

June
2010

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.”***

From The Pastor

At a recent conference, I heard Naomi Tutu, daughter of Desmond Tutu speak. The title of her lecture was, “Striving for Justice: Seeking Common Ground.” She criticized people who communicate that they see everyone of all races and nationalities the same, without judgment or prejudice, by saying they are “color blind.” She did so by talking about her mother who is an avid gardener. When her father won the Nobel Peace Prize a few years ago, they were living in New York City at the time. They made the trip home to Soweto, South Africa to celebrate with family and friends. It was a long trip, flying to London, and then to South Africa. After 18 hours of flying, they arrived to a large crowd waiting to welcome them home and have a celebration for this high honor he was being given. By the time they actually arrived at their home, everyone was exhausted. As the rest of the family headed for bed, her mother went directly to her garden, weeding and pruning. It had not been adequately cared for in her absence!

Ms. Tutu said, “Now if you walked into my mother’s garden and said, ‘I don’t see any colors,’ you would make her so mad she’d kick you out of her garden!” She worked hard to grow different kinds of flowers of various colors. She intended that diversity of colors to be growing together. That’s what made her garden beautiful. In the same way, God as our Creator has created each of us in God’s own image, yet in great diversity. So if we were to say when looking at each other with different shades of skin, different features, etc., “I don’t see color,” God would be offended! God worked hard to create the diversity among us, and sees beauty in all of those differences among the human family. And, as Ms. Tutu stated, God wants us to look upon one another in all of our diversity, and see beauty and value in our differences. As we do, we grow together as a diverse human family.

That’s what we strive for at New Life. We love, welcome and serve ALL people in the name of Jesus Christ — in all of our diversity. We pray for eyes to see the beauty and goodness in each person, in our various skin tones, features, languages, and accents. We pray that we can see the image of God in one another, and receive one another as members of the same family — God’s family. And in doing so, we find that even in the wonderful reality of our diversity, we also share much in common. This is the basis of our relationships, our ministry, our purpose. This is how we begin to reflect the Reign of God in what we do, and in who we are as the human family, and the body of Christ. What we strive for at New Life, let us also strive for in the world, so that it too begins to show signs of the Reign of God.

Grace and Peace, *Pastor Jennifer*

INVENTING A PEACEFUL WORLD

By Cassie Chenoweth

To me, inventing is a lot like life. I am an amateur inventor; I love to make things that solve the world's problems. Life is full of complications, discovery, uniqueness and eventually success, just like inventing. Really, the process of inventing something is just like solving problems in life.

If we each tried harder to fix our weaknesses, I think we'd have a happier, more peaceful world. If we wait to attempt to solve any problem, or we find unrealistic solutions to them, they become crises. If you have ever tried to invent a product, you know that if it doesn't work, people won't buy it—or for that matter, they will be hesitant to buy from you again. It's the same with personal problems: If you try to advertise yourself as someone you're not to cover up your problems, it is obvious you are a troubled person. People won't like you as much as if you just faced your problems and put effort toward fixing them.

As an inventor, your product also has to appeal to all kinds of people. To appeal to people in life, you have to treat everyone as equals. We have to stop thinking of ourselves as superior. For example, if leaders didn't think their country deserved all the oil, power or money, there would be no war. If we humans didn't think we were dominant over nature, we wouldn't have the environmental crisis we have now, to the point that we are destroying ourselves.

One of the most important aspects of being an inventor is curiosity. If you think about things no one else has considered, and wander where no one else dares to venture, you will always discover the unexpected. Curiosity drives me to learn to play new musical instruments, try out for the track team, plan to travel to every continent, read the best sellers as well as the obscure titles, and invent products that help the earth. Discovery, fueled by curiosity, is what makes us see and appreciate the ever-changing beauty in our world.

If everyone employed these three core values—working on our personal problems, treating one another as equals, and using curiosity—we would have a peaceful world. We would get along with other people, and there would be no need for prisons. We would find cures for diseases like cancer. There would be no war, no suffering, no pollution. Once we have fixed our own world, we can reach beyond it to explore brand new worlds.

(Cassie, who has been a part of our church family since birth, is completing the 6th grade at Dominion Middle School this month)



In Memoriam
Tom Owens



November 14, 1937-April 28, 2010

"A good and faithful servant."



SEARCHING FOR A TEAM

We are looking for a team of people to do regular weekly pickups at various Giant Eagle stores where we are able to get free bread and other breakfast items. If you are interested in joining this team please contact **Bill Casto** at billcasto15@gmail.com or 614-578-7846.

NEW LIFE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTER

You are cordially invited to our dedication service and grand opening celebration!

**SUNDAY,
JUNE 13, 2010
DEDICATION SERVICE
4:00 P.M.**

**TOUR & RECEPTION
TO FOLLOW**

No R.S.V.P. Required

OUR MISSION:
"AS SERVANTS OF CHRIST,
WE PROVIDE SERVICES TO
CARE FOR THE HEALTH
AND WELLNESS OF THE
BODY, MIND, AND SPIRIT
OF OUR NEIGHBORS
IN NEED."



