



## From the Pastor's Desk

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### From the Pastor's Desk

Recently, in my personal Bible reading and meditation, I've been going through the Gospel of Luke. If you've never really read the gospels through, I encourage you to do so—not just to do it, but to really get to know Jesus. Jesus is truly a striking character, as is evident in his piercing teaching, his powerful miracles, his compassion for the down-and-outs, his sacrificial death and victorious resurrection, and his single-minded commitment to the purpose for which he came to this earth.

But this just so happens to be the third time I've read Luke's account of Jesus over the last two years, and something else has really been capturing my attention. Jumping off the page at me have been the people around Jesus. It seems that almost no one is left with the option of being neutral or ho-hum about Jesus. There are those that

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#### Weekly Schedule:

- Sun, 9:00am —Church School
- Sun, 10:30am —Worship Service
- Sun, 11:30am—Coffee Hour
- Wed, 8:30am—Bible Study
- Wed, 5:30 pm—Simple Supper
- Wed, 6:15 pm—RECESS Worship
- Thurs, 6pm—Bible Study
- Thurs, 8pm—AA Meeting

## From the Pastor's Desk continued

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tremely intrigued by him, and those that are utterly enthralled with him. Some burst out in praise; some cannot restrain their desire to share with others the amazing things he has done for them; some leave everything they have to learn from him and see what's next. As Jesus' ministry progresses, people expect big things from Jesus...and he delivers—not always on their terms—but always in show-stopping displays of wisdom, power, and grace.

This all got me thinking of what I expect of Jesus—he is still alive and active after all. Do I expect him to do things that will make me shout and sing out in praise? Do I expect him to speak into my life in a way that will irresistibly change how I go on living? Do I expect him to use me to change other people's lives as I tell his story and shine the light of his love? That is exactly what Jesus did—and does. And that's what his Church at her finest has done—and does (just look at Luke's sequel: Acts).

If God is truly “the One who, by the power at work among us, can do abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine” (Eph. 3:20), then let's re-imagine what our lives and community can look like as we encounter the living Jesus, and move forward the power of his Spirit. Why expect anything less?

## CHURCH COUNCEL REPORT

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Our financial situation continues to be of prime concern. The issues related to the use of the endowment fund were explained at the congregational meeting on October 3, 2010. It was heart-warming to see the backing of the congregation, as many members of the congregation stood to validate their support of our moving ahead with legal council for advice on the use of the endowment fund. Please see any member of Church Council if you continue to have questions related to this matter.

We can all help resolve the budget concerns by participating in fund-raising events. We are participating in the Elder Beerman coupon sale. All we ask you to do is sell a few coupon books for \$5.00 each. The individual purchasing the coupon will be able to use it at Elder Beerman to save a significant amount on purchases on the day of the sale which is November 13, 2010. The best thing is, the church will be able to keep the \$5.00 from each coupon book sold. This will help our general fund. I have my coupon book in front of me and see at least 10 different coupons for clothing, jewelry, footwear and a number of other items. You can even use some of them for online shopping on the date of the sale. I know Lori Winne still has some books available. Make sure you get enough books to sell that you can let your friends and co-workers take advantage of great savings and help out our church at the same time.

Board meetings are going to be held a little differently. All boards will meet on the third Wednesday of the month beginning in November. Church Council will then normally meet on the fourth Thursday of the month except for November when it will meet on the third Thursday because of the Thanksgiving Holiday being on the fourth Thursday. It will be important to plan your agenda carefully if you need Pastor Jon to be at the meeting, as he will circulate among the different board meetings that evening.

Out of all the gifts to you, you shall set apart every offering due to the Lord, the best of all of them is the part to be consecrated. Numbers 18:29 (NRSV)

Bonnie Nelson

Church Council Secretary

## NOTES FROM DIRECTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP



*Recess Schedule –  
Each Wednesday Evening  
6:00 pm Simple Supper  
6:30 pm Discussion and Thought with  
Pastor Jon*

*This fall we are discussing God's Story and  
where we fit in it.*

*Come join us.*

Recess is a great opportunity to share, worship, and grow in our faith together.

“Recess” means to relax, renew, take a break, hiatus, rest period, and revitalize. We enjoy a simple supper together followed by a time of reflection of scripture.

