

News from the Foothills

2009 October

Volume 6 Number 10

FROM DENNIS' DESK

Some years ago a young man looking for work approached a foreman of a logging crew and asked him for a job. "It depends," replied the foreman. "Let's see you take this one down."

The young man stepped forward and skillfully felled a great tree. The foreman was impressed and exclaimed, "You can start of Monday!"

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday rolled by. Thursday morning the foreman approached the young man and said, "You can pick up your paycheck on the way out today."

Startled, the young man asked, "I thought you paid on Fridays."

"Normally we do," answered the foreman, "but we're letting you go today because you've fallen behind. Our daily charts show that you've dropped from first place on Monday to last place on Wednesday."

"But I'm a hard worker," the young man objected. "I arrive first, leave last, and I've even worked through coffee breaks!"

The foreman, sensing the boy's integrity, thought for a minute and then asked, "Have you been sharpening your ax?"

The young man replied, "Well, no sir. I've been working too hard to take the time."

How about you? Have you been 'too busy' to sharpen your ax? Anybody you talk to right now is either: a) too busy; b) sick; c) too busy and sick; or, d) sick of being too busy! Prayer and taking time daily to listen to God is the hone that gives us a sharp edge in order to face a busy and sick world. Without prayer, the more work you do, the duller you get. We need to be taking the time to stay sharp as we go about the work of Christ's kingdom.

Let's get those axes sharpened! We've got some praying to do!

Peace, Dennis

WEST OHIO CONFERENCE STAFF & LEADERS,

Over the next few months each West Ohio district will be hosting a **Bishop's Day on the District** event

called, Together We Can. The schedule for the event in each district is below.

The format will include a resource fair, a short program lifting up the ministries of the district, and a one-hour town hall style Q&A session facilitated by myself and other conference & district leaders.

I encourage you to attend your district's event, but also extend an invitation to you to sit in on any of the other district events as well.

Our goal for these events is to provide both clergy and lay persons a chance to be heard, ask questions about our connection and apportionment system, and receive information about the ministries our faithful stewardship supports and how that stewardship is making our churches stronger.

For more information, go to the homepage of our West Ohio Conference website, and click on the "Together We Can" link on the right.

Bishop Bruce R. Ough

Bishop Bruce R. Ough, Resident Bishop

Ohio West Area of The United Methodist Church

32 Wesley Blvd | Worthington OH | 43085

(614) 844-6200x215 | (800) 437-0028x215 | fax (614) 781-2642

bishop@wocumc.org

www.westohioumc.org

Reservations are not required but requested so we are able to offer hospitality and resources for all.

R.S.V.P. online to a Together We Can Event

Foothills

Wednesday, November 18, 2009, 6pm

The Plains UMC

3 North Plains Road

The Plains, Ohio 45780

DISTRICT HAPPENINGS

FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL

The New Hope United Methodist Church in Gore (on St. Rt. 93 north of Logan) will be hosting their second annual FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL on Saturday, October 17. The festivities will begin at 11 AM. Children will be able to enjoy pumpkin painting, games, crafts and more. Adults and children alike, will be able to watch demonstrations on Lard & Craklin' Making, Rug Weaving and Making Apple Butter. The Creek Valley Quilters will be present again with a fabulous display of their quilts. There will be a crafts by local artisans available for purchase. For special enjoyment starting at 2 pm there will be music. Scheduled

to come are *By His Grace* and *Witness*, two local gospel music groups. Refreshments to enjoy will include bean soup and corn bread, chicken and noodles, sandwiches, and pumpkin and apple pie. All of it will be home made! So folks we would love to have you, your family, and friends join us for a really fun day.

If you would like more information you may call Karcy, at 385-0945 or Sharon at 394-2974.

CHARGE CONFERENCE FORMS

The Foothills District website is the place to find all your needs for Charge Conference this fall. The schedule is on the site under "Charge Conference Schedule 2009" and the forms you will need are under the heading "Forms".

