

September
2006

NEW LIFE NEWS

The
Monthly News
Magazine of
New Life
United
Methodist
Church



++++
"Here there are no strangers;
only friends we have not met before."
++++

One of the joys of being a pastor is sharing in the special occasions and milestones in people's lives. Births, baptisms, marriages, anniversaries, new homes, etc. Recently, I was blessed with being part of a long awaited celebration.

Early in August, I attended **Crystal Robinson's** graduation from high school. Such accomplishments are always to be recognized in significant ways, but Crystal's was all the more special. For 2 years, Crystal repeatedly took the proficiency test which was required for graduation. Early on, she passed the English portion of the exam. But then there was the Math. This part didn't come so easy. Time after time, Crystal would take the test hoping that this would be THE ONE she would pass. Time after time, she was disappointed and discouraged when her scores were close, but not high enough to pass.

And we shared in her disappointment, because Crystal attended **Plugged In**, our tutoring program for young disciples, once a week. She brought her geometry book, struggling to understand the concepts (I've been there myself!). Fortunately, one of our mentors, **Jeff Jump**, is a math teacher, and other mentors have science backgrounds, so were just the kind of mentors she needed. Not only were they able to help her with the math concepts, but also some advice on how to take the exam strategically. God continues to bring people into our lives at just the right time to help us face life's situations and challenges! After all that effort, Crystal, on her very last chance to pass the test, DID IT!! When her mother, Sandy, got the news, she immediately picked up her cap and gown to present to Crystal, who was absolutely ecstatic! We all were!

Sandy came to church to deliver tickets for **Pastor Brooke, Kent and Marlene Hought**, and myself so that we could attend the commencement service. Crystal wanted us to come, she told her mother, because she couldn't have done it without the help and support of her church family. She gave credit to the mentors, her pastors, and others who tutored her and encouraged her, and who believed in her. We never gave up on her, she said, and that motivated her to not give up on herself.

When Crystal walked across the stage and received her diploma, I was so proud, and I thanked God for giving her the abilities and determination that got her there. And I thanked God for all of the people who surrounded Crystal with the love and support she needed along the way.

What a blessing it is to share in such special moments. And what a blessing it is to be part of an extended community of believers who come together at New Life to be in ministry with people like Crystal. Thank you for being among them.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Jennifer

From Student Pastor Cathy

It was awesome to share in the recent celebration of **Pastor Brooke's** ministry here at New Life. I have only been with you a year, but after hearing the stories about the impact she made with our young disciples, I feel like I have known you all for many years.

During that celebration, we talked about how much things have changed over the years. Our kids have grown up. They have matured physically and spiritually. Look at this month. September is the time when the young disciples return back to school. College students leave for school this month. Football teams debut new players and new coaches. We even get a taste of the fall weather.

All last month, I've been preparing to head back to school. There are some new classes, new professors, and new students. Some big changes happened at school with a new president and other leaders. One of the most exciting things though is that I'll be starting my final year at MTSO.

Changes bring uncertainty and even fear. The not-knowing fills one's heart with un-ease and anxiety. One may worry about where are we going? What are we going to do now? How will we continue? But these worries are unnecessary. Jesus tell us not to worry about tomorrow. He says, "Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

He continues to reassure us by saying, "I am with you always." With confidence, we can say that because Jesus is with us today and tomorrow, we will step beyond these changes. We will continue to grow into the persons that God calls us to be. We will not let the fears of uncertainty stop us. We will take these changes and embrace them. We will step into them and use them to further God's kingdom. Thus, the changes ahead of us this month and in the future are much more than the obstacles that we make them. These changes are just more ways for us to be communion with our brothers and sisters in faith. These are just many more ways for us to grow to be the disciples that Jesus sends us out to be.

It is my prayer that we face these changes at church, at school and at home with confidence as disciples of Christ. God have given us so many things in the past to celebrate. God will continue to give us things and moments to give thanks for.

Peace, **Pastor Cathy**



WINTER COATS

We have had some very hot days in the clothing room! On one of those sweltering days a neighbor and I agreed that even the summer clothes looked too hot to wear. When we are dripping with perspiration, winter coats are the furthest thing on our mind. But, we must be ready when those colder days are here and many of our neighbors will need a winter coat.

