

THE AMBASSADOR

From the Pastor's Pen...

July 2009

Could You Save a Life?

Among the news stories of this past week, innocent commuters riding the subway outside Washington D.C. found themselves jarred by the impact of an unexpected collision of two trains. If you've seen images of the wreckage, like me you're taken aback by the magnitude of what transpired. Lives are changed in mere moments of time.

In a recent interview with one of the passengers riding on the Red Line that day, I was struck by the powerful story of an ordinary man who chose to come to the aid of another total stranger hurt in the accident. Isn't it good to know that there are still those who, when seeing another person in need, choose to reach out and offer themselves?

Beneath the backdrop of this story I hear the words of Jesus, who when asked about God's promise of new life, offered a story of a Good Samaritan. The tenth chapter of Luke's gospel highlights the story that many of us first learned to role play as children. Others who had seen a man in distress along the roadway choose to walk on by as though no one was there. Finally, another man (a Samaritan of all people) chose to get involved, caring for the man's needs and providing for his welfare. He chose to save a life!

If presented with the opportunity to save a life could you do it? I am not talking about saving a life in a medical emergency here, though having someone available is certainly very good when we need them. I am talking about saving someone's life spiritually? If you had to talk with a total stranger, friend or family member about faith in Christ could you do it? I sometimes fear most of us are reluctant to have such a conversation let alone *start* one. If someone were willing to teach you would you be willing to learn? If you were given some basic skills would you be willing to give them a try?

During our worship services in July, I am going to be teaching a series called "Sharing Jesus Without Fear." We'll explore stories and people – ordinary people just like you and me – who took up the challenge to share the life story of Jesus with others and ultimately made a difference.

Who knows? A life you save today may just thank you someday in eternity. Wouldn't that be terrific?

See you in worship this summer!

Pastor Steve

2009 Annual Conference Recap

On June 7-11 leaders from all across our West Ohio Annual Conference gathered at Lakeside to welcome back Bishop Ough and his wife Char for another four years of spiritual leadership among us. The theme of this year's session was entitled *Love in Action: Developing Leaders* centering on promoting greater lay leadership in congregations as well as increasing initiatives to encourage younger clergy toward ministry and service in the United Methodist Church.

Daily worship services began our days together featuring both traditional and contemporary styles of worship led by a wide spectrum of persons across our Conference. Preaching and teaching focused on our theme for this year's conference about the need to equip leadership and continue to rethink what it means to be in mission and service to those outside our doors and beyond our walls.

Among the high moments of worship was the presentation of our Love First miracle offering which included the gathering of school kits for children in other parts of the world to attend school. As of June 19th 10,600 school kits had been collected and cash gifts of \$150,000 have also been received! **Thank you to our M&Ms Bible Study for contributing 20 kits and \$20.00 to this effort. You will have an opportunity to give more kits and cash later this fall at the annual Festival of Sharing. See someone on our Missions team if you'd like to know more...**

Conference committees present reports, submit annual budgets, handle legal matters, in a similar form to what we do in our local church. In addition, a variety of recommendations were presented on social issues ranging from casino gambling to procuring peace in the Middle East to name a few. All conference recommendations were passed. You can read more specific details on the Conference website at westohioumc.org

Of special importance at this year's session was the voting on of amendments to our *Discipline* following the 2008 General Conference. In total, 32 amendments were presented: 5 passed and 27 failed to gain the needed majority. Each of the annual conferences around the world must vote on these same amendments and an aggregate total of votes will determine if these changes will become effective. Final results cannot be announced until all annual conferences have completed their work this summer.

Thank you for the privilege of allowing us to represent you at Lakeside!

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Steve Rath
Rob Greenlese, Lay Delegate



July 2009 Birthdays

<u>Day</u>	<u>Adults</u>		
1	Nicole Westfall	20	Christie Wielgopolski
4	Brian George	21	Chris May
7	Zella Corbin	21	Todd Swanson
9	Amanda Morrison	23	Bill Gregory, Jr.
11	Keith Colyer	24	Carolyn Strayer
14	Cody Launder	25	JoeAnn Lumley
15	Ron Dalton	25	Lou Peyton
17	Lara Eisel	25	Lindsay Young
18	Thomas Emahiser	30	Joe Becker
19	Tiffany Stevens		



<u>Day</u>	<u>Youth</u>
6	Gabriel Sheridan
14	Caroline Gribble
23	Aimee Allison

We would like to welcome **Lawrence and Grace Russell** into our church family. They recently transferred their membership to Waterville United Methodist Church from Asbury United Methodist Church in Toledo, OH.



