



Faith Community United Church of Christ

Dialog

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Scott Kaufman, *Pastor* • Mel Barrios, *Certified Lay Minister* • B.J. Lord, *Editor-Secretary*

AUGUST 2011

PASTOR'S CORNER

Dear Faith Folks,

Summer has been in full swing for a while and many people have already been on a vacation, or at least gotten outside for some type of activity such as mowing yard, playing golf, or just taking a walk. So, during your travels outside, visiting someone, or perhaps vacationing, have you seen signs of God in the world around you? Have you looked for the work of God's hand in creation in your travels this summer?

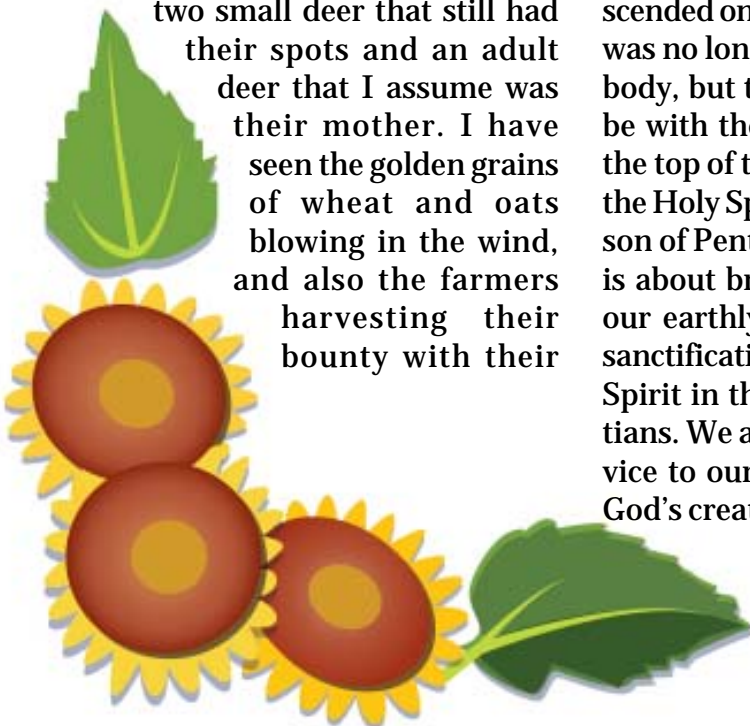
I have seen deer come into our backyard to nibble at the grass and the leaves on the trees. One morning I saw two small deer that still had their spots and an adult deer that I assume was their mother. I have seen the golden grains of wheat and oats blowing in the wind, and also the farmers harvesting their bounty with their

large combines and filling their semi-trailers with their harvest. These images are very pastoral and bring me to a sense of calm and tranquility. These images also bring memories of my childhood growing up on the farm, which gives me a sense of peace.

Scenes of wild life grazing, plants growing, and farmers harvesting are signs of God's kingdom. Do you remember when we celebrated Pentecost, the birthday of the church? The flames came on the heads of the disciples, Mary, and the rest of Jesus' family, who were there when the Holy Spirit descended on the followers of Jesus. Jesus was no longer going to be with them in body, but the Holy Spirit was going to be with them, always. The flames on the top of their heads was the sign that the Holy Spirit was with them. The season of Pentecost, which we are in now, is about bringing God's kingdom into our earthly world and is centered on sanctification, and the work of the Holy Spirit in the day to day lives of Christians. We as Christians are to be of service to our neighbors as well as all of God's creation.

How can we be of service to God's creation? Well, just being aware of God in the wildlife, in the harvest, and

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Pastor's Message

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in the day to day life of our world is celebrating, as well as being a service to God's kingdom here on earth. This awareness gives us all kinds of opportunities to be of service to others. When we see farmers working to bring in their crop, we can compliment their efforts to people we see or to the farmers themselves. When we see a breathtaking sunset we can tell others how it spiritually makes us feel, and that it reveals God's creative hand in our everyday life.

