

August 2011

# THE CORNERSTONE

*Christ Church United Methodist*  
700 S. Marshall Road, Middletown OH 45044  
513-422-7364 (telephone) • 513-422-2161 (fax) • [www.christum.com](http://www.christum.com)



## Staff

Norman H. Coleman III, Sr. Pastor  
Brian Shumard, Dir of Youth/Family Ministries  
Donna Hanby, Dir of Children's Ministries  
Deona Bethart, Interim Director  
Beth Rettich, Dir. of Outreach Daycare  
Debbie Alexander, Dir of Music Worship  
Audna Morse, Organist  
Betsy Balger, Accompanist  
Michelle McDonough, Nursery Coordinator  
Peggy Davish, Church Secretary

## Sunday Worship Services

8:30 am - Traditional Worship  
11:00 am - Contemporary Worship

## Group Study

### *Sunday Adult Classes*

Room 113: "1 Samuel"  
Room 115: "This We Believe"  
Room 118: "Lord, Give Me Patience"

...  
*and Please Give It To Me Right Now!"*

### *Wednesday at 10:00 am (Room 113)*

Pastor's Bible Study

### *Thursday at 7:00 pm (Room 113)*

Pastor's Bible Study

### *Sunday Children & Youth at 9:45 am*

Room 104: Nursery  
Room 14: Preschool-5<sup>th</sup> Grade



## **Welcome Center**

A "Welcome Center Table" has been set up in the lobby, so stop by to see how you can get "plugged in" at Christ Church. There is information about the different groups and ways that you can learn about and serve Jesus. If you are part of a group that would like some publicity and there is not a paper about your group, please see Bobette Owen (424-5650). We want all activities to be represented. These papers will be updated regularly, so please stop by often.

## **BIG DEAL!**

**Sunday, July 31**  
**9:00 am worship**

On this 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, join together in worship at 9:00 am and then "go into the world" to share God's love and care by taking laundry detergent to those who do not have the funds to make this purchase.

These acts of random kindness will bless you greatly! It IS a BIG DEAL!

**Needed:** Laundry detergent

## Letter from the Pastor



Dear Church Family and Friends,

How much do you love Jesus? I mean really. We often use the word love freely and openly, but what does it truly mean? In the gospel of John, chapter 21, Jesus asks Peter three times if he loves Him. As you may recall, Peter denied Jesus three times before the resurrection. Peter needed to be assured of his forgiveness and re-commissioned to the ministry Jesus committed to him. The question Jesus asked Peter, however, has some important implications for us today as individual Christ followers and as a local body of Christ. And so, let me ask you (and myself) again. How much do you really love Jesus?

Before answering, please take some time and prayerfully think through what it will mean for you. In John 14:15 Jesus says, "If you love Me, keep My commandments." In 1John 3:18 we are told not to love in word or tongue but in deed and truth. In Matthew 22:37 we are told to love the Lord our God with all our hearts.... It is clear from these and many other parts of the Bible that love is not a warm, fuzzy feeling we get when we are near someone or something that makes us feel good. The feelings we experience often come as a result of what love actually is when we are engaged in it, willingly

and sacrificially giving of ourselves to God without any expectation of receiving anything in return. God has demonstrated that kind of love to us, having given us the example.

How much does God love us? Romans 5:8 tells us that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 1John 4:7 and following tells us that God has showed us what love is and our love is the result of Him loving us first!

In short, love is commitment. Love is obedience to God our Father. Love is in our doing, not our talking. Now, perhaps you are ready to begin answering the question -- not verbally, but with your very life. Starting now, commit yourself to loving God in Christ Jesus by doing, living, serving, giving, and being available to Him at any time and in every place. Are you willing to spend more time with God, give more of your finances to Him through His church, serve Him when asked (or better yet, volunteer), forgive others, seek ways to share with others the good news of how Jesus saved you? That's what love of God in us does. God loves you and me very much. May we individually and together express our love to God by actively living for Him.

In Jesus,

*Pastor Norm*

### Hold in Prayer:

Barb Baber  
 Don Hawkins  
 Audie Morse  
 Carol Robinson  
 Dorothy Schneider  
 Jean Seibold  
 All of our home bound  
 All of our military



## Impacting the Community for Christ:

**COMMITMENTS TO CHRIST** -- We took eight of our WhizKids students to King's Domain Camp in Oregonia the week of June 14-18, and sent 10 out of the 17 students we had overall. The kids had a blast and were so excited to get an opportunity to be outdoors and experience a week where they were encouraged, shown love and exposed to the truths of the Bible. Even more exciting, five students recommitted themselves to Christ at camp while **2 students made a first time commitment to Jesus!** That is amazing! It is all possible because of the scholarships given by our church and the work of all the tutors this year. Your support of our community missions gave us the ability to send them. We definitely made an impact in the lives of those kids.



