



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Congregation,

Another Easter...How many have there been for you now? For me, this will be my sixty-fourth, and so I have quite a few on which to look back. I have the black and white Kodak print of the first one I remember when I was five years old. There I am standing beside my sister in front of my parents, all dressed up after attending worship at First Evangelical and Reformed Church. My sister Sharon and I are dressed alike, wearing hats and gloves, each of us holding an Easter basket and plush rabbit. Easter for us in those days centered on candy and the fun of hunting for colored eggs in my grandparent's back yard.

First E & R Church became First United Church of Christ in 1957. As I attended Sunday School and worship, was confirmed, and grew to young adulthood there, I learned about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. Easter then was a time of vacation joy to me, wrapped up in the familiar rituals of our family's celebration- Easter baskets, Sunday School and worship (saving pew space for my parents), dinner that included ham, potato salad, my mom's Lime Whip jello (cont. on p. 2)



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Weekly Schedule:

- Sun, 9:00am —Church School
- Sun, 10:30am —Worship Service
- Sun, 11:30am—Coffee Hour
- Wed, 12:00pm—Bible Study
- Wed, 6:00 pm—Simple Supper
- Wed, 6:30 pm—RECESS Worship
- Thurs, 8pm—AA Meeting

Pastor, cont.

salad, and pastel-iced rabbit cookies with chocolate bit eyes.

Then I married and became the mother of three children. I made sure Easter was special for them, even after I was divorced and it was often hard to find the money for the special things—a new outfit to wear to Sunday School and church, Easter baskets, and a nice dinner. I shared with them as best I could the miracle that is central to our faith—Jesus’ resurrection and what that means for our lives. I saw that they, too, grew up in UCC churches.

The years have gone by quickly. During those years much has happened to me—the deaths of those I love, ordination to ministry, and an empty nest as my kids have grown and have families of their own. Although much has changed, some things remain the same, like celebrating Easter. But it has a deeper meaning to me now. As a child, I hadn’t experienced loss, so I couldn’t comprehend the joy of Christ’s resurrection promise that death is not the end. As a mature adult (who flashes my Golden Buckeye card to receive discounts,) I know I’m closer to the end of my life than to its beginning. And so I take great comfort in the wonderful Easter promise we have in scripture. I love to sing with gusto the Easter hymns, particularly some of the words in “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today,” “Let the Victor’s people sing, Where, O death, is now your sting? Dying once, Christ lives to save, Where your victory, O grave?, Made like Christ, Like Christ we rise, Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!”

No matter how many Easters you have celebrated, may the joy of Christ’s resurrection fill you, overwhelm you, renew you, and comfort you this year!

Happy Easter to each of you!

In Christ’s love, Pastor Candy

Moments with the Moderator

Do you feel the excitement?

We have experienced a few days of sunshine and warmer weather! What a joy! Spring at PPUCC is also bringing some new hopes, activities, and opportunities. We have a lot for which we can be thankful!

The decisions at the annual meeting in February offer a new way to volunteer for Boards and committees. Council hopes that reducing the number of people on our various Boards and creating committees to lead some of our once-a-year activities will encourage more participation. It was a delight to see members sign up for activities on the *PPUCC Wheel*. The wheel is only half full, so there are still more things to do! There is something for each of us to contribute, so check out the wheel located in Paterson Hall. Volunteers – what a joy!

The Boards began their new year at their March meetings. They elected chairpersons and secretaries. During this new church year, we'll test out different ways of doing things and accomplishing our responsibilities as a church body. New people, new ideas!

Tina Mockbee and I are thrilled at the response to the Feed My Sheep project. The idea came about at the Lenten retreat and Tina has really taken the lead in making it a reality. It's exciting to start a new project that has a real purpose.

I'm most excited about a new minister! By the time you read this we will have met a candidate, Jon Komperda. He will have socialized with us at the Saturday evening potluck, shared a sermon on Sunday, and we will have made a decision about calling him to guide us as we serve God. The Search committee feels Jon is a good match for us. We will be communicating with Jon and (cont. on p. 4)



Moderator, cont.

his wife Lauren regularly as they prepare to move to Toledo in September. I anticipate we will use some modern technology to keep in touch with them. What fun!

