



News from the Foothills

October 2008

Volume 5, Number 7

FROM DENNIS' DESK



What Makes a Live Church?

- 'LIVE CHURCHES always have a parking problem;
...dead ones don't have to.
- 'LIVE CHURCHES are constantly changing their methods;
...dead ones don't have to.
- 'LIVE CHURCHES have lots of children;
...dead ones don't.
- 'LIVE CHURCHES expenses always exceed their income;
...dead churches take in more than they can spend.
- 'LIVE CHURCHES constantly improve and plan for the future;
...dead churches worship their past.
- 'LIVE CHURCHES grow so fast you forget people's names;
...in dead churches you've known everyone's name for years.
- 'LIVE CHURCHES move out in faith;
...dead churches operate totally by sight.
- 'LIVE CHURCHES support missions heavily;
...dead churches keep it all home.
- 'LIVE CHURCHES are filled with tithers;
...dead churches are filled with tippers;
- 'LIVE CHURCHES dream great dreams for God;
...dead churches relive nightmares.
- 'LIVE CHURCHES have the fresh wind of love blowing;
...dead churches are stale with bickering.
- 'LIVE CHURCHES don't have can't in their vocabulary;
...dead churches have nothing but.
- 'LIVE CHURCHES are seeking out and serving their community;
...dead churches are waiting for the community to come to them.
- 'LIVE CHURCHES evangelize;
...dead churches fossilize.

How Alive are you feeling?
Dennis



BISHOP OUGH TO ENGAGE FOOTHILLS CONGREGATIONS IN CONVERSATION

Bishop Bruce Ough will be engaging pastors and the lay leadership of the Foothills District churches in a time of listening and dialogue this fall. The discussion will center around how our congregations can reflect the vitality and fruit of the early church.

There will be three opportunities to meet and talk with the Bishop on
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5:

1:30 p.m. at Rockland UMC in Belpre

4:00 p.m. at Richland UMC in Athens

7:00 p.m. at Rolling Plains in Zanesville

The visit will also provide the setting where Bishop Ough can share his thoughts about how we continue to grow into a “Love First” Conference through 4 areas of missional focus. What is God calling us to be and do? How do we faithfully and fruitfully accomplish the mission of Jesus Christ?

The meetings are open to everyone – pastors and laity. Put this date on your calendar! There is an event near you so plan to be part of this important conversation!

Advanced LS Class on “Caring For the Dying”



Calling all Lay Speakers! The Fall opportunity for Certified Lay Speakers who need a class for recertification or for Local Lay Speakers who wish to become certified will be held on November 7 & 8 at The River Of Life UM Church in Addison, Ohio in Gallia County. Presenter is Nancy Smith, retired RN who worked as a Patient Advocate, supporting families in crisis. Cost is \$10 and includes lunch and a continental breakfast.

In order to participate in this class, you must have completed Basic Lay Speaking. Registration forms have been sent to all current Lay Speakers. Registration deadline is Oct. 27.

CARE Looking for Director

The C.A.R.E Outreach in McArthur is looking for a volunteer director to oversee this ministry in Vinton County. If interested please call Walt Goble at 740-596-2749.



Mission and Evangelism Institute at MTSO

(Oct. 12 - 14): "Offering Christ in a Multi-Religious World"

This year's Institute will focus on presenting Jesus in multi-religious societies of the 21st century with authenticity, sensitivity, and humility. The keynote speaker, Dr. Ajith Fernando, is a noted Methodist theologian and the author of 13 books published in 13 languages. He has been **national director of Youth for Christ in war-torn Sri Lanka since 1976, living his entire life among people of other faiths.** Rev. Jeff Marian, lead pastor at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Burnsville, Minn., will also present seminars. For more information, please visit www.mtso.edu or contact Dr. Joon-Sik Park at jpark@mtso.edu or 740-362-3367. For a registration form contact the District Office.



