



# The Parish Portrait

Volume 1, Issue 22

May 2012

## From the Pastor's Desk

J.E. Shepherd of Barboursville, West Virginia shared the following story as a parable of the importance of God's guidance through the journey of life. He writes: "[Sometime back] I needed to travel to Pittsburgh from Cumberland, Maryland. I was pressed for time. I had to be back home in the early afternoon, so I asked my friend Greg to fly me to Pittsburgh and back. By car it normally takes about 3 hours one way, by plane it takes 30 minutes each way. I could leave for Pittsburgh at 8:30 and return home by noon.

It was a foggy morning when we took off. The radio on the plane came alive as we left the hanger. Greg called Cleveland Control. A voice answered giving us clearance to take off. The voice also instructed us to fly a certain course and a certain altitude.

As we continued our flight to Pittsburgh a voice from Cleveland, Ohio, continued to give us updates about our flight. Once the voice warned us about an approaching aircraft from the southwest. The controller stated that it was approaching at an unknown altitude and air speed. It directed us to be on the lookout for possible danger. We looked for the craft but never saw it. We radioed back that we could not make visual contact but were still looking. The voice from Cleveland responded that the aircraft had passed by and we were no longer in danger. He then gave us a new heading that took us directly into Pittsburgh.

After returning home later that morning I could not help but think how God is so much like that voice I heard on the radio in the plane. I did not know that voice on the radio or

from where it really originated. I only knew that he was keeping his eye on us as we traveled through the clouds to a place we could not see and in a direction he had set for us to follow. God often speaks to us and directs our paths as we travel through life. We do not always know where we are going and what dangers lay ahead. God, like the traffic controller tells us of approaching dangers if we but listen to his voice and continually corrects our course until we finally reach our destination."

May the Spirit of God guide you always.

In Christ,  
Greg Leigh, pastor

## Vacation Bible School



Vacation Bible school is in the planning stages and will begin Sunday July 29<sup>th</sup> and conclude on Thursday August 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you would like to be of assistance, please contact Delta Dingus at 419-238-4448.

## Graduating Seniors

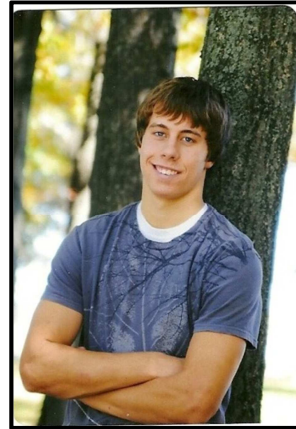


Nick Leary is graduating from Crestview in June. He is the son of Jeff and Jean Leary and plans to attend Ohio State in Lima this fall. He is interested in taking course work to pursue a career as a Physician's Assistant. While at Crestview, Nick was active in FFA, Model United Nations and played football and baseball. Outside of school activities included Youth for Christ, basketball and served as vice president of UMYF



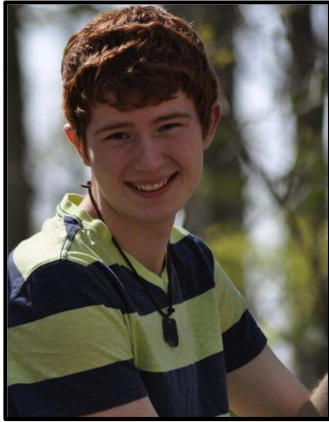
Jordan Miller will graduate on June 9, 2012 from Crestview High School. Jordan is the son of Dan Miller and Kathy Will, During high school, Jordan was heavily involved in FFA and the Junior Fair Board. Jordan's future plans include working on the family farm and helping Lichtensteiger Drainage with ditching operations. His graduation party is on June 3, 2012 from 4-6 pm at Redeemer Lutheran Church.

## Graduating Seniors

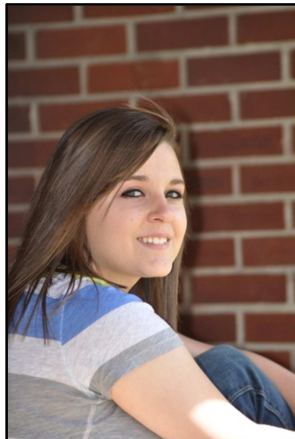


Matthew Steven Holden, son of Steve and Shelly, will be graduating June 9<sup>th</sup> from Crestview High School. Matt served as his class president and was a member of the student council all four years of high school. He played football, basketball and baseball. Other extracurricular activities that Matt participated in during high school were Model United Nations, FFA and National Honor Society. He was a Junior curator for the Van Wert Historical Society and was also a Junior Rotarian for the Van Wert Rotary Club. He is a member of the Convoy United Methodist Church and is currently serving as the President of the UMYF. Matt was recognized this fall as the National Merit Scholar commended student and a TV Channel 35 Scholar Athlete of the Week. Matt is academically ranked # 1 in his class and will giving an honors speech during the graduation ceremony. After graduation, Matt plans to attend either Bluffton University where he would be playing football or The Ohio State University, pursuing a path in the medical field. His goal is to become a team physician or an orthopedic surgeon.