What will Jon see as he gets to know us? He'll see that we ARE open to new ideas, that we DO care about the people inside and outside the walls of PPUCC, and that we want to WORK TOGETHER to glorify the kingdom of God!

THIS IS EXCITING! PRAISE GOD!

Lori

The Board of Christian Education will be holding the annual Sunday School Appreciation Dinner during Recess on April 21st. We invite everyone to join us for dinner and fellowship. During this time we will take time to express appreciation to those who helped to make this such a successful Sunday School year. Dinner begins at 6:00 pm.

Odyssey Hospice Need Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to spend time with hospice patients. This time could include talking and sharing stories, going for walks, playing cards, reading aloud, or just being a caring friend. If you have ever felt the desire to help someone in need, please consider this opportunity to make a real difference in someone's life. Visiting times are flexible and will work around your schedule. Please call Noelle at 419-887-6700 for more information.



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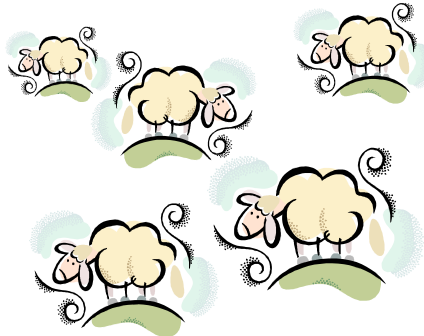
Feed My Sheep Program

Biblical Directive: Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. Matthew 25:34-35

This new community outreach program at PPUCC will provide a warm, nutritious, free meal to members of our local community in a dignified, respectful setting enabling our neighbors who may be experiencing financial difficulty to feed themselves and their family once a month. The first dinner is scheduled for Tuesday, April 27th from 5 – 7 pm in Paterson Hall. You can be part of this exciting new program by –

Volunteering -

- to help set up for the dinner
- to help cook the food
- to serve during dinner
- to help with clean up
- to help with publicity



or donating–

- food and supplies
- Cash for purchase of perishables

April's meal will be a spaghetti dinner. We are in need of donations of -

- cans of diced tomatoes
- cans of tomato paste
- bottled Italian dressing
- containers of grated parmesan cheese
- a large can of decaf coffee



Sign up sheets are available in Paterson Hall if you are interested in volunteering or donating, or you may call Tina Mockbee 419 276 0637 or Lori Winne 734 848 4120 for more information.

Check the Bulletin Board in the Paterson hall Annex for updates and news about this exciting new program.

John 21:17 Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep"

Elizabethans News

The March 1st meeting began at our new start time of 6 pm, with the ladies gathering to sample all the great treats prepared by Wanda Franks and Lois Fallon. Pineapple pudding cake, shamrock cookies and as an added bonus, finger sandwiches and pickles for those who might not have had time for their dinner. All was appreciated, and needless to say, consumed in short order! It was decided to continue the 6 pm start for a few more months to see if this will be a workable time for everyone.

Bonny Beebe stepped in for Becky Chesko and read devotions from a book titled "Daisies Are Still Free" by Patricia Wilson. The story within was called "Chocolate Sundae Heaven" which told of a chocolate sundae luncheon treat thought of by a young woman for her co-workers, instead of the usual salad, sandwich etc. After promoting this special lunch she was left with only fifty-seven cents and trusted in the Lord to see her through the rest of the week without the use of her credit card. With luncheon and dinner offers from friends and boy friend and an un-expected advance in pay from her employer, she sailed through the week and was very thankful for her blessings.

Our treasurer Bonny Beebe reported \$227.55 in the General Fund and \$353.90 in the Penny Fund after a deposit of \$2.94. (please remember to save your pennies). The Penny Fund paid \$89.90 for the paint needed to refresh the nursery walls.

The Birthday Club will meet at Bob Evans, Alexis Road, on Wednesday, March 17th at 11:15 AM

Boots Kunckel and Ruby Usher will be hostesses for the Monday, April 5th meeting, and Evelyn Berkhoudt will read devotions.

Kroger Community Rewards

On March 14th we received a check from Kroger for \$237.17. This concludes our first year participation in the community rewards program.



