

Foothills District UMC

**“Every Church a
Mission Station --
Every Community a
Mission Field”**

Footnotes from the Foothills



Upcoming Events:

**Bishop's Day on
the Foothills
District
November 21, 2:00-
5:00 p.m. at
Logan Immanuel**

October 2010

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UPDATE ON TORNADO RECOVERY



Our Foothills Disaster Relief Coordinators and Case Managers have been busy this past month. Clean-up is still underway and the sound of chainsaws, heavy equipment and nail guns have filled the crisp October air as repairs move forward.

Here's a rundown of what's been happening. In Athens County our Case Managers have opened 41 cases and have established "office hours" four days each week at The Plains UM Church. The majority of clients seen to-date lived in mobile homes that suffered extensive damage or were completely destroyed. Many are unin-
sured or underinsured cases. They are trying to

meet temporary or replacement housing needs for low income clients in an area where a lot of housing is rented at an inflated rate due to large number of college students living in the area who are willing to pay.

They started a door-to-door canvass in The Plains and have been working to set up a support group for clients with post-traumatic stress issues. They have been meeting weekly with the Athens County Long Term Recovery Committee and assisting clients with completion of SBA loan applications, referring material needs to the distribution center set up by Adventist Disaster Services, and volunteer needs to Roger Thatcher, Coordinator of the Foothills District Disaster Response Team. We have a team from North Broadway UMC who will be coming to work in the Matheny Road area of Athens County this weekend. The youth group from Northwest UM Church in Columbus also came early on to help with much needed-cleanup.

One praise story is that a family with three young children whose trailer was totaled in storm and who had no insurance coverage and no available credit due to bankruptcy when their employer closed doors, received a grant from Ohio Emergency Management Agency. The client was matched up with local realtor who negotiated the purchase of a house for the amount of the grant they received.

In Meigs County our Case Manager has had 28 cases to date. 15 open cases, 10

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

of which the homes were total losses and these residents are still not back in housing at this time. There are 10 cases pending due to various circumstances. Three of these are total losses. One case has been closed as the damage was considered minor. Two other cases are on hold.

A couple miracle stories that were shared with us were that one family had a tree fall on their mobile home. As it turned out, the tree actually held the mobile home down as the winds started to lift it up into the air.

One family sought refuge in their car instead of staying in the house because they felt that was where God was leading them to go. The house and garage were completely destroyed but the family was safe in the car. When they looked under the car, they found four Bibles lying beneath it.

So far we've collected \$14,080.56 at the Foothills District from our local churches and donations of \$6,075 has come in to the West Ohio Conference to aid the recovery efforts. The restoration of people's homes and lives will be ongoing in the coming months. If you wish to contribute financially toward the recovery efforts, please send these to the Foothills District Office marked for "Tornado Relief". Mail to PO Box 67, The Plains, OH 45780-0067. If you have church or community members who would like to become involved in providing for people's needs through service on a work team, please contact Roger Thatcher at 740-989-2801 or by e-mail at rwjtict@yahoo.com.



BISHOP'S DAY ON THE DISTRICT

Bishop Bruce Ough will be with us in the Foothills District on **Sunday, November 21** from 2:30-5:00 p.m. at Logan Immanuel UM Church.

Both clergy and laity are encouraged to attend this time of teaching. In keeping with our district focus on Prayer and Evangelism, Bishop Ough will concentrate on how these essential elements of our spiritual life are integrated within the Five Fruitful Practices for growing an Acts 2 church.

Place the date on your calendar and plan to attend this opportunity for learning.

II TIMOTHY CHURCHES—FROM BRENT

*To the Laity of our Second Timothy Churches,

You may remember that last year we studied the book **It** in our Laity Clusters. This year we will be holding various Laity clusters with different leaders in the local church. The book we will be looking at together is titled- **Intentional Ministry in a Not so Mega Church** by Dennis Bickers. I would encourage you to buy a copy and read it.

It is geared toward the smaller church!

United Methodist Rural Fellowship, United Methodism's advocate for town and country ministry, will hold its annual legislative consultation November 9-12, in Tampa, Florida.