## Graduating Seniors



RJ (Randy Jo) Rice, son of Tony Rice and Gina Griffiths. He plans to attend University of Findlay majoring in psychology. RJ likes hanging out with friends, his computer and band.



Marcy Nicole Saylor, Daughter of Dan Saylor and Melissa Shindeldecker. She is planning to attend University of Findlay in the fall. Marcy likes to hang out with friends, listen to music and playing golf.

*Seniors also graduating from the Convoy United Methodist Church and not pictured are; Andrew Miller and Brodie Tumbleson*

## Food Pantry

The food pantry would like to thank everyone for all the generous donations. Meat continues to be a need, as well as laundry soap and health care items such as shampoo, deodorant and toothpaste.

Thank you to Bob & Tim Wertenberger, Anne Stewart & Jimmy Rivera for helping those in need and continually stocking the shelves with the many donations.

## Relay for Life

Van Wert County Relay for Life will be May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Van Wert County Fair Grounds, Vicki Saylor will walk, the Hughes family will walk the Delphos walk, June 22<sup>nd</sup> and the Fegley/Cramer families will walk the Lima walk June 8th. If you would like to make a donations let them know.

## Music

Thank you Linda Holden for that awesome song, "Everyday People" reminds us that God loves each one of us and uses each of us in a special way. Linda, thank you for sharing your gift of music with us. Have a well-deserved summer break Linda!

## Morning Hospitality

Enjoying the coffee and breakfast snacks on Sunday morning, let's tell Judy Farmer how we appreciated her willingness to share with us.

## Birthday Celebration

Dean Branstrator will be celebrating his 94<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Let's shower him with cards. His address is

1717 Maplecrest

Rd Room 301

Fort Wayne, IN 46815

## United Methodist Women

Convoy United Methodist Women met on Wednesday May 2nd at 2pm in the CUMC social room. The Program will be a Mothers Day theme. Person: Lynn Johnson. Greeters: Jean Farmer, Jean Wittung. Hostesses: UMW unit.

Be Our Guest women and children, Wednesday May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm in the church social room for an evening of magic with Tyler Nygren, followed by an ice cream sundae bar with all the fixings.

Convoy UMW are providing catering options for meetings, banquets, reunions, rehearsal dinners, weddings receptions, birthdays, retirement parties, anniversary celebrations, auctions and other dinners. Contact a UMW member for more details.

## Loaves of Love

Loaves of Love, is an outreach program designed to feed Crestview Elementary students whose families may not have enough food for the weekends. Every Friday, participating students will receive free food items that are both nutritious and easy to prepare and eat. The church is accepting donations of food items each month. We will be assigned an item, and if you wish to make a cash donation, drop it in the offering plate and label "Loaves of Love."

May collection items are any type of canned spaghetti, ravioli, spaghetti....just make sure pull tab is on top or individual crackers and cheese or peanut butter. For more information contact Shawna Putman or Vicki Saylor.

## UMYF Update

The youth raised \$578 dollars during the dinner theater. The funds are already working to help a student in need. Great job!!!

## Calendar of Events

Joyful Noises	Season conclusion Wednesday May 2nd 3-4:30pm
Adult Choir Practice	Wednesdays 6:30pm
UMW Meet	Wednesday May 2nd at 7pm
Administrative Board	Thursday May 24th 7:00pm
Trustees	Wednesday May 16th 7:00pm
Lions Club Meetings	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday monthly
Mother's Day Breakfast	May 13 <sup>th</sup> , 7:30am
UMYF meeting	May 13 <sup>th</sup> 7:00pm
Vacation Bible School	July 29- August 2nd

## Prayer Concerns

Elvin Williams, Helen Haines, Kay Bennington, Troy Hammond, Madison Ringwald, Dick Burden, Care Placke, Madalyn Emerick, Deb Casterline, Helen Anderson, Annabelle Miller, June Burns, Rosalee Burns, Don Dawson, Dwight Smith, , Marcia Davies, Dale & Dorothy Gleckler, Esten Fortney, Alyssa Stemen and infant son Tracen, Unspoken Requests.