Outdoor Enthusiasts

I am looking for other pastors or lay people who would like to canoe, kayak, camp or go backpacking together. We might even read a book before our "adventure" to promote our sharing together while we hike and/or paddle. If you love the out-of-doors and would like to get away every now and then (once a year, twice a year) please email or call me at the District office.



Thanks! Brent Watson

Missionary to Speak in Gallia County

Missionary Beth Ferrell is scheduled to speak at River of Life U. M. Church on Thursday, October 16, 2008. There will be a carry-in dinner at 6:30 p.m. with her presentation at 7:30 p.m. All churches and UMW's welcome!



Beth, a native of Belmont Ridge, Ohio, is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church currently serving as Mission-Interpreter-in-Residence (MIIR) in the North Central Jurisdiction (Midwest). From 2001-2005 Beth was assigned to Sierra Leone to assist in re-establishing Manjama United Methodist Health Center.

Beth shares a thought on her experiences, **"I never want to forget those I lived and worked with in Sierra Leone and Mozambique –the dire circumstances of their day-to-day struggle to survive. Nor do I want to lose the capacity to use what God has blessed me with to help them. May God grant me the ability to convey what I have experienced and learned with those who have not been privileged to go to other lands.**

Beth is available for Covenant Relationship support in Desert Southwest Annual Conference , East Ohio Annual Conference , Southwest Texas Annual Conference , West Ohio Annual Conference



FLOOD RECOVERY INFORMATION - NW INDIANA

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR FLOOD CLEAN-UP EFFORTS IN NW INDIANA

Lake and Porter County need assistance

An estimated 2,000 families have been displaced as a result of the recent flooding in Lake and Porter Counties. Volunteers are needed for the following:

1. Work at the Volunteer Reception Centers in Portage and in Munster. The Centers will be mobilizing volunteers to begin the cleanup of residents with no insurance and the first priority will be seniors and Disabled. Phones were expected to be installed by Tuesday.

Portage Volunteer Reception Center, 6270 Central Avenue, call 219-763-3292

Munster Volunteer Reception Center, 9200 Calumet Ave. Suite N202, in the Lake Business Center, call 219-836-5390.

2. People willing to form a team of two to assess the damage beginning Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2008.
3. Volunteer teams to start the clean up beginning Wednesday, Sept. 24.
4. Volunteer team leaders: for people who have had experience in disaster response, you are ready to be a team leader.

PLEASE CALL the United Way Volunteer Reception Center before coming to volunteer. Accident Insurance through General Board of Global Ministries is available and can be mailed out the morning of the day you go to volunteer. Indicate on your form that you are doing disaster relief work. [Click here for form.](#)

If you have questions, e-mail [Bonnie Albert](#) or call 219-464-1447 or 219 241-7250.

TOOLS NEEDED FOR FLOOD RELIEF BY TOMORROW, TUES, IN NW INDIANA

Deliver to:

Ridge United Methodist Church
8607 Columbia Ave
Munster IN 46321
Phone 219-838-4770

These items are for the work crews to use over and over again, so please bring in only good items — not ones that will break the first time they are used!

10 First Aid Kit
20 Grain Shovel
10 Flat Shovels

6 Trash (sewer) Pumps 2 ½" sludge
6 Industrial Hose 2" Blue 100'
10 Industrial 18" Nylon Heavy Duty Brooms
5 Hoses 50' 5/8"
12 Extension Cord 12 gauge w/ground plug Heavy Duty
10 Heavy Duty Squeegees 24" w/handles
8 Heavy Duty Wheelbarrows
Garbage bags heavy duty – as many as possible
2 Pressure Washers

-- Bonnie Albert
UMVIM Coordinator
North Indiana Conference



JOIN US FOR AN OLD-FASHION "OFFICE RAISING"

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO THE: JACKSON AREA MINISTRIES
"OFFICE/STORAGE RAISING"

Join us for work, fellowship, worship, food, celebration...

On SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11TH Starting promptly at 9:00 AM

Gathering we will be in the Calvary U.M.C., Jackson parking lot 6 Cambrian Avenue –
(need directions: call 1-888-237-3141)

It is our plan to erect the walls for our new office/storage building. Perhaps a roof truss or two may go up. The more "People Power" we have the better. Bring your gloves, wear work clothes and include a hammer. An "interesting" lunch will be included

ONE-DAY PREACHING WORKSHOP

On Friday, October 24, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

the Center for Worship, Preaching and the Arts of United Theological Seminary
is sponsoring a one-day preaching workshop:

"From the River to the Mountain: Preaching the Gospel Between Christmas and Lent."

This workshop will take place at the seminary and will focus on strategies for preaching the gospel lectionary texts during Epiphany, the season between Jesus' baptism and Transfiguration. This time in the church year offers opportunities to consider Jesus' question, "Who do you say that I am?" with congregations who may be struggling with the very same issue.

The cost of the workshop is \$50 per person, or \$25 for students who are currently enrolled at United Theological Seminary. This fee includes lunch. To register, phone 937-529-2282 or email CWPA@united.edu with name, address, phone number, email, and any relevant



dietary concerns (vegetarian, food allergies, etc.). The registration deadline is Friday, October 17.



FROM PROMISE KEEPERS...

We have an exciting opportunity for your Men's Group on Saturday, Oct. 25. This simulcast is an outgrowth of Promise Keepers and is intended to help churches build strong Men's Groups. There are three events in total (Oct. 25, January 31, and April 4) and tickets for all three broadcasts are \$20 or \$10 per broadcast otherwise. Supporting this will be Bible Study material and leadership training for your Men's Group. Come and join us!

For tickets or more info contact Dr. Dennis J. Baker at 740-454-0186 or dbaker@coburnumc.org.



HARPIST WENDA WILLIAMSON

Wenda Williamson is a harpist with over 25 years experience. She provides traditional, lovely harp music that makes many events meaningful and memorable such as weddings, memorial services, banquets, and other events. She also gives lessons. If your church might be interested in having Wenda perform at one of your special events or services, you may contact her at 740-593-8510 or by e-mail at wenda@harpmusic.info. She has a website where you can find out more information at www.harpmusic.info.

Also: Piano to give away. Needs some work. If interested please contact Aliene Linwood at 740-249-2226



DEAR FAITHFUL ANTI-GAMBLING ADVOCATES!

Your work and commitment have been amazing so far!! There's still much to do before election day. Remember, you are important and needed as we seek to defeat Issue 6. This email provides information on what we need help doing now as well as a new resource for use in congregations and in the community.

1. Yard Signs have been ordered. We need volunteers for the following responsibilities:

- Within a week, pick up signs at the Conference Office and distribute them in your county, district or area. We will have a list of congregations for you to contact.
- Call congregations to determine how many signs they would like to have for their church yard. (Church yards are our first priority. Following that

signs can go to individuals who live in high traffic areas.)

2. Contact Dee Stickley-Miner if you are interested in volunteering in this manner. You may also be receiving a phone call inviting you to help.
dstickley@wocumc.org; 800-437-0028

3. In addition to volunteers for yard sign distribution, we need volunteers willing to do the following:

- Pass out information to neighbors, friends, congregation members. A simple one page piece of information will be emailed to you on September 30, 2008 which can be distributed.
- Willing to write a letter to the editor about Issue 6.

If you have any questions, please contact Dee Stickley-Miner at dstickley@wocumc.org or 1-800-437-0028.



CHARGE CONFERENCES TO CELEBRATE MINISTRY!

At our Charge Conference Gatherings we will be celebrating the ministries that are happening in your area. We want to focus on those ministries that are making a difference in your communities.

We encourage you to think of your own local church's ministries as well as ministries you are involved in that include other churches/believers in the Body of Christ. We want to celebrate the impact we are making for the Kingdom of God and the ways in which we are ministering to those outside the fellowship of our churches.