The church enrollment is unchanged, but each household must re-enroll on or after April 1, 2010. This is true even if you just enrolled in the first months of 2010. Enrollment must be on-line. Kroger will no longer accept the scan bar.

We will have more information and help available after April 1st. This is an important program, and we will do everything we can to make it work.

Bonny Beebe

To enroll:

Visit www.krogercommunityrewards.com

Click on "Ohio" to sign up for a Kroger.com account or

Click on "Already enrolled? Sign In" if you have an account (all participants must have a valid online account at Kroger.com to participate)

For anyone who does not have access to a computer, you may do this through the church office. Stop in, or call 419-726-7390.

OHIO CONFERENCE SPRING LANTERN FELLOWSHIP
WOMEN'S RETREAT
April 16-18 Pilgrim Hills
"Do You See What I See?"
Image as a Way of Understanding Faith
Led by: The Rev. Wendy Schindler-Chasney
Cost: \$135 with scholarship assistance available
Registration deadline is April 2nd
See Pastor Candy for registration form

Mission Board News

The Mission Board will once again be hosting Easter Breakfast on Sunday, April 4th. Breakfast will be served at 8:30am immediately following the early service. Tickets are \$6.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children 10 and under, and free for children under age 2. Money raised will be split between the Helping Hands Fund and the Senior High Youth as they prepare for their summer Conference. Bring your family and your appetites as this is a great way to celebrate Easter together!



Mustard Seed/Feed Your Neighbor has expressed that they are in need of collecting canned meats. They recently lost part of their funding that is used to purchase the meat products they give to families. During the month of April, the Feed Your Neighbor focus will be on collecting canned meats/protein. Examples include: beef stew, SPAM, canned tuna, canned ham, canned chicken, etc.

The Giving Tree focus on our college students continues in April. Care packages will be given to our college students towards the end of April as they study their way through exam week. If you would like to donate items to include in the packages please continue to place them on the Giving Tree table in Patterson Hall. Also, if you have a son/daughter/grandchild in college please let us know. We do not want to leave anyone out, so please contact Ericka Winne (419.349.8167) if you have a name to add to our list.

Ever heard of Soles4Souls?
(Catchy name I think!)
Soles4Souls is the world's largest provider of free shoes to



people in need. This organization has put a call out to churches worldwide to participate in a program called *Barefoot4Haiti*. *Barefoot4Haiti* is a program designed to encour

Mission, cont.

age churches to take off their shoes and go barefoot to raise awareness for the more than 1.5 billion people worldwide who do not own a single pair of shoes. We have designated Sunday, April 25th as our Sunday to go “barefoot” – don’t worry, not literally. During the entire month of April you may bring in your gently used shoes or donate to Soles4Souls and on this Sunday we will have a special dedication. Any type of shoe will do...this is a great way to clean out our closets and give of what we have!

The Help for Haiti Pancake Breakfast held February 28 at RiverPoint Ministries raised \$1,465.22! Thank you to everyone who gave of their time to make this possible!

Our Blankets+ collection during February raised around \$230 – that’s 46 Church World Service blankets from our church – awesome!

Ericka Winne

CALLING ALL GRADUATES!

Have you or someone from your family graduated from High School or college since last June? Well, your church family would like to share in your pride of accomplishment. Please forward names and information on the graduate to the Board of Diaconate through Tina Mockbee – email tmockbee@mcanwo.org or call 419-276-0637 with information. We are planning to celebrate your success during worship on Sunday, June 13, 2010 and would love to include you and your information. A brief synopsis of your achievement and a recent photo would be appreciated. Give Tina a call or drop her an email today – **deadline for submission is June 6th!**



“Challenges, Choices, Consequences”

Great Lakes Regional Youth Event

The Great Lakes Regional Youth Event is taking place from June 17–20 at Defiance College. This is a great opportunity for our youth this summer. The theme this year is “Challenges, Choices, Consequences” with worship, workshops, fellowship, music, and service projects. The event is open to students who have finished 6th grade -12th. We will transport our students and be with them during this time also. The cost of the event is \$225 per person which we will be doing fundraisers for and with help from the Board of Christian Education Camp Fund to help pay for the students. We are asking for a \$25 deposit for each student so we can know how much we need to cover the rest and know how many we need to transport. Please know that if there is a hardship for this amount, please contact me and we can work something out. I hope to get as many of our youth to participate as possible. The \$225 we will raise per person covers all food, dorm rooms, materials, concerts, event t-shirt, and giveaways.