**MISSION TRIP** -- Thanks to everyone who helped support Janeen and me as we went to Tijuana, Mexico from June 27 through July 2. We went down with Bittersweet Ministries (a non-profit that Janeen and I are members of the board). We built two houses for two different families, one for a single mother of four children, all under the age of 10. We were able to provide her with dishes, silverware, a stove, fridge, a table and chairs -- all to help her get on her feet and allow her to focus on her children. The next house was for a family with four children as well. It is always great handing over the keys and letting them know God loves them and that is why we are there.

We also had the opportunity to lead worship and preach at three places: one at a small church, one at the community center where we base our work, and another at a drug rehab lock down. We got to talk to and encourage the men at the rehab center. Four men were saved and we got them Bibles! The whole place was encouraged by the hope that Jesus is for us all. I'd love to tell you more if you want to hear, but thanks again to all those who helped not only financially, but with your prayers. We got to share the Gospel and see it do its work! Brian Shumard

**RED BIRD MISSION** -- Wonder how Red Bird is using those labels we are collecting? Red Bird Mission recently completed the banking of 1,500,000 points through the Campbell's Labels for Education project. The points are being exchanged for a mini-van to be nicknamed "Red Bird 2." The van will arrive in August as an addition to Red Bird's fleet of 25 vans obtained previously with labels.

The collection of labels for education is an ongoing project and if you would like to participate, start snipping away and placed the labels in the envelopes located on the Red Bird bulletin board and also on the Mission bulletin board. You need not cut out the "education" coupon from the labeling of the can, box top, etc. Just deposit the entire label or the entire box top and we will do the clipping of the coupon for you. Thank you for your continued support of Red Bird Mission.

## Notes of Appreciation

The family of Betty Steller would like to thank all those who attended her birthday open house and for all the cards and well wishes.

Dear CUMC - Thank you! To all of you for your many cards and well wishes. I appreciate all of you and will think of you often as I embark on my next life journey - Miami University Oxford! Thank you again and may God bless each of you.  
Love, Heather Baker

Christ Church - Thank you so much for the flowers. They were beautiful. It meant a lot to us. Love you guys.  
God Bless, The Lawson Girls

My family and I would like to thank the church family for their support during this difficult time. Many of our friends have commented and complimented Pastor Norm on the service. Thank you, Marilyn Minor, for writing the acknowledgement notes without addresses on behalf of the church and "more." Thank you Searchers for the flowers, the gift to the church, and Linda Frechette's cake. My basket can almost hold all the cards. Roger always completed the jobs given to him without complaining, but I don't think he realized the impression and affect he had on his students, friends and family.  
Joann, Margaret, Dianna and Kevin

Many thanks to all who volunteered and participated in VBS this year! **Shake It Up Café** hosted 41 children and great fun was had by all! Thank you!

Dear church family,  
Please allow me few minutes to express our heartfelt thanks to you for your generosity and kindness that enabled our family to enjoy, what we believe, to be the very best vacation together we have ever experienced. It was truly a time of renewal and rest for us. It will be remembered for years to come. May God continue to bless all who participated in some way to make it happen for us. We love you!  
In Christ's love, Norman, Julie, and Jonathan

## Directory Updates

Wilma Thompson  
513-360-7017

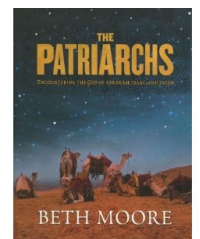
Marcus and Jennifer Grams  
513-433-5759

Craig & Dana DeToto  
craigdetoto@aol.com

## The Patriarchs

This 11-week video by Beth Moore centers around Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in Genesis 12-50. Classes will meet in the library on Tuesday evenings from 7:00-8:30 pm beginning September 13.

For more information, contact Melanie Moon at 422-0040 or Joan Peterson at 424-5126 by August 28. Books cost \$14.95 plus shipping and handling.



## August Calendar at a Glance

### *Special Meetings and Events*

Each Tues - 10:00am Staff Mtg

Aug 1 - 6:30pm Ministry Coord Team - 113

Aug 7 - Communion Sunday

Aug 9 - 6:30pm Admin Team - 113

Aug 11,18 & 25 - 7:00 pm Bible Study - 113

Aug 15 - 6:30pm Ministry Teams

Aug 21 - Cornerstone Deadline

### *UM Men Events*

Aug 11 - 8:00am UM Men Golf Outing @ Weatherwax

Aug 14 - 9:30 am UMM Officer's Mtg.

### *UM Women Events*

Aug 10,17,24&31 - 10:00 am Bible Study - 113

Aug 19 (Friday) - Lunch at Mt. Pleasant - Meet @ church at 11:15 am

### *Youth Events Grades 6-12*

See events and times on page 7.

### *Community Building Use*

Each Mon pm & Sat am - Youth Basketball

Each Tues - 7:00pm Al-Anon-117

Each Wed - 5:45pm Yoga-NLC

Each Thurs - 12:15pm Yoga-NLC

Aug. 13 5:30 pm Wedding

### **The BIG DEAL Makes a Difference!**

There have been some who perhaps have wondered if taking a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday to go out into the community to do random acts of kindness is making any difference. The following is a true story to encourage us as seek to be the hands and feet for Jesus.