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FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE - LOCATION CHANGE!

Beginning June 25th (Friday) from 6pm - 8pm, Friday Night Live will be hosted through the summer months (June, July & August) at the Thompson Recreation Center. The Thompson Recreation Center is located west of New Life United Methodist Church (approximately 200 feet west of the church on Dennison Avenue).

Friday Night Live is a time where the youth can meet in a Christ centered environment and have a safe place to play and fellowship. Hosting this event at the Thompson Recreation Center will allow the kids better accommodations for playing team sports, running, etc.

THOMPSON RECREATION CENTER will accommodate us by-

- 1) Providing Exclusive Access to their gymnasium and game room.
- 2) Each Child will be required to purchase a \$1.00 Leisure Card/year
- 3) Youth groups assisting NLUMC will be exempt from purchasing the Leisure Card.
- 3) Food and Beverages allowed in the building; NLUMC is responsible for cleanup.
- 4) Permission Slips & Waiver of Liability forms are required.

NEED YOUTH GROUPS - Please Volunteer!!

- 1) Provide meals for approximately (30) Kids - (Pizza and Beverages)
- 2) Provide activities and ideas; organize team games
- 3) Provide (5-10) minute lesson on a Scripture or Christ Centered Activity

NEED MENTORS - Volunteers to Help the Kids in any of these ways!!

- 1) Mentor the kids and/or participate in active play
 - 2) Provide ideas and organize team games
 - 3) Provide (5-10) minute Lesson on a Scripture
 - 4) DJ and play various Christian Music - We need a DJ; Please Call Sherri if interested.
- Contact **Sherri Benedict** (sherasmile@hotmail.com or 614-499-1119) for details.

SUMMER DATES FOR FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE:

June 25th - 6pm - 8pm

July 23rd - 6pm - 8pm

August 27th - 6pm - 8pm - Church of the Messiah's Youth group hosting

THE FIFTH AVENUE MIRACLE

by Greg Allenby

The New Life Community Outreach board has been meeting to plan how best to further Christ's kingdom of love and light. One of the first things the board did was to take stock of what we currently do. The story we have to tell at New Life is staggering, truly a miracle. During the course of last year, we estimate that we have provided:

- 25,000 meals, 17,000 of which were served in our breakfast ministry.
- 30,000 sets of clothing, with 100 new visitors to our clothing ministry each month.
- 1800 medical examinations to 550 different patients.

Miracles occur whenever some part of heaven touches the earth. Miracles are things we can't explain, they just happen. On earth, we explain things by saying that "this" happened first, and then "that" happened next. But heaven is eternal and not bound by time. So, when heaven touches earth, things happen that can't be explained in the normal way. Do people believe because they have faith, or do they have faith because they believe? The answer is neither - they both come from heaven and are given to us at the same time, and we call this a miracle.

My favorite miracle in the Bible is the multiplication of the loaves in Matthew 14, where Jesus feeds the five thousand with five loaves of bread and two fish. I like this miracle because it reminds me of what happens every day at New Life. Jesus looks up to heaven, gives thanks, breaks the bread, and has the disciples distribute it to the people. Somehow, there is enough for everyone. How? Did the Holy Spirit prompt the people to add their own food? Did God physically multiply the food himself? Or, did the people need less because it came from Jesus? Who knows? It doesn't really matter because all the explanations begin and end with God.

How is it that New Life can be so productive in its breakfast, clothing and health care ministries? Is it due to our partner churches who provide their own resources? Is it because God energizes us when we work shoulder-to-shoulder with other Christians? Or, is it because we make do with less, knowing that we are living out Jesus' command to "feed my sheep." The answer, of course, is "Yes."

If you haven't experienced the miracle on 5th Avenue, please join us next Sunday. We are always in need of volunteers. Come to serve and stay to worship. The breakfast ministry begins at 6:30am, with breakfast served at 8:30am. Bible study at 9:30am and worship at 10:30am. See you soon!

(Editor's Note: **Greg Allenby** is an active member of New Life United Methodist Church.)





A Special
THANK YOU



Few of us can claim to have been active in New Life's ministry of clothing our neighbors in need for nearly 30 years! **Connie Bence**, one of our faithful volunteers, can make that claim. Long ago, when Church of the Master in Westerville began a mission partnership with New Life, **Connie**, along with 3 or 4 other ladies volunteered in the clothing room. At that time all activity was located in the current clothing room space

One lady at one table sorted the clothes and handed out pants and shoes to the men. **Connie** advanced from check-out to the "back room" where a few used towels, sheets, pillowcases and blankets were kept. At that time a few bars of soap and razors were available to be given; all clothing was used. Eventually new socks for men were added. **Connie** has delighted in seeing the clothing room grow in supplies, volunteers, space and neighbors served.

