

January
2012

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

As we begin a new calendar year, it's a time to reflect on the past year, and anticipate all that will happen in 2012. It is a good time to give thanks for how God is at work in our lives, in our ministry, even in the world, and looking forward in hope in how God will continue to do so. While we tend to be good at making resolutions, we are not always good at keeping them! But, it's worth trying... Scripture teaches us that we are saved by grace through faith, but also that faith without works is dead. These two central beliefs are held in tension by what John Wesley calls inward and outward, or personal and social holiness. BOTH are essential in our relationship with Christ. It is God's grace at work within us makes doing so even possible.

Throughout this newsletter you will see **many opportunities to serve Christ through the ministries of New Life.** In every area of ministry: youth, clothing room, breakfast ministry, health ministry, and leadership, there are ways we can strengthen and improve the ministries God has entrusted us with. We continue to see a growing number of our neighbors coming in need of clothing, meals, health care, and a safe place to be. There are more and more kids who want to be included in our tutoring, recreational and Christian education programs. We have learned that by serving and being in relationship with one another both in spite of, and in celebration of our differences, we are engaged in social holiness, putting faith into action, or are being open to the Spirit inspiring and moving us to come to faith through our actions. Both social (acts of mercy and justice) and personal holiness are intertwined as the Spirit works within and among us.

Intentional focus on personal holiness through Bible study, regular attendance in worship, prayer and fasting are also essential to growing in our relationship with Christ. So, as you prayerfully consider sharing you time, talents and treasure in the ministries of New Life, and in other places of ministry, I pray that you will also commit to nurture your faith in these other ways. **At New Life, I lead a Bible study on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesdays at 7 p.m.,** They are based on the lectionary passages assigned for the week. The passages are printed in the bulletin, and are on the worship page of the website. While each class discusses the same passages, they are very different because of those who participate! Try one or both! Another adult Sunday School class is taught by **Bob Brown**, which includes a variety of topics.

Make worship on Sunday a priority! Each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. we gather as a community of faith to worship and glorify the Lord through prayer and song, reading scripture and discerning God's Word for us through preaching and reflection. Worshipping the Lord keeps God as the center of our lives, and then all else that we do will hopefully be guided by that faith relationship. And there are always opportunities to serve as liturgist, and sing in the choir!

Inward holiness and outward holiness cannot exist in isolation — loving God AND loving neighbor — are intertwined in our faith. As we begin 2012, let's commit to this work, all the while trusting in the sanctifying grace of God to be at work within us to make it possible. — *Pastor Jennifer*

Opportunities to Join in Our Ministry with Children

Friday Night Live

We are seeking additional youth groups to join us on the 4th Fridays of each month. We have openings for youth outreach in the months of April through November 2012. Your youth group would sponsor the evening for our New Life Kids, providing a mini meal and activities for the night. Your team would join with us at New Life from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. We currently are having about 20 kids each Friday. Ideas for theme activities are welcome -we had blast at 50's dance in November! Thanks for thinking about our youth ministry. We are blessed by your faithfulness!

Assistance is needed for Plugged In (Tuesdays, 6 p.m.- 8 p.m.):

Mentor Coordinator

We are prayerfully seeking a Mentor Coordinator for our homework club that meets on Tuesdays during the school year. This person will receive email addresses of our mentors and be the point person for mentors. Monday mornings an email to request mentors is sent out. Mentors email if they are available by 2:00 PM. The coordinator then matches up the mentor with the child they will be assisting that Tuesday evening. We attempt to keep the same mentors with the same child for consistency.

Snack and Set Up Coordinator

We are seeking a helper to set up the snacks and room for the Plugged In Program. This person will be the first to arrive (before 5:30 PM) and set out the rooms for the program. They are responsible for setting up the files and materials used, such as the children's file folders and incentive stones and folders. This person will also assist with the clean up and putting away the materials at the end of the evening.

Van Driver

We are seeking a van driver for our Plugged In Program. This person will be responsible for picking up the children each week. The New Life van can be picked up by 5:15 PM and the children will be collected up till 5:40 PM. The children will need to be at the church by 6:00 PM. This driver will also drive the kids home from Plugged In at 8:00 PM.

