

# The Parish Portrait

Volume 1, Issue 25

November 2012

## From the Pastor's Desk

"Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus." 1Thessalonians 5:16-18

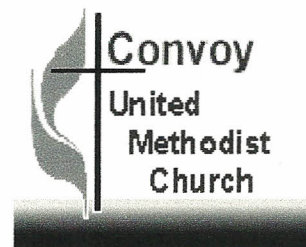
Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we prepare for the Thanksgiving season I uncovered a story from the life of Corrie Ten Boom that illustrates in such a powerful way that we can give thanks even in the most inhospitable situations in life. This witness takes place at Ravensbrook which was a concentration camp and therefore a situation of unimaginable suffering. I owe a debt of thanks to Allen Littlejohns for bringing the story to our attention:

In her book, *The Hiding Place*, Corrie Ten Boom tells of an incident during her time in Ravensbrook--a concentration camp. She and her sister Betsie were held, along with many other women, in dreadful conditions. Their sleeping quarters were overcrowded beyond belief, filthy and flea infested.

Corrie and Betsie were Christians and held on to their faith. They read aloud from the Bible and prayed, encouraging the other women to join them.

In 1 Thessalonians they read, "Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus." So they prayed rejoicing and giving thanks. Betsie gave thanks for the crowded conditions, as since they were packed so close many women would hear the word of God. She also gave



thanks for the fleas! Corrie was astounded that Betsie could do this and declared that she could not be thankful for fleas. But Betsie quoted, "Give thanks in all circumstances." She pointed out to Corrie that it did not say "in pleasant circumstances." Betsie went on to say that the fleas were part of the place where God had placed them.

And while the fleas were in the room the guards would not enter. They could keep their Bible and worship and pray in peace.

Let us recalibrate our lives and in all circumstances give thanks to the Lord who in mysterious ways blesses us and never forsakes us.

Peace and Thanksgiving  
In Christ,  
Greg Leigh, pastor

## Higher Education Group

The higher education committee will be putting together boxes for our college students on Sunday November 4<sup>th</sup>. If you have any items you would like to donate to this cause, please bring them to the church by Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. We will be sending packages to 17 students living away at college and 3 who commute for a total of 20 students.



## **UMYF News**

The UMYF kicked off the year with their first meeting on Wednesday, October 10th. We elected officers and discussed some fund-raising ideas and activities we'd like to do for the year. This year's officers are:

Taylor Hughes - President

Cora Finrock - Vice-President

Treasurers - Riley Guest

Secretaries - Mallory and Sydney Bowen and Hannah Leary

Outreach - Aly Fegley and Olivia Leary

Events Coordinators - Hali Finrock and Brady Guest

The UMYF will be traveling to Envision Church in Ft. Wayne for a Christian concert on Friday, November 2nd at 7:15 pm. We will be going with the youth group from Countryside Chapel.

The UMYF will be raking leaves on Sunday, November 4th and will meet after church in the social room for lunch. Bring rakes and tarps if you have them! Please call Jean Leary at 419-495-2743 if you need your leaves raked. Please leave a message if we're not at home!

## **New 20's and 30's Group**

This year, we are forming a new group at Convoy UMC for people in their 20's and 30's. A group met on Sunday, September 30th to discuss their goals and ideas. They set a few goals they would like to achieve as part of this new group, such as forming a stronger Christian community through their growing faith, mentoring the younger generation through their actions, and last but not least, sharing in fellowship and fun.

For the first several meetings, Dave Bowen will be leading the group through the "Heaven is for Real" book by Todd Burpo, and that is the beginning for what we hope will be years of fellowship. The book is available for around \$10 at the Bridge in Van Wert, or you can download it on your e-Reader for about the same price.

Anyone in their 20's and 30's is welcome to join the group (name will be changing soon as it is a mouthful!) and bring a friend. You don't have to be a member at Convoy UMC to attend. In November, they will meet on the 4th and 18th at the church in the Adult Sunday School room in the basement from 6:30-7:30. Child care is available from the UMYF, so please let Jean Leary know if you are bringing your kids so she can line someone up. If you have any questions, see Dave Bowen, Jean Leary, Meagan Hall, Allison Hammons, or Ashley Holden.

## **United Methodist Women**

United Methodist Women will be held November 7th at 7pm in the church social room. Program: World Thanks Offering- Cindy Mollekopf & Sue Baumgartner. Greeters-Shelly Holden, Marie Sanfilippo. Hostesses- Cheryl Hoover, Anne Stewart.

