

October
2006

NEW LIFE NEWS

The
Monthly News
Magazine of
New Life
United
Methodist
Church



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"Here there are no strangers;
only friends we have not met before."
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From The Pastor

Each October, we observe the Children's Sabbath. It is a time to celebrate the inherent value of each child, and to claim our responsibility as a society to ensure that *all* of their basic needs are met. As the saying goes, "It takes a village to raise a child." This year, the focus is on children and health care. Today in America, there are 9 million children who are uninsured. Many in our own neighborhood do not have adequate health care because they cannot afford it. That increases the possibility of infection, long term illnesses, unaddressed health problems, and decreases the likelihood of getting preventative health care.

Healthy children do better academically because they miss fewer days of school. They have a stronger immune system to fight off serious illnesses. Proper eye care addresses sight issues early on that helps kids function better in any circumstance. Dental care also contributes to overall health. Physical health effects emotional health and social skills. Healthy children, obviously, have better quality of life.

Our Ministry Board, with representatives from 6 partner churches, has been working and praying together to discern how God is calling us to grow beyond our current ministries in transformational ways. How can we build on what we are already doing? What are the needs and strengths of our neighborhood? How can we partner with other organizations and ministries in the neighborhood?

In answering those questions, it became clear that God is calling us to create some form of health ministry for the community. That may include health education, immunizations, preventative health care, physicians available during Breakfast Ministry and Clothing Room hours, and long term possibilities of a health clinic of some form. This is obviously a grand vision, and we are only in the exploratory stage right now.

In November, we hope to have a gathering of people in various professions – health care providers, social workers, business people, lawyers, teachers, ministers, and people who would benefit from such a ministry— to dialogue about the potential for New Life ministries to include health care in some form. I hope that some of you reading this will be interested in being part of this discussion, and will let me know. We are in an exciting time in our ministry — moving us in a direction that can truly change lives, and in changing lives, we can transform our community for the sake of Christ's kingdom.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Jennifer

WINTER COATS

As the seasons have begun to change and the days and nights have grown colder many of our neighbors have regularly asked when we will be giving winter coats and. we are getting ready for those really cold days when many will need a warm 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



From Student Pastor Cathy

A friend of mine recently exclaimed with some excitement that he was surprised that I still had a planner for organization. Most people around seem to have some form of electronic organization system such as a PDA or laptop. I've tried those. They just don't seem to work for me. My planner with lots of space to write assignments or appointments in seems to always be the best.

No matter how much I try, I always seem to forget one or two things. I sometimes miss a reading assignment for class or a reminder to make a phone call. Unfortunately, I sometimes miss one of my most important appointments: my time with God.

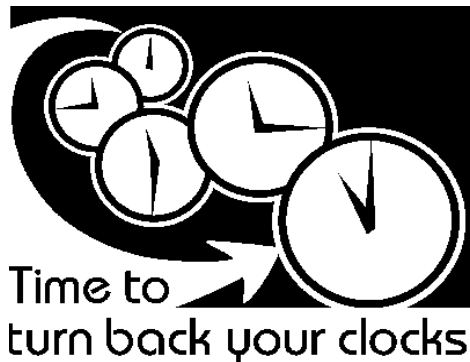
With the busyness of life, I found that I am often distracted. My thoughts go from class work to wedding plans. Of course, I make time for God before meals and usually as I prepare for bed. But, over time, something feels like it is missing. I'm missing that intentional time for God, the time where I just sit, pray and listen.

Very often we make time for God when it is convenient. That is not what God wants from us. God offers us open arms when we are hurting or sick. God offers us a listening ear when we pray for those we love. God also offers us a time of refuge. In God's presence, we can find peace and rejuvenation. We can find a renewed sense of love and hope. This is what God wants for us. God wants to be our refuge, our friend.

This month, I hope that along with me you'll take some time to write God in on your planner or in your PDA. This God-time should be as important as that assignment or scheduled meeting. This God-time is something that offers many rewards. May your God-time be fruitful and very joyful. May you celebrate this renewed relationship with God.