If you know of a student who would be interested please share this with them and let me know also. We will need a head count by the end of April to know how much we will need to raise to cover the event. The youth will be helping the Mission Board on Easter Morning and had a bake sale on Palm Sunday to raise funds for this event. Thank you for all of your support.

If you have any questions please contact Susan Korcecki at the church at 419-726-7390 or at home 419-726-0940.

Spring Rummage Sale

Dear members and friends, our thanks go out to you for your generous donations to our past rummage sales. Because of your support, we have been able to help our church financially. Now our spring rummage sale is nearing on Fri & Sat, May 7th & 8th (see attached flyer). We will be accepting donations starting Sunday May 2nd; they can be dropped off any time Sunday after church or during office hours, Mon-Thurs. 9:30 am - 1:00 pm. Deadline for donations will be Thursday, May 6th. Anyone interested in helping with setting up and pricing can come to the church Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am - ?. Help is also needed on the sale days. Any time you can come will help greatly. For additional information see Donna or Jim Armstrong or Kathy Placzkiewicz. THANKS AGAIN



Heritage/Jubilee Celebration Searching for VIPs

On May 2nd, the Board of Diaconate is planning to acknowledge those who have been members of our congregation for 50 YEARS or more and those couples married for 50 YEARS or more! If you or your family members are one of these “very important people” please forward information to either the church office or Tina Mockbee (419- 276-0637) before April 26th so we may include your name on the role of VIPs.



Have You Ever Wondered?

By Richard Berkhoudt

Have you ever wondered

How it all began?

A cataclysmic cosmic burst,
Or God's determined plan?

The Bible lays it all before us,
Historic in detail,

Prophets, kings and tribes all chorus
Their efforts to prevail.

Views abound of natural wonders -
Alongside mankind's heinous blunders.
Tales of wars and base calamity
O'erspread scenes of peace and amity.

Old Testament prophets gave us insights, -
Mere glimpses of God's glories.
Countless generations yearned for
Fulfillment of these stories.

God's greatest gift to man was love; -
That first, most wondrous, from above.
His Son, our Savior, brought to man
The essence of His Father's plan.

"Love your neighbor as yourself",
An edict we remember.
"Love your enemy as though a friend",
Sears our thoughts as burning ember.

Yet God exacts an equal price
On friend and foe as one.
For peace and harmony to flourish,
His will, not theirs, be done.

Much of the world has not accepted
Full meaning of that sacred tome.
But God decrees it is simply expected
That love will overcome.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

This amazing ministry is a wonderful way we can all be apart of God's work in caring and praying for those in need, whatever that need may be. We thank everyone for his or her on-going support of this ministry. We would also like to remind the whole congregation that this ministry includes you. We are a small group and cannot be aware of every need, therefore we rely on the members of the congregation to let us know or distribute the shawls as they are in need. Please remember to check the list in the notebook that stays with the bin downstairs to see if someone has already received a shawl or not. So many of you have contributed beautiful shawls and so many have already been shared. Anyone can be a part of this ministry, you can make a shawl, donate yarn, make cards to give along with the shawls, and pray for those making the shawls and those who receive them. There is a box downstairs in the church marked "Prayer Shawl Ministry" to place finished shawls in and a book to note who has been given one. The reason for writing down who receives one is only so as not to duplicate that caring thought. If you have any questions, ideas to share, or other ways you wish to be a part of this please call Susan Korecki at the church or at 419-726-0940.

Spring Makeover

We have all noticed the change in our weather and how nice it seems to have some sunshine around. The Board of Trustees is planning on doing their spring yard cleanup on Saturday, April 10th. So bring your rakes and join us in making our church yard look presentable for the next season. We will meet in the parking lot at 9:30 a.m. Hope you can come and join us!

The Board of Trustees



Church Council Report

Pastor Candy shared several announcements. She received a letter from the Association stating appreciation for our giving and financial support. She also thanked the worship committee for the table to be used during Lent. Looking ahead to Holy Week, we will have a Maundy Thursday service at our church at 7 pm. There will be a community Good Friday service at Messiah Lutheran Church at noon. On Easter morning there will be an early service at 7:30 am, followed by a breakfast and our regular service at 10:30 am.

