



Footlights of the Foothills District

Volume 4, Issue 6
June 2008

Surprise!

Wow! I wasn't expecting that!

On Sunday, May 4, at the District Spring Conference Brent surprised us with some gifts from the district. Well, I wasn't too surprised. He had been acting stranger than usual.

Cathy and I enjoyed receiving the gift cards that we opened during the moment. What we did not expect was the generous money gift we found in the bottom of the bag when we unpacked it later. Oh, my! That surprised both of us! And we are grateful to you for your thoughtfulness.



Our journey among you has been short, too short. We knew that in the beginning. Term limits would prevent us from staying more than three years. Although we had a head start with the transition period, the time has gone quickly.

I hoped we could accomplish significant progress in the realignment in that short time. Thanks to the hard work of many of you key leaders; that work has developed more quickly than I expected. We are ready for our next stage, and Dennis Mohler is the right one to lead us into it.

The generosity of your gifts are just a reflection of the graciousness of your spirit. We will take those gifts of spirit with us wherever our journeys lead. I suspect Cathy and I will spin stories about you as you spin stories about us.

So we wish for you the hug of a bear and the kiss of an angel. God has used you to bless us. We pray God has been able to use us to bless you, and through you bless the many who live in southeast Ohio who are yearning for the healing and wholeness only Jesus can give.

- Tom

Every Church a Mission Station * Every Community a Mission Field

Love First Offering



The Conference Miracle offering will be divided 1/3 to Nothing But Nets and 2/3 to the UM Church in southeast Asia, particularly Cambodia and Viet Nam. Nothing But Nets is a partnership of Sports Illustrated, National Basketball Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the United Nations Foundation, and the United Methodist Church to eliminate malaria by purchasing and distributing chemically treated mosquito nets for children

in high risk areas. At General Conference West Ohio pledged to raise \$80,000 for this effort which was matched by the Gates Foundation.

There are nearly 200 congregations in Cambodia and Viet Nam. Only \$100 per month will support a Cambodian pastor and allow the congregation's ministries to flourish. Can your church make a difference on the other side of the globe?

Send your pastor and delegate to conference with a gift that expresses Love First!

VBS at Annual Conference

When: Monday, June 9th – Wednesday, June 11th, 2008

Where/When: Lakeside United Methodist Church from 1:00PM – 3:00PM

Who: Children entering kindergarten through 5th grade

Host: International Child Care - Child to Child Curriculum

Application: Check out the conference web site for a downloadable application:

www.westohioumc.org

Child Care Available at Annual Conference!

Child care is open to **Clergy & Lay Members** of Annual Conference **only**.

Children must be older than 12 months to receive child care. Cost per session is \$5 for 1st child and \$3 for each additional child. ALL SESSIONS BEGIN & END at Lakeside United Methodist Church on 5th & Cedar

During the morning and afternoon sessions, activities will be provided for children older than 6 yrs old. They will include: outdoor games, crafts, supervised playground, board games, mini-classes with Rhein Center, and other fun opportunities. All children younger than 6 will be provided daycare at the church facilities only.

An application form is available on the conference web site: www.westohioumc.org

New Appointments

Bishop Ough will report on the new appointments in the Conference on Thursday morning of the annual session in the worship service. New pastors and lay delegates are invited to stand as part of the ceremony. Pray for those pastors and churches who are launching a new journey together.

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Passion for Ministry, Gifts for Leadership?

The Conference Nominations Committee is creating a pool of names to be used in the new Connectional Ministries structure that includes “Let Justice Roll”, “Telling the Story”, “Next Generations Leadership”, “Disciple Making Churches”, Inclusive Body of Christ” and “Spirit Empowered Leaders”. Under the new structure leaders will use regional task forces, video conferencing and other creative ways in which to work.

Let Justice Roll includes: Community Centers, Conference Partnerships, HIV/Aids, Disaster Response, Volunteers in Mission, Restorative Justice, Hunger-Immigration-Poverty-Public Education and Gambling Networks

Telling the Story includes: Annual Conference Planning, Archives & History, Website Development, Multimedia Resources, Global Communications, Press & Media Relations, Concept Development & Graphic Design and Demographics & Research

Disciple Making Churches includes: Hispanic Ministry, New Ministry Venues, Metro Ministries, Town & Country Ministries, Smaller Membership Churches, Healthy Church Structures and Ethnically American Congregations

Inclusive Body of Christ includes: Women in Poverty, Monitoring Race & Gender, Advocacy at Cabinet for Clergy Families with Disabilities, and Inclusive Community Training

Spirit Empowered Leaders includes: Lay Speakers, Discipleship, Certified Lay Ministers, Stewardship and Christian Educators Fellowship Networking

The Foothills District has much excellent leadership to offer the conference. If you are interested, contact one of our district reps: Martha Gross (740-787-2741, pastormartha@gmail.com) or Sherri Rogers (740-797-4581, office@foothillsdistrict.org).