**Vancrest/Convoy:** Betty Fortney, Romaine Feasby, Larry and Deloris Harris.

**Hearth & Home:** Jim Ryan

**St Rita's hospital:** Dorothy (Dean) Gleckler

*"Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee."*

*II Kings 20:5 KJV*

## Mission Trip

There was a team of 7 people who traveled to southwestern Louisiana to help people in need of home repairs. The original project was to build a small home in Rayne Louisiana. About two weeks before they left, they were notified that the local building and loan had donated a repossessed home to the Methodist Church. The sheriff, his staff and inmates were going to rehab that house for the gentleman so they changed their destination to the Sager-Brown Center at Baldwin, Louisiana.

Baldwin is a poor area where a lot of people are in need of some help with their home maintenance. The people at Sager-Brown told them that they have a list of projects that would have taken them over a year to complete. There they worked on three different projects. The first project was to replace a porch railing for a lady on total oxygen and not able to get around very well. Next, they worked on adding slope to a roof. There was a section of that roof that was flat and the rain just laid there. That project took them about two days. Finally, they went on to a house trailer desperately in need of some updates. It was in bad shape but they were told that it was this gentleman's only place to live. They didn't get this project complete, but there was supposed to be another team coming the following week that could finish that project.

They left the area early in the afternoon on Friday and visited the state capitol and the Navy Destroyer USS Kidd in Baton Rouge. On Saturday morning, they visited the civil war battlefield at Vicksburg MS. and then continued on home on Sunday. They arrived back to Convoy about 6:30pm.

## Five Finger Prayer

1. Your thumb is nearest you. So begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you. They are the easiest to remember. To pray for our loved ones is, as C. S. Lewis once said, a 'sweet duty.'

2. The next finger is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct and heal. This includes teachers, doctors, and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction.  
Keep them in your prayers.

3. The next finger is the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the president, leaders in business and industry, and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion.  
They need God's guidance.

4. The fourth finger is our ring finger. Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger, as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need your prayers day and night.  
You cannot pray too much for them.

5. And lastly, comes our little finger - the smallest finger of all which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. As the Bible says, 'The least shall be the greatest among you.' Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

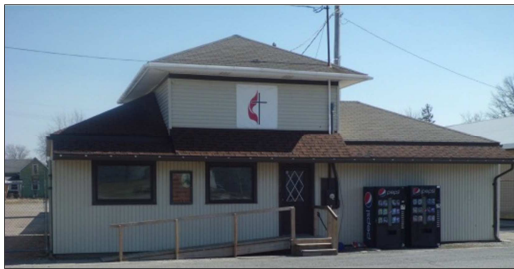


## Contemporary Service

A Contemporary Service is offered every Sunday morning at 11:11 a.m. This is held at the former Hall Lumber office downtown, located along the railroad tracks east of Main Street. It's a service filled with songs and praise. It is a casual and more relaxed service than 9:30 service. We still offer all the same sacraments.

The Service is hosted by our praise band called "Crossroads". Members include:

Guitarist Pastor Leigh Lead Vocal Jeff Gleckler, Keyboard Laura Leigh, Drums Fred Fegley, Bass Guitar Jordan or Jon Leigh. Casual dress such as jeans, T-Shirts, and ball caps are acceptable at this service. Refreshments are offered to be enjoyed throughout the service. Not on time for the beginning, not a problem. You're welcome to come in and join us whenever you get there. It's very informal. You're always welcome to come join us.

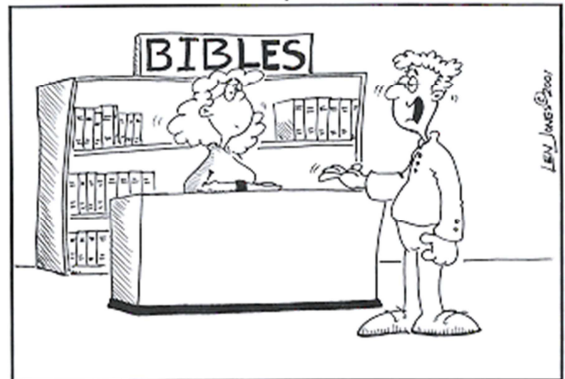


Convoy United Methodist Church  
Sycamore and Main  
P.O. Box 128  
Convoy, Ohio 45832

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

## Comic Relief

ALTAR EGO by Len Jones



"What I really need is a translation that won't leave me feeling guilty, convicted, or in need of making some kind of decision."

Don't forget to check us out on the web at [www.convoyumc.org](http://www.convoyumc.org) for service streaming and more content about what's going on at Convoy United Methodist.

*Enter to Worship...Depart to Serve*



Mailing Address  
Street Number and Name  
City, State 98765-4321