

# The Parish Portrait

Volume 1, Issue 16

October, 2011

## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On the first Sunday of this month, Christians all over the world will remember the greatest act of love in all the universe as we receive the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Holy Communion is the sacrament which lifts up Christ and His sacrificial love for us. I recently received a story which bears witness to the power of such sacrificial love.

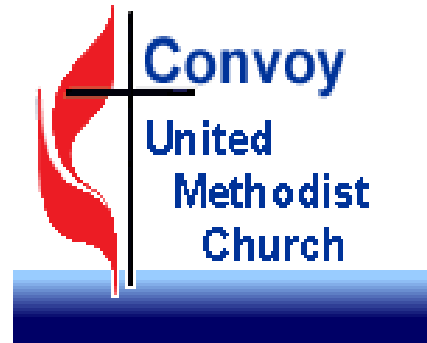
Jack Kelley, a reporter for USA Today once told the story of the ravaging famine in Somalia, East Africa. In a village decimated by starvation, a photographer noticed a little boy suffering from malnutrition. When the photographer handed a grapefruit to the little boy, he was so weak that he couldn't even handle the grapefruit. A member of the crew cut it in half and gave it to him. He picked it up, looked as if to say thanks, and walked back toward his village. There on the ground was another little boy, the first boy's younger brother, who appeared to be dead, his eyes completely glazed over. His older brother knelt down, bit off a piece of the grapefruit and chewed it for a moment. He then opened up his younger brother's mouth, put the chewed piece in, and worked his brother's jaws up and down.

Later, the news crew learned that the older brother had done the same routine for about two weeks until he, himself, finally died of malnutrition. The younger brother survived.

Much like the little brother in the preceding story we live today and have the hope of eternal life all because of the love of Christ, our elder brother who gave His life that we might have life. Truly there is no greater love than this!

Come celebrate the love of God on World Communion Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, in the year of our Lord 2011.

In Christ, Greg Leigh, pastor



## Administrative Board

The administrative board will meet on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00pm through the fall and winter until May. The administrative board would like to invite all administrative board to attend. We are deciding on the direction of many important issues that face our church family. For more information contact Rick Mollenkopf.

## 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/eat, The church is accepting donations of food items each month. We will be assigned and item, and if you wish to make a cash donation, drop it in the offering plate and label "Loaves of Love." Thank you for your outpouring of donations last year. For more information contact Shawna Putnam or Vicki Saylor.

**September items to be collected are individual packages of cereal; October microwave mac & cheese.**

## United Methodist Women

The UMW will meet on Friday, October 7, 2011 at the Community Health Professional Building, 1159 Westwood Drive, Van Wert Ohio at 1:30pm. The Guest speaker will be Quida Fields from Adult Day Care Center. Please plan to attend. Contact person, Jean Wittung 419-749-2053.

Any ladies who have Rada spatulas or knives from the fundraiser that they wish to return, please do so at the meeting. Also, there are several dishes, cake pans, etc. in the kitchen that have not been claimed, if you are missing one or two, you may find them there.



Convoy United Methodist Women held their "Day Away" in Van Wert in July. We visited the Pregnancy Life Center and were greeted by Trina Langdon, director, providing a tour of the facility and introduction to the staff and the programs they offer. A donation of \$500, was presented to the center. Next, we had lunch at the Van Wert County Museum and a tour of the Log Cabin, the Barn, the School House and the House. The tour was led by our own Marie Sanfilippo. Then off to the Central Fire Museum for a trip back in time. A beautiful day, good company and a great time in Van Wert County. UMW members, if you have not paid your pledge, send to Vicki Saylor, Treasurer.

## Thank You to the UMW

"Dear Convoy UM women,

Thank you for taking the time to hear about the Pregnancy Life Center Ministry. We truly appreciate your interest in what we are doing here. Thank you too for your generous donation. Your contribution truly was an answer to prayers.

For His glory,

Trina Langdon, director"

## Food Pantry



Thanks to all of you who have faithfully supported the Helping Hands Food Pantry. The need has been much greater this year due to the economic situation that many local families have had to face. Your continue support is appreciated. The pantry is always in need of cereal, paper products, shampoo, deodorant and toothpaste, as well as canned meat, canned fruits, macaroni & cheese, pasta, tomato juice & spaghetti sauce. In the freezer we like to stock pound packages of hot dogs, bologna, hamburger and frozen family dinners.