My favorite movie is "Anne of Green Gables." I can identify with Anne. She was an orphan who always managed to be placed with large families with twins! She was a creative person and dreamed big dreams. I desire to be more like that. How I identify with her the most is she had a big mouth that sometimes got her into trouble. She also had a fiery hot temper. What she did the best was say things she shouldn't say, or do things she thought would be helpful which ended up being a disaster. My favorite line from the movie is, "Each morning is new with no mistakes in it." It doesn't take me long to make a mistake and mess that all up.

I like to think of each New Year....fresh and new with no mistakes in it! We have a whole new year ahead of us to make right the right choices. If we make a mistake we can ask for help to make right the wrongs from yesterday.

Let's pray a little longer and more often. Let's forgive others who have harmed us and ask forgiveness if we have wronged another. We have a clean slate; can we keep it that way? Let's have a race...a reverse race. This year let's see who can go the longest without making a mistake! Wow! We can't do it alone; we can only run this race with the help of the Holy Spirit who is our teacher. Listen to that small still voice and pay attention when that voice says "Don't do it." "Let it go." "Be the bigger person." "Ask them to forgive you." "Forgive them." "Tell your mom you did it." "Be honest." "Tell the truth." "Be nice." We can do all things through Christ! I'm praying we all have a fantastic year and look forward to see how your year is going for you!

—Pastor Rosie (roseinslo@yahoo.com)

News From the Clothing Room

As these words are being written, Christmas is just ten days away. When these words are read, the cards will have been sent, cookies baked and gobbled up, gifts enjoyed and the Christmas decorations stored away for another year. Yet, the greatest of gifts, God's love given through Jesus, continues to dwell within each of us and can be shared with all through out the New Year!

That very love and caring is constantly expressed by the many bags of clothing, new underwear, socks, jeans, coats, toiletries and financial support so willingly given by our partner churches and countless individuals. Love and compassion are also shared in the many volunteer hours graciously given by the faithful staff of men and women who serve in the clothing room. These many gifts of love are truly awesome and so greatly appreciated.

Christmas is the beginning of all of this gifting....God gave Jesus out of love and the very heart of Jesus' ministry was love and compassion. Thus, as each of us shares that love with others we celebrate Christmas every day.

As the number of neighbors served increases and our needs become greater we continue to depend upon your generosity for material and financial support as well as needing your time and energy to give "hands on" service in the clothing room. It is rewarding!

Men and women are needed to strengthen our staff for both Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, beginning at 8:45 until 11:30. Those who are interested can just come either morning. Beginning volunteers sort clothes and eventually may move into other areas depending on their interests. We look forward to having you join us and share in the excitement and joy of serving our neighbors in need.

We are blessed for heeding Jesus' new commandment given to his disciples as found in John 13:34, "... love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Come, share God's love in this new year!

—**Vickie Moseley**
Clothing Room Steward



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT NEW LIFE

Driving Ministry Vital to the Outreach at New Life

The team of drivers of vans and buses for Sunday mornings, and youth events at other times, is a vital part of what we do at New Life UMC. This team brings close to 250 people to the church each week in six different vehicles for the breakfast, clothing room, health & wellness center, tutoring and other youth activities, and worship and spiritual growth.

This team of devoted drivers includes: **Mike Mulford** and **Grant Fish** from Hilliard UMC, **Kieven** and **Roger Hill** from Commercial Point, **Dan Ewing** from Trinity UMC, **Dan Birmingham** from Worthington UMC, **Ben Durfee**, **Chris Prespare** and **Cassie Davis Bennett** from King Avenue, **Harry** and **Kathy Young** and **Rich Givens** from Bethel UMC, **Andy Teater** from Meadow Park Church of God, and **Greg Allenby**, **Pastor Rosie** and **Bill Casto** from New Life.

The team picks people up each week at shelters—Friends of the Homeless (on E. Main), Faith on Mission 6th and on 8th Avenues, VOA and Sunshine Terrance (on the west side), YWCA and YMCA, and at many different homes where the families live around the city. Routes begin at 7 a.m. and conclude about 12:30 p.m. every Sunday morning (with different drivers for each of the three shifts). And there is transportation provided on Tuesday evenings and other times each week.

