

# The Parish Portrait

Volume 1, Issue 28

March 2013

## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On Sunday, March 31st, we will gather in the sanctuary of the church to celebrate Easter. The climax of that celebration is the singing of a hymn of praise which contains these words of victory: "He lives, He lives Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives, he lives salvation to impart! You ask me how I know he lives. He lives within my heart."

Recently, I received writing by Dr. William H. Willimon that gives a powerful witness of the truth of that great Easter hymn. Listen to this contribution from Dr. Willimon:

In a TV show about Jesus awhile back with Peter Jennings, a Professor N. T. Wright, when asked about the possibility of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, pointed, as evidence, to us, the Church. If you don't believe that God vindicated Jesus, his life, his teaching, by raising him from the dead; well then how do you explain us, the Church? Lots of great teachers left us some great books, a gaggle of admirers, but who left us something like the Church? We believe in the resurrected Christ, said Professor Wright, because we keep meeting him--in word and in worship on Sunday, in those dark nights when we cry out in misery for help and he is there. -- William Willimon,

Again and again you and I have felt the presence of our resurrected Lord and



Savior Jesus Christ. Where would we be without His light in our dark hours. Praise be to God we will never have to know that despair, for Christ is risen, risen indeed!

"He lives, he lives salvation to impart! You ask me how I know he lives. He lives within my heart."

Happy Easter!  
In Christ,  
Greg Leigh, pastor

## 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."

Collection for March – granola or fruit bars. Let us help up to feed elementary children on the weekends.

## United Methodist Women

The UMW will meet on Wednesday March 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the social room. The program will be, Essential Oils. The persons will be Karen Bullinger. The greeters will be Judy Bowers and Mary Ann Hall. The hostesses will be Megan and Mary Ann Hall.

## Volleyball Time Again

It's time once again for volleyball. If you are interested in participating there are two divisions. Women's Volleyball Rec. (division 3 or 4), call either Cathy McClure at 203 8299 or LaNae Beougher at 605-7953 Power Team (division 1), call Cindy Mollenkopf at 749 2249 or 203 1040

## Easter Rescue Mission

Pie crusts are ready to be picked up and filled for the annual Easter trip to the Fort Wayne Rescue Mission. Your continued faithfulness in this outreach is greatly appreciated. I promise you will get much more from the experience than you give.

## Mission Trip

Please keep our mission team in your prayers while they are traveling to Biloxi Mississippi. They are there to help out those still suffering from hurricane damage. They will be leaving March 2<sup>nd</sup> and returning March 10<sup>th</sup>.

## Van Wert County Cares

A 5K run/ walk will be held Saturday Morning April 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am with all proceeds benefiting the Van Wert County Elementary schools food and wellness programs. If you would like to participate or volunteer please contact Stephen King at [sking@trfcu.org](mailto:sking@trfcu.org)

## Prayer Concerns

Gloria Ringwald, Missy Henry and Baby, Dion Bower, Cathy McClure, Chloe Miller, Glenn Gehres, Wilmer Bowers, Paul & Dottie Morehead, Dean McOmber, Troy Hammond, Madison Ringwald, Dick Burden, Care Placke, Madalyn Emerick, Deb Casterline, Dwight Smith, Helen Anderson, Annabelle Miller, June Burns, Rosalee Burns, Don Dawson, Dale & Dorothy Gleckler, Delores Harris, Randy LaPage, Annabelle Clevenger

**Vancrest/Convoy:** Romaine Feasby, Esten Fortney

**Hearth & Home:** Jim Ryan

**Georgetown Place:** (Fort Wayne) Dean Branstrator

**Elmcrest of Lima:** Nell Rice

**Laurels of Rockford:** Jim and Jean Thomas

**Lutheran Healthcare:** Delores Harris

*"Whatever you do, work at it with all you heart, as though you were working for the Lord and not for men."*

*Colossians 3:23 TEV*

## Flower Calendar

The flower calendar for 2013 is up on the bulletin board at the edge of the sanctuary. There are still a few dates available, but they are going fast. The cost is \$26 per Sunday. Thanks!