Laity and clergy are invited to the working consultation to draft legislation in support of town and country ministry for the up-coming 2012 General Conference.

Sheraton Tampa Riverwalk will host the three-day event, which also includes a fund-raising auction and a general business meeting. Cost for double occupancy, four meals, and snacks is \$365. More information is available at www.umrf.org. Registration may be done online at lyle@hintoncenter.org or contact the Hinton Rural Life Center, PO Box 27, Hayesville, NC 28904.

Wesley Heritage Tour—9 Exciting and Educational Days

Join Bishop and Char Ough, Dennis and Sue Mohler for a journey of a lifetime as you visit such places as Aldersgate, Wesley's Chapel, Oxford and Epworth with an optional four day extension to Ireland.

Travel begins on March 24, 2011 from Cleveland, Cincinnati, Columbus, Dayton or Detroit. The cost of \$2,398 includes roundtrip airfare, 7 nights in first class hotels, daily breakfast and dinner, guided sightseeing in deluxe motorcoaches, entrance fees, study guide, and a lecture program by seminary professors. You can save when you register with a deposit of \$300 in advance.

To view the itinerary and more information online, visit [Educational Opportunities Tours](#).



CHURCH SAFETY AND SECURITY SEMINAR IN NELSONVILLE

The seminar, presented by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Hocking College School of Public Safety and the Nelsonville Police Department, will be held on **Tuesday, November 9 from 9:00 –11:00 a.m. at the Nelsonville First United Methodist Church.**

Church leaders and law enforcement officers are encouraged to attend this important safety and security seminar. The guest speaker will be FBI Special Agent, Harry Trombitas.

The information will include safety basics, church security and access, safety regulations, legal risks, safety of children, background checks and sexual predators. This instruction will include a packet of information that can be used by law enforcement and/or church administrators to assess where churches stand as far as safety and security issues. The training will also provide suggestions for no or low-cost ways to improve safety and security. As you know, violence occasionally hits our churches as in any part of our society and poor security measures and procedures leave church staff and the congregation vulnerable. Church administrators should ask themselves: "Does the lack of a serious incident at our church reflect the implementation and practice of strong security measures or have we just been lucky?"

Reservations are required by November 2 to Pastor Karen Walters by phone at 740-753-1939 or by e-mail at fumcparsonage@yahoo.com.

AT-LARGE SPOTS OPEN FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE



This year Foothills District has 41 positions open for Lay Members At-Large to the West Ohio Annual Conference that will be held June 5-9, 2011 at Lakeside Ohio. Of the 41 open positions, 33 of those are for adults and 8 of those are reserved for youth/young adults.

Interested persons should contact the Foothills District Office and your name will be placed on a list of prospective candidates. Names must be submitted by the district to the Conference office by January 1, 2011.

The 2011 Annual Conference will be electing Jurisdictional and General Conference delegates as well as conducting the regular business of the Annual Conference.

In addition to at-large members, each charge is eligible to have a Lay Member attend the conference. If your church/charge has not yet elected an individual to this position or if there has been a change since last year, the district office will need those names by January 1 also.

Lay Members, Lay Members At-Large and Lay Members by Virtue of Office **ALL** have voice and vote on all issues before the Annual Conference and in the election of representatives to Jurisdictional and General Conference.

Elders, Deacons, Associate Members —serving and retired and Local Pastors who have completed the Course of Study have voice and vote on all issues before the Annual Conference and in the election of representatives to Jurisdictional and General Conference.

Local Pastors who have not yet completed Course of Study have voice and vote on all issues before the Annual Conference. They do not have vote in the election process for Jurisdictional and General Conference.

VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION TEAM TO NICARAGUA

There is a VIM team now forming to work in Managua, Nicaragua June 11-19, 2011. This team may do some construction or maintenance work for our hosts missionaries at Fundacion El Samaritano that we have worked with continuously since 1997. We will also participate in a variety of humanitarian projects such as hospital visitations, neighborhood meetings, Bible schools, school programs, and children feeding programs with the Nicaragua Evangelical Methodist Church. The expected cost will be in the range of \$1200-1300 per participant that includes air and land transportation, and all team related expenses in Nicaragua. There will be daily worship and sharing time, as well as time for some sightseeing and shopping. To request an application form and/or more detailed information, please contact the team leader, Jack Reif, at jack.reif@zoomtown.com or by phone at 513-831-5550.