The Winter Coat Extravaganza will be held on Wednesday, November 1, 2006, 9:00 -11:30am. The clothing room will not be open that day.

- Given the great number of coats donated and our lack of storage space, we are making a special request of all churches to please help in the following ways:
- Collect coats in advance
- Coats must be clean, gently used, with no missing buttons or broken zippers
- Sort coats by men, women, children; mark with masking tape
- Size coats as much as possible; mark with tape
- Place on hangers, facing to the left with top button or snap fastened, hoods intact.

**Deliver to New Life on Monday, October 30, 9:00-12:00n or
Tuesday, October 31, 12:30-3:00pm**

We anticipate a large turn-out. Last year 163 neighbors shopped and were given 345 coats on the day of the event. Over two hundred coats were given the rest of that week. All through the winter more coats were given, especially to men. So your generous support is needed and most appreciated.

Volunteers will also be needed for set-up and receiving coats on:

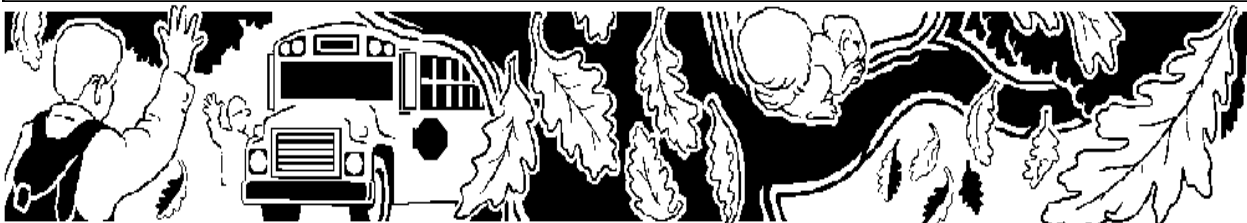
Monday, October 30, 9:00-12:00n

Tuesday, October 31 12:30-3:00pm (clothing room will be open for regular hours)

Last year a total of 98 volunteers from 10 churches helped with this event. It takes nearly 50 volunteers to keep everything running smoothly on the day the coats are given. All of those helping hands are so appreciated.

We are looking forward to a successful event with the reward of knowing we are helping keep our neighbors warm during the cold of winter.

Blessings to all and many thanks for your cooperation,
Vickie Moseley, Clothing Room Steward



John Findley, one of our young disciples will be undergoing surgery for further reconstruction of his skull at Cleveland Clinic this month. His mother, **Tina**, will be staying at the Ronald McDonald House during that time. One way that the Ronald McDonald House cares for the families staying there is by doing special things with them, to make their time there as positive as possible. They fund this by recycling the pull tabs from aluminum cans. As a way to support the Findley's and families like them, we will begin collecting these pull tabs. There will be a box in the Assembly Room as a collection site. Folks from partner churches – we hope you'll join with us in this project!

And we will of course surround **John** and his family with prayer as he has his surgery on September 22nd.

FAITHVOTE COLUMBUS 2006 VOTER MOBILIZATION CAMPAIGN

New Life has been invited to host and participate in an initiative to increase voter turnout in our neighborhood. We will host a meeting of several church leaders from around Central Ohio who are working together on this important initiative. The meeting will be held at our church at **7pm on Thursday, September 21st**.

Those in attendance will be trained to work in our neighborhood (and others) to reach people who voted in the last Presidential election but did NOT vote in the last Gubernatorial election and encourage them to vote. This is a unique and important effort to make a difference in the voting record of people who often do not have a voice in who is elected because they do not vote regularly.

We hope that people from New Life and people (pastors and laity) from Partner Churches will join with us in this effort.

Voting is the most important obligation of people who live in our democracy and we need to be sure that everyone is encouraged to fulfill that obligation.

Check <http://webelieveohio.org> for more information or talk with **Pastor Jennifer**.

Season Opener Tailgate Party HUGE success!