## **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."

November collections will be Pop Tarts and Campbell's soup with pull tabs. For more information contact Shawna Putman or Vicki Saylor.

## Joyful Noise

Joyful Noises Activities have begun again on Wednesdays after school. If any child is interested in attending, please contact Laura Leigh or Delta Dingus. The group meets each Wednesday from After School to 4:30. School pick-up is available.

## Heritage Board

The Heritage Board is in need of volunteers to help children walk over to the Heritage House and bring them safely back to school. It can be just a few hours to all day or you can be a sub...it is a great way to see the kids and get to know them. Please call Diane Perry at 419-622-6561. YOU WILL BE GLAD YOU DID!!

## Returned Parish Portraits

The portraits below were returned last month not deliverable. If you know a current address for these members, please let us know so that we will be able to get the monthly newsletters out to them. You can write the address on the note pad in the gold basket in the vestibule or e-mail [klpp1985@gmail.com](mailto:klpp1985@gmail.com)

NELL RICE  
1007 MERRY LANE  
VAN WERT OH 45891

BRIAN BAUMGARTNER  
2903 - B ORISKANY DRIVE  
BEEVILLE TX 78102

## Reminder

The December 2012 and January 2013 Parish Portraits will be combined. If you have items you would like include, please e-mail them to [klpp1985@gmail.com](mailto:klpp1985@gmail.com) or place them in the gold basket in the vestibule by Sunday November 25<sup>th</sup> to be included.

## Youth Food Drive

The 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School class will be collecting items for the Helping Hands Food Pantry. Barrels will be located in front of the Secret Garden in Convoy on November 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. They are requesting toiletries, paper products, cleaning supplies as well as non-perishable food items. If you need more information contact Julie Fegley or one of the youth.

## East Asia Prayer Letter

Austin Wise has sent a postcard from East Asia to thank us for our prayers. He also says that he is praying for us and God is doing amazing things there. The postcard will be posted on the bulletin board by the custodian's closet.

## Election Supper

Just a reminder the annual Election Supper will be held on Tuesday November 6<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm. The menu will feature turkey or cubed steak entrees with choice of potato, vegetable, coleslaw, apple sauce and your choice of dessert (pie or Cake) and a drink for a FREE WILL OFFERING. We pray that all will be able to attend.

A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the vestibule for pie donations.





## Calendar of Events

Joyful Noises	Wednesday 3-4:30pm
Adult Choir Practice	Wednesdays 6:30pm
UMW Meet	Wednesday November 7 <sup>th</sup> at 7pm
Administrative Board	Thursday November 15 <sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm
Trustees	Wednesday November 21 <sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm
Lions Club Meetings	2nd Monday monthly
Youth Christian Concert w/ Countryside	Friday evening Nov 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Youth Leaf Racking	Sunday Nov 4 <sup>th</sup>
College Boxes Due	November 4 <sup>th</sup>
20's and 30's Group	Nov 4 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup> in Adult Sunday School classroom 6:30-7:30pm
Election Supper	Tuesday November 6 <sup>th</sup> 5-7pm
Food Drive for Helping Hands food pantry	Nov 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup>
All Saints Day	Sunday Nov 11 <sup>th</sup> 9:30 & 11:11
Thanksgiving Eve Service	Sunday Nov 18 <sup>th</sup> 7pm Crossroads performs
Hanging of the Greens	Sunday Nov 25 <sup>th</sup> 9:30 am service
Youth Rock-a-thon 5 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> grade Sunday school class	Friday Nov 30 <sup>th</sup> – Saturday Dec 1 <sup>st</sup>
UMYF Communion Sunday	Sunday Dec 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Children's Sermon Skit	Sunday Dec 2 <sup>nd</sup>

## Administrative Board

The Administrative Board of our church will meet on Thursday November 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Adult Sunday School classroom. The board is discussing import issues that affect every member of the congregation. If you are a member of the Administrative Board your attendance is vital. If you are not sure if you're a member, a list will be posted on the bulletin board by the custodian's closet. See you there.

## Prayer Concerns

Shelly (Dealey) Klinker, Glen Gehres, Kenny Linton, Don Johnson, 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, Madge Wilson, Delores Harris, Randy LaPage, Annabelle Clevenger, Gary Williams, Esten Fortney.