Foothills District Hosts Two Interns

The West Ohio Conference Intern Task Force assigned two summer interns to Foothills District Churches. Jacob Houf is assigned to the Lifewell Missions and three congregations in the Zanesville area: Zanesville First, South Zanesville, and Crooksville First Hope. Jacob is from Westerville, a member of the Harlem Road UMC. He attends Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids, MI, majoring in youth ministry and Bible.

Ian Strickland is assigned to Athens Central Avenue. Ian is from Mentor, Ohio, and a member of Central Ave UMC. He attends Ohio University, majoring in Business Administration.

Congratulations to these two young men and the host churches!

New Ministry Launched



S.E.O.M. is a nonprofit ministry that is supported by 6 area churches and 10 area ministries. People from Bashan, Carmel, Dorcus, East Letart, Morning Star,

Portland, Racine and other communities have come together to help one another.

All monies generated from the clothes, house-wares, toys, and food goes to support the churches and ministries that serve our local communities. For more info contact pastors John Gilmore or Bill Marshall.

Local Pastors' License School, July 20-26, 2008

This year's school, offered for certified candidates, will run from July 20-26 and will once again be held Widewater Retreat Center. The cost is \$365 and the deadline for registration is July 9. Call or email the District office to get a brochure.

Camp Asbury Opening Day

Friends of Asbury are planning an Opening Day Celebration, Sunday, June 1st

10:30 am Morning Worship

11:30 am – 1:30 pm Lunch

2:00 pm Afternoon Ecumenical Worship Service

Support the ministry of camping and enjoy a day at Camp Asbury!

Tax Advice for Churches

1) Every Local Church or UM Ministry (that employs a pastor/director or other employees) should have an Employer Identification Number (EIN). You can obtain one by going to the Internal Revenue Service website- www.irs.gov, then click on Charities and Non-Profits, on Forms and Publications, then on Employer Forms and Instructions and finally on Employer ID Numbers. You will find all the information you need to know. Please be aware that even if you are a ministry that functions out of a local church but you have formed a separate board, bylaws or payroll that you may need to obtain a separate EIN instead of using your church's EIN

2) Every local church or UM Ministry should obtain a Tax Exempt Number Certificate which specifies that your church or ministry falls under the umbrella of the UMC group ruling for Tax Exemption. You can go to the UMC's General Council on Finance and Administration website- www.gcfa.org Please click on Departments and Services, go to the Legal Services link and click on the Group Ruling Request.

3) If your local church or UM Ministry is considering becoming Incorporated then you can obtain the needed information by going to the UMC's General Council on Finance and Administration website- www.gcfa.org Please click on Departments and Services, then Legal Services and then Incorporating the Local Methodist Church. Please contact the Ohio Secretary of State to begin the process.

If you would like more information about this, contact Brent Watson in the District Office.

Fight Like A Man

West Ohio Conference United Methodist Men Gathering, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 26, featuring [Todd Braschler](#) and [David Adams](#), Executive Secretary, General Commission on UMMen, @ Methodist Theological School in

Ohio, 3081 Columbus Pike, Delaware, OH 43015 For more info, Contact John Sherer, Gathering Director at Shererjw@aol.com 937.372.2204

The Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation

July 29-August 3, 2008 is an experience of disciplined Christian community emphasizing holistic spirituality -- nurturing body, mind, and spirit. The program is meant for all those who hunger for deep spiritual experiences, both lay and clergy persons. For more information visit www.westohioumc.org

Asbury Camp and

Retreat Center

2144 Tyn Rhos Rd.
Thurman, OH
45685

Elementary Camp

June 15-20, 2008

Grades: Entering 4th - 6th

Host church: Simpson Chapel UMC

Deans: Rev. Sherron Courneen
and John Fields

Cost: \$ 200

Send Registration/Deposit check to:

Simpson Chapel UMC

P.O. Box 155

Rio Grande, OH 45674

For more information contact:

740-245-5392 (Sherron)

sherroncourneen@aol.com

614-378-8699 (John)

mudbug1981@yahoo.com

Junior High Camp

June 22-27, 2008

Grades: Entering 6th - 9th

Host church: Gallipolis Grace UMC

Deans: Kimberly Thomas and
Gwen McGuire

Cost: \$ 200

Send Registration/Deposit check to:

Grace UMC

Jr. High Camp

600 2nd Ave.

Gallipolis, OH 45631

For more information contact:

740-446-4542 (Kimberly)

brlyt@aol.com

740-256-1372 (Gwen)

gwn@ohiohills.com

Multi-Age Camp

June 28- July 3, 2008

Grades: Junior High and High School

Host church: Wheelersburg UMC

Deans: Rev. Perry Prosch and
Rev. Brian Dunham

Cost: \$ 200

Send Registration/Deposit check to:

Cluster Camp

c/o Wheelersburg UMC

P.O. Box 190

Wheelersburg, OH 45694

For more information contact:

740-574-2900 (Perry)

pprosch@verizon.net

740-992-0930 (Brian)

bidunham@verizon.net

Intro Camp

July 11-13, 2008

Grades: Entering 2nd- 4th grade
Host church: Richland UMC-Athens
Dean: Rita Snider
Cost: \$ 100
Send Registration/Deposit check to:
Richland UMC- Athens, OH

Intro Camp
60 Pomeroy Rd.
Athens, OH 45701
For more information contact:
740-593-6847 (Rita)
snider@eurekanet.com

On the Way

Church Camp 2008

Two Multi-Age Level (*Grades 3 thru 12*) Weeks:
July 6-11 and/or July 27 - August 1
At "Camp O"

Volunteer Counselors Needed!
Don't miss this opportunity to help change a life!