Thanks to everyone who helps with this ministry—including the drivers, the churches and others who provide the vehicles each week (King Ave., Trinity, Meadow Park and Hill Farms). If you would like to help, or know some one who might, please let **Bill Casto** know at **billcasto15@gmail.com**.

Volunteers Needed at OTHER Times

Most of us know about volunteering for our breakfast ministry on Sunday and Tuesday mornings, and our clothing room ministry on Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, and our health care ministry on Sunday morning, and our various ministries with children. Our outreach ministries take A LOT of volunteers on several different days every week.

But, do you also know that we need backup support for all of these ministries each week? There is a crew that shops for and prepares the food for Sunday on **Thursday** mornings, and a crew that sets up the dining room and kitchen on **Saturday** mornings. These crews need help EVERY week also.

If you would like to pitch in, please let **Bill Casto** (**billcasto15@gmail.com**) or **Chuck Belding** (**CDBELDING@aol.com**) know. They can give you more details. Even if you can help only once in awhile, we need to develop a list of people we can contact if we are going to be short handed on some particular day.

Results from The Big Give

Thanks to the generosity of many donors, and matching gifts from The Columbus Foundation, we were blessed to receive over **\$6,530** to be used in our various outreach ministries! We are very grateful for all of the means God uses to provide us with the resources necessary to provide meals, clothing, medical care, and spiritual care for our many neighbors, as well as support our growing youth ministry. Thanks to all who made donations through this fundraising campaign.

From Our Student Intern

I first attended New Life a little over a year ago, having been lured into the church by **Pastor Rosie's** excited descriptions, and the allure of treatment at the clinic for what had turned into a serious cold. I had never been to a church that felt so alive. That Sunday, I was awed and amazed by the amount of life and energy of this church, and returned periodically through the winter and spring. When it came time for me to find an internship, this was the place I chose for myself.

It has been a wonderful three months so far that I have gotten to share with my friends and neighbors here. I've gotten to do crafts and drawing lessons with the youth on Fridays and help with mentoring and homework on Tuesdays. Sunday is bustling with the morning ministries, choir, Sunday school, service in the sanctuary and children's church. The Christmas pageant was a wonder, and all the practices and hard work came together in the youth's performance. Not only do I have the most interesting stories for my field education class, I get to meet the most interesting people!

For my graduation requirements, I'll be going on a cross cultural immersion trip. But while I am in India, I can assure you that you will all be in my thoughts and prayers. You won't see me for a few Sundays, but there is no escape. I'll be back. I can't describe how much I am looking forward to the New Year at New Life!

Peace be with you,

~ **Rebecca Rudawitz**

Success at Winter Overflow Results in Increased Breakfast Ministry Attendance

Kudos to the Community Shelter Board for a very well designed and executed Winter Overflow option for people who are forced to be without shelter during the coldest winter nights! The 2011-12 winter option is the best since we have been involved in our ministry with currently homeless people through our Breakfast Ministry at New Life.

This year it looks like only those who CHOOSE to, or those who have proven to be a SAFETY THREAT to others, are sleeping outside. What a great step forward for our most vulnerable friends and for the Central Ohio Community!

As a result of this system, we are now serving a significantly larger crowd at Sunday Morning Breakfast each week –about 30 additional people. This has stretched our capacity and our food, but we are happy to serve these folks.

Thanks be to God and to all of our volunteer teams for their hospitality and other resources that help us care for these extra neighbors! **God always provides!**

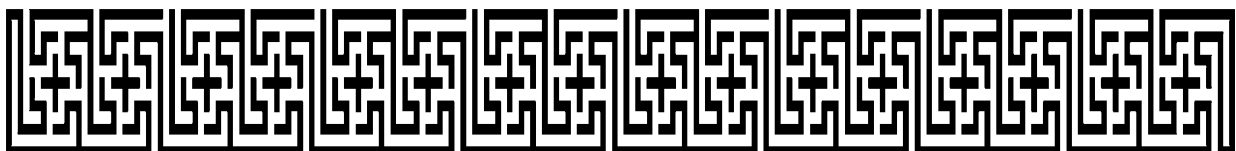
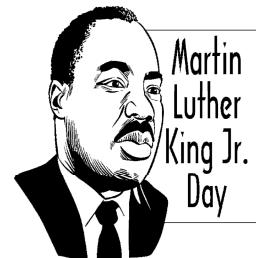
IT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH

****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, 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 (8 PM)
 Drummers Alcoholic Anonymous (9PM)
 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 activities for January:

1		HAPPY NEW YEAR!
	10:30 AM	Worship—Sacrament of Holy Communion
4	7:00 PM	Bible Study
5	7:00 PM	Trustees meeting
10	6:00 PM	Plugged In resumes
11	7:00 PM	Bible Study
12	6:30 PM	New Life Comm Outreach Board mtg
15		Newsletter deadline
16		Martin Luther King Day
16-30		Pastor Jennifer on vacation
29	3:00 PM	Sunday Family Dinner





**Report of the Treasurer
as of Nov 30, 2011**
 Checking Account
 West Ohio Credit Union
 Beginning Balance..... 9,723.85
 Contributions 48,265.54
 Expenses 51,854.98
Balance..... 6,134.41

—Steve Waldron, Treasurer

Receipts in	Nov	and Year
Total Plate	6,429.45	93,487.87
Friends	1,446.00	13,903.57
Partner Churches	1,226.00	36,738.22
Breakfast Ministry	160.00	8,105.00
Youth Ministry	4,021.21	21,704.21
Clothing Room	20.00	1,495.00
Parsonage Rent	650.00	4,350.00
Healthcare Ministry	0.00	2,131.61
One Great Hr of Sharing	0.00	10.00
Easter Flowers	0.00	227.50
Memorial Fund	0.00	810.00
UMCOR	0.00	780.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	2,806.18
CROP Walk	0.00	55.00
Thanksgiving offering	36.00	36.00
Easter	0.00	2,634.00
Group Meeting	440.00	4,614.06
Pastor Discretionary Fund	0.00	3,750.00
New Life Comm. Outrch	60.00	480.00
Buckeye Fundraiser	0.00	21,748.17
Bluegrass Fundraiser	0.00	6,341.00
Total	\$14,488.66	\$226,207.39

—Tom Householder,
Financial Secretary

**Balance Sheet
as of Nov 30, 2011**

Assets	
Checking account	6,134.41
Savings & Investment	278,642.28
Total Assets	\$284,776.69
Liabilities & Fund Balances	
Withholdings	6,062.32
Operations	130,232.20
Youth Ministry Fund	20,437.47
Misc. Ministry Fund	-12,775.63
Memorial Fund	67,292.00
Breakfast Ministry Fund	43,564.77
Health Ministry Fund	15,543.25
Clothing Room Fund	3,450.65
Pass Thru Fund (flowers, etc)	-3,564.24
Congreg Benev (UMCOR, etc)	2,810.02
Lillian Skeelee Fund	11,723.88
Total Liab & Fund Bal	\$284,776.69



Nov, 2011	
Hours of Operation:	
Sunday	7-9:30 am
Tues. & Wed.	9-11:30 am
Weekday Guests	1592
Sunday Guests	702
Total	2294

New Life News

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



January



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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LAY LEADERSHIP FOR 2012

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Secretary: Chuck Belding
Chair, Finance & Treasurer: Steve Waldron
Financial Secretary: Tom Householder
Chair, Staff/Parish Relations Committee: Cora Green
Chair, Trustees: Gary Sansbury
Ministry of Care and Encouragement: TBE
Rep., Community Ministries: Tim Holcomb
Lay Member to Annual Conference: Tom Householder
New Life Community Outreach Board Chair: TBE
Members at Large: Doral Chenoweth, Gary Carson

Ex Officio

Breakfast Ministry Coordinator: Chuck Belding
Clothing Room Steward: Vickie Moseley
Choir Director: Bob Brown

Staff:

Rev. Jennifer Kimball Casto
Rosie Porambo

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Lay member to Annual Conference: Tom Householder
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Mel Hampton, Scott Powell, Chris Stover