**Vancrest/Convoy:** Romaine Feasby

**Hearth & Home:** Jim Ryan

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

**Elmcrest of Lima:** Nell Rice

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

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whosoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

*John 3:16*

Convoy United Methodist Church  
Committee on Lay Leadership Report  
October 2012  
For Offices 2013

Administrative Board Chair .....	Rick Mollenkopf
Administrative Board Vice Chair.....	Steve King
Lay Leader.....	Dave Bowen
Lay Member to Annual Conference.....	Don Johnson
Alternate Lay Member to Annual Conference.....	Tona King
Treasurer.....	Margaret Miller
Financial Secretary.....	Sarah Dealey
Finance and Stewardship Committee Chair.....	Kevin Weisman
Pastor/Staff Relations Committee Chair.....	Tona King
Christian Education Chair.....	Tina Pollock
Worship Chair.....	Laura Leigh
Mission Committee Chair.....	Dick Miller
Evangelism Chair.....	Susie Baksa
Youth Coordinator.....	Jean Leary
Older Adult Coordinator.....	Betty Springer
Adult/Family Coordinator.....	Judy Farmer
Higher Education Coordinator.....	Shelly Holden
Communications Coordinator.....	Laura Leigh
Membership Secretary.....	Marie Sanfilippo
Coordinator of Camping.....	Tona King
Representative of Health and Welfare.....	Alison Hammons
Trustees Committee Chair.....	to be elected by Trustees
Volunteer in Missions Chair.....	Dick Miller
President of United Methodist Women.....	Lynn Johnson
President of United Methodist Men.....	Kevin Weisman
President of United Methodist Youth Fellowship.....	Taylor Hughes
Member at Large.....	Jon Hall

All persons listed on this page are members of the Administrative Board which meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month in the Adult Fellowship Classroom.

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Kevin Weisman, Chair  
Pastor (Greg Leigh)  
V.Chair Ad. Bd ( Steve King)

Fin. Sec. (Sarah Dealey)  
Ad. Bd. Chair (Rick Mollenkopf)  
Lay Delegate (Don Johnson)

Treas. (Margaret Miller)  
Treas. Trustees (Dan Baksa)

### TRUSTEES

2013  
Glenn Gehres  
Doug Dealey  
Brad Hughes

2014  
Jeff Gleckler  
Dan Baksa  
Clark Ringwald

2015  
**Jim Hammond**  
**Charlie Baer**  
**Anne Stewart**

### COMMITTEE ON LAY LEADERSHIP (Nominations)

2013  
Patti Cramer  
Nikki Beougher  
Kendra Beard

2014  
Cheryl Hoover  
Sue Baumgartner  
Fritzi Stewart

2015  
**Laura Leigh**  
**Dave Hummel**  
**Jeff Leary**

### PASTOR/STAFF RELATIONS COMMITTEE

2013  
Linda Dawson  
Phil Sanfilippo  
Fred Fegley

2014  
Leta Feasby  
Dave Hummel  
Susie Baksa

2015  
**Tona King**  
**Fritzi Stewart**  
**Bob Elder**

### OTHER OFFICES

Church School Secretary & Treasurer.....Roger Baksa  
Assistant Financial Secretary.....Larry Holden  
Communion Coordinators.....Jeff & Jean Leary, Steve & Shelly Holden, Lynn & Jeff Johnson  
Memorial Fund Secretary.....Betty Springer  
Prayer Chain Chair.....Phyllis Gay  
Bulletin Coordinator.....Laura Leigh  
Parish Portrait.....Steve King  
News Release.....Vicki Saylor  
Calendar Coordinator.....Shelly & Steve Holden  
Senior Choir Director.....Keith Bowers  
Organists.....Linda Holden & Diane Mezuk  
Joyful Noises Choir.....Laura Leigh  
Acolyte Coordinator.....Delta Dingus  
Food Pantry Coordinators.....Vicki Saylor  
Head Ushers.....Dave Hummel  
Secretary of Ad. Bd. and Charge Conference.....Tona King  
Sound System Engineer.....Brad Hughes, Dan Baksa  
Derrick Baksa, and Randy Bullinger  
Greeters.....Dick Miller, Ted Kiehl, Dave Hummel  
**Jeff Johnson and Jim Hammond**



# **Election Supper**

**At the  
Convoy United  
Methodist Church**

**Nov 6th**

**5:00 - 7:00 pm**

**Cubed Steak or  
Turkey Dinner**

**Free Will Offering**