We invite you to send us pictures and descriptions of those ministries so that we can put them into a power point presentation. We would prefer that you send us digital pictures via email or mail us a disc of photos with a description of the event(s). As a last resort, snapshots that we can scan and send back to you. Please send them to us at least two weeks prior to your Charge Conference date.

We look forward to worshipping together at Charge Conference. We serve a good and faithful God!



TOWN & COUNTRY MINISTRY CONSULTATION

St. Paul School of Theology will host this event on October 6-8, 2008 in Kansas City, MO. Participants will learn: How to address the challenges of rural poverty, How to expand the reach of rural congregations and How to care for immigrants.

Come learn creative, caring practices. For more information call 816-245-4815 or e-mail institute@spst.edu or to register online go to www.spst.edu.



UTS - POHLY CENTER COURSE

For laity and pastors in roles of leadership in the church. This course will provide a foundation in good Christian leadership practice.

Subject matter will include: How God Has Created Me; The Character of a Leader; Spiritual Formation of a Leader; Leadership Qualities; Leadership Styles; A Vision of the Church.

Participants will be given the tools to better discern God's vision for themselves and their church. They will develop an understanding of good Christian leadership practice, a clear vision of how God has equipped them for ministry, and the confidence to act on God's vision and calling as they discern them.

Dates: October 17-18 and November 14-15, 2008

Times: Fridays: 1:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturdays: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Location: The Pohly Meetinghouse at United Theological Seminary

Presenter: Rev. Ed Wilder - Advanced training in leadership, spiritual direction and pastoral care, 30 years in ministry

30 contact hours (can count toward Roots and Wings certification)

Cost: \$300 includes books, and meals - Scholarships available

Sending teams of two or more is highly recommended.

To register: Call 937-529-2381 or contact cslf@united.edu

Registration deadline October 8



FOOTHILLS WEB MINISTRY WORKSHOP

The Foothills District is looking into the possibility of hosting a beginner's web ministry workshop. The workshop is led and developed by a United Methodist named Mark Stephenson from our West Ohio Conference. This workshop would help our churches, especially our smaller churches, develop web ministries and a website for their church. But we need your help. Before we undertake this endeavor we need to find out how many churches would be interested in such a program. If you or your church is interested please email Sherri, at the district office, that you are interested and would be willing to attend.

Thank you for helping us in this matter.



COPYRIGHT EDUCATION AND OVERVIEW FOR: WEST OHIO CONFERENCE OFFICE STAFF, DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF, AND CAMP STAFF

Join us for a Webinar on October 8th

Today's church has moved into exciting fresh areas of outreach. As new technology has emerged and the church has become more media savvy the issues of copyright compliance have become more difficult. Many churches are confused about what rights they have under the "Religious Exemption" of the US copyright laws and what copyright coverage they may or "may not" have in place with existing licenses. Lisa Streight, the Director of Communications for the West Ohio Conference has taken a proactive approach in helping

educate the leaders of the WOC. She and I would like to extend to you an opportunity to be included in a webinar that should give you a great overview of music, video and web copyright compliance. This will be a free webinar that you can access from the comfort of your office or home from your computer and telephone. This presentation will include a live question and answer session. Please respond back to this email invite so that you can be a part of the Webinar scheduled for Wednesday, October 8th at 1:30 pm ET. If you need additional information prior to this webinar please contact Kat Morgan, Director of Sales and Marketing, Christian Copyright Solutions, 1-877-947-9687. God's Richest Blessings,
Kat Morgan

Title: Copyright Education and Overview for: West Ohio Conference office staff, district staff, and camp staff

Date: Wednesday, October 8th, 2008

Time: 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM EDT

System Requirements:

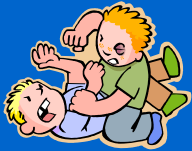
PC-based attendees – Required: Windows 2000, XP Home, XP Pro, 2003 Server, Vista