**West Ohio Conference**

of The United Methodist Church



## Calendar of Events

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Joyful Noises                           | Wednesday 3-4:30pm   |
| Adult Choir Practice                    | Wednesdays 6:30pm  |
| Lions Club Meeting                      | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday monthly   |
| Men's Prayer Breakfast                  | Sunday March 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>7:30am   |
| UMW Meet                                | Wednesday March 6th<br>at 7pm  |
| Songsters Perform                       | March 17 <sup>th</sup> 9:30am  |
| Trustees Meeting                        | Wednesday March 20 <sup>th</sup><br>at 7:00pm  |
| Administrative Board                    | Thursday March 21th at<br>7:00pm   |
| PPR Meeting                             | Thursday March 21 <sup>st</sup><br>6:30pm  |
| Palm Sunday Service<br>Cantada          | Sunday March 24 <sup>th</sup><br>9:30am  |
| Palm Sunday 11:11<br>Anniversary Dinner | March 24 <sup>th</sup> 11:11<br>celebrates its 11 <sup>th</sup><br>anniversary w/ a dinner |
| Maundy Thursday Film                    | Thursday 7pm in social<br>room. Communion will<br>be served                                |
| Community Good<br>Friday Service        | March 29 <sup>th</sup> Location<br>TBA check bulletin for<br>details                       |
| Easter Service<br>Combined Service      | Sunday March 31 <sup>st</sup> 7am<br>and 9:30am  |
| Men's Prayer Breakfast                  | Sunday April 7 <sup>th</sup><br>7:30am   |

## Village Ministry Center

Pastor Mike Saylor and Amy Gerardot of the Village Ministry Center attended the Convoy United Methodist Administrative board meeting on Thursday February 28<sup>th</sup>. They were there to inform the body of the progress of the VMC. They requested prayers and any physical or financial support the congregation could offer in renovating the building.

The facility will be a non- denomination gathering place for any member of the community where Christian love and support will be on display. The VMC will be located in the former Buds Variety Store building and will feature a cozy environment, and offer a variety of programs for youth and adults.

If you would like more information e-mail the VMC at [vmcconvoy@gmail.com](mailto:vmcconvoy@gmail.com). There will also be a clean-up day on Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup> if you would like to see or hear more about the exciting plans.

## Village Ministry Center

Convoy, Ohio

*Vision: The Village Ministry Center is a missional community seeking to be the presence of Christ in the Convoy area, resulting in strengthened families, empowered people, and encouraged faith.*

*Mission: The Village Ministry Center will establish Christ-centered relationships with those living in and around Convoy through various programs, classes and other opportunities as offered by VMC staff and volunteers.*



**Want to be a part of  
this community ministry effort?**

Email: [vmcconvoy@gmail.com](mailto:vmcconvoy@gmail.com) Twitter: @VMC\_Convoy



# Van Wert County Cares for Kids 5K Walk/Run

Saturday, April 6, 2013

10:00 a.m.

Van Wert Elementary

St Rte 118, Van Wert, OH 45891

Visit [www.cooperfarms.com](http://www.cooperfarms.com) or [www.3riversfcu.org](http://www.3riversfcu.org)

for registration forms

*Proceeds to benefit Van Wert County Food and Wellness Programs for Kids*



MALE & FEMALE AGE GROUPS

9 Yrs. & Under, 10-14, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60+

Awards to Top 3 in Each Age Group & Top Male and Female Overall

**Registration:** Begins promptly at 9:00 a.m.

**Race Info:** The Run/Walk begins at 10:00 a.m. The flat 3.1 mile course will start and finish at the Van Wert Elementary with splits at each mile. Water will be provided on the course.

- Pre-registration with t-shirt (Deadline 3-23-13)..... \$20
- Pre-registration for age **14 & under** (Deadline 3-23-13)..... \$ 5 (\$14 with shirt)
- Kids, bring proof of participation in 5K to 3 Rivers Van Wert office for a \$5 deposit into your CUB account!
- Pre-registration without T-shirt (Deadline 3-23-13).....\$11
- Race Day Registration .....\$15
- T-Shirts Day of Race (if available – limited supply).....\$10

We will be accepting microwave safe single serving size canned good donations day of race to benefit local children's wellness programs. For a complete list of items please see Cooper Farms or 3Rivers website for details.