The site is www.foothillsdistrict.org.

We are requesting that EVERY church complete Form A online this year and here is the specific information for accessing Form A online. By September 1 you will have two options to reach Form A on the conference website and begin using the form:

1. Go online to the conference website at www.westohioumc.org where there will be a link on the right side of the home page for **Church/Charge Conference Forms**.

2. Type the following URL into the address bar of your browser: www.westohioumc.org/2009CCCCForms.

The only things you will not find on the website are your church officer form and the "Interpreter" subscription forms. The officer forms will be e-mailed directly to the pastor. We are making plans to distribute the "Interpreter" forms at various fall meetings or at the charge conference themselves as these are to be completed and mailed directly to the "Interpreter" and not sent to the District Office.

If you have specific questions about Charge Conference or any of the paperwork, please feel free to call Sherri at the Foothills District Office.

INFO FROM BRENT

Formational Prayer Seminar- January 13-16, 2009

The Sandberg Leadership Center at Ashland Theological Seminary in Ashland, Ohio

Cost- \$475, Instructors- Terry wardle, Lee Wetherbee, Jerrolyn Johnson

Formatinal Prayer (formerly known as inner healing prayer) is a ministry of the Holy Spirit, moving through a Christian caregiver, bringing the Healing Presence of Jesus Christ into the place of pain and brokenness within a wounded person.

- 1)West Ohio Medical Mission Team

January 14-17, 2010- Nuevo Progreso, Mexico (Cost-\$630)

For more information contact Joanne Powers jspowers@gte.net / 1-419-376-6017 or Margie Vogt mvgot@otterbein.edu /1-740-363-5223

2) Morgan County United Ministries in conjunction with World Vision (Appalachia) has a Warehouse Club where homeowners and non-profits can purchase home improvement and repair products at greatly reduced prices. The Warehouse Club makes home repairs possible without damaging your budget. There are no income restrictions for membership . A \$10 membership fee is charged for unlimited buying privileges for individual homeowners. 99% of the items are new and 1% are gently used materials. Your first visit is free! The Warehouse is located at 514 Main St, Malta, Ohio and the hours are Monday thru Saturday from 8:30-5:30 p.m.. For more information call 740-962-3400

FUN RUN/WALK

1st Annual Canaanville United Methodist Mission Fun Run/Walk will take place at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 7th. The walk/run will begin and end at the church parking lot. There will be a 5-k and 1 mile course. Entry fee is \$10 (before Nov 5th) and \$12 on race day for adults and \$5 for children. Awards will be given out for different categories. The proceeds go to help the Canaanville Mission Team's trip to Nicaragua which includes Pastor Jim Lambert. For information call 740-592-2242

EARLY RESPONSE TRAINING

New Knoxville UMC will be hosting an UMCOR Early Response Team training class on October 31st at 9:00 am. Early Response Teams (ERT) assists survivors of natural disasters making their homes safe, sanitary, and functional. Some of the things that the ERT's do is tarp roofs to prevent further damage to the contents and structure of the home from wind and rain, remove debris from the property to gain access to the home, and clean out homes from flooding along with mold mitigation. The most important thing that the ERT's do is listen, listen to the survivors and start the healing process. This class is exactly what Jesus preached. Since the ERT's are dealing with the survivors in their most vulnerable time UMCOR has required that the participants go through a state fingerprint background check. The class registration is \$25.00 and limited to the first 35 students. For more information contact Jim Rodgers.

West Ohio Conference Disaster Response Coordinator

(740) 989-2086 Home

(740) 440-0270 Cell

jimbarb23@windstream.net

DISASTER COORDINATOR

Roger Thatcher (from our Decatur UMC) is now the Foothills District Disaster Coordinator as well as serving on our Conference's Early Response Team.

Our goal is to create a pool of 30-40 people in our District who are trained and certified as Early Response Team individuals. We currently have approximately 12 people on our roster. Obviously, we are not hoping for a disaster (flood, tornado, fire) but we do want to be prepared to help if one occurs.