Possessing the talent of seeing a good bargain, **Connie** has always come laden with supplies for the clothing room: tooth brushes, aspirin, Q tips, deodorant, toboggan hats, to name a few. Often items had been broken down into packages for distribution from the Personals Room. Under **Connie's** influence her circle and Sunday School class became involved in giving donations and money. Her daughters, **Deb** and **Judy**, followed in their mother's footsteps and volunteered and/or sought bargains to supply the Personals Room. The church rummage sale was also a source of needed items, especially men's pants, for our neighbors.

Sadly for us in the clothing room, **Connie** will no longer serve as an active volunteer but New Life will always remain close to her heart. She will be involved in promoting the ministry of New Life at Church of the Master and already has recruited **Dave** and **Sue Arter** to be liaisons. **Connie** will continue to use her talents as she serves quietly in the background at Church of the Master. Typical of her generous spirit is a new venture to be a bridge partner for a disabled friend confined to a nursing home.

TWO YOUTH JOIN CHURCH IN CONFIRMATION SERVICE

Kendra Althea Booker and **Nyree Elijah Booker** (sister and brother) were confirmed and became members of New Life UMC on Sunday, May 16. **Kendra** and **Nyree** were mentored in their confirmation studies the past several months by **Greg Allenby** and **Marlene Haught**. These two youth have shown a sincere interest in continuing to learn about God and the church by reading the scripture, attending church and witnessing their faith to others. We welcome them as members of the New Life Church Family.

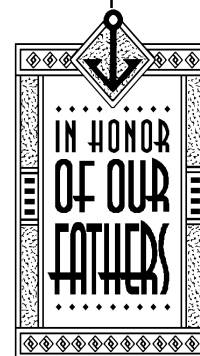
IT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH

****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)
 Mondays: Drummers Alcoholic Anonymous (8PM)
 Tuesdays: Clothing Room*, Hospitality Breakfast,
 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 as listed above, please note the following for June:

<u>June</u>		
2	7:00 PM	Bible Study
3	7:00 PM	Ad Council meeting
6	10:30 AM	Worship—Sacrament of Holy Communion
6-10		West Ohio Annual Conference
9	7:00 PM	NO Bible Study
10	6:30 PM	New Life Community Outreach Board meeting
13	4:00 PM	Dedication of New Life Health and Wellness Center
16	7:00 PM	Bible Study
20		FATHER'S DAY
23	7:00 PM	Bible Study
25	6:00-8:00 PM	Friday Night Live (at Thompson Recreation Center)
26	6:00 PM	Young Disciples attending Columbus Crew Game
27	3:00 PM	Sunday Family Dinner
30	7:00 PM	Bible Study



FINANCIAL



NEWS

Report of the Treasurer as of April 30, 2010

Checking Account	
Beginning Balance	18,833.48
Deposits	56,425.28
Transfers	30,000.00
Withdrawals	48,272.34
Balance	\$56,986.42

—Steve Waldron, Treasurer

Receipts in	April	and Year
Total Plate	6,908.23	28,371.54
Friends	1,965.00	8,443.00
Partner Churches	500.00	9,726.00
Breakfast Ministry	3,815.00	10,407.00
Youth Ministry	1,250.00	7,090.00
Clothing Room	2,522.86	4,002.86
Healthcare Ministry	50.00	1,150.00
Memorial Fund	0.00	2,160.00
UMCOR*	0.00	929.00
Miscellaneous	33,070.69	35,710.93
Group Meeting	420.00	1,380.00
Youth Ice Skate Party	200.00	1,566.00
Pastor Discretionary	0.00	576.00
Easter	541.00	541.00
Easter Flowers	55.00	277.50
Bluegrass Concert	4,857.50	5,707.50
Buckeye Tailgate	<u>270.00</u>	<u>280.00</u>
Total	\$56,425.28	\$118,318.33

—Tom Householder,
Financial Secretary

Balance Sheet as of April 30, 2010

Assets	
City National checking acct	\$56,986.42
Savings & Investments	187,508.05
Total	\$244,494.47
Liabilities & Fund Balances	
Withholdings	3,720.90
Operations	49,588.13
Youth Ministry Fund	5,885.39
Misc. Ministry Fund	(12,775.63)
Memorial Fund	25,887.00
Health Ministry Fund	12,938.88
Breakfast Ministry Fund	32,670.29
Clothing Room Fund	11,598.48
Pass Through Fund (flowers, etc)	(2,906.62)
Congreg. Benev (UMCOR, etc)	2,020.02
Lillian Skeelee Fund	11,723.88
Total**	\$140,350.72

****Does not include Demonotec stock (this will continue to be true until not-for-profit fund set up.)**



Clothing Room Report Apr 2010

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

Weekday Guests	1927
Sunday Guests	<u>557</u>
Total	2484

New Life News

**New Life
United Methodist
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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
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