\*\*\*Mail form below or register online at [www.goodtimesraces.com](http://www.goodtimesraces.com)\*\*\*

Water and refreshments will be provided for all participants.

**Race Contacts:** Kacy Wagner – (419) 238-4056  
Stephen King – (419) 238-3113

[Kacyw@cooperfarms.com](mailto:Kacyw@cooperfarms.com)  
[sking@trfcu.org](mailto:sking@trfcu.org)



\*\*\*\*\*

Mail Form and Check To: Cooper Farms 5K Run/Walk, 6793 St Rte 127, Van Wert, OH 45891 **\*\* NO REFUNDS\*\***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (Circle One) FEMALE MALE

Address/City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Age as of 4-6-13: \_\_\_\_\_ Please circle shirt size: Adult: S M L XL XXL (add \$2 for XXL) Youth: M L

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby release Three Rivers Federal Credit Union, Cooper Farms, and all sponsors, coordinating groups, and all individuals associated with the 5K Run/Walk and their representatives from any and all claims that may arise as a result of my participation in this event. I certify that I am physically fit and assume all risks associated with my participation in this event.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PARTICIPANT SIGNATURE AND PARENT/GUARDIAN IF UNDER AGE 18

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

# Our Vision: The Road North

Over the last month I spent two weeks in conferences in Thailand with my team and many other missionaries in East Asia. The first week was for all people serving in East Asia. There were approximately 700 people at our first conference from America, East Asia, and other parts of the world. There we got to hear about many different ministries, stories, and much more. The point that stuck out to me was the vision for the road north.

This was great for our team because we went into the conferences with questions such as "What is our vision?" and "Why are we here?"

The East Asian people, for the first time in conference history, planned and ran the

entire conference with no help from foreigners. They also developed this vision for The Road North. This vision means aiming for equipping the East Asian people to be lifetime laborers in whatever field they enter post college. This means training people to live out their faith in Jesus in the workforce. There is also the goal of raising up full-time laborers to enter into full-time ministry post university. We also have a goal of being present at 50% of universities in our country by the year 2020. Please join the East Asian people as well as myself in praying for this to become a reality. These are big goals but our God is big and able to do this!

The second conference was just for

Stinters in the Asia area. The conference was called Refresh and it was refreshing. It was also a great reminder of how God is working around the world! It was also great to hear from other people who are in the same stage of life as myself and in similar situations. It was great to connect, make some new friends, and be encouraged by others who are doing the same thing I am.

I am so grateful that I was able to be part of these conferences and to be reminded of what our vision is and why we are here! Thank you for your prayers for my team and me as we were in Thailand and all the travel that happened for all of our missionaries!

## January 2013



## Prayer Requests

Keep me posted on address changes!  
Contact Information:  
awise@dodomail.net  
Donations: give.ccci.org Account  
Number: 0656015

### Thailand

Praise that the conferences were great. Being there, though, allowed us to see the brokenness of Thailand and their belief in idols

### Adam

In the middle of February our team will be gaining a new member, Adam. Pray for his preparation and travels

### Planning

Pray for our team as we begin to plan for our ministry next term once the students return from winter holiday

## 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 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.



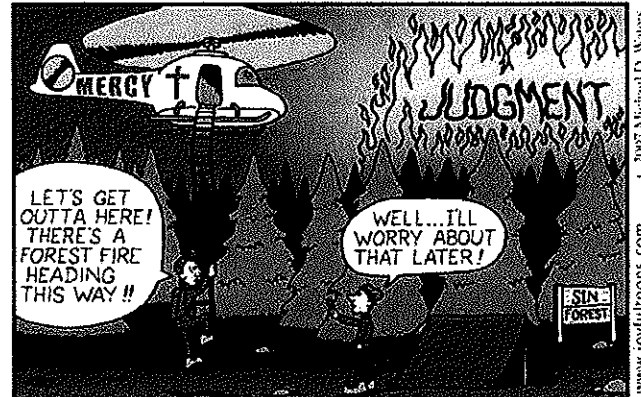
*Convoy United Methodist Church  
Sycamore and Main  
P.O. Box 128  
Convoy, Ohio 45832*

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

## Comic Relief

### RESCUE 'COPTER

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you. — PSALM 89:14 NIV

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*