Hospitalized in June: Marilyn Simpson
Richard Schifferly



UNITED METHODIST MEN PRESENTS ONCE AGAIN



Fabulous 50's Diner

Saturday July 11th

4:30 to 7:30

Church Courtyard



Tell your family and friends to come out to the diner. We will again have burgers, fries, homemade pies, root beer floats, great music, and much more. We have had a sign-up sheet in the hall outside the offices for the past several weeks, but if you have not yet had a chance to volunteer to help please give Jason Born (419-601-1169) a call to find a spot.

Men's Group Reminder:

The July 11th meeting will be setting up for the Fabulous 50's Diner. **Chairmen have your teams ready to go before the 11th.**

Men's Group Update:

The Men would like to offer rides to church for any shut-ins in our congregation. Before we officially begin we would like to ascertain whether or not we have a need for such a service among our church family. If you are a shut-in or know a shut-in in our community who would appreciate this type of assistance, please call the church office at 419-878-3645. Our church secretaries will compile a list for us to begin to schedule. If such a need exists we will build a schedule of driving volunteers and let you know when we hope to initiate the service.

Respectfully, Jason Born

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

LUNCH BUNCH

The Lunch Bunch welcomes any women who would like to join us at Rosie's Italian Grille, 606 North McCord Road (at Nebraska), on **Wednesday July 15th at 12:45 p.m.** We always have lots of fun, fellowship and great food. If you need a ride, please call Tehya Collinsworth at 419-878-8616.



GOD'S GARDEN

God's Garden is mostly planted for this year, and the recent rain really has it smiling. As you may remember from last year, I have dedicated all the cash receipts from my veggie and fruit sales to our New Building Fund. Thank you for all the support you gave it last summer.

I could use some help this year: harvesting, manning the stand at the Farmers Market, and just general support throughout the summer and fall months. I am usually gone over Labor Day weekend and that turned out to be the largest sales of the summer last year!! Delores Young, Matt Plassman and Brittany Hale harvested that weekend to keep things going. Wonderful!! Thank you Thank you!!

Please call/e-mail me if you will have time to help out this year. But, mostly, stop by the stand at 6 Karis St. after we get going for the summer about mid-July.

John Nicholson (Sweetcorn John)

BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATE:

The Building Committee has received four proposals for the building drawings and has set up meetings with three firms in late June for further discussions.

Further, the Building Committee has begun collecting input from various ministry teams and groups of our church on what their "needs" in a new church building would be. Check the bulletin board outside the church offices for the sign up sheet to be included in the discussions. All Building Committee meetings are open to all interested persons in the congregation.

Please continue to keep the Committee in your prayers as they move forward.

KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY DINNER



Date: Saturday, August 15, 2009

Times: Dinner at 6:00 PM / Program at 7:30 PM

Location: WPOS – FM Christian Radio Station, 7112 Angola Road, Holland, OH

Keynote Speaker: Tom Anstutz, former University of Toledo Head Football Coach

Other Speakers: Chaplain Frank Vloch, Toledo Correctional Institution
Greg Roesser, Kairos Weekend #1 graduate

Purpose of the event: Proceeds will be used to underwrite Kairos Prison Ministry at Toledo Correctional Institution

Dinner menu: (see flyer on bulletin board)

Door Prizes: An assortment of gifts from local donors

Price: \$15.00 per person (checks preferred, payable to Kairos Ohio)

**To purchase tickets and more information,
contact Rob Greenlese at 419-878-9335**



To all the people of Waterville United Methodist church,
I would like to thank everyone who prayed for me, sent me cards, and visited me--especially Pastor Steve. These all help me get well.
God Bless One and All, Millie Hires

Dear Waterville UMC, John Nicholson, Mary Williams, and Pastor Rath,
Thank you for the beautiful quilt made for Henrietta LaDuke, We all appreciate your care and concern. God Bless.
Sincerely, Staff of Southern Care Hospice of Toledo and Rev. Mary Wood



The prayer quilt from "church" was a real comfort and blessing. I'm sure all those prayers is why I feel so good. I'm into my third week of radiation and all is going well. Please convey my thanks to all the "Prayer Ladies". They were a blessing to me! Fondly, Julie Vanuka