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Tailgate Party by attending, donating tickets for others to use, donating items for the silent auction, purchasing items in the silent auction, advertising in your local churches, sponsoring the event...

We hope everyone had a great time with the Pep Band, Brutus, Cheerleaders and Matt the Balloon Guy! Look for details in next month's newsletter regarding profits which will benefit the Breakfast Ministry.

Special Thanks to **Dave Tebay**, member of Meadow Park Church of God, volunteer in our Breakfast ministry, and Vice President of Marketing at the Buckeye Hall of Fame Café for making this event happen every year. Thanks also goes to **Faith Weller** who organized the AWESOME silent auction, and to **Bill Casto** for handling ticket sales.

GO BUCKS, #1 in 2006



A Word of Thanks:

To **Hayley Hamilton** and **Courtney Edwards** from Meadow Park Church of God for organizing a car wash to benefit the Breakfast Ministry. They set the date, helped get everything set up for the car wash, and even solicited donations from neighboring businesses. As a result, they raised \$466 for New Life!

To **Bonnie, Savanna** and **Sonoma Hardesty, Jim Trimmer, Scott Trimmer, Elaine Troesch** and grandson **Chase Carr, Joyce Lenz, Kathy Young, Don Vorce, Phyllis Hall, Marty and Craig Preston, Anne Lawyer, Ann Millar, Carol Campbell, Cathy Brady, Pastor Cathy, Melanie Jerse, Scott Safcik, Ruben and Vera Spurlock**, who assembled and distributed the bags of school supplies.

To **Don Hallman** for purchasing and installing a new and "improved" garbage disposal for the kitchen sink.

To **Marlene Haught, Robin Chenoweth, Kathy Williams, Pastor Cathy, Pastor Jennifer, Bill Casto, Ed Phillips, Kathy Young** and members of **Bethel UMC**, for making Fiesta! Vacation Bible School at great success!

The Future of Our Ministry with Youth and Families

Many have asked what will happen now regarding the position of Minister of Youth and Families. There is a process in place that will help us in answering that question. First, understand that the Bishop will not be appointing someone to the position. It is our responsibility to hire the person we believe is most suitable for this special ministry. Therefore, the first step will be for the Staff/ Parish Relations Committee to meet in order to ensure that the job description is aligned with our vision. After the job description is perfected, the position will be posted throughout the district and conference, as well as through the network of Christian Educators. We of course also need to seek ways to secure funding, both through the generous support of partner churches, and grants. All the while, most importantly, we will be in prayer that God is preparing the right person for this unique ministry, and will guide our search and eventual hiring of that person.

In the meantime, the various programs for Young Disciples may change. Because of the leadership of **Pastor Cathy**, Plugged In will resume this month. Sunday School will continue in its current format. But, we are unsure that we will be able to sustain Young Disciples Club and other events. Be assured that our young disciples are treasured and loved, and we will do all that we can to continue this ministry in the interim. We're counting on volunteers to help make that happen!

Plugged In -starts Sept 12, 6-8p.m.

The tutoring for kids in grades kindergarten through high school will be every Tuesday night during weeks when school is in session. If you, or your young disciple needs a ride, call the church before 5:30pm and the church van will pick you up and return you home at about 8:30pm.

Looking Ahead

A study of homelessness led by **Pastor Jennifer** and **Bill Casto**, Thursday, October 19, 26 and November 2, 7:00-9:00pm at Trinity UMC, 1581 Cambridge Blvd. Don't miss this! All churches are invited. Mark your calendar and watch for more to come.

Calendar of Events

****We gather to Worship God each Sunday morning at 10:30AM****


- Sundays: Breakfast Ministry, Clothing Room, Church School, Worship,
Young Disciples Church, Drummers Alcoholic Anonymous
(1:30PM & 7:30PM), Narcotics Anonymous (7PM)
- Monday:s Drummers Alcoholic Anonymous (8PM)
- Tuesdays: Clothing Room*, Hospitality Breakfast, Plugged In (6-8PM),
Drummers Alcoholic Anonymous (8:30PM)
- Wednesdays: Clothing Room*, Bible Study (7 PM),
Drummers Alcoholic Anonymous (8 PM)
- Thursdays: Breakfast Ministry Preparations,
Drummers Alcohol Anonymous (8PM)
- Fridays: Cocaine Anonymous (8PM),
Drummers Alcoholic Anonymous (10PM)
- Saturdays: Drummers Alcoholic Anonymous (8:30PM)