Training provided; choose from:
Sat. April 19th 9am-3pm @ Camp Otterbein
Fri. May 16th 9am-3pm @ WO Conference Office
Sun. May 18th 2-8pm @ Camp Otterbein



For more information, contact:
campotterbein@wocumc.org
or Angie Sherer
adsherer@yahoo.com
or Joy French 740-453-8298

Holy Land Trip Announced

Dr. Dennis Baker from the Coburn United Methodist Church would like to invite you to join our church family for a 10 day trip to the Holy Land leaving January 27. We will be traveling with Educational Opportunities and there are options to extend the trip into Egypt or Jordan and Petra or to remain in Jerusalem for extra days. For more information please contact Dr. Baker at 740-454-0186 or dbaker@coburnumc.org.

School of Congregational Development

The General Board of Discipleship and the General Board of Global Ministries developed this experience 10 years ago to equip pastors and key leaders to learn how to create disciple-making congregations. This year there are two simultaneous schools in Orlando, Florida, and Grand Rapids, Michigan, July 31-Aug 5, 2008. Some scholarship help is available from George Howard (goward@wocumc.org or 800.437.0028). For more info on the school, check out www.scdumc.org

Perry County Golf Benefit

Perry County Clergy are sponsoring the Hammer and Nails Golf Scramble to benefit Perry County Habitat for Humanity, Wed. Aug 6, 12 noon, at the Perry Country Club (on SR 13 between Somerset and New Lex). Cost is \$55 per person, \$210 per team which includes 18 holes cart, dinner after the scramble, prizes and all the normal joys of golf.

For more info, contact: John Kay, 100 North Maple Heights, New Lexington, Ohio 43764. 740/342-1172 or 740/438-6338, jkumpire@columbus.rr.com

Positions Available

Belpre St. Mark's seeking part time office manager
9-noon Mon thru Friday, For more info call 740.423.7065 or send resume to beauregard@1st.net

Athens First United Methodist Church is currently looking for 3 part time staff persons.

Part time Dir. of Children's Ministries: Areas of responsibilities for children include Administration of children's Sunday School programming. Serve as staff liaison to Children's Council. Serve as staff member of FUMC.

Part time Dir. of Youth Ministries: Areas of responsibilities for youth include fellowship, programming (bible study, mission projects, retreats), Sunday School, Confirmation Class. Serve as staff liaison to the Youth Council and serve as staff member of FUMC.

Part time Dir. of Wesley Student Center: Areas of responsibilities include Administrative care of the Wesley Student Center, the church's outreach ministry to the student of Ohio University. Coordinate annual mission trip and represent the ministry at OU student activities. Serve as staff liaison to the Committee on Higher Education and Campus Ministry and serve as staff member of FUMC.

Complete descriptions and applications are available at the church office, 2 S. College St., Athens, OH. Office hours: M-Th 9:00 – 3:00, F 9:00 – 12. Church phone number (740) 593-3977. Closing date for applications is July 31, 2008.

Cross and Vases Available

Pat Furey has a cross and 2 vases for any church that is in need of them- Free! Contact her if interested, 740.698.6017.

Southern Ohio Emmaus Community:

Fall 2008 Walks:

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

Dates for 2009:

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

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

All Walks are to be held at Camp Akita, Logan, Ohio.

Mid-Ohio Valley Emmaus & Chrysalis Dates

Chrysalis Flights

Girls June 20-22 Boys June 27-29

Community Training July 18-19

Gatherings are 4th Tuesday, 7 pm at Marietta Christ UMC. For more info, check out www.midohiovalleyemmaus.org

UPCOMING DATES

June 9-12		Annual Conference; Laity Session June 8, 7 pm
August 3	3:00 p.m.	Pre Charge Conference Briefing Richland UMC, Athens
	6:00 p.m.	Pre Charge Conference Briefing Trinity UMC, Logan
August 4	10 am	New Pastor Orientation@ Dist parsonage (11335 Rosewood Lane, Athens)
August 4	6:30 p.m.	Pre Charge Conference Briefing Barlow, Washington Co
August 8	10:00 a.m.	Pre Charge Conference Briefing South Zanesville UMC
August 9	10:00 a.m.	Pre Charge Conference Briefing Chester UMC, Meigs Co.
Sept. 7	2:00 p.m.	Pre Charge Conference Briefing District Office

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: Tom Hanover - hanover@foothillsdistrict.org
Dennis Mohler – mohler@foothillsdistrict.org
Brent Watson - watson@foothillsdistrict.org
Sherri Rogers - office@foothillsdistrict.org
Merv Davis – treasurer@foothillsdistrict.org
Gaylynn Smart – layleader@foothillsdistrict.org