

The Parish Portrait

Volume 1, Issue 17

November 2011

From the Pastor's Desk

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Jesus said: "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will not hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst." John 6:35

How great is our God! How great is the faithful care of our loving Lord. We can be thankful that our God will always be there to provide for us manna in the wilderness and living water in the desert places of life! With God's presence even obstacles of life can become mysterious blessings. Consider the following story as told by Dr. James S. Hewett:

In southern Alabama is the town of Enterprise, in Coffee County. There they have erected a monument to an insect, honoring the Mexican boll weevil. In 1895 the boll weevil began to destroy the major crop of the county, cotton. In desperation to survive the farmers had to diversify and by 1919 the county's peanut crop was many times what cotton had been at its height. In that year of prosperity a fountain and monument were built. The Inscription reads: "In profound appreciation of the boll weevil and what it has done as the herald of prosperity this monument was erected by the citizens of Enterprise, Coffee County, Alabama." Out of a time of struggle and crisis had come new growth and success. Out of adversity had come a blessing.

How many times has our loving Lord brought you a blessing out of a time of adversity? May this season of Thanksgiving be a time in which we praise our God who provides manna in the wilderness and living water in the desert places? Great is our God and great is His faithfulness!

In Christ, Greg Leigh, pastor



Charge Conference

Our annual Charge Conference will be held at our church on Thursday, November 3. Jeff Motter assistant to the district superintendent will be presiding. He will meet with the PPR committee at 6:30 pm. then preside over the Charge Conference at 7 pm. We would like a nice attendance. Please plan to attend this important meeting.

Thanksgiving Service

We will be observing Thanksgiving this year on Sunday evening, November, 20th at 7 pm at our church. Crossroads will be providing the music, with Wayne Karges delivering the message. We are trying this new format which will enable those who would like to travel for Thanksgiving to be able to participate

Hanging of the Greens

The Annual Hanging of the Greens will be observed on Sunday morning, November 27th during the 9:30 am worship service. Come and enjoy this service which is designed to help us prepare our hearts for the coming of the Advent Season.

United Methodist Women

The UMW are requesting pies for the Habitat for Humanity Community Thanksgiving meal on Sunday, November 6th. Please deliver your pies to the Van Wert High School door H-30 on Saturday, November 5th from 8am to noon. Suggested pies are pumpkin, pecan or apple. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the vestibule. Trinity and Crossroads will be performing for the dinner. If you have questions please contact, Jean Wittung 419-749-2053.

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 an 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.

November collection items to be collected are toothbrushes and toothpaste

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.

Joyful Noise

The Joyful Noise group will meet Wednesday's. 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.

Congratulations

We would all like to congratulate Jeannie Miller, Megan Dettrow on their first place finish at the Special Olympics bowling competition. Way to go ladies!!!

Youth Group Activities

If you are interested in having your leaves racked by the youth group, please contact a member of the youth group or Jean Leary.

The youth group will be performing a dinner theater production soon. Look for updates in future issues.

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.

An Atheist in the Woods

An atheist was walking through the woods.
 "What majestic trees!"
 "What powerful rivers!"
 "What beautiful animals!"
 He said to himself.

As he was walking alongside the river, he heard a rustling in the bushes behind him. He turned to look. He saw a 7-foot grizzly bear charge towards him. He ran as fast as he could up the path. He looked over his shoulder and saw that the bear was closing in on him. He looked over his shoulder again and the bear was even closer. He tripped and fell to the ground. He rolled over to pick himself up, but saw that the bear was right on top of him, reaching for him with his left paw and raising his right paw to strike him. At that instant moment, the atheist cried out: "Oh my God!" Time stopped. The bear froze. The forest was silent. As a bright light shone upon the man, a voice came out of the sky. "You deny my existence for all these years, teach others I don't exist, and even credit creation to a cosmic accident." Do you expect me to help you out of this predicament?" "Am I to count you as a believer?" The atheist looked directly into the light, and said: "It would be hypocritical of me to suddenly ask you to treat me as a Christian now, but perhaps you could make the bear a Christian?" "Very well," said the voice. The light went out. The sounds of the forest resumed and the bear dropped his right paw, brought both paws together, bowed his head and spoke: "Lord bless this food which I am about to receive from Thy bounty through Christ our Lord, Amen."

Calendar of Events

Joyful Noises	Wednesdays 3-4:30pm
Adult Choir Practice	Wednesdays 6:30pm
PPR meet w/Jeff Motter	November 3 rd 6:30pm
Charge Conference	November 3 rd 7pm
UMM Breakfast	1 st Sunday monthly 7:30am
Administrative Board	Thursday November 17 th 7:00pm
Trustees	Wednesday November 16 th 7:00pm
Thanksgiving Service	Sunday November 20 th 7pm
Hanging of the Greens	Sunday November 27 th @ 9:30am service
Lions Club Meetings	1 st & 3 rd Monday monthly
Election Dinner	November 8 th

Prayer Concerns

Louise Schuman (Joy Klinger's mother), Dr. John Benya, Kay Bennington, Patti Cox, Kelly Hale, Mary Smith, Troy Hammond, Madison Ringwald, Sondra Shepherd, Vickie Troyer, Genia McOmer, Dick Burden, Care Placke, Madalyn Emerick, Sophia Schumn Unspoken Requests.

Vancrest/Convoy: Romaine Feasby & Anabelle Miller

Hearth & Home: Jim Ryan

The Family of Bryan Stewart

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6 KJV

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.

Comic Relief

ALTAR EGO. by Len Jones



"I was just fine until you stood up in service and testified that golf was one of your spiritual gifts."

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

Enter to Worship...Depart to Serve

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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