I have seen God's kingdom here at Faith in our first year at our new location. I have seen God's Kingdom in the baby sitting service Faith offered, when people gave of their time. I have seen God's kingdom when Faith caroled outside the church on a snowy night to an unsuspecting neighborhood. I have seen God's kingdom in the people who made preparations for memorial services and funerals at Faith. I have seen God's kingdom in the money that was collected for Faith's "Our Cup Runneth Over" campaign, which was given to hospice. There are many more sightings of God's kingdom that I have not mentioned, but they are all appreciated and show signs that the people of Faith Community UCC have flames of the Holy Spirit that are glowing very brightly.

Blessings,
Pastor Kaufman



HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

- Aug. 4 — **Glenna Scanlan**
- Aug. 11 — **Scott Kaufman**
- Aug. 17 — **Bob Walters**
- Aug. 18 — **Nancy Barrios**
- Aug. 27 — **Mary Anderson**



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:

- Aug. 21 — **Richard and Lois May**
- Aug. 26 — **Carl and Mary Anderson**
- Aug. 26 — **Cal and Carolyn Gerbr**

Pastor Scott on vacation

Pastor Scott will be on vacation from Friday, August 12 through Thursday, August 18. He will be attending a family reunion and spending time with family. He will return to the pulpit on Aug. 21.



Prayer Requests

*Please remember the
following people
in your prayers this
month:*

- Roger Reese
- Bob Barker
- Dorothy Einsel
- Peggy Walters
- John and Inez Reichard
- Eleanor Huss
- Helen Shearon
- President Obama
- Members of Congress



Faith Community members gather to attend Mud Hens game

Several members of Faith Community attended a Mud Hens game on Thursday night, June 23. The home team lost the game, but everyone had a good time anyway. A second Mud Hens outing is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 27 at 7 p.m. The Mud Hens will play Buffalo. Tickets are \$9 each. To attend, please sign up on the hallway bulletin board or call Pastor Scott. Deadline for signing up is Sunday, Aug. 21.



Photographic Sharings from the Faith Family



At left, Charlene included this photo this month, and said they are "Roger's peonies."

At right, Joe shared this photo a short time ago. It is a tree stump in his back yard that has a name. Ask him what it is!





Library News

Many thanks to all of you who have donated additions to our library. Sometimes I find them on the desk and have no idea who donated them. Our budget is very small, so we really appreciate the help in building the collection. They also give us insights into your reading tastes. Recently several readers have expressed appreciation for large print books, so when given a choice of formats I have been purchasing them.

Here are some recent additions:

Heaven is for Real: A Little Boy's Story of His Trip to Heaven and Back by Todd Burpo with Lynn Vincent (large print). Burpo, a Westleyan pastor, recounts the story of his son's mystic vision of heaven during emergency surgery


for a burst appendix. This book has been on the New York Times paperback best-seller list for many weeks.

What's Worth Knowing by Wendy Lustbader
Colorful and enlightening vignettes about life by everyday people in their seventies, eighties and nineties collected by a geriatric social worker. This title was an anonymous gift which is a great addition to the collection.

Help! I'm Laughing and I Can't Get Up: Fall-down Funny Stories to Fill Your Heart and Lift Your Spirits by Liz Curtis Higgs. "A compilation of funny stories and anecdotes from people across the country... sure to tickle your funny bone."

The extreme heat has made it difficult to do many tasks, so we might as well try to find a cool spot to enjoy a good book. I'll see you in the library.

Gloria Parker



Scripture READERS

The worship leaders for August are:

Aug. 7	Mel Barrios
Aug. 14	Gloria Parker
Aug. 21	Tom Parker
Aug. 28	Mary Anderson
Sept. 4	Peg Knapp

Three people have been added to the worship leader list. A new schedule will be published before Sept. 1 and distributed. Thank you to the new additions to the list. Your participation is greatly appreciated.