Peace, **Pastor Cathy**

Remember to turn back
your clocks one hour
before you go to bed on
Saturday night
October 28



Homelessness Series offered at Trinity UMC

"Existing in the In-Between,"* a three part series on homelessness, will be offered at Trinity United Methodist Church (1581 Cambridge Blvd. in Columbus) on Thursday evenings (Oct. 19, 26, Nov 2) from 7-9 p.m. **Pastor Jennifer** and **Bill** will lead the series.

"Existing in the In-Between" will include Bible Study, discussion of the background and nature of homelessness, some of the causes of homelessness and some solutions. Each of the three classes will include testimony by a currently or recently homeless person and class discussion of reactions to the issues presented by the leaders. While this is a three part series, each session will also be self contained to make it possible for people to participate in one, two or three of them.

All are welcome to attend. We hope that members of our partner churches will also join us for this series. Contact **Pastor Jennifer** for more information.

(*from the book Emptiness of our Hands: A Lent Lived on the Streets by Phyllis Cole-Dai and James Murray.)



Spaghetti Dinner on October 22nd

New Life and King Ave United Methodist Churches are presenting the third annual spaghetti dinner (actually, we took last year off!) on Sunday, October 22, 2006 from Noon to 2pm in the **dining room of King Ave. Church** at 299 King Ave. (Corner of King and Neil Aves.). This dinner benefits the shared ministries among New Life and King Ave. with our neighbors in need. The dinner includes spaghetti, meat balls, salad, dessert and beverage. The cost of tickets is adults \$7, seniors (over 65) and children \$5, children under 5 are free. Carry outs are available for an additional \$1 per meal and deliveries can be arranged for an additional \$2 per meal. Tickets are available at New Life Church (294-0134) or at King Ave UMC (424-6050), or can be purchased at the door. Enjoy a delicious fresh cooked meal and support our outreach ministries in our community at the same time!

Prepare to Vote November 7th

There are many important ballot issues that we will be voting on in November, in addition to our next Governor, U.S. Senator, and other state offices. It is important to VOTE! It is a freedom we must not take for granted, or squander! For people of faith, our Christian values should guide our decisions. I share with you my position, based on my Christian faith, as well as the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church on 2 issues.

Vote No to Gambling in Ohio

There is an initiative referred to as "Ohio Learn and Earn". It is advertised as a program that will fund tuition grants and college scholarships. But, it will be financed by **legalizing video slot machine gambling**. While this seems to be of benefit to families and kids trying to get a college education, in fact, GAMBLING hurts families, *especially* children. Some facts:

- Studies have found slot machines to be the most addictive form of gambling, therefore given the label of "the crack-cocaine of gambling."
- Gambling *feeds on human greed* and invites people to place their trust in possessions rather than in God
- The amendment requires that they set aside funds to assist the state with gambling addiction services for *the addicts they know it will create*
- Learn and Earn is not about education; it is really about gambling revenue and maximizing profits while *weakening our families and communities*

If this bill passes, it will amend the Ohio Constitution, which will open the door for all forms of gambling to be legal in Ohio. As United Methodists, as Christians, we are called to resist the practices and systems that exploit other human beings leaving them impoverished and demeaned. **VOTE NO on Issue 3, "Learn and Earn."**

Raise the Minimum Wage

There is also a ballot initiative for a constitutional amendment that would raise Ohio's minimum wage to \$6.85 per hour, adjusted for inflation, which is somewhat closer to a LIVING wage.

- The federal minimum wage of \$5.15 and hour has not changed from 1997. An employee working 40 hours per week, earns less than \$11,000 a year, way below the poverty line. Until March of this year, Ohio was only one of two states that had a minimum wage BELOW the federal minimum wage.
- To have the purchasing power it did in 1968, the minimum wage would need to be \$9. While the cost of living continues to rise, the minimum wage has remained the same, causing many to sink lower and lower in poverty.

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- Raising the minimum wage will improve the lives of over 700,000 people in Ohio, many of whom are women.
- Raising wages does not automatically result in layoffs. Research has shown that while employers pay higher wages, those costs are more than offset by savings from reduced turnover and the expense of finding and training of new employees, and worker productivity.

“Let Justice Roll,” a faith-based, community-based organization, asserts:

"A job should keep you out of poverty, not keep you in it... Raising the minimum wage is an economic imperative for the enduring strength of our workforce, businesses, communities and economy. Raising the minimum wage is a moral imperative for the very soul of our nation."