## Mission Committee Report

Dick Miller, Phil Campbell, Jon Amundson and Charles Profit traveled to Vanceboro, North Carolina, July 24<sup>th</sup> through July 30<sup>th</sup> to help repair water damage from the September 2010 flood. The first three days they installed ¾ inch plywood as sub floor through an entire 2400 square. ft. house. It was the hottest part of the summer and it was very uncomfortable. By Wednesday, they had managed to get the homes air conditioning system operating which helped considerably. The last two days were spent replacing the wiring throughout the house.

## “Pandamania” VBS

The Convoy United Methodist Church hosted vacation bible school in August with a theme of Pandamania. The event was coordinated by Delta Dingus, her family and many volunteers. There were 63 children ages 3 years old through 6<sup>th</sup> grade attended the weeklong event learning how God's loves Us. Thanks to all who helped that week, your willingness to be a part of VBS is much appreciated. Thanks Delta and family for your leadership. Enjoy photos below.



*Mission continued from page 2*

We have had constant needs through the local community, but thanks to your generosity we have been able to handle them. It is amazing how many people we have been able to help through our local needs program over the years. We thank you for your Pickle Jar and mission giving to fund this outreach.

We will soon be looking for a winter destination for the upcoming mission's trip. If you have any input as to where we should go or an interest in participating, contact Dick Miller. The normal time for the trip is the last couple weeks of February through the first week of March. We normally leave on a Saturday and return the following Sunday. We are always looking for new participants and we always have an enjoyable and rewarding time.



## New Lighted Sign



A new lighted sign in the front of our church. Wow! What a nice addition to our church offering worship times to the community. The design has allowed north and south passersby are able to read the information on the sign. Great job trustees!!!



## The Upper Room

If you are interested, you can pick up a copy of the upper room devotional. They are available by the flower calendar.

## Love and Respect

A book about relationships is the focal point of the adult class located in the Sunday School classroom. Everyone is welcome to join this new study beginning Sunday September 18 at the 10:30am Sunday School hour.

## Joyful Noise

The Joyful Noise group will begin their sessions October 5<sup>th</sup>. Each session begins with a snack, followed by a craft, Bible lesson and singing. The children should be picked up at the church at 4:30pm.

Volunteers are needed to pick up children at the school by 2:50pm and provide snacks. If you would like to help, please contact Laura Leigh at 419-749-2103 to volunteer or with questions.

## Calendar of Events

Joyful Noises	Wednesdays 3-4:30pm
Adult Choir Practice	Wednesdays 6:30pm
PPR	October 4 <sup>th</sup> 7pm
National Clergy Appreciation Day	October 9 <sup>th</sup>
Nominating Committee	October 11 <sup>th</sup> 7pm
Laity Sunday	October 16 <sup>th</sup>
UMM Breakfast	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday monthly 7:30am
Administrative Board	4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday monthly 7:00pm
Trustees	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday monthly 7:00pm
Lions Club Meetings	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday monthly

## Prayer Concerns

Judy Dealey, Mary Smith, Troy Hammond, Madison Ringwald, Sondra Shepherd, Vickie Troyer, Genia McOmer, Dick Burden, Esten Fortney, Care Placke, Madalyn Emerick, Mike Schumm's granddaughter, Unspoken Requests. Vancrest/Convoy: Bryan Stewart, Romaine Feasby & Anabelle Miller

Hearth & Home: Jim Ryan

## 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.

*For I have given you an example, that you also should do as I have done.*

*John 13:15 RSV*

## Comic Relief

### Bulletoon by Trudy O. McConnell



"Honey, I'm sorry...This is all I had to wear! I PROMISE not to leave my suits at the cleaner's again!"

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.

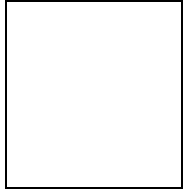
***Enter to Worship...Depart to Serve***

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

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

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City, State 98765-4321*

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