There are some interesting events going on within the UCC community. The Northwest Ohio Association meeting will occur on Saturday, April 24 at Sylvania UCC. They will be collecting clean-up kits and personal care kits. You can assemble one or more and bring it in. There is a sample kit on the table in Paterson Hall. They will be taken to the meeting. The Ohio Conference Annual meeting will be held on June 11 & 12 at Heidelberg University. Rev. Geoffrey Black will be the keynote speaker.

Linda Woodall and the spirituality group planned a wonderful Lenten retreat for us at the Lial Renewal Center. It was well attended. The program was interesting, with a number of activities to participate in while we examined the fabric of our faith.

By the time you are reading this, I hope everyone took advantage of the opportunity to meet Jonathan Komperda at the potluck dinner and service the following morning. He is a candidate to be our next pastor.

We had a good attendance at the annual meeting where several amendments to the constitution were passed. Thank you for voting. Many people have signed up to be a point person/coordinator for a number of annual events. We still have some openings that are not filled. Check on the "wheel of committees" to see if there are any where you could share your time

Church Council, cont.

and talents in order to continue the events.

Those who have been giving their time to keeping the church clean and sparkling can rejoice in knowing that we have a custodian. Don Curtis was hired to begin in early March. The job was made a little easier for him with the painting and new carpeting that was installed in the nursery. It looks bright and cheerful for the little ones with many safe toys available.

Got some good ideas about fund raisers? Please share them with us. We are looking for ways to raise funds for the church and would like to come up with some new events. We are planning on having our spring rummage sale May 7 & 8. Donna Armstrong and Kathy Placzkiewicz will be coordinating it. We are looking into the possibility of selling coupon books for Elder-Beerman stores for a special sale in the fall. We really need all of your creative ideas, so don't hesitate to share them.

Finally, as a result of our Lenten Retreat, Tina and a group she was with at the retreat decided to get our church involved with making sure that people in need of a meal in the Point Place area have somewhere to go at least once a month. Her group is organizing a meal to be served on the last Tuesday of each month. They will announce what the meal will be and you can pick up a coupon to help you remember what to bring in to contribute toward this meal. Besides food items, they also need cash donations for perishable food items and people to help set up, serve, and clean up after the meal. This meal, along with those served by other groups in the area, will help people in the community who are hungry. Let us all help those in need, remembering the words of Jesus, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me" .
Matthew 25:40

Bonnie Nelson
Church Council Secretary

This 'n That

APRIL COFFEE HOUR SPONSORS

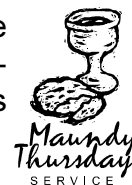
A big THANK YOU to those who signed up to sponsor coffee hour in April:

- April 4th—Easter Breakfast sponsored by the Mission Bd.
- April 11th—Arrichi family
- April 18th—Boots, Ruby Usher, Wanda Franks & Gail Church
- April 25th—Ray & Rae Jean Curtis and Roberta Carter

March's sponsors were certainly appreciated for all the goodies and fellowship! If you are interested in filling the future open dates either sign up on the poster in Paterson Hall or call Tina Mockbee 419 276 0637.

MAUNDY THURSDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE

You are invited to be present for this service of light and shadows on Thursday, April 1st at 7 p.m. As we remember Jesus' last supper we will commune together by Intinction. Scripture readings will accompany the extinguishing of the twelve candles as we reflect on Jesus' words and example.



The annual **COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE** will be held on Friday, April 2nd at Messiah Lutheran Church at noon. Churches participating are CrossPoint Community Church, Messiah Lutheran Church, Point Place UCC, and Riverpoint Ministries UMC. There will be a combined choir. Plan to attend this meaningful service.



CONFIRMATION ACTIVITIES

The Confirmation Class and other interested youth and adults will be traveling to the Holocaust Memorial Center, Farmington Hills, MI, immediately after worship on Sunday, April 11. They will also be attending an informational session and worship service at Congregation Shomer Emunim Temple, Sylvania, on Friday, April 16th leaving PPUC at 4:15 p.m. Please know that you are welcome to accompany us. Please see Pastor Candy if you're interested

Thank You

Sincere thanks to all who helped me as I recovered from recent total knee replacement surgery. Your prayers, cards, telephone calls, visits and help with transportation were a real blessing.