CHARGE CONFERENCE GETS OUTSTANDING REVIEWS!

If you missed attending this year's Charge Conference with guest presenter, Terry Teykl, you missed an incredible opportunity to be amused while at the same time being inspired and challenged. Terry's unique style drew us in and then confronted us with the reality that sometimes as the church we tend to be more like Martha—always doing, always busy—when we need to be more like Mary, just being in the presence of Jesus and soaking in all that he has for us.

Terry challenged us to be in prayer—for our church, for our pastor, for those in authority, particularly the Council of Bishops and for each other. He shared that if we want to effect change in our church, in our community and in our world, then it begins with prayer and that prayer begins with “me”.

The business portion of the day involved the turning in and approving of Charge Conference paperwork. If there are churches who have not yet submitted their Charge Conference forms, you have until **November 10**.

Good Works is seeking volunteers to serve at The Timothy House on the weekends once a month. This is both a volunteer opportunity and a discipleship training experience for Christians who want to grow in their faith and in their love for God and their neighbor and work along side other Christians in service. The weekend program invites participants in local congregations to serve on a morning or afternoon or evening once a month along side of people from other churches.



This opportunity is intended to facilitate unity in the body of Christ as we serve people struggling with poverty together.

The weekend opportunity requires a commitment of 4 or 5 hours once a month for a period of 6 months. Volunteers serve at the Good Works Timothy House located on the west side of Athens on Central Avenue.

The weekend opportunity is designed for a single person, for couples to serve together and for families with children to serve together.

Would you pray about possibly serving? Do you know someone who you think might be open to considering this?

The Timothy House continues to be THE ONLY shelter in 9 Southeast Ohio counties for rural homeless men, women and children. We average about 10-12 people at one time. Volunteers visit with residents, answer the phone and the door, receive donations, share meals with residents and oversee the house for a few hours. A Good Works staff person is always on call for consultation. There is an application and a special training for this volunteer opportunity conducted by Andrea Horsch.

If you are interested or would like more information, visit our web page (www.good-works.net) and click on Volunteer Opportunities, The Timothy House, Weekend Program. Then e-mail us so that we can set a time for you to come to the Timothy House, take a tour and complete an application. We really need people willing to learn how to love and serve people struggling with poverty and homelessness right now so thanks for considering this.

Love is still a verb,
Keith Wasserman



Come to a mountaintop near Asheville, North Carolina, and renew your ministry vision. If you serve a church or parachurch ministry, The Cove's focused leadership programs will equip you and your team to lead in the right direction. To reserve your spot or for more information, visit TheCove.org or call 1-800-950-2092.

Pastors' Institutes are one-day sessions designed to encourage pastors, spouses, and their ministry teams.

Leadership Forums involve participants in a small-group mentoring opportunity with a well-known Christian leader. The interactive workshop environment enables participants to dialogue with a seasoned ministry veteran on a stated issue or topic.

Personal Spiritual Retreats are self-directed opportunities for an individual or a couple to experience a private retreat to refocus on growing their relationship with God. These are offered on a space-available basis for three days/two nights or four days/three nights. Special rates are offered for those in full-time ministry.



Pastors' Institute:
Leading From the Inside Out
 Dr. Johnny Hunt and Dr. Jerry Vines
 October 28



Leadership Forum:
Rethinking Spiritual Formation
 Dr. Larry Crabb
 November 11-12

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For more details or to register for any of these events,
 visit TheCove.org or call 1-800-950-2092.



2010 Festival of Sharing

Thanks to the Festival of Sharing Committee for dedication to organizing this successful event. **Ohio continues to collect 1/3 of all of the Kits collected in the US.** This is amazing!

We are grateful for the Otterbein College students who worked in shifts on Friday and Saturday to transfer kits from cars, trucks and vans and then loaded them in the semi. It is always encouraging to see a group of young people who are dedicated to serving others.