*For where two or three come together*

## ELIZABETHAN NEWS

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The October 4th meeting opened with much anticipation of the slide presentation that Rev. John Rainey and Gene Finnegan planned of their trip to Germany last spring. After indulging in some very special treats prepared for us by Jackie Shaw (and company) we settled down to watch some extraordinary photos of their trip. From the village of Oberammergau, whose citizens all participate in the dramatic Passion Play of our Lord, to countless cities and villages from Bavaria to the end of their journey in Frankfort, we were held spell-bound by the sights and narration. It was a most memorable adventure for Rev. Rainey and Gene and a most memorable evening for the congregants that attended.

After much visiting with our guests, Boots Kunckle opened the meeting for the Elizabethan's asking Doris Towers to begin devotions. Doris read from the book of inspirational author Max Lucado, titled "Safe in the Shepherd's Arms" and ended with a loving prayer asking for God's blessings.

Bonny Beebe reported \$258.55 in the Elizabethan General Fund and \$330.88 in the Penny Fund. Also reported was a check received from Meijer's Community Rewards Program for \$137.06. This was given directly to the Church's General Fund.

The entire Elizabethan group heartily agreed that we would purchase new electric roaster(s) for the church's use in meal preparation. The money will be taken from the Penny Fund, making the purchase a congregational donation. Many thanks to all who give so generously.

Boots Kunckle offered to be hostess for our November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting with Bonny Beebe reading devotions. The meeting will start at 6:30 PM. Please come for an enjoyable evening of fun and fellowship.

## MISSION BOARD UPDATE

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It's that time again, our annual friendly rivalry between teams – Ohio State vs. Michigan! Support your team this month by bringing in your non-perishable food items on Sunday and place them on the Feed Your Neighbor table at the front of the sanctuary. Each week the food items will be taken to Mustard Seed, our local Feed Your Neighbor site. Which team will win this year?

With Christmas right around the corner, it's time to start thinking now more than ever about how we can give and share the love of Christ with others in our community. We will be collecting Christmas gifts this year to give to Mustard Seed throughout the months of November and December. Please visit the Giving Tree table in Paterson Hall for specific gift ideas.

UPCOMING HELPING HANDS PROJECT: Mustard Seed is starting a clothing ministry and is requesting our help! Mustard Seed is currently working on turning their basement into a donation station for new and gently used clothing. Over the years, they have come to realize that community members need not only food for their families, but clothing as well. Project leader Terry Serviss is assessing the work that needs to be done and will be keeping us informed as to how we can get involved (building shelves, painting, donating clothes, etc.). Stay tuned!

We invite you to visit the Mission Board table in Paterson Hall and check out the new bulletin board! We hope to be able to share more news from local ministries and more updates on current outreach opportunities. If you have a suggestion on how you would like to see our church get more involved or have a mission opportunity/outreach you would like to share, let us know!

Ericka Winne



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Dear Congregation of Point Place United Church of Christ,

Please read this notice carefully and join us on Sunday, November 14, 2010 for the congregational meeting immediately after service. This matter is of extreme importance to the life of our church. At this meeting we will **vote on the 2011 budget AND a recommendation of the PPUCC Council**. This recommendation was postponed at the October informational congregational meeting until further details from the lawyers were clarified. We now have the information we need to proceed.

As such, the PPUCC Church Council recommends:

eliminate “other than for ordinary operating expenses of said church” from #7 of the Endowment Fund By-Laws:

#7. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this document, all or any part of the principal of said Endowment Fund may be expended for said church purpose in the nature of an emergency, other than for ordinary operating expenses of said church. Such expenditures shall be approved by the voting members of said church in the following fashion: In such case, the principal may be used if, at a Special Meeting of the congregation called in the manner prescribed by the Constitution and Bylaws of Point Place United Church of Christ, Toledo, Ohio to consider the matter, twenty-five percent (25%) of the members of the congregation as reported in the most recent official denominational statistics shall be present and two-thirds (2/3) of those members present and voting shall vote to use the principal for said emergency.

and

Whereas the general fund savings account of PPUCC in October, 2010, contains only \$10,000, and whereas the current operating expenses of PPUCC total approximately \$12,000 per month, and whereas the monthly income of PPUCC pledges and contribution

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contributions is approximately \$7,000, it is necessary to take action to balance the budget (currently at approximately a \$40,000 deficit) and thrive as a community of faith in God.

vote on the following recommendation:

When the general fund savings is depleted to \$10,000, we would automatically borrow \$10,000 from the Endowment Fund unrestricted monies in order to meet ordinary operating expenses. A maximum amount of \$100,000 could be borrowed before returning to the congregation for another vote. The definition of “borrow” is to use the Endowment Fund unrestricted monies with the intent to repay, but without obligation. The church treasurer will keep the congregation informed as each \$10,000 is borrowed. The Endowment Fund income will still be available for special grants, i.e., contemporary music, director of discipleship, etc.