Macintosh –based attendees – Required: Mac OS X10.4 (Tiger) or newer

SPACE IS LIMITED

Reserve your Webinar seat now at:

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/980054220>



UM SPECIAL PROGRAM ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND RELATED VIOLENCE

The UM Special Program on Substance Abuse and Related Violence (SPSARV), a general church initiative housed at the General Board of Global Ministries, are pleased to announce our upcoming substance abuse training for congregations in the Northeastern Jurisdiction. If your church has any interest in this type of church-wide ministry response to alcoholism and other drug addictions, please sign up for the training.

SPSARV is partnering with the Rush Center of the Johnson Institute, a faith-based organization located in Austin, TX, to deliver their congregational team model, the Faith Partners Alcohol and Drug Team ministry, to interested congregations. The training is conducted through a series beginning with one-day training, the Leadership Training, which is followed a few months later by two-day training, the Team Training.

The North Central Jurisdictional Leadership Training will be held on Thursday, October 30, 2008 at Arlington Heights: First UM Church, 1903 E. Euclid Ave., Arlington Heights, IL 60004-5803. Two to three persons from each congregation, including the pastor, is encouraged to attend. The Team Training is scheduled for March 27-28, 2009. Location to be announced.

Interested persons may check out the training events and register at our website at www.umspсарv.org. Deadline for registration is Oct. 17, 2008. For more information contact the office of Substance Abuse and Related Violence Ministries at 740-919-3553.



SOCIETY OF ST. ANDREW - HARVEST OF HOPE FALL EVENTS

As summer winds down, we at Harvest of Hope start looking forward to our fall events. There are 5 weekend events lined up for intergenerational groups and college/young adult groups, and there's still space for your team to join in on the fun!

Fall Schedule 2008:

September 26-28 Fincastle, VA Intergenerational -- FULL
October 3-5 Keezletown, VA College/Young Adult -- STILL OPEN!!
October 10-12 Milroy, PA Intergenerational -- STILL OPEN!!
October 24-26 Dahlonega, GA Intergenerational -- STILL OPEN!!
November 7-9 Johns Island, SC Intergenerational -- STILL OPEN!!

Don't miss out on the Harvest of Hope event near you. Answer God's call to feed the hungry! Contact me for more info. at 800-333-4597, or at sosahoh@endhunger.org. Also, check out the Society of St. Andrew's website for a team application (www.endhunger.org).

Here's the statistics for what SOSA has done so far in 2008:

For Period: January 1 – July 31, 2008
Total Pounds Saved: 11,832,445
Total Gleaning Network Pounds: 6,991,217
Total Potato Project Pounds: 4,841,228
Total Servings Provided: 35,497,335 (one pound of produce equals approx. 3 servings)
Gleaning & Potato Project Events: 1,512
Volunteers: 16,149

Historical total lbs. / servings saved & distributed by SoSA 1983 to date: 555.7 Million pounds / 1.667 Billion servings

Admin. & Fundraising Overhead: 9.6% (Over 90¢ of every dollar provides food for the hungry)

Cost per lb. of food saved: About 8¢

Cost per serving provided: About 2¢

SoSA has saved a total of 555,690,960 pounds of fresh, nutritious food that would have gone to waste. It was distributed to the hungry throughout America, providing 1.667 BILLION servings!



DO YOU HAVE A STUDENT AT BGSU?

Last year two United Methodist churches in Bowling Green created a new campus ministry for Bowling Green State University. The mission statement of the **United Methodist Student Organization (UMSO)** is to *Share the light and love of Christ with the BGSU community through discipleship, fellowship and a community-based faith.* During the past year, we experienced God's blessing in the number of students that we were in contact with and appreciated the ministry we shared.

If you have students at BGSU we would love to have their names and contact information to make sure they are aware of our ministry. Please contact Becky at the information below.

