great Banquet events during 2006, as outlined in attached letter from Mike Roadruck.
13. Approved Tammy Bogle, guest singer, to sell her CD's in the Commons on Sunday, March 19, 2006.
14. Approved the collection of a free-will offering at the Great Banquet Gathering service on March 19, 2006, to be given to Tammy Bogle, guest singer.
15. Approved Pasta and Praise night on February 25, 2006, from 4:00-6:30pm with entertainment from 6:45-7:30pm, and charging \$7 admission fee.
16. Approved the use of the church van by the Youth group, driven by a certified driver, on February 4, 2006 for a mission trip to The Good Samaritan Outreach Center, 1108 Broadway, Toledo.
17. Approved the 2006 30-Hour Famine lock-in from 7pm March 17th through 7pm March 18th, and related activities: use of the church van on March 18th from 1:30 – 4:30pm to travel to The Good Samaritan Outreach Center, to serve Coffee Hour on February 26th, to ask for donations and sponsors, and to have a bake sale in the Commons between services on March 12th.
18. Approved all Session Committee Reports.
19. Approved space for New Seasons Church to conduct a Bible study class on Thursday evenings.
20. Approved line item budget overages for 2005:

Pastor Salary—over by \$2, 452.88	Custodian Salary—over by \$290.12
Pastor Soc. Sec. Supp. —over by \$835.73	FICA/Medicare —over by \$29.61
Pastor Deferred 403(b) —over by \$484.61	Gas Utility —over by \$675.11
Pastor Pension/ Disability —over by \$177.38	Water Utility —over by \$1,341.85
Pastor Major Medical —over by \$280.48	Custodial Supplies —over by \$480.99
Pastor Cont. Educ. —over by \$74.04	Snow Removal —over by \$555.00
YCSD Salary —over by \$96.22	Alarm System —over by \$55.90
21. Pastor salary categories are over due to two pastors for 2 wks. in Sept and reallocation of Terms of Call between Pat and Bob. Pastor Cont. Ed. is over as we approved in Sept. \$500 related to the Switzerland trip. YCSD salary is over as Pat. G's last pay check (for one week) was paid on 12/30/05 instead of the budget date of 1/6/06. Extra custodian payment of \$220 approved in Jan. and authorized \$35 for snow shoveling, which occurred twice in Dec. FICA/Medicare increase as payroll increases. Our gas payment is \$1,288/month. Water overage of \$1,053.72 approved in August. All of water overage occurred in beginning of year; last 8 mos. were normal. Custodial supplies went over with the Nov. & Dec. invoices. Snow removal in Dec. was \$455 and \$100 overage approved last March. Alarm filter needed for new DSL internet \$31.52.
22. Established times for Church Prayer in the Sanctuary: the first and third Tuesdays, from 7:00 – 7:30am, beginning February 7th and the second and fourth Thursdays, from 1:00 – 1:30pm, beginning February 16th. This is not only for Session members, but for the Congregation as well.
23. Agreed to recognize and celebrate at the February 5th Congregational meeting the contributions of Marilyn McAfee, Nan Bennett and Ken Bennett to the IHN program.
24. Agreed to recognize and celebrate at the February 5th Congregational meeting Stacy Skinner's involvement with the PLSE program.
25. Agreed to establish a Task Force to plan Fairgreen's 40th Anniversary dinner for the weekend of September 22-24, 2006.
26. Agreed not to plan a combined Elder/Deacon Retreat, as the Deacon's first want to have their own retreat for Pastoral Care training. Rev. Pat will handle this.
27. Agreed to ask for a volunteer(s) at the February 5th Congregational meeting to coordinate a church pictorial directory. If no one volunteers, we will hold this until 2007.
28. Agreed to begin purchasing new 8-foot tables; two paid by the church, two paid by the Great Banquet and two paid by the Preschool.
29. Agreed to ask the Buildings and Grounds Committee to remove the front pew on the pulpit side and replace a long middle pew with a shorter pew.
30. Approved the purchase of a second Communion Table from Memorial Funds.
31. Approved the use of the Commons on Friday, January 27, 2006 from 5:00-6:30pm for Tommy Winslow's basketball team to practice, fee waived, with Dan and Peg Winslow as church reps.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, March 1, 2006

ASH WEDNESDAY NOYAH-WAY

Agape Meal begins at 6:30pm
Followed by a service

Praise Band will meet
right after the service



Lenten Soup Suppers

CHOIR 7:15PM
ON THE
ABOVE DATES

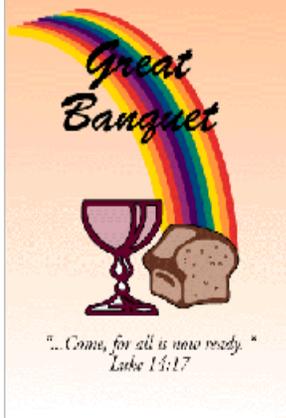
THURSDAYS ON
MARCH 9, 16, 23, 30
& APRIL 6
6:00PM
WORSHIP 6:30PM



Men's Prayer Breakfast



Come join us for our
Men's Prayer Breakfast,
which is scheduled every
second Saturday of each
month from 8-9am in the
Lounge where a
Continental Breakfast will
be served. So we will look
forward to seeing you on
Saturday, March 11th. If
you have any questions
please feel free to call Mike
Roadruck (419-536-1231)



GREAT BANQUET

Sunday, March 12th—
Speakers Mtg. 5-6pm

Sunday, March 19th—
Team Mtg. 2:30-5:30pm
Board Mtg. 4:30pm
Gathering 6pm with
Tammy Bogle
ministering in song.

Performing in Toledo
at Christ Presbyterian
Church on Saturday,
March 11th at 7pm.



College of
Wooster's Chorus

STEWARDSHIP RETREAT WORK DAY

Saturday, March 25, 2006
From 9-3pm
Please bring your own
lunch!



Stewardship
Retreat



Come Join Us On
Sunday, March 19th
At both services

Where Tammy Bogle
From Branson, Missouri
Will be ministering in music
Tammy was awarded the fulltime
female vocalist for 2005 from the
Central Division of the
Country Gospel Music
She is married to James,
who is a minister
and she has two boys.

BREAKFAST



SUNDAY
APRIL 9TH

WATCH FOR MORE
DETAILS!

Fairgreen
Presbyterian Church
3220 W. Laskey Rd.
Toledo, Ohio 43613
419-475-4436

Reverend
Pat Lawrence Shafer
Home Phone
419-841-7954
Email address:
revpat44@sbcglobal.net

Service Times
9:15am Traditional
11:30am Contemporary
10:30am Sunday School
Wednesday's
Yah-Way, Caterpillars
And Adults 6-8pm

Fax: 419-475-6404
E-mail address:
fairgreen.church
@sbcglobal.net

We're on the Web!
www.fairgreenchurch.org



Fairgreen
Cooperative
Preschool
3220 W. Laskey Rd.
Children ages 3 & 4
For information call:
419-475-5367
Terri Turner
Director

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