A lady came to the Outreach Daycare office with this story: she and her husband were having problems and struggles in their lives. Some people helped them out in a big way so they wanted to help someone else. When they arrived home on a Sunday afternoon, they found a package of toilet paper on their doorstep with the church information included. They decided to return the favor and gave Christ Church a \$100 donation. This was to return the random act of kindness. There was no name attached.

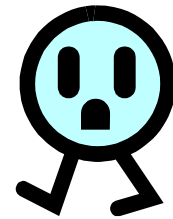
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Wow! Isn't God good! You never know the impact of a simple act of kindness offered to someone in their time of need. Showing God's love in practical ways does make an impact, does make a difference. Next Sunday we will be out again to show God's love in the community. I pray you will join us to make a God impact in simple, small and practical ways. Thanks be to God!!!

(Story submitted by Pam Cole; editorial comments by Pastor Norm)

### Get Plugged In:



- If you have some extra gift bags, please bring them to the church office or give them to Bobette Owen. We are making gift bags for first time visitors. They will be located at the **“Welcome Center Table.”**
- People who would like to serve on the **“Plugged In” committee**. This committee will work together to welcome visitors and get them plugged in at Christ Church. We need people who would be willing to be **“care partners”** who would make contact with a third-time guest. We would try to match you up with someone of a similar age and interest. Please call Bobette Owen at 424-5650 or e-mail her at [rowen37@cinci.rr.com](mailto:rowen37@cinci.rr.com) if you can serve in this way.
- **Carpenters** are needed to complete a scheduled project. Please see the pastor for more information.

### FINANCIAL CORNER - JULY 2011

July year-to-date budgeted expenses	\$215,019
July year-to-date income	<u>204,401</u>
Income needed to meet budgeted expenses	\$ 10,618

## Youth News from Brian

**Snapshot:** Aug. 17, 24 & 31 - We'll keep exploring the big questions with Gospel Journey Maui. It addresses some of the hard questions of Christianity and will hopefully help us to begin answering them -- and as always, have some fun. We are still going from 5:30-7:30.

**Snapshot Pool Party:** Aug. 7, 5:30-8:00 @ the Forrester's. We'll have some food, watch Gospel journey Maui, asking "Why do bad things happen?" And oh yeah, did I mention there's a pool?

**Prayer Breakfasts:** Wednesday mornings, August 3 & 10 from 9:30-10:15am. We eat, have a devotion, and pray for each other. We are having it at Meijers. They have fountain drinks and I'll get some doughnuts, or you can get something you like. We'll be meeting at the food court.

**Conquering the Basics:** Do you have questions about Christianity? Is there really a heaven & hell? Why did Jesus have to die? Can I trust that Jesus came back to life? Is the Bible really the word of God or is it made up? We are going to get together and talk about these questions this summer. Thursday nights from 7-8pm in Brian's office. Parents are welcome to study, too. August 11, 7-8pm.

**Whiz Kids:** Do you want to make an impact in Middletown? Want to help change a kid's life? If so, we need some help with our weekly tutoring of elementary kids from Creekview. We need people to lead songs, help with snacks (very simple, healthy snacks), crowd control, and be assistants to tutors. We need people who are willing to sub as well as do some odds and ends like printing off books. It will be on Tuesdays from 3:45-5pm at the church starting in September. This is a great program and very rewarding, so get plugged in! Contact Brian for more info.

**Fall Kick-Off:** On Sunday, September 11 we will be having our fall kick-off bash! We'll grill some burgers, have tasty treats, play some games, have some guests lead us in worship, and hear about what is coming up this year in youth group (events, trips, ways to serve, what we'll be talking about). Bring some friends and your parental units, too!

Christ Church United Methodist  
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## August Birthdays and Anniversaries

### BIRTHDAYS

1 Danielle Grams, Bob Henderson  
2 Carolyn Kinslow  
3 J.C. Patterson  
4 Chris Lacey  
5 Tommy Tipton  
6 Timmy Butch, Urith Ellen Thompson  
8 Tim Kissel  
10 Bob Gast  
11 Florence Evans  
14 Braden Martin  
16 Helen Murry  
17 Kim Flesher  
18 Millard Hill  
19 Dick Owen  
21 Linda Barton, William Dawson  
24 Mary Ann Forrest  
25 Elaine Bailey, Edith Shaffer

28 Diane Hayes, Nancy Karnes  
29 Mary Alexander, Debbie Gray  
31 Howard Hounshell

### ANNIVERSARIES

1 Norma and Linden Meece  
3 Brenda and Jim Mann  
5 Sandy and Denny Luksic  
Sally and Walker Williamson  
8 Teresa and Michael Banks  
9 Becki and Ray Tolson  
12 Bobette and Dick Owen  
21 Barbara and David Martin  
23 Debbie and Rex Lawson  
24 Judy and J.C. Patterson  
28 Gerri and David Teeters