UMSO provides Sunday school classes at the two churches within walking distance of campus, in addition to hosting fellowship and service opportunities, and alternate spring break mission trips. UMSO also holds weekly Bible Studies and large group meetings on campus. Please check out our web-site at www.bgsu.edu/studentlife/organizations/umso.

Please contact Pastor Becky Schofield for further questions or inquiries at 419-353-0682 or e-mail her at www.revschoie@gmail.com.



S.O.W.E.R.

Sharing Our Witness - Enriching Relationships

Sowing the Seeds of Christian Love in Southeast Kentucky

We wish to thank the Churches of the West Ohio Conference for their support of the SOWER project in 2008 with your prayers, financial assistance and volunteers. With the completion of house #9, planning is underway for house number 10 in '09. The VIM Project needs to get at least the majority of the approximately \$36,000 it costs for materials pledged before a late January 2009 to be able to commit to building this next house. The SOWER VIM Leadership Team is requesting that the churches of West Ohio prayerfully consider supporting this worthwhile project financially with a pledge of support prior to the January '09 decision time.

Build weeks have been put on the Henderson Settlement schedule in May, July, and August of 2009.

Please send all pledges (any checks should be made out to the West Ohio Conference UMC), volunteer registrations or questions to:

Ralph & Carolyn Brandon
SOWER VIM Team Leaders
231 McMillen Dr.
Newark, Oh 43055
740-344-5581
SOWER@wocumc.org

Build Schedule for S.O.W.E.R. 2009

Week 1 - May 3 - 9 Frame shell
Week 2 - May 10 - 16 Roofing, interior walls, exterior doors, windows, siding
Week 3 - July 12 - 18 Install insulation and drywall, finish siding & soffit
Week 4 - July 19 - 25 Finish drywall & paint, install porch railing
Week 5 - August 9 - 15 Finish interior trim, install underlayment, and flooring
Week 6 - August 16 - 22 Install interior doors, trim, and kitchen cabinets

For registration forms to volunteer or for answers to frequently asked questions, please contact the district office.



EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN CONFERENCE IN COLUMBUS!

“Discovering God’s Dream” is the focus of the Extraordinary Women’s Conference to be held October 24-25, 2008 at the Grove City Church of the Nazarene. Early bird pricing is effective through Sept. 5. Individual tickets are \$49, groups of 10+ are \$39. After Sept. 5 prices are \$59 and \$49 respectively. Tickets at the door are \$69. Conference presenters are Lisa Whelchel, Thelma Wells, Julie Clinton, Karen Kingsbury, Chonda Pierce, Richie McDonald, Charles Billingsley and Mark Schultz. Register online at www.ewomen.net or phone 1-800-526-8673.

EMMAUS COMMUNITIES:

Southern Ohio

Fall 2008 Walks:

Women: September 25-28 Men: October 2-5

Tentative Dates for 2009:

Women: May 14-17 Men: May 21-24

Women: September 10-13 Men: October 1-4

Unless otherwise noted, all Walks are to be held at Camp Akita, Logan, Ohio.

Mid-Ohio Valley

Fall 2008 Walks:

Women: September 25-28 Men: October 9-12

Walks held at Crossroads Camp in Parkersburg, West Virginia

IMPORTANT ADDRESSES

Foothills District: Physical address- 47 Johnson Rd., The Plains, Ohio, 43780
Mailing address- P.O. Box 67, The Plains, Ohio, 43780-0067

Website: www.foothillsdistrict.org

Email: Dennis Mohler, D.S. - mohler@foothillsdistrict.org

Brent Watson, Asst. D.S. - watson@foothillsdistrict.org

Sherri Rogers, Office Admin. - office@foothillsdistrict.org

Merv Davis, Treasurer/Bookkeeper – treasurer@foothillsdistrict.org

Gaylynn Smart, Lay Leader – layleader@foothillsdistrict.org



Every Church a Mission Station • Every Community a Mission Field