The lovely prayer shawl which Pastor Candy brought to the hospital was and continues to be a comfort and a joy.

How fortunate I am to belong to this loving church family.

Doris Towers

Stewardship, cont. from p. 20

and treasure to the church not to support an institution but to nurture a community of believers and doubters faithing each other into stronger relationships with Jesus, just as those disciples did with Thomas. As Eastertide continues, remember how the church held you when you were in a Thomas week in your life.

Rochelle A. Stackhouse is the Senior Minister of The Church of the Redeemer, United Church of Christ, New Haven Connecticut.

April 2010 God is still speaking,

This resource is a free service and is made possible by your gifts to Our Church's Wider Mission.

**47th NORTHWEST OHIO ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING**

Sylvania United Church of Christ
April 24, 2010

8:15 a.m. Registration to 3:30 Adjournment

You are invited to come for worship and fellowship. Key-note speaker will be the Rev. Stephen L Sterner, Executive Minister, Local church Ministries, UCC National Office. Four Candidates will be presented for Ordination. We will vote on the Association Mission Spending Plan for 2011. Personal Care Kits and Clean up buckets will be collected. Registration fee (which includes meeting expenses, snacks, and meals) is \$22 per person if received by April 2. Please let Pastor Candy know if you plan to attend.

**PERSONAL CARE KITS
THREE WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE.**

The Mission Board invites you to be a part of this much needed project. You may chose to do this in three ways:

- bring in Personal Care Kits you've assembled at home and place on the Mission Table in Paterson Hall
- *bring in any of the individual items needed for the kits
- *donate money that will be used to purchase items for the kits. Mission will then do the shopping and assemble the kits.

All kits, individual items, and money should be brought to the church by Sunday, April 18th.

Each Personal Care Kit includes:

a bar of soap	a wash cloth and hand towel
a disposable razor	six band-aids
a small container of shave cream	
a personal note	a tooth brush
a small tube of tooth paste	
a comb	a nail file
a small container of deodorant	

Counting Down to a New Campaign

Written by Gregg Brekke
March 16, 2010

The United Church of Christ is just a month away from the viral launch of the next "God is Still Speaking" commercial called "The Language of God."

The April 16 debut is a first for the UCC, relying exclusively on social networking and the church's best communicators, its own members, to spread the message. "Yes, a new Stillspeaking ad is coming," says the Rev. Felix Carrion, coordinator of the UCC's Stillspeaking Ministry, "and what makes this debut so significant is that we are counting on the moxy of our million-plus supporters to spiral this viral message around the world."

"We're asking people to set aside that morning — April 16 — for unparalleled texting, Twittering, Facebooking and emailing of this new spot," he says.

The 60-second video message is being produced by Think Media, a national advertising firm known for its edgy, innovative video work. Its household-name clients include the Cleveland Cavaliers, the Cleveland Clinic, Progressive Insurance and Nestle, among others.

Leveraging the existing graphic identity established by the Stillspeaking campaign, the UCC plans to purchase targeted ads — touting the video message — on Facebook and the most widely trafficked blogs.

"Marketing data now shows that our target audience is now more likely to be found sitting in front of a computer screen instead of a TV screen," says the Rev. J. Bennett Guess, the UCC's director of communications. "Just as we found it important to take to TV in 2004 and 2005, we're taking to the internet on April 16 like no denomination has ever done before."
(cont. on p. 20)

New Campaign, cont.

In preparation for the launch, a [webpage with instructions on how you can help spread the word April 16](#) has been posted in addition to changes to the UCC's [home page](#). "We want the excitement of this new ad, and its potential for invitation and awareness, to reach every corner of the church - including cyberspace," says Connie Larkman, the UCC's strategic media coordinator.

Stewardship Message**In Faith and in Doubt**

"Eight days later..." John 20:26

The disciples told Thomas the unbelievable news that Jesus, whom they had all seen crucified, was alive! And, of course, Thomas did not believe it! He might have thought his friends delusional or mad with grief. He might have thought that some colossally cruel practical joke had been played on them by the authorities. Whatever he thought, clearly he could not buy what they were selling. So he might have left them, sadly and with great despair.