We are in need of a 6' X 10' or 6' X 12' trailer so please let us know if one is available for free or at a reasonable cost. We also want to encourage congregations to volunteer to be certified by the Red Cross as a shelter or feeding station.

Please call Roger (1-740-989-2801) or email him at: rwjtct@yahoo.com if you are interested in being trained, know of an available trailer or need information about being certified with the Red Cross. Roger is also available to speak to groups or churches so please call him.

PEACE ADVOCATE

Jesus proclaimed, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God" (Matthew 5:9). To be a Christian is to be a peacemaker! Please contact Brent if you are interested in being a Peace Advocate in your local congregation. We want to explore opportunities, resources and the practicalities of biblical peacemaking and how to challenge others in your church to model the way of Christ.

ministry. Please contact Pastor Rodney Rogers. Thanks!

LAITY SUNDAY

Once a year, many pastors vacate the pulpit and worshippers take the reins as the church celebrates the ministry of laity. United Methodists observe Laity Sunday annually "to celebrate the ministry of all lay Christians, as their lives are empowered for ministry by the Holy Spirit". The third Sunday of October (October 18, 2009) is the recommended date for the celebration but your church can select a different date. The General Board of Discipleship provides downloadable worship resources at www.gbod.org/laity or you can order a print copy by calling 615-742-5107 or by emailing interpreter@umcom.org. This year's theme for Laity Sunday is "Transforming the World through Prayer".

WURLITZER AVAILABLE

A Wurlitzer electric organ is available for any church who may be interested. It has 3 keyboards, 10 foot pedals. It needs retuned.

If interested, please contact Ruth Bowers at 652-9487 (Lancaster). Ruth has no answering machine so you will need to continue trying until you reach her.

ALTAR CHAIRS AVAILABLE

The Hamden UMC has three decorative altar chairs they are willing to give to another church or

OTHER HAPPENINGS

PREACHING WORKSHOP SCHEDULED AT UTS

The Center for Worship, Preaching and the Arts at United Theological Seminary announces a one-day workshop on "Interactive Preaching." It will be held on Friday, September 25, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the seminary, 4501 Denlinger Rd. To register, email cwpa@united.edu with name, preferred phone number, and email address. Payment of \$50 per person (\$25 per current seminary student) may be made on that day. For further information, contact the Center at cwpa@united.edu or by phone at 937-529-2282.

MINISTRY 101 COACHING GROUP

November 9-13, 2009

This coaching opportunity is a designed support system to provide ongoing and sustained learning and coaching for pastors who have good potential for effectiveness, but who for some reason have not gotten fully on track. The basic format of each coaching group will include a one-hour presentation and discussion each month as well as two group coaching calls per month in small groups of 6 to 10 persons. Presentations, discussions, and coaching group sessions will take

place by telephone conference. This is a ten-month program with groups starting in August and February each year. This is a program of the Intentional Growth Center, which will grant 2.4 CEU's for completion.

The approach will be to begin with a four-day retreat at Lake Junaluska at the beginning of the program, and then meet for two four-month semesters as a presentation/ discussion/coaching group. The design is created to facilitate transformation of personhood as well as the practice of ministry and will be led by Larry Ousley as the coach. Monthly presentations on specific areas of ministry will be made including some outside resources persons who have expertise in the general areas of ministry covered including leadership and management, organizational skills, pastoral care, preaching, visitation, evangelism, worship, spirituality, or other areas of need that are identified.

The cost of the ten-month intensive coaching program is \$1,500 per participant. This covers the tuition for two four-month semesters of presentations and coaching and the retreat of four days.

Some scholarship help is available. Please contact the Intentional Growth Center for more information.