VOTE YES to Raise the Minimum Wage.

To Vote at a poll in 2006 you MUST have one of these forms of ID-

A **government photo ID**: Ohio Driver's license or State ID showing either your **current** or **former** address, as long as the ID has **not expired**,

OR one of the following that shows your **current address**: **Military ID**, Copy of a current **utility bill**, **bank statement**, **paycheck**, **government check**, or another **government document** with current address. (Note: You cannot use the notice you received from the Board of Elections)

If you are a registered voter but don't have any acceptable form of ID when you come to the polls, you still have the right to cast a provisional ballot.

Don't leave the polls without at least voting a provisional ballot!

For more information call OhioVotes: 888-886-8364

-Pastor Jennifer



During a time like this, we realize how much our friends really mean to us. Your expression of sympathy upon the death of Audrey, our wife and mother, will always be remembered. Thank you for the flowers, as well. They were beautiful.

-Tom Owens, and family

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: 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

1	10:30 am	Worship—World Communion Sunday
2-9		Pastor Jennifer on vacation
4	7:00 pm	Bible Study
8	10:30 am	Celebration of Children's Sabbath
11	7:00 pm	Bible Study
15		Newsletter Deadline
17	7:00 pm	Staff/Parish Relations Committee Mtg.
18	7:00 pm	Bible Study
19	7-9:00 pm	Homelessness Series @ Trinity UMC
22	12:00 Noon	Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser @ King Avenue UMC
	6-8:00 pm	FAITHVOTE meeting w/ the candidates
25	7:00 pm	Bible Study
26	7-9:00 pm	Homelessness Series @ Trinity UMC
29	3:00 pm	Sunday Family Dinner
30	9-12 Noon	Coat Extravaganza setup
31	9-12 Noon	Coat Extravaganza setup NO Plugged In



FINANCIAL



NEWS

Report of the Treasurer

Aug, 2006

Checking Account

Beginning Balance	\$ 3,397.14
Deposits	19,970.10
Withdrawals	<u>15,174.02</u>

Balance \$ 8,193.22

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

Receipts in	Aug 2006	and Year
Total Plate	\$ 4,054.59	\$ 42,782.91
Friends	305.00	14,233.00
Partner Churches	4,375.00	21,594.29
Breakfast Ministry	654.51	10,367.20
Youth Ministry	3,321.00	19,083.20
Clothing Room	30.00	3,004.00
Bus Passes	0.00	50.00
Parsonage Rent	526.00	4,433.00
Investment Income	0.00	124.43
Maundy Thurs Service	0.00	561.86
Memorial Gifts	175.00	435.00
One Great Hr of Sharing	0.00	275.00
Bethel Fundraiser	0.00	620.00
Associate Pastor	30.00	2,635.50
Gift Fund	589.00	589.00
Group Meeting Income	520.00	4,520.00
Buckeye Tailgate	2,175.00	2,755.00
Holiday Flower Income	0.00	154.50
Other Income	<u>0.00</u>	<u>600.00</u>

Total Receipts \$17,320.10 \$128,817.89

-Rebecca Naas
Financial Secretary

Balance Sheet August, 2006

Assets

City National checking acct	\$ 8,193.22
Savings & Investments	<u>77,841.44</u>
Total Assets	\$86,034.66

Liabilities & Fund Balances

Withholdings	\$ 2,892.35
Operations	27,634.24
Youth Ministry Fund	18,688.64
Misc. Ministry Fund	(7,570.68)
Memorial Fund	17,906.00
Breakfast Ministry Fund	8,134.37
Clothing Room Fund	8,019.68
Pass Through Fund (flowers, etc)	(1,248.04)
Congreg. Benev (UMCOR, etc)	728.07
Lillian Skeelee Fund	10,899.17
2006 Begin. Balance Correction	<u>(49.14)</u>
Total Liabilities & Fund Bal.	\$86,034.66

Clothing Room Report August

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

Weekday Guests	1748
Sunday Guests	<u>592</u>
Total	2340



New Life News

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

October



MISSION STATEMENT

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

New Life News

is the monthly news/magazine of
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