Special thanks go to Dave and Mary Jo Barringer who supervised and helped to load the semi. We were able to almost completely fill the 53' Brethren truck. Scott Jenkins, Dave Maze, Monty Bradley and several other men helped throughout the weekend with the unloading of the cars and the loading of the trucks.

The truck was delivered to New Windsor, Maryland on Monday, October 11, 2010. The weight was recorded at over 34,700 pounds. We were amazed with people's generosity, after an incredible response to Haiti early in the year.

We had 84 churches and groups who delivered kits to the Festival. We were extremely impressed with the truckloads of Kits that were delivered to the Festival from the various districts. Although we weren't able to count every church that participated, we did have 68 churches, from around the state of Ohio, who had clearly labeled their boxes, prior to loading them on the District trucks.

Church World Service has appreciated the fine working relationship we have shared with the West Ohio United Methodist Conference for the past 24 years. We have truly proven that **together we can do more!** We have no way of knowing exactly who will receive these wonderful gifts, but we do know that these gifts of love will have been shared here in the United States and around the world.

Here are some of the places where your kits have been able to serve people in need.

International Shipments

Haiti • 31,135 Hygiene Kits and 5,400 Baby Care Kits to partner agency Viva Rio in Port-Au-Prince in response to January 12 earthquake • 8,040 Hygiene Kits to partner agency Comite Artisanal Haitien in Port-Au-Prince in response to January 12 earthquake. **Israel** • 12,000 Hygiene Kits for program use by partner agency International Orthodox Christian Charities **Kenya** • 4,800 Hygiene Kits and 64 Kids Kits for distribution through partner agency Global Assistance

Domestic Shipments

Florida • 270 School Kits to First Church of N. Miami Congregational for Haitian medical evacuees and families in response to the January 12 earthquake • 150 School Kits to Chapel on the Hill UCC for Haitian medical evacuees and families in response to the January 12 earthquake **Tennessee** • 540 Hygiene Kits, 100 Emergency Clean-up Buckets to Holy Trinity Community Church in Nashville in response to flooding • 240 Hygiene Kits, 186 Emergency Clean-up Buckets to the Distribution Center at the Prime Outlet Mall in Lebanon in response to flooding.

FOOTHILLS DISTRICT
UMC

“EVERY CHURCH A
MISSION STATION --
EVERY COMMUNITY A
MISSION FIELD”

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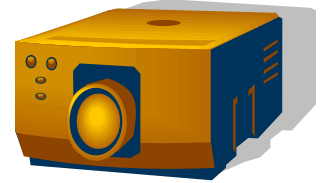
Prayer Concerns

Debbie Baker, wife of Rev. Dennis Baker,
Zanesville Coburn

Debbie Bondurant, daughter-in-law of
Rev. Steve & Hazel Bondurant. Injured in
auto accident. (Fairview & Mt. Zion)

Karen Kumpf, wife of retired pastor Karl
Kumpf who was hit by a car while walk-
ing. Karen is home now, but continuing to
recover from surgery.

Projector Needed



Decatur UMC is looking for a used
video projector. If you have one or
know of someone who is upgrading
their current projector, please con-
tact Rod Brower at 740-445-5005 or
e-mail him at pastorrodb@gmail.com.



July 27-21, 2001

25% Discount Ends On November 12, 2010

Moses, David, Isaiah, Ezekiel, Mary mother of Jesus, Paul... just some of the Biblical characters undone by an unexpected encounter with God that left them humbled, surrendered and transformed. That's the heart behind the theme of *Aldersgate 2011: Suddenly Undone*.

It is our prayer that we would encounter God and in humility, offer ourselves fully to His purposes fulfilling our God-given destiny. Come, be empowered by the Holy Spirit to carry on the ministry of Jesus. Come, be suddenly undone and forever transformed. For more information or to register go to www.aldersgate2011.org.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Office Hours: M-F 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Lunch 12:00-1:00 p.m.

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Roger Thatcher, Dist. Disaster Response Coordinator-rwtjct@yahoo.com