Sincerely,

Church Council





## FEED MY SHEEP

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September's meal was a great success – we fed 93 people! As we look toward the colder months energy costs will stretch budgets even thinner and we expect an increase in clients. Thanks to all who keep this program going!

To warm our friends at the November 30<sup>th</sup> meal we are serving chili, fresh garden salad, corn bread and butter , cake and beverages. The meal is served from 5 – 7 in Paterson Hall and our clients now line up in anticipation – we will open the doors on the library side of the church as soon as we are able during the colder weather. Food donations should be left at church by Sunday Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> – why not share your thanksgiving spirit by helping others with a meal in November.

You can be a part of this 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 yard sign placement

to deliver a meal to a church member's home

or donating–

food and supplies

Cash for purchase of perishables and **roasters**

We are in need of donations of

-cans of kidney beans

-cans of tomato sauce

-cans of diced tomatoes

-baked 9 x 13 cake

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.



Sadly, some of our church roasters have heated their last meal.... As we use our kitchen equipment we find the need to replace some of the roasters. Please consider a donation marked "roasters" to help us keep the kitchen equipment in good repair for all those who use the church kitchen. We intend to purchase new roasters during the holiday "sale" season.  
Thank you!

## NOTEWORTHY

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Due to cost cutting measures, the Board of Trustee has decided to discontinue mailing Parish Paragraphs. Instead of using costly paper and postage, Parish Paragraphs will be sent via e-mail. We understand that not every one has computers and for those of you who don't we will make Parish Paragraphs available for pick up at the Church. We will still send Parish Paragraphs to those of you who don't have computers and who are unable to pick them up.

However, we need to know who you are. Please call the Church at 419-726-7390 if you still require a hard copy of Parish Paragraphs.

We are also trying to update our e-mail list. Please send your current e-mail address to [office@pointplaceucc.com](mailto:office@pointplaceucc.com).

Change is never easy but it has become necessary to tighten our belt in new ways. Thank you for understanding and for your cooperation.



### YOUTH PLAN MISSION TRIP

We are planning on a youth mission trip this summer to Mingo County Appalachian Mountains of WV. The trip will be June 12-June 17<sup>th</sup> through Youth Works. This opportunity will be to help in a small rural community with their youth and in specific service projects. The youth will also have the chance to experience the area culture with a Bluegrass concert one evening, a community cookout, a local church service, and visit the Matewan Depot Museum. We have a lot of work and preparation to do. The youth will be doing quite a few fundraisers to try to raise the money needed for the trip. Our first fundraiser will be having a table at the Craft Sale on Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> here at the church and then homemade candy at Christmas. We thank you in advance for all of your prayers and support.

### Youth at the CORN MAZE!!!

What an exciting and eventful night had by all at the Uncle Sam's corn maze. Everyone had their own rules to find their way through. Pastor Jon was a definite leader, the youth seemed to have trouble staying on the path, some creative in their path choices, and others such as myself kind of lost but having a great time.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ELDER BEERMAN COMMUNITY DAY is Saturday November 13 starts at 6AM.. Please help sell our coupon books. Each \$5.00 sale is 100% profit for our General Fund. Sell!Sell!Sell! See Lori Winne for coupon books.

CRAFT SHOW AT PPUCC is November 13 9AM to 3PM in Patterson Hall. Vendors are still needed. 6FT tables are \$20.00. Please call Andrea Aricchi 419 726-2408.

### RUMMAGE SALE AND POLISH DINNER

The fall rummage sale made a profit of \$1200 for the general fund. Donna and Jim Armstrong along with myself would like to thank all of the volunteers who helped all week with the sale. Thanks also to anyone who gave donations of articles for the sale.

I would to thank everyone who helped with the Polish Dinner, we could not have made the profit we did without your hard work. We served 214 persons and had a profit of \$1770, the silent auction made \$439 for a total profit to the church's general fund of \$2200. We are planning to have another one next fall. Thanks again, Kathy Placzkiewicz

### Thanks for helping us raise money for CROP!

A big thank you to all who participated and helped support PPUCC's fundraising for the CROP Hunger Walk. We had a wonderful walk that day and for a great cause and were able to raise \$185. Go Team

**ACE  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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