The tuition is figured as follows:
\$150 per month for
the 2 x 4 = 8 months of
presentations and
coaching group
sessions = \$1,200
\$75 per day of the
retreat (4 x \$75) = \$300
Total = \$1,500

For More Information Please
Contact:

The Intentional Growth Center

1-800-482-1442 (toll free)

1-828-452-2881 ext. 720 (local)

intentionalgrowthcenter.org/intentionalgrowthcenter

JOHN WESLEY, NATURAL MAN

Bob Ewbank's book "John Wesley, Natural Man, and the 'Isms'" has been published. The 'Isms' are Heathenism, Judaism, Deism, Roman Catholicism, Quakerism, and Mysticism. The questions being answered are: how do each of them differ from John Wesley's idea of True Christianity, and what are the prospects for those holding these views being saved.

Written for the layperson as well as the scholar, there is a Study Guide in the back of the book to help those who want to use the book for individual as well as group study. The Study Guide has questions in the front, which are answered along with page numbers, later in the Guide.

Bob has a B. A. from Baker University in Baldwin, Kansas and an M.A. from Garrett-Evangelical and work on another M.A. in the Theology of John Wesley.

Bob is currently Lay Leader of St. Mark UMC, in Mobile, AL.

Bishop Rueben P. Job of the United Methodist Church has written some kind words on the back cover.

To find the book go on the internet to:

1. www.wipfandstock.com (Wipf and Stock)

2. On "Advanced Search" found on the left of the page type in "Ewbank" and you will go directly to the book. If you type in "John Wesley" you will be sent to a Wesley page and the book is the third one down.

3. For your information, the book is \$23.00 at bookstores, but at the web site it is only \$18.40

4. The book is now available at Barnes and Noble, Books-a-Million, and Amazon.com among others.

2009 TARGETING HOPE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT for Rural Communities & Small Cities

*Wednesday, October 21 2009
Waverly, Ohio*

Attention CCDA Rural Leaders:
Targeting Hope is a great way to kick off CCDA09.

The Focus of Targeting Hope is to provide an event that focuses on the needs and issues of rural communities and small cities.

The event includes breakfast, lunch, two workshop sessions, two main event sessions, worship and closing remarks.

If your passion lies in issues surrounding Rural Communities, this event is a perfect way to get you connected and energized!

HOUSE OF WORSHIP CAN EARN ENERGY STAR LABEL

EPA Announces Houses of Worship Can Now Earn Energy Star Label and Reduce Their Carbon Footprint

*Approximately 370,000 can track
their energy use*

WASHINGTON – America's houses of worship can now earn the Energy Star label, joining the nation's schools, hospitals, hotels, and other facilities in their efforts to fight climate change, save energy and reduce their carbon footprint. EPA's energy tracking tool, Portfolio Manager, currently allows facilities to track energy use and the associated greenhouse gas emissions, set targets for investment priorities and verify efficiency improvements. Now the estimated 370,000 houses of worship across the United States can use Portfolio Manager to receive an energy performance rating, and the most energy efficient among them can earn the Energy Star label.

Worship facilities in the United States spend more than \$3 billion annually on energy costs. Improving the energy efficiency of America's houses of worship by just 10 percent would save nearly 2 billion kilowatt-hours each year, preventing more than 1 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions and representing a cost savings of about \$315 million annually.

Through Energy Star, EPA provides a proven energy management strategy and free tools for public and private organizations to save energy and money through increased energy efficiency. EPA has also made additional enhancements to its tools including the ability to specify on-site green power generation and use. This

feature provides a better assessment of a building's actual energy efficiency and a more complete picture of associated carbon emissions.

Learn more about Portfolio Manager:

http://www.energystar.gov/istar/pm_pam

Learn more about Energy Star for congregations:

<http://www.energystar.gov/congregations>

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Note: If a link above doesn't work, please copy and paste the URL into a browser

LEGAL FORUM

2009 West Ohio Conference Legal Forum

Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio

Friday, November 6, 2009

Topics include Handling Difficult Church Members

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

**Office Hours: Monday-Friday
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Lunch: 12 - 1 p.m.**

*Every Church a Mission Station *
Every Community a Mission Field*