But we are told that a week later he was still hanging out with them. *A week!* Even though they were ecstatic with joy and he was deep in disbelief, he stayed with the community, and they remained available to him. Then Jesus appeared again and the one who doubted found faith.

Thank God Thomas had a place and a group of people with whom he could abide in the night of doubt and sadness. They carried him through until his relationship with Jesus was restored and strengthened. Is not that still the role of the church? We maintain our buildings and hold our worship services and prayer meetings and Bible Studies and community events and host support groups of all kinds so that we can hold each other in faith and in doubt. We are there for each other and for our neighbors in all circumstances of life and spirit. We give time, talent (cont. on p. 17)

Meet Me Under the Baobab Tree

Are you looking for some adventure this summer? Why not come on safari in the expansive African savannah to a place under the baobab tree. This amazing experience takes place the week of July 12 – 16. so be sure to mark you calendar.

Baobab Blast is an invitation to be part of God's great get-together. Being community, building community, and learning about community, this vacation Bible school program will be a life-changing experience for you and the children that gather as community during this week.

Together you will share, discover, create, play, sing, hear and even taste in the community under the Baobab tree. As the sun rises and sets on the savannah, so too, will the faith and relationships grow as children explore connections with God, family, friends, other, and the world. Come on join the community under the Baobab tree.

Your help is needed in the following areas:

- Madagascar Music (music and motion activities) – Leader and helpers
- Watering Hole Café (snacks) - Leader and helpers
- Savanna Storytelling (storytelling DVD and creative drama) - helpers
- Guides
- Kalahari Crafts – helpers
- Grassland Game—helpers
- Serengeti Science—helpers

See Linda Woodall if you would like to help. Come join God's great get-together under the Baobab tree!



The “COW” is coming, the “COW” is coming!!!!!!



Yes, that darn cow that moooves around raising awareness about hunger in the world. The cow will begin moving from yard to yard in the beginning of April. You can have the cow put in someone's yard for \$5. If you wake to a cow in your yard it costs \$5 to remove it, or you can choose to pay \$10 to remove it and place it in someone else's yard. You can, if you wish, purchase insurance for \$15 and the cow will not set foot in your yard. It is a lot of fun. The youth are preparing for the 30 hour famine and part of their fundraising efforts is the "cow". If you would like to send that cow visiting just let Susan Korecki know at the church or at home at 419-726-0940. If you receive a visit and have any trouble with the cost, please, no worries. This is all in fun. Just talk to Susan, and no one will know. Please know the cow stays about 2 days when possible. Enjoy, let the games begin!

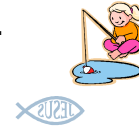


A Line from your Director of Discipleship

Come by and join us at the mid – week gathering.

RECESS Definition

Intermission, break, time out, suspension of business,
Respite, hiatus, pause, rest
Revive.....Relax.....Renew



“RECESS” Upcoming Events

Simple Supper each week is at 6pm
Worship: 6:30pm

April Worship Themes

- *7th Pastor Candy
- *14th Hymn Sing
- *21 Teacher Appreciation Dinner – Everyone invited!
- *28 to be announced

May Worship Theme

- *Worship 101 each Wednesday

Interested? Come check it out!

Groups & Activities following worship:

- “Youth Chorus” practices Wednesdays - April 28, May 5th, and 12th at 7pm
- Cards, Coffee, & Conversation (anytime you wish , cards provided)
- Charity Knitting (knitting blankets for Toledo Animal Shelter and scarves or baby things for those in need at The Sparrows Nest)

Details to Youth Chorus:

Youth Vocalist practice at 7pm Wednesday –April 28, May 5th and 12th.

Youth will practice 2-3 songs to perform May 16th during worship

Anyone in grades 5 -12 is invited to join. Contact Susan Korecki at church or at home, 419-726-0940.

Coming Soon

What would you like to do, learn, see? Let me know.

Please join us for RECESS.....

See you at RECESS.....

I'll meet you at RECESS.....

**POINT PLACE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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*To care for one another
as God cares for us.*