*Clothing Room hours are 9:00 AM—11:30 AM

In addition to our weekly scheduled ministries and meetings as listed above, please note these dates:

Calendar for September

3	10:30 AM	Sacrament of Holy Communion
4		LABOR DAY
6	7:00 PM	Bible Study
9	9:00 AM- NOON	Clothing Room Work Day
12	6:00 PM-8:00 PM	Plugged In
13	7:00 PM	Bible Study
15		Newsletter deadline
16	9:00 AM -11:30 AM	Ministry Board Meeting
19	6:00 PM-8:00 PM	Plugged In
20	7:00 PM	Bible Study
21	7:00 PM	FAITH VOTE COLUMBUS 2006
24	3:00 PM	Sunday Family Dinner
26	6:00 PM-8:00 PM	Plugged In
27	7:00 PM	Bible Study





FINANCIAL NEWS

Report of the Treasurer July, 2006

Checking Account	
Beginning Balance	7,055.86
Deposits	12,022.00
Withdrawals	<u>15,680.72</u>
Balance	3,397.14

—**Steve Waldron**, Treasurer
—**John Spang**, Sec'y to the Treas.

Balance Sheet July, 2006

Assets

City National checking acct	3,397.14
Savings & Investments	<u>80,841.44</u>
Total Assets	84,238.58

Liabilities & Fund Balances

Withholdings	4,787.79
Operations	26,549.16
Youth Ministry Fund	16,579.24
Misc. Ministry Fund	(6,903.24)
Memorial Fund	17,731.00
Breakfast Ministry Fund	7,097.90
Clothing Room Fund	8,064.68
Pass Through Fund	(1248.04)
(Easter flowers, etc.)	
Congreg. Benev (UMCOR, etc)	728.07
Lillian Skeelee Fund	10,899.17
2006 Beginning Balance Correction	<u>(49.14)</u>

Total Liabilities & Fund Bal. 84,238.58

Financial Secretary's Report

	<u>July</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Operations	4,629.78	38,728.32
Friends	730.00	13,928.32
Prtner Chrches	906.00	17,219.29
Brkfst Ministry	825.02	9,712.69
Youth Ministry	2,739.20	15,762.20
Clothing Room	80.00	2,949.00
Investments	0.00	124.43
Bus Passes	0.00	50.00
Parsonage Rent	62.00	3,907.00
1Grt Hr of Sharing	0.00	275.00
Easter Flowers	0.00	154.50
Maundy Thursday	0.00	561.86
Memorial Fund	0.00	260.00
Group Meetings	820.00	4,000.00
Bethel Fundraiser		
(tkts sold @ NL)	00.00	620.00
Associate Pastor	0.00	2,080.50
Gift Fund	525.00	525.00
Buckeye Tailgate	40.00	40.00
Other income	<u>0.00</u>	<u>600.00</u>
Total	11,357.00	111,497.79

—**Rebecca Naas**

Clothing Room Report, August

Hours of Operation:
Sunday 7-9:30am
Tues. and Wed. 9-11:30am

Weekday Guests	1465
Sunday Guests	<u>710</u>
Total	2175

New Life News

New Life
United Methodist
Church
25 West Fifth Avenue
Columbus, OH 43201



MISSION STATEMENT

*To love, welcome, and serve all people
in the name of Jesus Christ*

New Life News

is the monthly news/magazine of
New Life United Methodist Church
25 West Fifth Avenue
Columbus, OH 43201
614-294-0134
nwlifeumc1@juno.com
www.newlifeunitedmethodist.org



Editor-
Addresses-
Collating-
Pastor-
Student Associate Pastor-
Musician-
Custodian-

Marlene Haught
Chuck Belding
Ken and Alice Brooks
The Rev. Jennifer Kimball Casto
Cathy McKenzie
Jenni Kristoff
Dwight Richardson