The quilt that you and your church made and sent for Glenn was such a sweet expression of caring. Glenn used it every day. It was just what he needed. Thank you so much for that and for your prayers and kindness.
Kathy Marvel

Waterville UMC, Thank you for the inspirational cross. I really appreciate your thoughtfulness. Jason Brown



Dear Church Family, Thank you so much for your prayers and love offering. This was a greatly generous gift from all of you and is truly appreciated. Since the doctors strongly recommend that I stay away from my family until the fever had passed, this money covered the cost of 4 nights in a hotel. Any remainder of your gift I will put into the mission fund for next year's trip. I'm feeling much better now and am excited to finally be home with Stephanie and the boys. Even though our trip was plagued by the flu, the kids were able to help out in many ways in the Minneapolis community. I'm anxious to share our experiences soon. Sincerely, Adam Shelton

STATISTICS

DATE	WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	GENERAL FUND	CAPITAL CAMPAIGN	MISSIONS	SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
May 31	180	\$1,998.00	\$5,940.00	\$ 35.00	29
June 7	188	4,386.00	860.00	130.00	33
June 14	142	4,626.00	660.00	50.00	23
June 21	129	3,854.45	160.00	0.00	23



Scripture and Prayer Calendar



SCRIPTURE		JUL	PRAYER
II Chronicles 1 & 2	Colossians 4	1	Mrs. Mary Birsen
II Chronicles 3 & 4	I Thessalonians 1	2	The Carrie Black Family
II Chronicles 5 & 6	I Thessalonians 2	3	Mr. & Mrs. Harry Blackmon
II Chronicles 7 & 8	I Thessalonians 3	4	Mr. Tim Bock
II Chronicles 9 & 10	I Thessalonians 4	5	Mrs. Linda Bohaczenko
II Chronicles 11 & 12	I Thessalonians 5	6	Mr. & Mrs. David Boost
II Chronicles 13 & 14	II Thessalonians 1	7	The Jason Born Family
II Chronicles 15 & 16	II Thessalonians 2	8	The Bob Bowers Family
II Chronicles 17 & 18	II Thessalonians 3	9	The Doug Box Family
II Chronicles 19 & 20	I Timothy 1	10	Mrs. Addie Breymaier
II Chronicles 21 & 22	I Timothy 2	11	The Gary Breymaier Family
II Chronicles 23 & 24	I Timothy 3	12	The Randy Breymaier Family
II Chronicles 25 & 26	I Timothy 4	13	The Steve Broseke Family
II Chronicles 27 & 28	I Timothy 5	14	The Joel Brown Family
II Chronicles 29 & 30	I Timothy 6	15	Mrs. Lea Brown
II Chronicles 31 & 32	II Timothy 1	16	Mrs. Joyce Bruce
II Chronicles 33 & 34	II Timothy 2	17	Mrs. Dorothy Bunde
II Chronicles 35 & 36	II Timothy 3	18	The Paul Buskey Family
Ezra 1 & 2	II Timothy 4	19	The Kenny Cameron Family
Ezra 3 & 4	Titus 1	20	Ms. Jean Carpenter
Ezra 5 & 6	Titus 2	21	Mrs. Tehya Collinsworth
Ezra 7 & 8	Titus 3	22	The Keith Colyer Family
Ezra 9 & 10	Philemon 1	23	The Robin Condon Family
Nehemiah 1 & 2	Hebrews 1	24	Mrs. Zella Corbin
Nehemiah 3 & 4	Hebrews 2	25	The Allen Cox Family
Nehemiah 5 & 6	Hebrews 3	26	Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Cox
Nehemiah 7 & 8	Hebrews 4	27	The Steve Crandall Family
Nehemiah 9 & 10	Hebrews 5	28	Mr. & Mrs. Jim Croy
Nehemiah 11, 12, 13	Hebrews 6	29	The Paul Croy Family
Ester 1 & 2	Hebrews 7	30	Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Crum
Ester 3 & 4	Hebrews 8	31	Mrs. Ardis Cullen



**God...
has appointed
a time for
every matter,
and for every
work.**

Ecclesiastes 3:17



Prayer Chain

Following each daily Scripture Reading are the names of the families and individuals for our daily prayer list. Please read your Bible and pray for these persons for the month of July. If you have a prayer request, please feel free to call the Prayer Chain: Pam Plassmann 419-878-9432 or e-mail plassmb@accesstoledo.com; Mary Williams 419-878-5554 or e-mail margewill@toast.net.