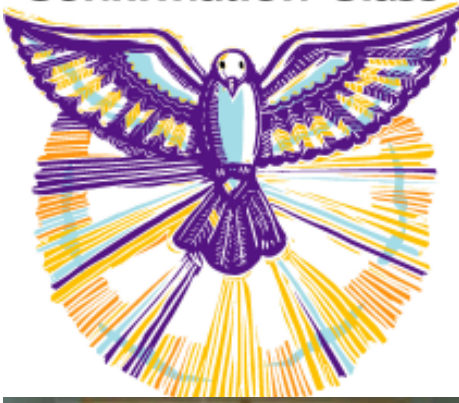
On behalf of future patients and families who will be served by Hospice of Northwest Ohio, thank you for facilitating the generous gift of \$412.25 from Faith Community United Church of Christ's "Our Cup Runneth Over" tithe.

This year, Hospice of Northwest Ohio is celebrating 30 years of providing compassionate hospice care to patient and families in the region. Gifts like yours provide the special care each individual deserves, including expert pain management, extra therapies, and counseling for the entire family. It also ensures that no patient is turned away due to inability to pay or lack of insurance coverage.

Hospice of Northwest Ohio is committed to meeting the needs of the terminally ill in our community and is very grateful for your support.

Judy Seibenick, Executive Director

Confirmation Class



Matthew and Brian Utter were confirmed at Faith Community United Church of Christ on Sunday, June 12, in a special confirmation service. Present were both his parents, Darryl and Jeanette, and other family members and friends. Congratulations to these young men.

COMING IN AUGUST



Vacation Bible School

Monday thru Thursday,
August 8 to 11, 9 a.m. to 12 noon.
Free Registration Open Now

The Good Bunch

at Maumee River Yacht Club on Tuesday, June 14, 2011



Gloria and Tom Parker, foreground, were hosts for this gathering.

Music in Ministry

The new Chimes Choir gave their first performance at a Sunday Service in July. Below, left, a final practice before the service, and, right, the congregation hears their first special music from the Chimes Choir. The choir will be performing again for the First Anniversary service on Aug. 7.



The Good Bunch is still on hiatus for the summer. Watch for announcements about the September gathering, which will be made available as soon as possible. Enjoy the sunshine.

Hopefully the heat will let up and allow us to enjoy the rest of the summer.



Thursday morning Bible Study will begin again in September. Why not consider joining the group for many lively discussions. They meet at 10 a.m.

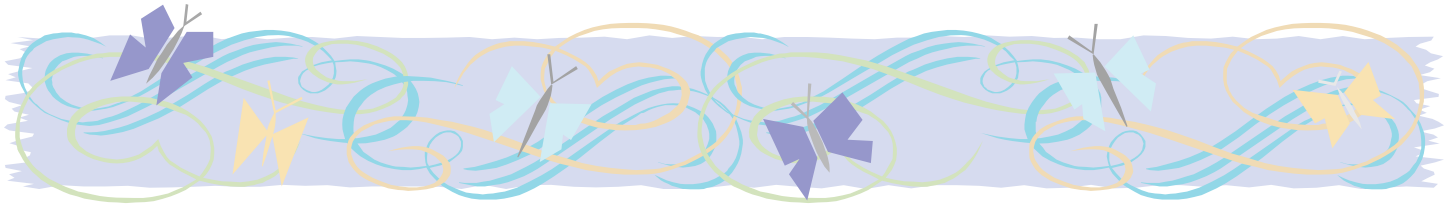


Yes, we will be having a rummage sale this fall. Cathy Hammack has agreed to chair the event, but will need help from any who can give a hand. No date has been set yet, but it will be held inside the church, not in the parking lot like last year. So begin thinking about the items you want to bring in and the times that you will be able to come in to help organize and to help on the day of the sale.



Faith Community
United Church of Christ

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You are cordially invited to the
Special First Anniversary
Worship Service

in honor of the completion of one year in our new home
in Maumee, Ohio.

Worship begins at 10:30 a.m., Sunday, August 7, 2011
Special Music by Mae Sattler, Violin Concerto by Haydn
Service followed by a picnic provided by the church.

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No RSVP needed. Just come and celebrate with us!

